

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 4 JULY 2017

AGENDA

Meeting to be held in the Council Chambers, Corner Hawthorn & Glen Eira Roads, Caulfield At 7.30 pm

> "The primary object of a Council is to endeavour to achieve the best outcomes for the local community having regard to the long term and cumulative effects of decisions."

> > - s3c(1) Local Government Act

Councillors: The Mayor, Councillor Mary Delahunty Councillor Tony Athanasopoulos Councillor Clare Davey Councillor Margaret Esakoff Councillor Jamie Hyams Councillor Jim Magee Councillor Joel Silver Councillor Dan Sztrajt Councillor Nina Taylor

Chief Executive Officer: Rebecca McKenzie

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- 11.1 Requests for reports from Officers
- 11.2 Right of reply
- **11.3 Councillor questions**
- 11.4 Public questions to Council

12. CONSIDERATION OF IN CAMERA ITEMS

That pursuant to Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989, the Council resolves that so much of this meeting be closed to members of the public, as it involves Council consideration of matters coming within some or all of the following categories listed in Section 89(2) of such Act.

- (a) Personnel matters;
- (b) The personal hardship of any resident or ratepayers;
- (c) Industrial matters;
- (d) Contractual matters;
- (e) Proposed developments
- (f) Legal advice
- (g) Matters affecting the security of Council property'
- (h) Any other matter which the Council or Special Committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person;
- (i) A resolution to close the meeting to members of the public.

- 12.1 YMCA Leisure Facilities Contract - Carnegie And Caulfield Recreation Centre -Local Government Act 1989 - Section 89 (2)(d) & (h)
- 12.2 Contract for Tender number 2018.001 Brewer Road Reconstruction - Local Government Act 1989 - Section 89 (2)(d)

Number of tenders received 3 Number of evaluation criteria tenders assessed against Three (3) Estimated contract value \$1,050,000.00

12.3 Contract for Provision of Pool Chemicals and Gases to Aquatic and Leisure Facilities Tender number 2017.008 - Local Government Act 1989 - Section 89 (2)(d)

Number of tenders received Four Number of evaluation criteria tenders assessed against Three (3) Estimated contract value

\$560,000 (exclusive of GST)

- Internal Audit Community Information Glen Eira Inc. Local Government Act 12.4 1989 - Section 89 (2)(d) & (h)
- 12.5 Employment Matter - Local Government Act 1989 - Section 89 (2)(a)

13. **CLOSURE OF MEETING**



AGENDA for the ORDINARY MEETING OF THE GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL to be held on TUESDAY, 4 JULY 2017

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the spirit of respect Council acknowledges the people and elders of the Kulin Nation who have traditional connections and responsibilities for the land on which Council meets.

2. APOLOGIES

3. OATH OF OFFICE AND DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Councillors are reminded that we remain bound by our Oath of Office to undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of the municipal district of Glen Eira and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in us under the Local Government Act or any other Act, to the best of our skill and judgement.

Councillors are also reminded of the requirement for disclosure of conflicts of interest in relation to items listed for consideration on the Agenda, or which are considered at this meeting, in accordance with Sections 77 to 79 of the Local Government Act.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS

Copies of Minutes previously circulated.

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 13 June 2017 and the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 27 June 2017 be confirmed.

5. RECEPTION AND READING OF PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

5.1 Request for Significant Tree and Vegetation Registry

A petition containing 61 signatures was submitted to Council.

The petition read as follows:

We, the undersigned, hereby PETITION Glen Eira Council to urgently implement a Significant Tree and Vegetation Registry. This is deemed urgent due to the unprecedented scope of development in the City of Glen Eira. The purpose of the Registry is to identify exotic, native and indigenous trees on private and public land that have special significance. The Registry will identify trees due to their horticultural value, location or context; are rare or have localised distribution; are particularly old; are of an outstanding size; provide aesthetic value or are of unusual growth form; are outstanding examples of their species or are of cultural or historical significance.'

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1 receives and notes the petition;
- 2 notes that the adopted Council and Community Plan incorporates an action to consult the community on the implementation of a Classified Tree Register; and
- 3 writes to the lead petitioner advising of Council's resolution.

5.2 East Village

A joint letter containing 111 signatures was submitted to Council:

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes the joint letter; and
- 2. considers the joint letter to inform the East Village Structure Plan process; and
- 3. writes to the submitter advising of Council's resolution.

- 6. DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING
- 7. REPORTS BY DELEGATES APPOINTED BY COUNCIL TO VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS

8. **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

a. Advisory Committees

i. Community Consultation Committee Minutes - 8 June 2017

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Community Consultation Committee meeting held on 8 June 2017 be received and noted and that the recommendations of the Committee be adopted.

b. Records of Assembly

- ii. 29 May 2017
- iii. 6 June 2017
- iv. 13 June 2017

Recommendation

That the Records of the Assemblies as shown below be received and noted.

- i. 29 May 2017
- ii. 6 June 2017
- iii. 13 June 2017



Community Consultation Committee Meeting Minutes 8 June 2017

Purpose:

To make recommendations to Council in relation to the ways in which Council consults with residents, ratepayers and other stakeholders in the community to ensure maximum participation, communication and value to the community.

Meeting commenced at: 6:34pm

1. Present and apologies

Present

Cr Jamie Hyams Cr Dan Sztrajt Cr Tony Athanasopoulos Peter Jones Gaye Stewart Councillor (Assumed chair by consent) Councillor Councillor Director Community Services Manager Community Development and Care

Apologies n/a

2. Election of Chair

Cr Hyams was nominated for chair of the committee by Cr Sztrajt. As no further nominations were received Cr Hyams was declared Chair.

3. Matters considered

- i. Purpose of this Committee
- ii. Community Engagement Quarterly Reports for January-March 2017 and October-December 2016
- iii. Assessment of Expression of Interest for Community Consultation Committee community representatives
- iv. VAGO Report on Public Participation and Community Engagement: Local Government Sector

4. Purpose of this committee

The purpose of the Committee was discussed. In addition to the purpose outlined in the Terms of Reference it was noted that the focus of the Committee is to make recommendations for the way Council consults with the community including:

- · Setting the framework for all consultation and
- · Initiating new processes/approaches to consultation with the community

5. Community Engagement Quarterly Reports January-March 2017 and October-December 2016

This report is provided on a quarterly basis and collates information under the four headings of *key drivers for engagement* contained in the Community Engagement Strategy (strategic planning and development (1), facilities management (2), planning and environment (3), service delivery (4).)

The reports identified that 39 consultations were conducted in the first quarter of 2017 and last quarter of 2016. More than 8,000 people were engaged across all consultations in these periods.

6. Assessment of Expression of Interest for Community Consultation Committee community representatives

The Committee reviewed 13 applications for a maximum of four positions for community representatives on this Committee. The quality of applications received was an exceptionally high calibre and as a result the Committee recommended that the maximum four community representatives be appointed.

Recommendation: The committee recommend that the following four community members be appointed for a two year term: Iris Levin, Elizabeth Orlov, Megan Dunckley and Ann Van Leerdam

Moved Cr Hyams Seconded Cr Sztrajt Motion was passed unanimously

7. VAGO Report on Public Participation and Community Engagement: Local Government Sector

The report from the Victorian Auditor General's Office was tabled and deferred for future discussion in the context of reviewing Councils current Community Engagement Strategy

Action: 1. Officers to prepare a report on how best to implement the recommendations outlined on page xii of the VAGO report.

2. Officers to review Council's current Community Engagement Strategy to assess the extent to which it meets the best practice guidelines outlined in the VAGO report.

Next meeting: TBA

Meeting closed at 7:36pm

Assembly of Councillors

29 May 2017

Record under S 80 A (2)

Meeting commenced at 6.10PM.

A. <u>Present</u>

Cr Tony Athanasopoulos Cr Margaret Esakoff Cr Jamie Hyams Cr Jim Magee Cr Joel Silver Cr Dan Sztrajt Cr Nina Taylor

Council Officers

Rebecca McKenzie, CEO Peter Jones Samantha Krull Ron Torres Peter Swabey Aidan Mullen Rachel Ollivier Aidan Mullen Janice Pouw

B. <u>Matters considered</u>.

(i) Apologies – NIL

(ii) Councillor Request Process

6.10pm Cr Clare Davey entered the room 6.20pm Cr Mary Delahunty (Mayor) entered the room

(iii) Presentation – Marcus Spiller and Prof Rob McGauran – East Village

7.40pm Cr Delahunty left the briefing 7.41pm Cr Silver left the briefing and re-entered at 7.43pm 8pm Cr Esakoff left the briefing and re-entered at 8.02pm

- (iv) Harleston Park Masterplan
- (v) Joyce Park Open Space Consultation
- (vi) Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan

8.36 pm briefing adjourned 8.49pm briefing resumed

Present: Cr Clare Davey Cr Margaret Esakoff Cr Jamie Hyams Cr Jim Magee Cr Joel Silver Cr Dan Sztrajt Cr Nina Taylor

(vii) LXR CD9 New Linear Parks Concepts & Maintenance Principles

8.56pm Cr Athanasopoulos entered the briefing 9.09pm Cr Delahunty entered the briefing

10.05 Cr Taylor left the room and re-entered at 10.07pm

- (viii) Council papers for the 13 June 2017 Council meeting
 - Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action Membership
 - GECC Participation in National Disability Insurance Scheme

(ix) General Business

10.43pm Cr Hyams declared a conflict of interest in GEALC and left the briefing. Cr Esakoff

- Glen Eira Adult Learning Centre (GEALC)

11.02pm Cr Hyams entered the briefing.

Cr Athanasopoulos

- Community garden location

Cr Esakoff

- National Trust update
- Café renovation pathway replacement

Cr Delahunty

- Replacement of pathway at Elsternwick Plaza

Cr Esakoff

- DELWP submission

Cr Hyams

Changes to Valuations

Cr Sztrajt

- Planning applications – car parks

Cr Davey

- Change to local law public question time
- Melbourne Water Drainage works

Cr Magee

- Café footpath trading

Cr Silver

- Planning Planning Service review
 Plan Melbourne changes to NRZ Guidelines

11.21pm Cr Taylor left the briefing.

Cr Silver

- Fencing around parks

Assembly finished at 11.21PM

Assembly of Councillors

6 June 2017

Record under S 80 A (2)

Meeting commenced at 7.23PM.

A. <u>Present</u>

Cr Mary Delahunty (Mayor) Cr Tony Athanasopoulos Cr Clare Davey Cr Margaret Esakoff Cr Jamie Hyams Cr Jim Magee Cr Dan Sztrajt Cr Nina Taylor

Council Officers

Rebecca McKenzie, CEO Peter Jones Samantha Krull Peter Swabey Ron Torres Rachel Ollivier Mark Collins James Kearney Janice Pouw

B. <u>Matters considered</u>.

- (i) Apologies Cr Joel Silver
- (ii) Conflict of Interest
- (iii) LXRA Briefing Update: CD9 Linear Park & Open Space
- (iv) Proposed changes to Council Agendas and Minutes
- (v) GESAC Over 70s Access

Mark Collins entered 8.27pm

- (vi) YMCA Leisure Facilities Contract Carnegie and Caulfield Recreation Centre
- (vii) GESAC Over 70s Access

9.32pm adjourn for break. 9.43pm assembly resumed Present: Cr Mary Delahunty Cr Clare Davey Cr Margaret Esakoff Cr Jamie Hyams Cr Jim Magee Cr Dan Sztrajt Cr Nina Taylor

(viii) Nature Strip Planting Policy

9.46pm Cr Tony Athanasopoulos entered the Briefing

- (ix) Related Parties Disclosure
- (x) Council Papers for the 13 June 2017 Council Meeting comprising sixteen officer reports together with standing items on the agenda.
 - 4 Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous meeting
 - 5 Petition Planning Scheme Zones
 - 8(a) Advisory Committees Audit Committee Minutes

10.28pm Cr Esakoff declared a conflict of interest with an item in the audit advisory committee minutes and left the briefing.

- 10.31pm Cr Esakoff entered the room.
- 8(b) Records of Assembly 9 May, 16 May and 23 May
- 9.1 VCAT Watch
- 9.2 1-3 Horne Street, Elsternwick
- 9.3 16-18 Hamilton Street, Bentleigh
- 9.4 90-92 Bignell Road, Bentleigh East
- 9.5 Submissions received on the draft Council and Community Plan 2017-2021
- 9.6 Submissions received on Draft Budget 2017-2018
- 10.48pm Cr Hyams left the assembly due to conflict of interest in Glen Eira Adult Learning Centre (GEALC)
- 11.07pm Cr Hyams entered the assembly.
- 9.7 Environmental Sustainable Planning Measures
- 9.8 Cecil Street Bentleigh East Traffic Management
- 9.9 Caulfield Village Height Controls Smith Street Precinct
- 9.10 Joyce Park Open Space Consultation
- 9.11 Pavilion Redevelopment Strategy Draft
- 9.12 Community Gardens
- 9.13 Elster Creek Catchment Working Group Melbourne Water
- 9.14 Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action Membership
- 9.15 GECC Participation in National Disability Insurance Scheme
- 9.16 Council Procurement Policy Annual Review
- 11 Ordinary Business
 - 11.1 Requests for Reports Cr Davey Investment and Divestment Policies

(xi) General Business

Cr Sztrajt

- 348-352 Centre Road, Bentleigh

Customer Satisfaction Survey - website Councillor Workshop – Structure Plans

Assembly finished at 11.48PM

Council Pre-Meeting

13 June 2017

Record under S 80 A (2)

Meeting Commenced at 6.45pm

A. Present

Cr Mary Delahunty, Mayor Cr Tony Athanasopoulos Cr Clare Davey Cr Margaret Esakoff Cr Jamie Hyams Cr Jim Magee Cr Dan Sztrajt Cr Nina Taylor

Apologies - Cr Joel Silver

Officers

Rebecca McKenzie, CEO Ron Torres Peter Swabey Peter Jones Samantha Krull Janice Pouw

B. <u>Matters considered</u>

- (i) Agenda item 2 Apologies
- (ii) Agenda item 3 Conflicts of Interest
- (iii) Agenda item 9.5 Submissions received on the Draft Council and Community Plan 2017-2021
- (iv) Agenda item 9.6 Public Submissions on proposed 2017 18 Annual Budget
- (v) Agenda item 10 Urgent Business Public Housing Reform Submission
- (vi) Agenda item 11.1 Requests for reports

11.1(a) Cr Davey – Investment and Divestment Policies

- 11.1 (b) Cr Magee Establishing a Men's Shed in Glen Eira
- (vii) Agenda item 11.4 Public Questions
- (viii) Agenda item 9.2 1-3 Horne Street, Elsternwick
- (ix) Agenda item 9.3 16-18 Hamilton Street, Bentleigh
- (x) Agenda item 9.7 GECC Participation in National Disability Insurance Scheme

Pre-meeting finished at 7.29pm

9. PRESENTATION OF OFFICERS REPORTS

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	9.10	Appointment of Community Representatives to Strategic Transport Advisory	
9.11 Appointment of Signatories to 2016-17 Appual Accounts		Committee	
	9.11	Appointment of Signatories to 2016-17 Annual Accounts	
9.12 Financial Management Report for the period ending 31 May 2017	9.12	Financial Management Report for the period ending 31 May 2017	

ITEM 9.1 11 & 13 TRANMERE AVENUE, CARNEGIE

Author: Ron Torres, Director Planning and Place

File No: GE/PP-30362/2017

Attachments: Advertised plans

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

To consider a Planning Permit application.



PROPOSAL	Four storey building comprising 21 dwellings above basement car parking
MUNICIPAL STRATEGIC STATEMENT	Carnegie Urban Village
APPLICANT	11-13 Tranmere Avenue Carnegie Pty Ltd
PLANNING SCHEME CONTROLS	Residential Growth Zone
OBJECTIONS	10

RECOMMENDATION

That Council issues a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit for Application No. GE/PP-30362/2017 for the construction of a four storey building above basement car park containing up to twenty-one (21) dwellings at 11-13 Tranmere Avenue Carnegie Pty Ltd in accordance with the following conditions:

 Before the commencement of the development, amended plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to, and approved by, the Responsible Authority. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions and must generally accord with the plans submitted with the application (identified as 'Proposed Residential Development 11-13 Tranmere Avenue, Carnegie, Project No. 10170, Sheets TP01-TP09 (Rev A, dated 28.04.17) & TP11, (dated 10.02.17), prepared by Artisan Architects but modified to show:

Built Form

- (a) Full compliance with Standard B20 of Clause 55.04-4 of the Glen Eira Planning Scheme (north-facing windows).
- (b) Level 2 of the building setback an overall minimum distance of 6.4 metres from the front property boundary with this change absorbed within the remainder of the building envelope.
- (c) The balcony of Level 3 of the building setback an overall minimum distance of 6.4 metres from the front boundary with this change absorbed within the remainder of the building envelope. Apartment 301 must maintain a balcony on its northern side (a minimum dimension of 1.6 metres and minimum area of 8 square metres). A balcony of a minimum dimension of 1 metre must also be provided along the western side of the dwelling.
- (d) The basement setback shown to be a minimum of 1.5m from the base each of Trees 14, 15 & 16 located on the adjoining property to the north as identified in the Arborist Report by Galbraith & Associates dated 6 February 2017, submitted with the application.
- (e) APT G01's courtyard in the front setback of the property modified to be a minimum of 25 square metres with this change absorbed within the remainder of the building envelope. The position of the front fence must remain as shown with vegetation (screen planting) provided in front of the fence adjacent to the footpath.
- (f) APT G03's courtyard on the northern side of the property modified to provide an area of 25 square metres with a minimum dimension of 3 metres with this change absorbed within the existing building envelope.
- (g) APT G06's courtyard on the southern side of the property modified to be a minimum area of 25 square metres and a minimum dimension of 3 metres with this change absorbed within the existing building envelope and/or garden area of APT G05.
- (h) The reference to GL02 (opaque glazing) and privacy screens to windows/balconies noted as 'fixed' and 'no more than 25% transparent'.

(i) Boundary fencing notations deleted.

Traffic and Parking

- (j) The aisle width adjacent to the westernmost car stacker increased to 6.4 metres or alternatively the car stacker spaces in this area widened to have 2.8 metre wide clear platforms with this change absorbed within the existing basement envelope.
- (k) A note on the plans provided stating that the car stackers on the eastern side of the basement must have a minimum usable platform width of 2.6 metres and at least 25% of the car spaces in stackers must accommodate a vehicle height of 1.8 metres as required by the Planning Scheme.
- (I) The car stackers and car stacker spaces clearly dimensioned on the car park layout plans, including the section plan/s showing the space widths and lengths, clear platform widths and lengths, space heights, pit depths, height clearances, etc. The cross-section plan must illustrate the car stacker pits and dimensions of each space.
- (m) The columns within the basement car park shown to be located no less than 250mm and extending no more than 1.25 metres from the car park aisle. All of the columns must be clearly dimensioned on the plans, in accordance with Diagram 1 of Clause 52.06 of the Planning Scheme.
- (n) An intercom installed on the southern side of the accessway ramp, provided on the 1:10 graded section and set back 3 metres from the frontage with this dimensioned on the ground floor plan.
- (o) A convex mirror provided opposite the accessway ramp at the bottom of the basement car park (next to car stacker spaces 18/19) with this noted on plan.
- (p) Pedestrian paths to the storage areas in basement dimensioned at a minimum of 1 metre.
- (q) The design and layout of all bicycle parking spaces shown to accord with Clause 52.34 of the Planning Scheme, AS2890.3 or 'The Bicycle Parking Handbook' by Bicycle Victoria and clearly annotated and dimensioned on the plans. Access to the bicycle parking spaces must be in accordance with AS2890.3.

Landscaping

- (r) A Landscape Plan in accordance with Condition 2
- (s) The delineation of separate Tree Protection Zones (TPZ) & Tree Protection Fencing (TPF) for the following tree/s at the prescribed radial distance from the base of tree trunk to define a tree protection zone (TPZ):
 - Tree 14 (most easterly neighbouring Golden Pencil Pine to North) 2.0m
 - Trees 15 & 16 (two additional neighbouring Golden Pencil Pines to North) 1.5m each
 - Tree 13 (neighbouring Common Fig to East) 2.0m
 - Tree 12 (group of four neighbouring Callery Pears to East) 2.0m each
- (t) The delineation of root sensitive footings & root sensitive permeable paving where any part of the development comes within the following TPZ's:

- Tree 14 (most easterly neighbouring Golden Pencil Pine to North) 2.0m
- Trees 15 & 16 (two additional neighbouring Golden Pencil Pines to North) - 1.5m each
- Tree 13 (neighbouring Common Fig to East) 2.0m
- Tree 12 (group of four neighbouring Callery Pears to East) 2.0m each

When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of this Permit.

- 2. Before the commencement of buildings and works, a detailed Landscape Plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to, and approved by the Responsible Authority. When the Landscape Plan is approved, it will become an endorsed plan forming part of this Permit. The Landscape Plan must incorporate:
 - (a) All existing retained vegetation to be identified.
 - (b) Buildings and trees (including botanical names) on neighbouring properties within 3 metres of the boundary.
 - (c) A planting schedule of all proposed vegetation including botanical names; common names; pot sizes; sizes at maturity; quantities of each plant; and details of surface finishes of pathways and driveways.
 - (d) Landscaping and planting within all open space areas of the site.
 - (e) Advanced canopy trees (minimum 3.0 metres tall when planted unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Responsible Authority) in the following areas:
 - (i) 3 trees within the front setback;
 - (ii) 5 trees along the rear east boundary;

Or 8 trees as above in locations to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Trees are not to be sited over easements. All species selected must be to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 3. The layout of the site and size, design and location of buildings and works as shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered without the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority. <u>Note</u>: This does not obviate the need for a permit where one is required.
- 4. This Permit will expire if:
 - The development does not start within two (2) years from the date of this Permit; or
 - The development is not completed within four (4) years of the date of this Permit.

The Responsible Authority may extend the time referred to if a request is made in writing before this Permit expires or within six (6) months after the expiry date if the use/development has not commenced.

If the development has commenced, the Responsible Authority may extend the time referred to if a request is made in writing within twelve (12) months of the expiry date.

- 5. Written confirmation by a Licensed Land Surveyor must be provided to the Responsible Authority verifying that the development does not exceed 13.5 metres in height above natural ground level. This must be provided at frame stage inspection and at final inspection.
- 6. All pipes, fixtures, fittings and vents servicing any building on the site must be concealed in service ducts or otherwise hidden from view to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 7. No plant, equipment, services or architectural features other than those shown on the endorsed plans are permitted above the roof level of the building/s without the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority.
- 8. Adequate provision must be made for the storage and collection of garbage, bottles and other solid wastes in bins or receptacles, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

All bins and receptacles used for the storage and collection of garbage, bottles and other solid wastes must be kept in a storage area screened from view, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

All bins and receptacles must be maintained in a clean and tidy condition and free from offensive odour, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 9. Provision must be made on the site for letter boxes and receptacles for newspapers to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 10. Prior to the occupation of the approved development, the owner/permit holder must prepare and have approved in writing by the Responsible Authority a Waste Management Plan (WMP) for the site with respect to the collection and disposal of waste and recyclables associated with the proposed uses on the site to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. The WMP must provide for the following:
 - (a) The collection of waste associated with the uses on the land, including the provision of bulk waste collection bins or approved alternative, recycling bins, the storage of other refuse and solid wastes in bins or receptacles within suitable screened and accessible areas to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Commercial waste bins being placed or allowed to remain not in view of the public, and receptacles not emitting any adverse odours.
 - (b) Designation of methods of collection including the need to provide for private services or utilisation of council services. If private collection is used, this method must incorporate recycling services and must comply with the relevant EPA noise guideline relating to the time of collection.

- (c) Appropriate areas of bin storage on site and areas of waste bin storage on collection days.
- (d) Details for best practice waste management once operating.

Once approved the WMP will be endorsed to form part of this permit and must be complied with to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and must not be varied except with the written approval of the Responsible Authority.

- 11. Prior to the commencement of any site works including demolition and excavation, the owner must submit a Construction Management Plan to the Responsible Authority for approval. No works including demolition and excavation are permitted to occur until the Plan has been approved in writing by the Responsible Authority. Once approved, the Construction Management Plan will be endorsed to form part of this permit and must be implemented to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and must provide details of the following:
 - (a) delivery and unloading points and expected frequency;
 - (b) a liaison officer for contact by owners / residents and the Responsible Authority in the event of relevant queries or problems experienced;
 - (c) an outline of requests to occupy public footpaths or roads, or anticipated disruptions to local services;
 - (d) any requirements outlined within this permit as required by the relevant referral authorities;
 - (e) hours for construction activity in accordance with any other condition of this permit;
 - (f) measures to control noise, dust, water and sediment laden runoff;
 - (g) measures to ensure that sub-contractors/tradespersons operating on the site are aware of the contents of the Construction Management Plan;
 - (h) any construction lighting to be baffled to minimise intrusion on adjoining lots.
- 12. No plant, equipment, services and substations other than those shown on the endorsed plans are permitted without the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority
- 13. Privacy screens must be in accordance with the endorsed plans and must be installed prior to the occupation of the development. The privacy screens must be maintained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 14. The location of any substation/services/metres to be clearly shown on the plans (to have limited visibility from the streetscape) and in a location to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Any on-site substation must not be located in the front setbacks and must not reduce any open space for each apartment.

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- 15. The landscaping as shown on the endorsed Landscape Plan must be carried out, completed and maintained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 16. The landscaping as shown the endorsed Landscape Plan must be maintained, and any dead, diseased or damaged plant replaced in accordance with the landscaping plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 17. Prior to the commencement of the buildings and works (including demolition), a tree protection fence must be erected around the following trees at the following radii to define tree protection zones:
 - Tree 14 (most easterly neighbouring Golden Pencil Pine to North) 2.0m
 - Trees 15 & 16 (two additional neighbouring Golden Pencil Pines to North) 1.5m each
 - Tree 13 (neighbouring Common Fig to East) 2.0m
 - Tree 12 (group of four neighbouring Callery's Pears to East) 2.0m each

The fencing must be constructed of star pickets and chain mesh (or similar) to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

The tree protection fence must remain in place until the construction within the tree protection zone is required. The tree protection zone for that component of the development not required for construction must remain fenced until construction is complete. No vehicular or pedestrian access, trenching or soil excavation is to occur within the tree protection zone.

No storage or dumping of tools, equipment or waste is to occur within the tree protection zone.

The ground surface of the tree protection zone must be covered by a protective 100mm deep layer of mulch prior to the development commencing and be watered regularly to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 18. Prior to the commencement of the development, a fee of \$1100 must be paid to the Responsible Authority for the removal and replacement of the existing Brush Box street tree (southernmost street tree) at the front of the site. The street tree will be replaced with the species, maturity and location of which will be selected by Council's Parks Services Department.
- Any pruning that is required to be done to the canopy or root system of any trees retained on-site or where the canopy of neighbouring property tree/s overhang the site, is to be done by a qualified Arborist to Australian Standard – Pruning of Amenity Trees AS 4373 – 2007, Standards Australia.
- 20. Any pruning of the root system of any retained site tree or neighbouring tree is to be done by hand by a qualified Arborist.
- 21. Root sensitive footings such as pier and beam or screw pile footings (or similar) are to be used where any part of the development comes within the following TPZ's. If used, the beam should be designed to be positioned above soil grade to minimise soil excavation & root severance:
 - Tree 14 (most easterly neighbouring Golden Pencil Pine to North) 2.0m

- Trees 15 & 16 (two additional neighbouring Golden Pencil Pines to North) 1.5m each
- Tree 13 (neighbouring Common Fig to East) 2.0m
- Tree 12 (group of four neighbouring Callery's Pears to East) 2.0m each
- 22. Specific tree root sensitive footings and/or paving are to be used where any TPZ is encroached more than the 10% as allowed in the Australian Standard (AS4970-2009) Protection of trees on development sites.
- 23. The proposed works must not cause any damage to the canopy, roots or the Tree Protection Zone of the existing Manchurian Pear (northernmost) street tree.
- 24. Prior to the commencement of the buildings and works (including demolition), a tree protection fence must be erected around the Manchurian Pear street tree (northernmost street tree) at a radius of 2 metres from the base of the trunk to define a 'tree protection zone'. Temporary fencing is to be used as per AS 4870-2009 section 4.3. This fence must be constructed of star pickets and chain mesh (or similar) to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. The tree protection fence must remain in place until the construction within the tree protection zone is completed. The tree protection zone for that component of the development not required for construction must remain fenced until construction is complete. No vehicular or pedestrian access, trenching or soil excavation is to occur within the tree protection zone. No storage or dumping of tools, equipment or waste is to occur within the tree protection zone.
- 25. The ground surface of the tree protection zone must be covered by a protective 100mm deep layer of mulch prior to the development commencing and be watered regularly to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Above ground canopy TPZ (Tree Protection Zone) to be adopted. No works, structures or machinery will come within 1m of the trees crown/canopy as per AS 4870-2009 section 3.3.6.

Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) fencing must be adopted to protect the street tree's trunk. Set at edge of TPZ on all sides (Finishing at paved surfaces). Temporary fencing to be used as per AS 4870-2009 section 4.3.

Hand excavate any area within 1.5m of the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ). If roots over 40mm are found, Park Services are to be notified and further inspections will be carried out.

Ground protection is to be used if temporary access for machinery is required within the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ). Strapped rumble boards are to be used within TPZ to limit ground compaction as per AS 4870-2009 section 4.5.3.

26. No excavation is to come within 1.7m of the existing street tree(measured from the centre of the trunk) without the prior consent of the Responsible Authority. Any excavation within 1.5m of the tree protection zones must be hand excavated. If roots over 40mm are found, Park Services are to be notified and further inspections will be carried out.

Ground protection is to be used if temporary access for machinery is required within the TPZ (Tree Protection Zone). Strapped rumble boards are to be used within the tree protection zone to limit ground compaction as per AS 4870-2009 section 4.5.3.

- 27. Areas set aside for the parking of vehicles and access lanes as shown on the endorsed plan(s) must be:
 - (a) constructed;
 - (b) properly formed to such levels that they can be used in accordance with the plans;
 - (c) surfaced with an all weather sealcoat;
 - (d) drained;
 - (e) line-marked to indicate each car space and all access lanes;
 - (f) clearly marked to show the direction of traffic along the access lanes and driveways;

to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Car spaces, access lanes and driveways shown on the endorsed plans must not be used for any other purpose.

- 28. Vehicular crossing(s) must be constructed to the road to suit the proposed driveway(s) to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and any existing crossing or crossing opening must be removed and replaced with footpath, naturestrip and kerb and channel to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 29. The car parking allocation for the approved development must be:
 - Not less than one (1) car space per one or two bedroom dwelling;
 - Not less than two (2) car spaces per three (3) or more bedroom dwelling;
 - Visitor spaces (1 per 5 dwellings) marked accordingly.
- 30. All disused or redundant vehicle crossings must be removed and the area reinstated with footpath, naturestrip and kerb and channel to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 31. The mechanical car stackers must be maintained by the Owner's Corporation in a good working order and be permanently available for the parking of vehicles in accordance with their purpose to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Should no Owner's Corporation be established, then the lot owner must bear responsibility for ongoing maintenance of the car stacker.
- 32. Prior to the occupation of the approved development, the owner/permit holder must prepare and have approved in writing by the Responsible Authority, a car stacker system management plan including but not limited to the following:
 - (a) Allocation of car spaces according to vehicle size and type;
 - (b) Ongoing maintenance of the car stacker system;

- (c) Instructions to owners/occupiers about the operation of the car stacker system; and
- (d) Communicating to prospective residents about the availability of car stacker spaces and sizes.

Once approved this document must be complied with to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and must not be varied except with the written approval of the Responsible Authority.

- 33. Any modification to existing infrastructure and services within the road reservation (including, but not restricted to, electricity supply, telecommunications services, gas supply, water supply, sewerage services and stormwater drainage) necessary to provide the required access to the site, must be undertaken by the applicant/developer to the satisfaction of the relevant authority. All costs associated with any such modifications must be borne by the applicant/developer.
- 34. Prior to the completion of the basement floor construction, written confirmation by a Licensed Land Surveyor must be provided to the Responsible Authority verifying that the basement floor has been constructed generally in accordance with the endorsed plans (prior to the construction of the levels above being commenced.)
- 35. Prior to the completion of the ramp to the basement, written confirmation by a Licensed Land Surveyor must be provided to the Responsible Authority verifying that the basement ramp has been constructed generally in accordance with the endorsed plans.
- 36. The permit holder must inform all purchasers about this planning permit, particularly drawing attention to Note D.
- 37. Prior to the occupation of the approved development, a permanent sign must be erected by the applicable planning permit holder in a prominent position in the car park and in any foyer/s stating that "Residents of this development will not be issued Residential Parking Permits (including visitor parking permits)". The sign must measure approximately 0.2 square metres in area, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 38. Written confirmation from a suitably qualified Traffic Engineer demonstrating that the basement layout and vehicle access complies with Clause 52.06 of the Glen Eira Planning Scheme.

Notes:

A. The amendments specified in Condition 1 of this Permit and any additional modifications which are "necessary or consequential" are those that will be assessed by Council when plans are lodged to satisfy that condition. Any "necessary or consequential" amendments, in addition to those required by this condition, should be specifically brought to the attention of Council for assessment.

If other modifications are proposed, they must be identified and be of a nature that an application for amendment of permit may be lodged under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987. An amendment application is subject to the procedures set out in Section 73 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

- B. This Planning Permit represents the Planning approval for the use and/or development of the land. This Planning Permit does not represent the approval of other departments of Glen Eira City Council or other statutory authorities. Such approvals may be required and may be assessed on different criteria from that adopted for the approval of this Planning Permit.
- C. This Planning Permit represents the Planning approval for the development of the land. Side and rear boundary fences do not form part of this Planning approval. All matters relating to the boundary fences shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Fences Act 1968.
- D. Residents of the dwellings allowed under this permit will not be issued Residential Parking Permits (including visitor parking permits).
- E. Any failure to comply with the conditions of this permit may result in action being taken to have an Enforcement Order made against some or all persons having an interest in the land and may result in legal action or the cancellation of this permit by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.
- F. Nothing in the grant of this permit should be construed as granting any permission other than planning permission for the purpose described. It is the duty of the permit holder to acquaint themselves, and comply, with all other relevant legal obligations (including any obligation in relation to restrictive covenants and easements affecting the site) and to obtain other required permits, consents or approvals.
- G. Prior to the commencement of any demolition and/or building works, an Asset Protection Permit must be obtained from Council's Engineering Services Department.
- H. The permit holder/applicant/owner must provide a copy of the Planning Permit to any appointed Building Surveyor. It is the responsibility of the permit holder/applicant/owner and the Building Surveyor to ensure that the development approved by this Permit is consistent with any Building Permit approved and that all works are consistent with the endorsed plans approved under this Planning Permit.
- I. Written confirmation by a Licensed Land Surveyor must be provided to the Responsible Authority verifying that the development does not exceed 13.5 metres height above natural ground level. This must be provided at frame stage inspection and at final inspection.
- J. Council's Asset Management Department Advise:

Vehicle Crossing

- The vehicle crossing must be constructed as a commercial type vehicle crossing with splays to Council standards. The applicant is to design the vehicle crossing to avoid car scraping. A detailed design must be submitted to Council prior to the commencement of any works.
- The ramp to the basement car park must be designed to avoid flooding.
- The redundant vehicle crossing must be removed and the footpath, nature strip and kerb and channel of the road reinstated matching abutting conditions.

<u>Drainage</u>

- No net increase in peak stormwater runoff to the Council drainage network is
 permissible. Post development peak storm water discharge to Council drainage
 network must be maintained to the predevelopment level for 10 year ARI. Detailed
 plans and computations must be submitted to Council for approval prior to any
 construction works.
- Engineering Services encourage the use of rainwater tanks for storage and reuse for toilet and irrigation purposes and/or stormwater detention systems.
- Drainage associated with the basement construction must be discharged to the nearest Council Drain /Pit and not to the kerb and channel (seepage and agricultural waters are to be filtered to rain water clarity).
- All stormwater runoff must be connected to Council's underground drainage network. No uncontrolled stormwater discharge to adjoining properties and footpaths is permissible.

General

- Any firefighting equipment for the building must be accommodated within title boundary. Council will not allow private fire equipment in the Road Reserve.
- An Asset Protection Permit must be obtained from Council's Engineering Services Department prior to the commencement of any building works.
- All relevant Engineering Permits must be obtained prior to any works within the Road Reserve and/or stormwater connection to the Council drainage network.
- K. Council's Building Department Advise:
- Protection Works notices to be assessed by relevant Building Surveyor.
- Fire ratings to be assessed by the relevant Building Surveyor.
- Balustrades to be a minimum of 1 metre from finished floor level.
- Fire rating and sound insulation between units to be assessed by relevant Building Surveyor.
- Mechanical Ventilation to non-habitable rooms with no natural ventilation, to be assessed by relevant building surveyor.
- Distances of travel to be assessed by relevant Building Surveyor.
- Light and ventilation to be assessed by relevant Building Surveyor.
- Amenity of units to be assessed by relevant Building Surveyor.

BACKGROUND

N/A

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

- Zoning and policy context
- Neighbourhood character
- Height, scale and massing
- Amenity impacts
- Landscaping
- Internal amenity
- Car parking and traffic
- Objectors concerns

<u>Proposal</u>

- Construction of a four storey building comprising 21 dwellings above a basement car park
- Development comprises 17 x 2 bedroom apartments and 4 x 1 bedroom apartments
- 21 residential car parking spaces
- 4 visitor car parking spaces

Objectors' concerns

- Neighbourhood character
- Visual bulk
- Cumulative impact of development in the area
- Pressure on services
- Front setback
- Integration with the street
- Private open space
- Solar access
- Storage
- Overlooking
- Overshadowing
- Traffic and parking
- Noise
- Rubbish collection
- Construction concerns

Referrals

Transport Planning

- No objections
- Conditions recommended in relation to basement design and bicycle parking

Landscape Officer

• No objections subject to tree protection measures for trees on adjoining sites and the submission of a Landscape Plan

Asset Engineering

No objections

Parks Services

- No objections
- The southernmost street tree is not viable into the future and is to be removed and replaced at cost to the applicant
- Conditions recommended for protection of the northernmost street tree (a Manchurian Pear)

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

N/A

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Zoning and policy context

The site is located in the Residential Growth Zone. Within this zone, a greater density of residential development is anticipated than other residential zones, and the consolidation of lots is encouraged to facilitate efficient use of land. One objective of the zone is to facilitate development up to and including 4 storeys. The proposed development complies with this objective.

The Local Policy applying to the site is the Urban Villages Policy. The site is specifically located with Precinct 8 Residential (South) of the Carnegie Urban Village. This Policy encourages a mix of density and housing types whilst also encouraging the managed change of the neighbourhood. It is considered that, subject to recommended conditions of approval, the proposal is compliant with these objectives.

Neighbourhood character

Significant development has occurred within the area to the west of the site due to its zoning and policy context. Consolidated sites with buildings of up to four storeys containing apartments are evident in close proximity to the site on Neerim Road and the side streets of Elliott Avenue and Jersey Parade.

Directly to the east of the site (Hewitts Road), the land is within the General Residential Zone and affected by Council's Housing Diversity Area Policy. Currently, single dwellings and dual occupancies exist along the western side of Hewitts Road. Whilst development is expected on land affected by the Housing Diversity Area Policy, it is to be at a lesser density, mass and scale than land affected by the Urban Villages Policy.

Height, scale and massing

The zone provision requires a maximum mandatory height of 13.5 metres (or a mandatory height of 14.5 metres where there is a slope of 2.5 degrees on an 8 metre section of the land). The maximum height of the building is 13.2 metres. Therefore, the proposal is below the maximum allowable height of the zone of the land.

Front setbacks do not comply with the numerical standards in the Planning Scheme, which requires 6.4 metres, based on the average setback of the two adjoining dwellings. The proposed front setbacks are 5 metres at ground level, 4.5 metres at levels 1 & 2 and 7 metres at level 3.

It is noted that the adjoining unit to the north of the subject site is setback approximately 7.6 metres from the front property boundary, whilst the dwelling to the south is setback approximately 5.2 metres from the front property boundary.

The decision guidelines of the planning scheme require the decision maker to consider whether different setbacks would be more appropriate taking into account the prevailing setbacks of existing buildings on nearby lots and any relevant policy set out in the Planning Scheme.

There is an existing four storey building at 16-18 Tranmere Avenue (to the south-west of the site) that has used cantilevering at first floor over the ground floor in a similar manner proposed with this building. In addition; the street setbacks of the existing dwellings on site, and dwellings further south on the eastern side of Tranmere Avenue range from zero (carports) to approximately 5 metres. As such, the setbacks of the dwellings on Tranmere Avenue allow for consideration of alternative setbacks.

It is considered the deviation from the standard at ground and first floor is acceptable as it will emphasis the horizontal form of the building proposed at these levels.

Conditions are recommended to setback Level 2 to a minimum distance of 6.4 metres from the front property boundary and to setback the balcony of the uppermost level the same distance from the front property boundary. This will reduce visibility from the streetscape and provide a clearer separation between the lower and upper levels.

Amenity impacts

The proposal is fully compliant with the side setback requirements of the Glen Eira Planning Scheme from the property to the north (also located within the Residential Growth Zone).

As there are existing north-facing windows on the dwelling directly to the south, a greater setback is required from the southern boundary than the northern boundary. The proposal is generally compliant with this requirement. However, there are sections of the proposal on Levels 1 & 2 and the roof that are not setback in accordance with this standard (deviations of less than 1 metre). A condition of permit is recommended to ensure full compliance with this standard.

The rear setback of the proposal is fully compliant with the Planning Scheme requirements, with the uppermost levels setback between 5 and 7.4 metres from the rear of the site.

The overshadowing from the proposal to the private open space of the adjoining properties complies with the State Government guidelines.

Windows and balconies are shown as screened where required (through the use of obscure glazing or external screens). A condition is recommended to ensure the windows/screens are fixed and no more than 25% transparent.

Landscaping

A condition is recommended to ensure that the existing trees on the adjoining property to the north are not impacted by the proposal. This will require the basement to be clear of the root zone of the trees (this is generally shown on the proposed Landscape Plan).

The proposal will allow for deep root canopy planting in the front setback and rear setback of the property.

Large planter boxes along the southern and northern site boundaries are proposed that are capable of containing screen planting (5-6 metres in height at maturity).

Internal amenity

The layout and design of the development will generally result in functional, well-proportioned dwellings with balconies which maximise access to daylight and direct sunlight where possible.

It is acknowledged that the subject site is an east-west running block, where south-facing private open space in apartment style developments often occurs. Directly south facing private open space (where it is the only private open space provided for the dwelling) is limited to three (3) out of the 21 apartments. This is considered an acceptably low number.

It is noted that the areas and dimensions of private open space for the dwellings are generally compliant with the Planning Scheme requirements. However, the courtyards of Apartments G01, G03 and G06 at ground floor are marginally non-compliant. Conditions are recommended to modify the size of these courtyards to have minimum areas of 25 square metres with minimum dimensions of 3 metres.

Car Parking and Traffic

The State Government guidelines require a total of 25 car spaces to be provided on site (21 for residents, 4 for visitors). The application is compliant with this car parking rate.

19 of the 21 car parking spaces proposed for the dwellings are located in car stackers.

The visitor car parking spaces are not proposed in a stacker arrangement.

Management Plan Requirements

The submission of a Construction Management Plan, a Waste Management Plan and a Car Stacker Management Plan are recommended as conditions of approval.

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

- 1. <u>Public Notice (Statutory)</u>
 - 13 properties notified
 - 17 notices sent (owners and occupiers)
 - 2 signs erected on site
 - 10 objections received

2. <u>Planning Conference (Non Statutory)</u>

The Conference, chaired by Cr Hyams, provided a forum where all interested parties could elaborate on their respective views. Objectors mainly emphasised their original reasons for objection. It is considered that the main issues arising from the discussions were:

- Non-compliance with the front setback guidelines
- Building bulk
- Traffic Parking and impact on pedestrians (particularly children)
- Overshadowing/loss of light
- Noise
- Internal amenity of new units (in relation to light, private open space and size of units)
- Further consideration should have been given to the transition to the rear (General Residential Zone)
- Decreased property values
- Rubbish management

LINK TO COUNCIL PLAN

Town Planning and Development: to manage the rate and extent of change to the built environment consistent with State and Local Planning Policies to achieve a diversity of housing as sympathetic as possible to neighbourhood character.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

That a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit.






















ITEM 9.2 VCAT WATCH

Author: Effie Tangalakis – Coordinator Town Planning

File No: N/A

Attachments: 1. Table of new appeals lodged

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

To report to Council recent VCAT decisions.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes:

- 1. The reported planning decisions of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).
- 2. VCAT and officer comments.

BACKGROUND

The VCAT process allows appellants to amend their proposal between the time that Council makes a decision and the time VCAT considers the matter. Section 84B of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* requires VCAT to "take into account" any relevant Planning Policy, not necessarily apply it.

ADDRESS	8 EGAN STREET, CARNEGIE		
PROPOSAL	SIXTEEN-STOREY BUILDING OVER BASEMENT		
	COMPRISING ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIVE		
	DWELLINGS, ONE COMMERCIAL TENANCY, ONE		
	HUNDRED AND FIFTY-TWO CAR SPACES AND ONE		
	HUNDRED AND FIFTY-TWO BICYCLE SPACES		
COUNCIL DECISION	REFUSAL (COUNCIL RESOLUTION)		
PROPOSAL	THE PROPOSAL WAS AMENDED BY THE APPLICANT		
CONSIDERED BY	PRIOR TO THE VCAT HEARING BY THE SUBSTITUTION		
VCAT	OF PLANS TO THAT ORIGINALLY CONSIDERED BY		
	COUNCIL.		
	THE KEY CHANGES TO THE PROPOSAL WERE AS		
	FOLLOWS:		
	NEW CONFIGURATION TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO		
	NATURAL LIGHT FOR NORTH-FACING AND EAST-		
	FACING DWELLINGS		
	TOWER ENVELOPE ALTERED SLIGHTLY TO		
	NORTHERN END TO ALLOW FOR INTERNAL		
	RECONFIGURATION		
	MINOR FAÇADE CHANGES TO EAST AND WEST		
	FAÇADE TO ALLOW FOR INTERNAL		

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

	RECONFIGURATIONFAÇADE REDESIGN TO PODIUM LEVELS
	THE CHANGES WERE NOT CONSIDERED AN IMPROVEMENT AS THEY DID NOT ADDRESS THE COUNCIL'S ORIGINAL CONCERNS WITH THE PROPOSAL
VCAT DECISION	REFUSAL
APPELLANT	GOAL NUMBER 7 PTY LTD



"It has not responded in an acceptable way to the changing physical circumstances associated with the Skyrail project and some of the matters we are required to consider under clause 43.02 and DDO9. We find that the impacts on the public realm associated with the changing public environment of Egan Street and associated regional public open space corridor, and our conclusion that some design objectives in DDO9 are not met, are both of significance and lead to our conclusion to refuse a permit." – VCAT Presiding Member: Margaret Baird and VCAT Member: Carol Daicic

- The subject site is located within the Commercial 1 Zone and Carnegie Urban Village.
- The subject site is affected by the interim height control (DDO9) which prescribes a maximum preferred ("discretionary") building height and falls within Precinct 'DDO9-1'.
- The application was refused on grounds relating to internal amenity, impact on public realm and surrounding properties, car parking and traffic, inadequate commercial floor space and visual bulk.
- The Tribunal did not hold the concept of a mixed-use development on the subject land to be contentious given its location within the urban village and major activity centre, proximity to transport, and absence of heritage, vegetation and flooding constraints.

- The Tribunal held there had been significant contextual changes to which the design had not responded, including the Skyrail project.
- The Tribunal acknowledged that the Skyrail project (which is due to be completed in 2018) will result in the public realm of Egan Street being considerably different from the current context. Concerns were raised that the proposed development would have a negative impact on the future public realm by way of overshadowing and visual bulk. The Tribunal also noted that the elevated rail corridor would have a negative impact on the dwellings within the proposed development by way of noise and useability of living rooms and balconies.
- The Tribunal had no concern about the visual presence of the proposed development from other public locations, such as Dandenong Road or Koornang Road. The key issue in the Tribunal's consideration was the podium treatment and the scale of the development given that Egan Street will abut a public open space corridor and the street environment will see more pedestrian usage as a consequence of increased development in DDO9-1 and the regional corridor.
- The Tribunal gave the interim height control considerable weight and held that DDO9-1 is contextually different.
- The Tribunal held that the proposal does not make a positive contribution or meet the design objective of DDO9 as the development does not enhance the character of Carnegie Urban Village, including the scale, shape and rhythm of built form and variety of building heights, roof forms, setbacks and building designs.
- The Tribunal was concerned about aspects of the internal amenity of some dwellings within the proposed development, particularly to the lower level dwellings with respect to the size of spaces and daylight considerations.
- On that basis, the Tribunal affirmed Council's decision and directed no permit be granted.

ADDRESS	31 WEEROONA ROAD, MURRUMBEENA
PROPOSAL	THREE STOREY BUILDING COMPRISING 18
	DWELLINGS AND REDUCTION IN VISITOR CAR
	PARKING
COUNCIL DECISION	REFUSAL (MANAGER)
PROPOSAL	THE PROPOSAL WAS AMENDED BY THE APPLICANT
CONSIDERED BY	PRIOR TO THE VCAT HEARING BY THE SUBSTITUTION
VCAT	OF PLANS TO THAT ORIGINALLY CONSIDERED BY
	COUNCIL.
	THE KEY CHANGES TO THE PROPOSAL WERE AS
	FOLLOWS:
	REDUCTION TO NUMBER OF DWELLINGS FROM 18
	TO 15
	PROVISION OF FULL VISITOR CAR PARKING
	REQUIREMENT (3 CAR SPACES)
	REDUCTION IN BASEMENT SIZE, INCREASED
	SETBACKS FROM NORTHERN AND WESTERN
	BOUNDARIES AT FIRST FLOOR, AND INCREASED
	SETBACKS FROM THE FRONT AND REAR
	BOUNDARIES AT SECOND FLOOR
	GREATER DWELLING DIVERSITY (5 X 3-BEDROOM
	DWELLINGS AND 10X2 BEDROOM DWELLINGS)
	INCREASE IN PRIVATE OPEN SPACE

INTERNAL RECONFIGURATION TO SOME
DWELLINGS TO ENABLE GREATER NATURAL LIGHT
THE CHANGES WERE CONSIDERED A MINOR
IMPROVEMENT AS THEY ADDRESSED SOME OF THE
OFFICER'S ORIGINAL CONCERNS WITH THE
PROPOSAL
REFUSAL
BUILDSTRUCT GROUP PTY LTD



"It is the extent of change in character that should occur in this location at the very edge of a HDA that is the key issue for decision in this proceeding.

I have not been persuaded that the proposed development achieves an outcome consistent with the policy intent for this locale, and a built form that respects the surrounding neighbourhood context." – VCAT Member: Michael Deidun.

- The subject site is located within the General Residential Zone and Murrumbeena Neighbourhood Activity Centre.
- The application was refused on grounds relating to the development's inadequate scale and bulk, and its failure to respond to the transitional nature of this location, and the character of the surrounding neighbourhood. The application was also refused on grounds relating to the off-site amenity impacts from the proposal, particularly the visual bulk, non-compliance with various standards and objectives of State Government Guidelines and some minor matters relating to access and car parking.
- The Tribunal held that the encouragement for the achievement of additional housing in this location is at a local level given the site is identified as a residential area within a Neighbourhood Centre, and therefore at the lowest rung of housing diversity areas.

- The Tribunal identified that policy specifically encourages the density of residential development to decrease as one moves away from the activity centre given the site sits at the edge of the housing diversity area.
- The Tribunal emphasised the site's interface location given the properties east of the site are zoned Neighbourhood Residential and affected by a Neighbourhood Character Overlay, and places a high emphasis on the protection of the existing neighbourhood centre, retention of the existing low scale interwar dwellings, and the facilitation of new development that respects the scale and number of storeys reflected in the existing neighbourhood.
- The Tribunal acknowledged that the planning scheme controls encourage different intensities of development on both sides of the road, and that in part this will lead to different aspects of neighbourhood character being accentuated in the housing diversity area and minimal change area respectively. The Tribunal also accepted that policy seeks development within the housing diversity area in this interface location to be moderated in a manner which is respectful of the scale of nearby residential development, not dominate the streetscape, and responds positively to this interface location.
- The Tribunal held that the policy objectives can only be achieved with a more sympathetic development proposal for the review site.
- On that basis, the Tribunal affirmed Council's decision and directed no permit be granted.

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

N/A

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

N/A

LINK TO COUNCIL PLAN

Town Planning and Development: to manage the rate and extent of change to the built environment consistent with State and Local Planning Policies to achieve a diversity of housing as sympathetic as possible to neighbourhood character.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

N/A

ATTACHMENT 1: TABLE OF NEW APPEALS LODGED						
COMPULSORY CONFERENCE (MEDIATION)	FULL HEARING	PROPERTY	PROPOSAL	ZONE	COUNCIL DECISION	APPEAL AGAINST
	12 July 2017	18 Poet Road, Bentleigh East	Two double storey dwellings	Neighbourhood Residential Zone	Permit (Manager)	Conditions (Applicant)
	15 August 2017	5 Werona Street, Bentleigh	Two double storey dwellings	Neighbourhood Residential Zone	Permit (Manager)	Conditions (Applicant)
25 July 2017	4 September 2017	1254-1258 Glen Huntly Road, Carnegie	Six storey mixed use building comprising a shop, café and dwellings, above 2 levels of basement car parking, reduction in car parking and waiver of loading facilities	Commercial Zone	Permit (Council)	Conditions (Applicant)
26 July 2017	11 September 2017	670-672 Centre Road and 51 Browns Road, Bentleigh East	Amendment to Permit to allow an additional storey comprising 2 dwellings to approved part 3 and part 5 storey development	Commercial Zone & General Residential Zone	Refusal (Council)	Refusal (Applicant)
27 July 2017	14 September 2017	2-4 Blair Street, Bentleigh	Four storey apartment building comprising 24 dwellings	Residential Growth Zone	Refusal (Council)	Refusal (Applicant)
1 August 2017	18 September 2017	9-13 Derby Road, Caulfield	Eighteen storey building comprising 158 units for use as student accommodation	Commercial Zone	Refusal (Council)	Refusal (Applicant)
1 August 2017	20 September 2017	360 Neerim Road, Carnegie	Four storey building comprising shop and 16 dwellings and reduction in car parking and loading bay requirements	Commercial Zone	Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit (Council)	Conditions (Applicant)
10 August 2017	21 September 2017	30-32 Prince Edward Avenue,	Three storey building comprising 18 dwellings above	General Residential Zone	Refusal (DPF)	Refusal (Applicant)

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

4 JULY 2017

		McKinnon	basement car parking			
31 August 2017	21 September 2017	10 Princes Street, Caulfield North	Three storey building containing 16 dwellings above basement level car park	General Residential Zone	Refusal (DPF)	Refusal (Applicant)
	22 September 2017	1 Plunkett Avenue, Carnegie	Two double storey attached dwellings	Neighbourhood Residential Zone	Refusal (Manager)	Refusal (Applicant)
	5 October 2017	7 Chauvel Street, Bentleigh	Two double storey dwellings	Neighbourhood Residential Zone	Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit (DPF)	Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit (Objector)
	9 October 2017	438 Centre Road, Bentleigh	Change of use to a place of assembly incorporating function centre and food and drink premises, sale and consumption of liquor and waiver of car parking, and demolition of buildings and works on land affected by Heritage Overlay	Commercial Zone	Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit (DPF)	Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit (Objector)
	13 October 2017	13-17 Cecil Street, Bentleigh	Buildings and works for a child care centre and place of worship and reduction in car parking requirement for place of worship	Neighbourhood Residential Zone	Permit (DPF)	Conditions (Applicant)
	13 October 2017	20 Elizabeth Street, Bentleigh East	Two double storey attached dwellings	Neighbourhood Residential Zone	Permit (DPF)	Conditions (Applicant)
	19 October 2017	5 Chloris Crescent, Caulfield	Two double storey attached dwellings	Neighbourhood Residential Zone	Refusal (DPF)	Refusal (Applicant)

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

4 JULY 2017

	20 October 2017	564 Centre Road, Bentleigh	Two double storey attached dwellings	Neighbourhood Residential Zone	Refusal (Manager)	Refusal (Applicant)
	24 October 2017	6 Wheeler Street, Ormond	Three, three-storey dwellings	General Residential Zone	Refusal (Manager)	Refusal (Applicant)
13 September 2017	1 November 2017	167 Bambra Road, Caulfield	Use of dwelling as home occupation exceeding 50 square metres in area	Neighbourhood Residential Zone	Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit (DPF)	Permit (Objector)

ITEM 9.3 EAST VILLAGE DRAFT STRUCTURE PLAN

Author: Aidan Mullen, Manager City Futures

File No: 17/1175237

Attachments: 1. East Village draft concept plans

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

In February 2017, Council resolved to enter into a partnership with the Victorian Planning Authority to deliver a future vision for the East Village precinct in the form of a Structure Plan. This report outlines the consultation received to date and seeks the endorsement of draft plans for further consultation.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Endorses the commencement of community engagement for the East Village draft concept plans, including a call for expressions of interest for membership of a community reference group.
- 2. Writes to the Minister for Education seeking timely clarification of the Department of Education and Training's future plans for the East Village Precinct
- 3. Writes to the Minister for Public Transport regarding the upcoming bus route planning process

BACKGROUND

East Village is a 24 hectare area of land located on the south eastern corner of the North Road and East Boundary Road intersection. The land consists of the Virginia Park Business Centre, the former Bosch Brakes factory and a number of smaller industrial parcels of land fronting North Road.

Due to a decline of the manufacturing industry within Australia, the site known as Virginia Park Business Centre has been subject to previous rezoning proposals to facilitate residential land use and development. The most recent proposal in July 2015 raised a significant level of local concern and was abandoned by Council.

Since the previous amendment was abandoned, the landowners have carried out a fourstage independent community engagement process throughout 2016. In response to the community's feedback, a draft 20-year masterplan was produced.

Following this work, Council Officers were approached by the landowners to commence the structure planning process. It is considered that this is a unique opportunity to work with the community and carry out a quality structure planning process that delivers diverse housing, employment, services and infrastructure that is tailored to the Glen Eira community.

To ensure the appropriate level of resources to successfully deliver a high quality outcome, Council resolved to enter a partnership with the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA) to assist in undertaking this significant strategic work.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 7th February 2017, it was resolved that Council:

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- 1. Notes the proposed partnership with the Victorian Planning Authority as outlined in the attached letter;
- 2. Endorses the partnership of the Victorian Planning Authority to assist Council officers in assessing and preparing a Structure Plan for the East Village site in East Bentleigh;
- 3. Endorses the commencement of Council led community engagement to inform the future direction of the East Village site, including meaningful community engagement as part of, not just following, the development of the draft structure plan; and
- 4. Notes that Council will remain the Responsible Authority and that Officers will provide full reports to Council at key decision points of the Structure Plan process.

Following this Council decision, Council has been leading the community engagement to inform any future plan for this important strategic site, with the aim of seeking as broad community input as possible.

Between 10 March and 16 April 2017, 262 community members completed a community survey, which sought views on the community's vision, objectives, priorities and concerns for this precinct. On 24 May, Council held a Community Forum with 64 community members to further test the draft vision and objectives.

The draft vision presented to the community stated: *East Village will be a thriving, mixed use precinct with a focus on employment, innovation, education and housing affordability.*

The feedback from the consultation processes can be summarised as follows:

- Provide affordable housing for young families.
- Ensure a green space precinct with innovative employment opportunities, education facilities and housing ranging from units, houses and aged care.
- Provide education facilities to meet the needs of growing population.
- Aged care/retirement villages affordable housing for the elderly.
- Ensure provision of local jobs and employment opportunities.
- Address the precinct interfaces with more contextual sensitivity.
- Create public open space such as parks, green spaces and community gardens.
- Provide community facilities for sports, playgrounds, meeting places, community hubs.
- Include retail, cafes, restaurants and a supermarket.
- Include entertainment opportunities.
- Ensure sustainability and environmental design.

Council has been working in partnership with Victorian Planning Authority to develop a draft future plan for the East Village precinct that embraces this community input.

As the process for East Village transitions from a broad community feedback stage to a more detailed one, it will benefit from the contribution of a community reference group. A call for expressions of interest for membership of the community reference group for East Village will be made in the coming weeks.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

In response to the feedback received through community consultation and the East Village Community Forum, an updated vision and associated draft concept plans has been produced.

<u>Vision</u>

The revised vision states that:

'East Village will be a sustainable mixed use precinct with a focus on innovative employment and education opportunities.

Enhanced by green spaces and places for people, it will be supported by a diverse range of high quality housing and retail that caters for all.'

Concept Plans

The key elements of the concept plan which respond to the community feedback are as follows:

- Creation of an innovation precinct along the length of East Boundary Road by ensuring no residential uses are allowed, providing the right market conditions for office and commercial uses to thrive.
- New urban laneways that serve the innovation precinct to allow for smaller office tenancies for creative businesses and start-ups to collaborate and mix.
- A large central public open space area of approximately 1 hectare has been introduced, which caters for a range of activities serving the new and existing neighbourhood.
- A retail based 'town centre' that provides a positive pedestrian experience based on urban laneways and plazas, and extends from East Boundary Road to the centre of the site.
- A pedestrian-only urban plaza has been introduced within the retail precinct that provides a place defining space in the centre of East Village.
- The community and education precinct has been located to provide additional open space as an extension of Marlborough reserve.
- The central area is proposed to be a mixed use area that allows for a range of commercial uses and diverse housing including aged care.

The protection of the innovation precinct from residential uses, which is integrated with the well design retail laneways will help to promote economic growth as businesses will be visible to the street and will gain maximum exposure. The aim of this draft plan is that these precincts have been designed to provide additional employment opportunities for the community – one of the key principles of the draft *Activity Centre, Housing and Local Economy Strategy*.

In response to the community's call for green spaces, a large neighbourhood park has been proposed in the centre of the site to serve the existing neighbourhood, as well as the new employees and residents. The extension of Marlborough Reserve will importantly create greater capacity to provide active and sporting uses.

The community feedback has supported the idea of a local shopping strip to serve the local neighbourhood, which is based on a safe open-air street experience. An urban plaza and a network of pedestrian-only active urban laneways have been introduced to create an inviting retail core responding to the community's vision.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

The mixed use precinct provides an opportunity for diversity of housing options including aged-care, affordable housing for key workers, student housing, short-term accommodation and family-sized townhouses and apartments.

Education Opportunities

The idea of a potential new school facility has been widely debated throughout the community consultation process. However, this discussion with the community has been difficult, as Council does not control school funding or planning.

The landowners have previously outlined a commitment to provide land for purposes, which is still proposed in the draft plans. As part of the 2017/18 State Budget, \$500,000 funding has been allocated for planning of future educational facilities in East Bentleigh.

A new school facility has the potential to strongly contribute to the future vision of the East Village precinct that is focussed on *'innovative employment and education opportunities'*. The future school facility could be integrated with the employment precinct, seeking shared learning opportunities and resources.

However, Officers understand that the planning process for this potential new facility has not yet been determined, and may not align with the current structure planning process. It is recommended that the Council write to the Minister to seek further clarification on the process and how it could align with the current structure planning work and future vision.

Public and Active Transport

Planning for the future transport needs has been another important issue discussed through community consultation. As with the Education provision outlined above, transport is not solely within the control of Council. It is important that the future East Village precinct is not only reliant on car access, but is the new centre of a walkable neighbourhood, and also encourages bicycle or bus access to broader key destinations such as nearby train stations, universities and activity centres.

As part of the 2017/18 State budget, the State Government has announced the 'Better buses for Bentleigh' project, which Officers understand will involve community consultation on bus route options later this year. Officers are working with the VPA to ensure a clear position on the required bus needs for the future East Village are understood to inform this future bus network review.

Likewise it is important that safe and attractive bicycle connections are provided to, through and from the East Village precinct. Officers are currently working with VPA and VicRoads to explore opportunities to provide bicycle connections as part of this project.

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The current partnership with the VPA represents a significant resource and financial assistance to enable Council to successfully respond to the request for amendment.

The financial and resource implications for consideration of the draft concept plan are within the normal operation of the Council's City Futures Department.

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Council recently endorsed the draft *Activity Centre, Housing and Local Economy Strategy* for community engagement which identifies the East Village precinct as an *Emerging Health, Education and Innovation Precinct*. These types of centres are specialised precincts that include urban renewal sites in strategic locations and provide opportunity to take advantage of underutilised land close to jobs, services and public transport infrastructure, to provide new housing, jobs and services.

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Summaries of the consultation to date can be found on Council's East village webpage.

This report seeks Council endorsement to commence consultation on the draft concept plans for East Village.

It is proposed that the consultation material will be available across the month of July, which will be distributed to the consultation database, provided on the Council website and letters posted to surrounding residents.

A forum with the landowners immediately south of North Road will be held in the middle of July. A second community forum will be held in the latter half of July.

Officers will also explore seeking more targeted consultation on the innovation and education role of the precinct by reaching out to nearby high schools, university and interested businesses.

The feedback received through this next consultation stage will inform the Draft Structure Plan.

Expressions of interest for membership of a community reference group will be called which, once established will provide valuable feedback as this process becomes more detailed.

LINK TO COUNCIL PLAN

Town Planning and Development: To manage the rate and extent of change to the built environment consistent with State and Local Planning Policies to achieve a diversity of housing as sympathetic as possible to neighbourhood character.

Community Building and Engagement: To build a strong connected community that actively participates and engages with Council to improve outcomes for the community.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

The East Village draft concept plans have been formed through a community-led process in partnership with the Victorian Planning Authority. It is intended that further community feedback is sought through two rounds of engagement before a final Structure Plan is presented to Council for adoption.

ATTACHMENT 1: EAST VILLAGE CONCEPT PLAN





ITEM 9.4 MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN (MEMP)

 Author:
 Rachel Ollivier, Group Manager Property Environment & Sustainability

 File No:
 60/040/00033

Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

For Council to consider and endorse amendments to the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) since the previous review in 2014.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. notes changes to the Glen Eira Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) since 2014;
- 2. notes the Municipal Emergency Planning Committee will continue to update the MEMP to ensure currency.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 10 June 2014, Council considered the Glen Eira Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) noting the Plan will continue to be updated to ensure its currency.

The State Emergency Service (SES), who audits the MEMP every three years, recommends that Council periodically considers updates to the MEMP.

The Emergency Management Act 1986 (Act) requires Council to:

- 1. Appoint a Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC);
- Prepare, maintain, review and update a Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP);
- 3. Have the MEMP audited every 3 years for compliance with guidelines issued by the State Government.

The MEMPC is made up of representatives of local emergency services, non-government organisations, government departments and Council officers. Its responsibilities include regular review and update of the MEMP.

The MEMP documents agreed arrangements between Council and emergency management organisations for the prevention of, response to and recovery from emergencies that may occur in, or impact upon, the community of Glen Eira.

A copy of the current version of the MEMP is available in the Councillors' Room for Councillors to view. As it contains personal information, the full version is not a public document.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Since 2014 the MEMP has been systematically reviewed and amended by the MEMPC. This process has included:

- Desktop reviews of each section of the plan by the MEMPC.
- Conducting 5 emergency exercises to practice and evaluate the arrangements in the plan.
- A complete review of all the emergency risks facing the community of Glen Eira.

Regular review and update of the MEMP ensures it continues to comply with the Act and, where appropriate, with relevant guidelines.

Key changes since 2014 include:

- The list of possible emergency risks to the community has been updated along with measures put in place to prevent, mitigate, respond to and recover from any such risks. In particular, the changes to the national terrorism threat alert level in 2014 triggered a review of the relevant risk to the community of Glen Eira.
- Emergency Relief arrangements have been updated.
- Contact details of key organisations and individual stakeholders have been regularly reviewed and updated.
- The Flood Emergency Sub-plan was reviewed following the 29 December 2016 flash flood event.
- The Heatwave Sub-plan has been updated and the Pandemic Influenza Sub-plan rewritten to align with changes to alert processes by the World Health Organisation, as well as the Australian and Victorian Health Emergency Management Plans.
- Following the business continuity enhancements to the Town Hall (installation of an emergency standby generator), the primary and secondary Municipal Emergency Coordination Centres (MECC) have been swapped. The primary MECC is now the Town Hall. The secondary MECC is located at Council's Youth Information Centre, 86 Robert Street, Bentleigh.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

In reviewing emergency management arrangements, consultation has occurred with emergency services, community groups, and non-government organisations.

Community groups included St John Ambulance, Jewish Community Council of Victoria, Jewish Emergency Management Plan, Australian Red Cross, and SES (Glen Eira). All are members of the MEMPC and have agreed to the changes to the document.

FUTURE WORKS

The MEMPC has a number of projects planned for 2017-18 that will further enhance the Glen Eira MEMP. These are:

- Conduct ongoing training for Council staff to assist in supporting the community in an emergency. This will primarily relate to emergency relief centre operation, but will also include changes to the way in which MECCs will operate moving forward.
- Conduct an annual exercise to practice the arrangements in the MEMP.
- Preparing for proposed changes to the MEMP audit process, which the State Government is yet to implement.
- Review and re-assess the Glen Eira community emergency risk management process in 2018.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

The State Emergency Service (SES), who audits the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) every three years, recommends that Council periodically considers updates to the MEMP.

This report outlines the amendments to the MEMP for Council to note.

ITEM 9.5	NATURE STRIP PLANTING GUIDELINES
Author:	Mark Collins, Group Manager Recreation and Leisure
File No:	n/a
Attachments:	 Attachment A – Summary of Council guidelines at Victorian Councils Attachment B – Recommended Option Guidelines Attachment C – Half Width Option Guidelines Attachment D – Full Width Option Guidelines Attachment E – Outcomes achieved with Low, Medium and Higher Risk Guideline Options Attachment F – No tree protection zone (ie. no street tree) Attachment G – Corner Nature Strip Outcome Attachment H – Corner and 4 metre wide Nature Strip

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

At the 28 February 2017 Ordinary Meeting, Council resolved:

"That officers prepare a report on options to landscape and plant vegetation other than grass on nature strips, evaluating regulatory, safety and educational requirements (where applicable) to heighten the probability of sustainable and well-maintained streetscapes."

This report investigates the options available and considerations for future Council Nature Strip Planting guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Endorses option 3 to promote grass nature strips with selected alternatives and encourages residents with corner blocks (scenario b) and wider than average nature strips (scenario c) to create meaningful planting areas;
- 2. Endorses the recommended nature strip guidelines (option 3, guideline 1);
- 3. Requests officers to undertake further investigation on the impacts of the guidelines and develop draft guidelines and recommended plantings for public consultation.

BACKGROUND

Nature strips are the piece of public land between the footpath and the kerb on residential streets. As part of the road reserve, this land is set aside for the provision of essential services such as telephone, gas, water, sewerage, drainage and electricity.

In addition to providing clear viewing lines for pedestrian and vehicle traffic, the nature strip provides a stable area for postal and waste collection services, and clearance for entry and exit from motor vehicles parked on the road for passengers, prams and wheelchairs.

There are approximately 1,200 streets or roads in the municipality with nature strips on either side. Around 93% of these nature strips have a standard width of 2.1m, from kerb to footpath and the remainder range between 1m to 4.5m.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Current Demand

Council has to date not issued any permits for nature strip landscaping under Local law 429 or the Road Management Act 2004. When a complaint is received, an inspection of the landscaped nature strip is carried out and if it is found to be "safe and tidy" and generally in conformity with the Road Management Act 2004, no action is taken.

A Notice to Comply is only issued to a resident when landscape works on a nature strip are found to be unsafe or to have interfered with the provision of essential services.

Approximately 50 complaints about nature strips were received in 2015-16 by the Grounds Maintenance crew in the Parks department. Another 25 enquiries about nature strip plantings are received each year.

Options considered for Glen Eira

The 4 options considered were:

Option 1: Grass nature strip only

This would be a regressive step as Council passed a Local Law in 2009 allowing limited planting, but without detailed guidelines (Refer Local Law 429).

The restrictive nature of this option could encourage plantings and other works on nature strips, which has already been seen in the city.

Option 2: Allow all types of planting on nature strips

Uncontrolled plantings in nature strips will remove the need for inspections of nature strips and reduce the need for enforcement by Local Laws officers.

However, this option will result in an undesirable mix of landscaped nature strips, the endangerment of Council's existing street trees and possibly the creation of a range of hazards to public and resident safety. It is likely Council's insurers would increase premiums on public liability insurance as a result and may possibly fall beyond the limits of cover. This would need to be determined with Council's insurers.

It is likely that this option would also be construed as a breach of the Road Management Act 2004.

Option 3: Promote grass nature strips with guidelines on selected alternatives

Encourage the continued planting of grass on nature strips as both effective and safe, and not requiring a permit.

Council would publish detailed planting guidelines for residents who would like an alternative treatment for their nature strip. This would require development of a list of acceptable species of plants for use by residents and an online permit application on the website.

Three potential planting guidelines have been developed (Attachment B - D) subject to the amount of risk that Council is willing to accept. There are 18 guidelines that have been proposed and the attachments outline the reason for each of these guidelines. The differences between the three guidelines relate to the amount of setbacks available, and have been classified as:

1. Recommended Guidelines (Attachment B) with setbacks off kerb (90cm), footpath (50cm) and driveway (100cm)

- 2. Half Width Guidelines (Attachment C) with setbacks off kerb (45cm), footpath (25cm) and driveway (50cm)
- 3. Full Width Guidelines (Attachment D) with setbacks off kerb (0cm), footpath (0cm) and driveway (0cm)

The risks against each of these scenarios relate to residents being able to open car doors and enter or exit unhindered, pedestrian safety from overhanging plants on the footpath and viewing capability from cars. It should be made clear that Attachment C or D does not comply with all legislative requirements. The return on reducing these setbacks is that a larger planting space is able to be created. A summary of these scenarios has been outlined further below.

ORDINARY COUNDIL MEETING

Gu	Guidelines Risk Level		Outcomes
1.	Recommended Guidelines (refer Attachment B)	Low risk to Residents, low risk to Council	 i) Maintain current nature strip service functionality ii) Provide limited opportunities for plantings iii) Compliant with various legislative requirement iv) Address safety concerns v) Minimise environmental contamination from plantings vi) Protect Council's street tree stock
2.	Half Width Guidelines (refer Attachment C)	Medium risk to Residents, high risk to Council	 i) Compromises service functionality, with possible damage to Resident's plantings ii) Increase the available space for plantings iii) Non-compliant with several legislative requirements. iv) Increased safety concerns - impede car door opening etc v) Increased risk of chemical runoff and dead plant matter into stormwater system vi) Increased risk to Council's street tree stock from increased plantings, chemicals etc vii) Owners indemnity may not absolve Council of liability as Council has permitted the construction of an unsafe structure on Council land
3.	Full Width Guidelines (refer Attachment D)	Highest risk to Residents, high risk to Council	 i) Unsafe access to service pits, poles etc and high risk of garden waste clogging utility services. Damage to plantings from service utility access. ii) Plantings on full width of nature strip, except in the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) iii) Contravenes several pieces of legislation iv) Impediment to pedestrian and car passenger access, Residents at risk from passing traffic when maintaining plantings. v) Definite contamination of stormwater system by chemicals, mulch, dead plant matter, especially after heavy rain or strong winds. vi) Increased risk to Council's street tree stock from increased plantings, chemicals etc vii) Owner's indemnity may not absolve Council of liability as Council has permitted the construction of an unsafe structure on Council land.

Concepts on what each of these guidelines could look like in the average Glen Eira nature strip (2.1m from kerb to footpath) can be seen in Attachment E. In each concept, there is little meaningful space that can be created which is primarily due to the average size of Glen Eira nature strips and the tree protection zone. To potentially explore alternatives for residents there are three scenarios that Council could consider:

a) Removal of the tree protection zone (or sites that have no current tree coverage)

This is an Australian Standard and the size of the zone relates directly to the size of the tree. Most of Glen Eira's tree stock is mature and an average tree diameter of 40 cm (tree height of 5-8m subject to species) has been used to demonstrate the zone in Attachments B - D. The minimum size of a TPZ (radius) is 1m and the maximum size is 15m. Removing or reducing this zone in the guidelines would significantly increase the space available for planting (As can be seen in Attachment F).

There are a number of species that could be used safely within the tree protection zone if it was relaxed. However, it would also put Council's street tree assets at higher risk of being damaged whilst planting and maintaining, dying due to other competing plants or residents using fertilisers with phosphates and increased claims from root damage as the roots grow closer to the surface with plants or ground cover on top of them.

Additionally, by relaxing the TPZ developers of properties will no longer have to protect the existing trees and by default we will be surrendering the only way we have to protect our existing canopy trees without other additional controls being put in to place.

This is not recommended by officers.

b) Encouraging residents with corner blocks

Residents with corner blocks have greater opportunity to create meaningful space for nature strip plantings. Attachment G shows an example of what could be achieved on an average corner block site.

c) Encouraging residents with wider than average nature strips

Residents with wider than average (ie. greater than 2.1 metres) nature strips have a much greater opportunity to create meaningful space for nature strip plantings. Attachment H shows an example of what could be achieved on a nature strip 4m in width.

Option 4: Planned planting of nature strips

Council could undertake landscaped plantings of nature strips in selected roads in accordance with a selected theme.

This approach would include the planning (in consultation with residents), planting and ongoing maintenance of the landscaped nature strips.

Controlled planting and maintenance would be an effective method to roll out planted nature strips on a large scale without compromising safety, accessibility and environmental requirements. However the costs associated with this method would be substantial, approximately \$200k per annum, based on the following requirements:

- 1EFT landscape designer and community liaison
- 1EFT maintenance crew for every 200 planted nature strips

- 1 Watering Truck (\$60K) for every 400 planted nature strips
- 0.5 EFT for each Watering Truck (dry season only)
- Annual vehicle operating cost, water cost.

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

If options 2 or 3 were implemented, an estimated 0.5 EFT will be required to manage permit applications and subsequent enforcement operations. It is estimated that this will cost around \$45,000 annually.

If option 4 was considered, the costs associated with this method would be in the order of \$200k per annum.

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Legislative requirements

As part of a road reserve, the nature strip is subject to the provisions of the Road Management Act 2004 and Road Management (General) Regulations 2005, which prohibits a person from interfering with or damaging any road infrastructure (whether in, on, under or over) without consent from Council or VicRoads.

Council's Local Law 429 (2009) similarly prohibits any works on nature strips without Council's permission. However, it also states no permit is required should a person plant a plant (other than a tree) on a nature strip which does not cause a nuisance, pose a safety or health hazard or unreasonably interfere with access or visibility to a road, footpath, kerb and channel, crossing, road signs, traffic management device or a nature strip.

VicRoads "Tree Planting Policy" reinforces the need for access to utility services in the Roads Reserve. Austroads "Guide to Road Design" lists road safety consideration as the main priority when landscaping or planting on road reserves.

Electrical Safety Victoria Regulations 2015, require a minimum clearance of 100cm from Power poles.

Existing non-compliant nature strips

An estimated 300 nature strips in the municipality potentially may be non-compliant with the planting guidelines. This will need to be managed carefully with these residents, some who have had established gardens on their nature strips for some time. However the published guidelines will be an opportunity for an informed discussion with these residents on Council's policy position.

Heritage Areas

Heritage areas are part of Council's planning scheme requirements. Only lawn is allowed in these Heritage areas and there is a reference to maintaining "character of neighbourhood". It is intended that these requirements are maintained to protect this character.

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Survey of other Councils

A survey of 30 inner and outer metropolitan councils showed the following:

- There were 23 councils that had a Nature Strip Policy and/or detailed planting guidelines. Two more were in the process of formulating these.
- The overwhelming majority of councils preferred grass (lawn or native) and ground cover as an alternative for their nature strips.
- Main concerns addressed in the policy and guidelines were safety and accessibility with regard to the nature strips.
- Secondary concerns were environmental effects of planting (contamination of stormwater) and maintenance of planted areas.
- Majority of councils required residents to apply for a permit for any planting other than grass.
- Majority of councils did not charge a permit fee.
- The publication of the Policy and detailed guidelines clarified the situation for both the residents and the staff

There were two notable exceptions to plantings on nature strips – Melbourne City Council and the City of Yarra.

These two councils were actively promoting the "greenification" of their cities. Grassed nature strips in Melbourne City are a rarity, and to a lesser extent, in the City of Yarra. These councils are working in collaboration with residents to plan and plant suitable sites in an effort to reverse the lack of greenery in their environment. The City of Yarra is even considering the closure of selected laneways and converting these into urban gardens.

It should be noted that largely suburban councils had a definite preference for grassed nature strips.

Refer to Attachment A for a summary of guidelines of Victorian councils.

LINK TO COUNCIL PLAN

Theme 5 Recreation and Open Space To enhance recreation facilities and open space to meet current and future needs of the local community.

Theme 7 Sustainable Community Assets and Infrastructure To enhance and develop sustainable community assets and infrastructure to meet the needs of current and future generations

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

This is a complex issue with many competing requirements and in the majority of Glen Eira's nature strips, limited space. Any recommendations will need to take into consideration public safety, costs to Council, environmental impact and legislative requirements.
Attachment A – Summary of Council guidelines at Victorian Councils

Nature Strip Planting

Option Paper February 2017

Summary of published guidelines and policies of selected Victorian councils

	Identified need for planting on nature strip?	Grass nature strip only? Yes/No	Permit required?	Preference for lawn, native grass and ground cover?	Height restriction	Setback from kerb	Setback from footpath	Setback for utilities access	Maintain sightlines	Synthetic grass	Granitic sand	Poisono us or prickly plants	Consent of neighbours required		Irrigation systems	Owners insurance to cover nature strip improvements	Planting allowed in Tree Protection Zone?
Glen Eira City Council - Officer's Recommendation	No	No	Yes	Yes	50 cm	90 cm	50 cm	100 cm	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Bayside City Council	silent	No	Yes	Yes	60 cm	50 cm	minimum width of footpath	silent	Yes	No	Yes	silent	Yes	No	No	silent	silent
Boroondara City Council	silent	No	Yes	Yes	50 cm	60 cm	silent	not specific	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	silent	works should support health of street trees
Cardinia Shire Council	silent	No	Yes	Yes	30 cm	100 cm	minimum width of footpath	silent	silent	No	Yes	silent	silent	No	No	silent	silent
Casey City Council	silent	No	No	Yes	50 cm	120 cm	150 cm wide footpath	not specific	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Darebin City Council	Yes	N\A	Council encourages planting on nature strips due to poor soil in municipality - setback distances are relaxed and planter boxes are allowed														
Frankston City Council	silent	No	Yes	Yes	30 to 60 cm	100 cm	minimum width of footpath	silent	not specific	silent	Yes	silent	silent	No	No	silent	silent
Greater Dandenong City Council	No	Yes	Council only permits grass nature strips														
Greater Geelong City Council	No	Yes	Council only permits grass nature strips and gravel compacted to specific standards														
Hobsons Bay City Council	silent	No	No	Yes	50 cm	60 cm	120 cm for footpath	not specific	silent	silent	Yes	No	silent	No	No	silent	silent
Hume City Council	silent	No	Yes	Yes	40 cm	100 cm		not specific	silent	silent	silent	silent	silent	No	No	Yes	100cm clearance from tree
Kingston City Council	silent	No	Yes	Yes	50 cm	50 cm	not specific	not specific	Yes	No	Yes	No	silent	No	No	silent	No
Knox City Council	No	Yes	Alternatives permitted only in special circumstances - erosion prevention, inability of resident to maintain lawn, public safety enhancement or specific service requirements														
Maribyrnong City Council	silent	No	Yes	Yes	50 cm	100 cm	not specific	not specific	Yes	silent	Yes	No	silent	silent	silent	Yes	silent
Melbourne City Council	Yes	N\A	Council works with residents to identify suitable sites. Street gardens are planted in raised planter boxes. Permits are renewed annually														
Melton Shire	silent	No	Yes	Yes	30 cm	100 cm	150 cm for footpath	silent	Yes	silent	Yes	silent	silent	No	No	silent	Yes

Nature Strip Planting

Option Paper February 2017

Summary of published guidelines and policies of selected Victorian councils

	Identified need for planting on nature strip?	Grass nature strip only? Yes/No	Permit required?	Preference for lawn, native grass and ground cover?	Height restriction	Setback from kerb	Setback from footpath	Setback for utilities access	Maintain sightlines	Synthetic grass	Granitic sand	Poisono us or prickly plants	Consent of neighbours required	Hard landscaping items, e.g. rock timber, ornaments, retaining wall etc	Irrigation systems	Owners insurance to cover nature strip improvements	Planting allowed in Tree Protection Zone?
Monash City Council	silent	No	Yes	Yes	50 cm		140 cm for footpath	not specific	Yes	not recomme nded	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Street trees not to be damaged
Moreland City Council	silent	No	Yes	Yes	50 cm	not specific	not specific	silent	Yes	silent	Yes	silent	silent	No	silent	silent	silent
Port Phillip City Council	silent	No	No	Yes	100 cm	50 cm	30 cm		Yes	No	silent	No	Yes	not specific	not specific	silent	silent
Whitehorse City Council	silent	No	Yes	Yes	50 cm	50 cm	silent	not specific	silent	silent	silent	No	No	silent	silent	Yes	silent
Whittlesea City Council	silent	No	Yes	No	30 cm	160 cm	50 cm	100 cm	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	200cm clearance from tree
Wyndham City Council	silent	No	No	Yes	50 cm	100 cm	not specific	not specific	Yes	No	Yes	No	silent	No	No	silent	silent
Yarra City Council	Yes	N∖A	Council works with residents to plant nature strip in accordance with conditions														
Yarra Ranges Shire Council	silent	No	No	Yes	100 cm	75 cm	120 cm for footpath	100 cm	Yes	No	Yes	No	silent	No	No	silent	silent

Attachment B – Recommended Option Guidelines

	Nature Strip planting guidelines	Reasons for guideline
1	Dial before you dig	Prevent rupture of cables, pipes etc
2	No responsibility to reinstate any damage done by utility companies digging	Utility companies only required to reinstate turf
3	Owners insurance extended to cover Nature Strip planting	In case of negligence by owner, Council's insurance won't be affected
4	Setback from kerb(90cm), footpath(50cm), driveway(100cm).	Allow for width of open car door, safe pedestrian access
5	No planting within Tree Protection Zone (=12X DBH)	Prevent damage to tree roots and impact on tree health
6	100cm setback from Power poles,Telco pit, Stormwater drain, Sewer and Water Valves	Safe access to services, prevents waste from clogging systems
7	Maintain sightlines, no planting on corners etc.	Motorist safety requirement
8	Height restriction on plantings (50cm)	Motorist safety requirement
9	Ground cover or native grass species preferred	Compliance with height restrictions
9 10	Ground cover or native grass species preferred No artificial turf	Compliance with height restrictions Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below
		Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil
10	No artificial turf No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards,	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below Safety hazards, accessible to services when
10 11	No artificial turf No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards, timber or concrete frames	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below Safety hazards, accessible to services when required
10 11 12	No artificial turf No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards, timber or concrete frames No weeds or prickly plants	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below Safety hazards, accessible to services when required Prevention of injury, unsuitable species
10 11 12 13	No artificial turf No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards, timber or concrete frames No weeds or prickly plants Leave space for bin collection	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below Safety hazards, accessible to services when required Prevention of injury, unsuitable species Safe performance of weekly service Prevent damage to tree roots , service cables
10 11 12 13 14	No artificial turf No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards, timber or concrete frames No weeds or prickly plants Leave space for bin collection Hand excavation only is permitted	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below Safety hazards, accessible to services when required Prevention of injury, unsuitable species Safe performance of weekly service Prevent damage to tree roots , service cables and pipes
10 11 12 13 14 15	No artificial turf No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards, timber or concrete frames No weeds or prickly plants Leave space for bin collection Hand excavation only is permitted No planter boxes or raised structures on nature strips	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below Safety hazards, accessible to services when required Prevention of injury, unsuitable species Safe performance of weekly service Prevent damage to tree roots , service cables and pipes Tripping hazard

Attachment C – Half Width Option Guidelines

	Nature Strip planting guidelines	Reasons for guideline
1	Dial before you dig	Prevent rupture of cables, pipes etc
2	No responsibility to reinstate any damage done by utility companies digging	Utility companies only required to reinstate turf
3	Owners insurance extended to cover Nature Strip planting	In case of negligence by owner, Council's insurance won't be affected
4	Setback from kerb(45cm), footpath(25cm), driveway(50cm).	Allow for width of open car door, safe pedestrian access
5	No planting within Tree Protection Zone (=12X DBH)	Prevent damage to tree roots and impact on tree health
6	50cm setback from Power poles,Telco pit, Stormwater drain, Sewer and Water Valves	Safe access to services, prevents waste from clogging systems
7	Maintain sightlines, no planting on corners etc.	Motorist safety requirement
8	Height restriction on plantings (50cm)	Motorist safety requirement
9	Ground cover or native grass species preferred	Compliance with height restrictions
9 10	Ground cover or native grass species preferred No artificial turf	Compliance with height restrictions Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below
		Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil
10	No artificial turf No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards,	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below Safety hazards, accessible to services when
10 11	No artificial turf No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards, timber or concrete frames	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below Safety hazards, accessible to services when required
10 11 12	No artificial turf No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards, timber or concrete frames No weeds or prickly plants	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below Safety hazards, accessible to services when required Prevention of injury, unsuitable species
10 11 12 13	No artificial turf No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards, timber or concrete frames No weeds or prickly plants Leave space for bin collection	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below Safety hazards, accessible to services when required Prevention of injury, unsuitable species Safe performance of weekly service Prevent damage to tree roots , service cables and
10 11 12 13 14	No artificial turf No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards, timber or concrete frames No weeds or prickly plants Leave space for bin collection Hand excavation only is permitted	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below Safety hazards, accessible to services when required Prevention of injury, unsuitable species Safe performance of weekly service Prevent damage to tree roots , service cables and pipes
10 11 12 13 14 15	No artificial turf No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards, timber or concrete frames No weeds or prickly plants Leave space for bin collection Hand excavation only is permitted No planter boxes or raised structures on nature strips	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below Safety hazards, accessible to services when required Prevention of injury, unsuitable species Safe performance of weekly service Prevent damage to tree roots , service cables and pipes Tripping hazard

Attachment D – Full Width Option Guidelines

	Nature Strip planting guidelines	Reasons for guideline
1	Dial before you dig	Prevent rupture of cables, pipes etc
2	No responsibility to reinstate any damage done by utility companies digging	Utility companies only required to reinstate turf
3	Owners insurance extended to cover Nature Strip planting	In case of negligence by owner, Council's insurance won't be affected
4	No setback from kerb(0cm), footpath(0cm), driveway(0cm).	Allow for width of open car door, safe pedestrian access
5	No planting within Tree Protection Zone (=12X DBH)	Prevent damage to tree roots and impact on tree health
6	No (0cm) setback from Power poles,Telco pit, Stormwater drain, Sewer and Water Valves	Safe access to services, prevents waste from clogging systems
7	Maintain sightlines, no planting on corners etc.	Motorist safety requirement
8	Height restriction on plantings (100cm)	Motorist safety requirement
9	Ground cover or native grass species preferred	Compliance with height restrictions
10	No artificial turf	Slippery when wet, no aeration and water flow on soil below
11	No rocks, stones, pavers, ornaments, bollards, timber or concrete frames	Safety hazards, accessible to services when required
12	No weeds or prickly plants	Prevention of injury, unsuitable species
13	Leave space for bin collection	Safe performance of weekly service
14	Hand excavation only is permitted	Prevent damage to tree roots , service cables and pipes
15	No planter boxes or raised structures on nature strips	Tripping hazard
16	Permission granted to owner, not transferrable	Maintain coverage of owners insurance
17	and the second	No access to electricity or water supply on nature
	No irrigation systems or electrical wiring	strips, safety hazard



Attachment E – Outcomes achieved with Low, Medium and Higher Risk Guideline Options

Recommended Option

Half Width Option

Full Width Option

Attachment F – No tree protection zone (ie. no street tree) Note: Council has a program to plant 1,000 trees per annum to infill vacant sites, as such this option would not be viable in the longer term.





Attachment G – Corner Nature Strip Outcome



Attachment H – Corner and 4 metre wide Nature Strip

ITEM 9.6	SOLAR SAVERS PROJECT PARTICIPATION
Author:	Rachel Ollivier, Group Manager Property and Sustainability

File No: n/a

Attachments: n/a

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

Officers propose that Council considers participating in the Solar Savers project, a joint initiative with twenty four councils, to install solar photovoltaic cells (solar PV) on low income households across Victoria.

The Solar Savers project is an initiative secured through a State Government grant, the New Energy Jobs Fund, to deliver the Solar PV for Low Income Households project. The project seeks to install approximately 1,000 solar PV panels on low income and vulnerable households across twenty four municipalities in Victoria. The initiative is to be delivered between August 2016 and June 2019.

By participating, Council's main role would be to promote the program to residents that own their own home and receive a rebate on their municipal rates.

As well as reducing greenhouse emissions, the project has the potential to deliver immediate net savings of around \$10-\$30 per month on electricity costs for participating low income households, as:

- Participating households would generate some of their energy from the solar on their roof, and therefore pay less in energy costs.
- Some, but not all, of the savings are then used to pay off a 10 year loan that covers the cost of the solar power system.
- After 10 years, all the savings go to the householder.

The project assessment process has been designed carefully to ensure that participating households benefit financially. Interested households are eligible if the assessment of their energy use finds that they would be financially better off by at least \$100 per year. If so, they would be offered a low interest bank loan to install solar PV systems.

In Glen Eira, it is estimated that around 75 households would be eligible to participate between now and June 2019, based on demand in similar councils in other parts of Victoria.

Currently the project is trialing two options for financing the solar systems. Officers recommend participating in the low interest bank loan model.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council authorises the Director Infrastructure, Environment and Leisure to sign the Participation Organisation Agreement on behalf of Council.

BACKGROUND

Council's *Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2016-17* prioritises efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including supporting the community to reduce emissions. This project will help to achieve two key objectives in the strategy, namely:

- Objective C6 Support the community to cope during hotter weather and extreme weather events.
- Objective C7 Support community members to access active and public transport, to improve the efficiency of their homes and to increase their use of renewable energy.

Solar Savers objectives and history

In June 2016, Maroondah City Council secured a \$0.76M State Government Grant through the New Energy Jobs Fund to deliver the Solar PV for Low Income Households project.

Maroondah City Council led the funding application on behalf of twenty four councils and four of Victoria's Greenhouse Alliances, including Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (EAGA) which Council at its Ordinary Meeting on 13 June 2017 resolved to join.

The project seeks to install approximately 1,000 solar PV panels on low income and vulnerable households across the twenty four municipalities in Victoria. The initiative will be delivered between August 2016 and June 2019 and aims to:

- Assist low income households to save money, reduce emissions and stay cool in heatwaves.
- Address market failures restricting low income and vulnerable households from installing solar systems.
- Test a model for scaling up the use of council rates to provide individual loans to households and recover costs through the rates system.
- Catalyse private sector investment within a community segment traditionally viewed as high risk to investors by establishing and evaluating partnership finance models with the banking sector.
- Establish a shared services approach to leverage economies of scale in administration, procurement and governance, and (importantly) enable participation by councils not otherwise able to offer this service to their residents.

How the project works

As well as helping reduce greenhouse emissions, the project has the potential to deliver immediate net savings of around \$10-\$30 per month on electricity costs for participating low income households.

Participating households pay less in energy costs because their solar system has provided their energy. Some, but not all, of the savings are then used to pay off a 10 year loan that covers the cost of the solar power system. After 10 years, all the savings go to the householder.

The program offers households access to a ten year bank load at 5% interest through Bank Australia, although households can arrange their own finance if they prefer.

This project will break down key barriers that still prevent many community members investing in solar power even though they would financially benefit by doing, such as not having access to investment finance, or lack of knowledge to select an appropriate sized and quality solar system.

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

Solar power is now affordable enough that it makes good financial sense for many households and businesses within the expected lifetime of the solar power system.

Benefit and timing in Glen Eira

In Glen Eira, installations would start in early 2019, with promotion in the second half of 2018.

An initial estimate of the number of households that would participate in Glen Eira to June 2019 is around 75. This is based on participation rates for similar councils in other parts of Melbourne.

Council officers and the Solar Savers project team will explore opportunities to maximise participation during this project and also to extend the program over time.

Council's role and project governance

Council would promote and facilitate the project including writing to households that receive rates rebates.

Council's commitments would be to:

- Provide in-kind support to the initiative through project officer time (estimated at \$2,000) in line with the role of the Project Network.
- Promote the project to Glen Eira households that receive a rebate on their rates.

The Project Lead Council is Maroondah City Council who employs the Program Leader and oversees the financial management. Council would need to sign a Participating Organisation Agreement with Maroondah Council, which provides a framework for the governance structure.

An important part of the Solar Savers program is that the installer is being selected using a competitive tendering so that there is confidence in the quality of the solar systems and that extended warranties are included. MAV are managing the procurement process.

For households, the Solar Savers team will play a facilitation role similar to acting as a buyers advocate or agent. The Solar Savers team is also engaging a compliance auditor to ensure that installations are to the standard required.

The solar systems are the households' property and all warranties and installation agreements are between the suppliers and the household. Bank loans are also agreements with the households directly.

Warranty and support under the program

The project has been designed carefully to minimise the risk of poor quality during installation:

- The specifications in the MAV tender require that the systems are long lasting and of good quality and value.
- Solar Savers has engaged the Alternative Technology Association to provide an independent technical assessment of the tenders to ensure the project secures quality systems at competitive prices.
- Once installed spot audits will be conducted to ensure that the systems are performing as anticipated.

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

The solar systems are the households' property and all warranties and installation agreements are between the suppliers and the household. The Solar Savers team will provide post-installation support for a period of six months including liaising with the supplier or the energy retailer on behalf of the householder. There is no obligation to Council to provide this support.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Benefits for low-income households

As well as reducing greenhouse emissions, the project has the potential to deliver immediate net savings of around \$10-\$30 per month on electricity costs for participating low income households.

Bank loan option recommended

The project is trialing two mechanisms for helping households access finance. One is a 10 year low interest bank loan and the other is a loan, via councils, through the Special Rates mechanism.

Officers recommend participating in this project under the bank loan option. For the target group of low income homeowner households, the bank loan model can be deployed easily.

Financial benefits and risks for households

The project has been designed carefully to make sure that participating households benefit financially. If residents are interested, an assessment of their energy use would be done first to ensure that they would be financially better off by at least \$100 per year (after repayment of the loan).

Many participating households would fund installation of the solar panels with the 10 year bank loan offered as part of the project. There is a risk that some households may find themselves in a position of not being able to repay a loan, even though overall the project will reduce their outgoings. The Solar Savers Project has sought to minimise this risk and any impact should it occur with the following measures:

- Eligibility screening criteria ensures only households with a clear benefit participate in the project.
- Finance provider is required to offer payment relief to households experiencing financial difficulty.
- Requirement that loan payments are by equal instalments apportioned over a 10-year period.

Note that households can also choose to arrange their own funding – for example, some households may prefer to use their mortgage to finance the solar system.

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There is no direct cost to Council for participating in the project; there will be in-kind support to the initiative through project officer time (estimated at \$2,000) in line with the role of the Project Network.

The current State Government funding for the project runs to June 2019. This is expected to cover all the project delivery costs across Victoria for the first 1,000 households, after which time each household's main relationship would be with the product suppliers and Bank Australia rather than the Solar Savers team.

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy or legislative implications.

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Details of the promotions plan will be developed over the next 12 months ready for the promotion phase in late 2018.

Council officers and the Solar Savers project team will explore opportunities to maximise participation during this project and also to extend the program over time

LINK TO COUNCIL PLAN

Work towards zero net carbon emissions from the community by 2050 by supporting the Glen Eira community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

This project will help to achieve two key objectives in the Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

- Objective C6 Support the community to cope during hotter weather and extreme weather events.
- Objective C7 Support community members to access active and public transport, to improve the efficiency of their homes and to increase their use of renewable energy.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

Participating in the project will deliver benefits for low income households and support objectives in Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy. It is a pilot program that will help contribute to development of new ways for levels of government to help overcome important barriers that stop the community using solar.

ITEM 9.7	GESAC ACCESS FOR RESIDENTS OVER 70 YEARS OF AGE
Author:	Mark Collins, Group Manager Recreation and Leisure
File No:	N/A
Attachments:	N/A

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

At the 7 February 2017 Ordinary Meeting, Council resolved:

"That Council receives a report on the community benefit of providing free membership to GESAC for Glen Eira residents seventy years of age and over."

This report discusses impacts and proposes options for Council's consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. trials the following three initiatives for a period of one month commencing with the Victorian Senior's Festival in October 2017:
 - i) Increased subsidy of current aquatic and gym group fitness classes for nonmembers aged 70 and over;
 - ii) No membership, joining or administration fees for people 70 years old and over joining as new members;
 - iii) Free health assessments with qualified trainers for non-members aged 70 and over who participate casually in any activity at GESAC.
- 2. receives a further report on the outcomes of the trial.

BACKGROUND

It is recognised that people aged 70 and over benefit greatly from exercise for both physical and mental health. Improving people's fitness contributes to preventative health, and increased socialisation is a big factor in improving guality of life and reducing isolation.

Current status of users for adults aged over 70

Currently there are 261 active GESAC members aged 70 and above. This group only makes up around 2% of the GESAC membership base, as many of our older population prefer to attend on a user pays casual arrangement than an ongoing membership. Of these 261 members, only 64% are Glen Eira residents. Table 1 shows the existing breakdown of these existing members:

Membership Type	Entitlements	Number	Price
Aquatic	Aquatic Only	86	\$12.95 - \$14.95 p/w
Foundation/Gold	Gym and Aquatic at any time	60	\$18.95 - \$22.95 p/w
Activate	Gym and Aquatic but with peak time restrictions to encourage	115	\$17.95 p/w
	off peak attendance		

Table 1. Over 70 Membership Breakdown

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

There is no information currently captured on casual users about their age or whether they live in Glen Eira. Based on the survey data collated as part of this report, extrapolating existing membership data and anecdotal evidence, it is estimated that around 4% of overall visits to GESAC are by people aged over 70 (casual and members). That means around 58,000 visits per annum or an average of around 160 visits per day.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Survey of Current Users

Council undertook a survey at GESAC inviting older users to complete the survey, to help inform this report on current use of GESAC by people aged 70 and over. Specifically it was focused on:

- Those with an existing Activate (over 60) membership
- Casual users in our targeted over 60 programs
- Over 70's who casually use the Centre on their own and were happy to be surveyed in the Centre

GESAC received 181 responses with:

- 30% being over 70
- 65% being female
- 14% being casual
- 68% attend on their own

The following results have been filtered to only consider the results from over 70's:



Chart 2. Age Breakdown

Older adults have a much higher visitation rate than other age groups. Almost 75% of people aged 70 or over are using GESAC more than 3 times a week. Based on an Activate membership, it shows 75% of our over 70 year old members are paying \$5.98 a visit or less.

GESAC regularly reviews visit pass data for members to suggest when it may be better value for them to change their membership type.

Number of attendances per week	Cost per visit
1	\$17.95
2	\$8.98
3	\$5.98
4	\$4.49
5	\$3.59
6	\$2.99
7	\$2.56

Table 3. Attendance and Cost per visit relationship



Chart 4. Usage Rates

The length of use of the facility was mixed with the most common response being 3 to 4 years (37.9%). Positively, 86% of those surveyed indicated that they will continue to be a user in the next 12 months which indicates that they are generally satisfied with visiting GESAC.





Users were asked how Council could continue to improve accessibility to GESAC. The most common themes, in order of priority, were:

- Earlier class times
- More classes
- Reduce price
- More Activate Strength classes Thursday and Friday
- More equipment for females
- More car parking
- More Living longer Living Stronger
- Nothing everything is good

Users were also asked what barriers they faced in attending GESAC. A range of responses were received, with the most common being: none; cost, class time and motivation. There are many other ways that Council can possibly address improving accessibility and reducing barriers for residents.



Chart 6. Barriers to attending

The most popular time to attend is during the mid-morning period between 8am and 11am. This is a peak time in the facility and some of the responses around class times may have caused these responses as the bulk of programming occurs in this mid-morning period.

GESAC will be installing a virtual fitness solution next financial year which uses an on screen instructor rather than a real person. Peak times will still be staffed but this will allow us to run a wider range of programming at times that aren't currently viable to run programs and may spread the load of use over time.



Chart 7. Preferred time to attend

Community Benefits

- There are well established preventative health benefits to exercise. The over 65
 market exercises the least of any age group and sstudies have shown improvements
 in balance, strength, gait, muscular power, blood pressure, endurance and bone
 density as a result of regular physical activity in older age. It also improves mental
 health with regular exercise being associated with reduced stress, reduced
 depression and anxiety, enhanced cognitive function and overall psychological
 wellbeing.
- Leisure facilities are a community hub where people can socialise with people in their community and build relationships. Several studies report fewer colds, lower blood pressure and lower heart rates in older adults with strong social ties. Suicide, mental illness and alcoholism rates are also much lower when people feel a sense of belonging and increased self-esteem.
- Studies have shown the most powerful deterrent among over 70s is a lack of interest and disbelief that exercise can enhance and/or lengthen life. Preconceived concepts such as whether it is safe to exercise are also perceived by many older people. Leisure facilities can help address these barriers through education and health screening, as well as specifically targeted programs that take into account the special needs and limitations of older adults.

Current provision by Council for older adults

At GESAC, Council currently provides a range of initiatives for older users aimed at achieving the above outlined community benefits. These include:

• Offering a special Activate membership for over 60's which is at a 33% discount to an equivalent full membership. Additionally, the joining fee for this membership is discounted by 50%.

- Offering special Activate casual rates for group fitness classes which are at a 33% discount to an equivalent adult casual rate.
- GESAC offers a Living Longer Living Stronger strength program for over 60's at a 73% discount to an equivalent full casual adult rate.
- Offering a range of concession discounts across the membership and casual swimming offerings. For example, a concession general admission adult swim is at a 25% discount to an equivalent non-concession adult swim.
- Employs a staff member to facilitate social interaction with participants after some of our targeted older adult programs.
- Runs free classes and social events through Seniors Week to help introduce older adults to the Centre.

At a number of other Council owned facilities across the city, other activity based services for older adults are run through the Community Wellbeing directorate. Programs such as chair based exercise for older adults are an example of other opportunities that Council is involved in. There is a waiting list for many of these programs and there is the opportunity to enhance these offerings, and for GESAC staff to be involved in further programming across other venues in Council that may be more suitable to reach a wider market of over 70's.

Considerations in providing free membership for over 70 year olds at GESAC

- Customers surveyed have identified that cost is one barrier, but that there are also similarly important non-financial barriers and free membership on its own might not have a large impact on usage.
- GESAC is a user funded facility with a catchment area crossing several different municipalities. Therefore incentives, discounts and promotions for Glen Eira residents only that are over 70 would mean a system would need to be introduced to prove where residents live at sign up, as well as a system to monitor that this remains ongoing. Currently no other Glen Eira council service places this requirement on users for access.
- GESAC is a premium facility which is reflected in the rates charged but also in the service offerings, and value that is received. Offering free access on an ongoing basis to certain user groups may impact on the perception of both quality and value.
- The financial impact of providing free access at GESAC would be significant for all the options. As GESAC operations are already self-funded from user fees, a reduction in income would impact on Council revenue.
- Potential equity issues with other members. Members and other customers who aren't eligible for this program have already expressed discontent if a free membership is brought in just for Glen Eira residents aged over 70. Additionally, other price sensitive groups such as young families, disadvantaged groups or disabled users have also expressed their discontent if they are not included as part of any subsidised access. A number of people highlighted these concerns to GESAC staff after the Leader newspaper article on free membership for over 70 year olds.
- It is likely that many potential new customers will make use of this initiative. It is
 expected demand will also increase over time due to a larger amount of 70 year olds
 in the municipality. GESAC is at peak demand already on some services and/or
 times. Existing GESAC programs and services for paying members may therefore be

compromised due to an increased demand. This would likely result in a loss of existing paying customers who could become unhappy with the service.

- Many potential new users will be unfit and are at risk of injury. Health assessments and supervised programs would be required and recommended for each person about to undertake exercise, particularly in this age group, rather than just an open door policy where participants are left on their own.
- It will also add to additional costs being placed on the Centre from increased usage such as additional staffing, utility costs. None of these additional costs can be shared across these new users so in effect it means existing paying customers may need to pay more, or Council will receive a reduction in revenue.
- There will be a significant effect on the membership base at Caulfield Recreation Centre which has an older demographic. If Council takes over the operations of this site, depending on the membership arrangements determined by Council, users will most move from a low demand, low quality facility to an already high demand facility at GESAC.

Benchmarking

Table 8 looks at the comparative prices for older adults programs and services across councils with similar facilities and close by. It should be noted that GESAC is unique in that it is fully funded by its users, not ratepayers.

Service	GESAC	Monash	Kingston	Manningham	Maroondah
Group class	\$11.95	\$10.20	\$10.50	\$9.20	\$15.30
Casual Gym	\$7	\$24.70	\$17	\$9.20	\$6.70
Swim	\$6.60	\$5.80	\$5.80	\$6.90	\$6.80
Health Assessment	\$33 (Member Free)	Members only	\$50 (Member Free)	Members only	Members only
Seniors membership per week	\$17.95	\$16.25	\$16.10	\$15.95	\$16.30
Seniors membership joining fee	\$49	\$30	\$0	\$119	\$59

Table 8. Council Benchmarking of Older Adult Programs

Case Study – City of Ryde

Currently no other local government facility in Australia has been found to offer free membership for over 70 year old residents. The City of Ryde in New South Wales offers free swimming to pensioners who live in the City of Ryde. Participants need to present their pension card and photo identification with a current address each time they visit the centre to take advantage of the offer. Free access is provided to pensioners but the cost of this subsidy is tracked and reimbursed to the leisure centre through an internal transfer from

Council. In the first year of operation around 11,000 visits were received by pensioners and is on track for an estimated 35,000 visits per annum this financial year.

Feedback from the manager was that the scheme is positive and that many new customers have used the centre because of the incentive. His only concern was that if the subsidy was withdrawn at a later stage it would be difficult to remove the free access. He indicated it may be better to at least have a small charge that can always be increased in future if required.

Proposed Trial at GESAC

To enable a more thorough assessment, and to test some initiatives over a longer period of time, it is proposed that over the month of October 2017 during the Victorian Seniors festival, that a range of options are trialled for people attending GESAC who are over 70 years in age.

The one month period will enable a more thorough assessment of the impact of new initiatives. The proposed initiatives are discussed below, with a recommendation that options 3, 4 and 5 are trialled at GESAC.

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The potential impacts of a number of proposed options are discussed below.

1. Free Memberships

Provide free memberships for full club access to Glen Eira residents aged 70 and over.

- Council would lose an estimated \$243,000 from current membership and casual income, based on current usage numbers in this age group.
- A system would need to be implemented to prove age and residential address.
- Access provided at restricted times, i.e. between 8am 4pm on weekdays and after 12pm on weekends, to prevent impact on existing GESAC programs and services at peak times.
- Additional programs to manage demand and reduce risk, such as health scans, would cost approximately \$24,000 per annum to implement. This is based on current usage numbers and increased usage would increase this cost.

Potential implications

There could potentially be a decline or slower growth in the number of paying members in other age groups due to capacity constraints. In addition, other specialised or price sensitive groups such as young families, disadvantaged groups or disabled users, could request that Council consider a similar arrangement.

If arrangements changed at a later stage, it would be difficult to introduce a fee for service once it has been offered for free. Cost recovery is also diminished in that there will be a significant amount of new users creating additional cost. It is expected this would grow over time but with no income to offset these costs. The cost to Council would increase over time.

2. Free Aquatic Entry

To provide free swimming to all Glen Eira residents aged 70 and over.

- Council would lose an estimated \$143,000 from membership and casual income, based on current usage numbers in this age group.
- A system would need to be implemented to prove age and residential address.

 Access provided at restricted times, i.e. between 8am – 4pm on weekdays and after 12pm on weekends, to prevent impact on existing GESAC programs and services at peak times.

Potential implications

Similar to above.

3. Increased Subsidy of Current Aquatic and Gym Group Fitness Classes (Nonmembers)

As an example, a further subsidised rate could be offered for over 70 year olds, reducing the cost to \$3.50 per session for concession card holders and \$6.95 for non-concession card holders could be considered. These are programs specifically tailored to older adults. Lost membership income by providing the subsidies for group fitness classes would be \$55,000 annually based on current user numbers.

Potential implications

Further subsidy requests from other specific users groups are likely to be received as a result. Increased demand for additional classes will also add to additional costs for Council.

4. Remove Start Up Fees for Over 70's (Members)

No membership joining or administration fees for people aged 70 (normally \$49 for joining and \$49-95 for administration fee) and over could be offered. This would cost approximately \$7,000 per annum to implement. Keeping in mind here that all GESAC members are entitled to free health assessments and program shows.

Potential implications

Would further reduce cost barriers of entry. Startup fees are linked to the marketing and administration costs associated with new memberships and making it nil means there is no chance of cost recovery on these items. Any fees would be difficult to reintroduce at a later stage.

5. Free Health Assessments (Non-members)

Free health assessments with qualified trainers (normally \$34 each for non-members) for all people aged 70 and over. This will cost approximately \$3,600 per annum to implement based on current user numbers, but could increase.

Potential implications

This option would have the least impact and would provide comfort to many users who may be unsure of their health before commencing an exercise program. It would also improve risk management of potential at risk clients.

6. Network Management

Council could consider the integration of Caulfield Recreation Centre and Carnegie Pool in to a wider Glen Eira Leisure unit. This will give Council much wider control to run these centres as an integrated network.

Caulfield Recreation Centre already has an older demographic using the facility as some of the barriers identified at GESAC such as conflict with programming, access to car parking and cost are less at this venue. Providing complimentary facilities to GESAC, that offer a different experience would be important to attract the widest range of users.

Potential implications

Options, implications and costings for a wider in-house Leisure management unit are being considered by Council within the next few months.

7. Exploring opportunities with other Council Services

Council runs other activity based services for older adults through its Community Services divisions. Programs such as chair based exercise for deconditioned older adults are an example of other opportunities that Council is involved in. There is a waiting list for many of these programs so there is the opportunity to enhance these offerings and for GESAC staff to be involved in further programming across other venues in Council that may be more suitable to reach a wider market of over 70's.

Potential implications

A wider offering of classes per week could be offered. Subject to what was offered these classes would cost around \$25 - \$60 per class to deliver.

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Notification of the trial would be communicated through GESAC, Council's website, Senior Citizen's Centres and GE News.

LINK TO COUNCIL PLAN

To maintain high quality service standards and deliver universal services that support the community, particularly the needs of families, youth, senior citizens, and people with a disability.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that over the month of October 2017, during the Victorian Seniors festival, that options 3, 4 and 5 as outlined in this report are trialled at GESAC for the over 70 age group. The one month period enables a more thorough assessment of the impact of these new initiatives. Officers will prepare a report for Council after the trial on the outcomes.

ITEM 9.8 COUNCIL POLICY – FAMILY, YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Author: Mark Saunders, Manager Family Youth and Children's Services

File No: 14/1166098

Attachments: 1. Current Child Care Centre Fees Policy with tracked changes

2. Current Council-Operated Child Care Centre's – Enrolment System Policy with tracked changes

3. Current Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service Policy with tracked changes

4. Amended Child Care Centre Fees Policy

5. Amended Council-Operated Child Care Centre's – Enrolment System Policy

6. Amended Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service Policy

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

To amend three Family, Youth and Children's Services policies.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council review and approve the amendments to:

- 17.1 Child Care Centre Fees Policy
- 17.2 Council-Operated Child Care Centre's Enrolment System Policy
- 17.3 Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service Policy

BACKGROUND

The policies were adopted in 1997 and have been regularly reviewed and amended and are due for review now.

Council's Corporate Counsel is conducting a review of all Council adopted policies for legislative accuracy, consistency, conversion to the current policy template and for compatibility with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

Minor amendments are proposed to each of the policies to improve clarity and ensure compliance with legislation.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

In accordance with the:

- 1. Local Government Act 1989;
- 2. Department of Education and Training Child Care Service Handbook;
- 3. Department of Education and Training Kindergarten Funding Guide (Vic Gov)
- 4. Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010 (the National Law)
- 5. Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011 (the National Regulations).

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

These policies are available on the Council website, *Policies, strategies and plans, Community services, Children and Family Services.* They are accessible to the whole community.

Policies 17.1 and 17.2 will also be accessible (in print form) at Council's three early learning centres, Caulfield, Carnegie and Murrumbeena.

Updated policies will be uploaded to Council's website following approval.

LINK TO COMMUNITY PLAN

Theme 1: Services to support the community - To maintain high quality service standards and deliver universal services that support the community, particularly the needs of families, youth, senior citizens and people with a disability.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

Councillors are asked to consider the proposed changes to the policies and if changes are approved, they will take effect from the date of approval.

Policy ID Number 17.1

Child Care Centre Fees

Date first adopted: 3 February 1997 Amended and adopted: 19 October 2012 4 February 2014	Version: 3 <u>4</u> Next review date: June 2015 2020	Status: Reviewed
Position Title of Responsible Business Unit Manager:	Manager Family <u>, Youth</u> and Children's Services	

Child Care Centre Fees

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Child Care Centre Fees

Glen Eira City Council

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1. TITLE

Child Care Centre Fees

2. PURPOSE

N/a

3.2. OBJECTIVE

To provide <u>for</u> a high quality Child Care Service that is cost neutral to Council.

4.3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term	Meaning	
N/a		
<u>5.4.</u>	POLICY	
5.1 <u>4.1</u>	_Council will set Child Care Centre fees annually at a rate that ensures the service is operating at operates within a _'cost neutral', level budget.	Formatted: Condensed by 0.05 pt
<u>5.24.2</u>	Council will notifyinform all enrolled families of their eligibility to apply for Child Care Benefit, Child Care Rebate, and Jobs, Education and Training Child Care Fee Assistance. These are benefits available to eligible families to assist with the cost of child care. They are paid by the FederalAustralian Government through the Department of Human Services, Family Assistance Office.	Formatted: Not Expanded by / Condensed by
5.3<u>4.3</u>	Council will negotiate the timing of the payment of fees with families experiencing genuine circumstances of financial difficulty difficulties and will apply for special child care assistance, on behalf of the family after eligibility has been determined in accordance with the guidelines contained in the Australian Government, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Training Child Care Service Handbook.	Formatted: Not Expanded by / Condensed by
6. <u>5.</u>	HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER COMPATIBILITY	
	Policy has been assessed as being compatible with the Charter of Human Rights and onsibilities Act 2006.	
7.<u>6.</u>	ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS	
	il-Operated Child Care Centres - Enrolment System Policy garten Central Enrolment Service Policy	
8.<u>7.</u>	_REFERENCES/RESOURCES	
Child	or of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 Care Service Handbook (<u>Australian Government, D</u> epartment of Education , Employment / orkplace Relations 2012—2013)<u> and Training).</u>	
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Policy ID Number 17.2

Council-Operated Child Care Centres -Enrolment System

Date first adopted: 3 February 1997	Version: 3 <u>4</u>	Status: Reviewed
Amended and adopted: 12 August 2002 4 February 2014	Next review date: June 2015<u>2020</u>	
Position Title of Responsible Business Unit Manager:	Manager Family, Youth and Children's Services	

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Glen Eira City Council

1. TITLE

2. PURPOSE

Council-Operated Child Care Centres - Enrolment System

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N/a

OBJECTIVE <u>3.2.</u>

To operate To provide for the operation of a Central enrolment system for Council-operated Child Care Centres.

4-3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term	Meaning	
N/aPrioritised waiting list	Used when there is a waiting list for a child care	
	service or when a number of parents are applying for	
	a limited number of vacant places. Priorities -	
	First Priority: a child at risk of serious abuse or	
	neglect	
	Second Priority: a child of a single parent who	
	satisfies, or of parents who both satisfy, the	
	work/training/study test under Section 14 of the	
	A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999	
	Third Priority: any other child.	
	Within these main categories priority should also be given	
	to the following children:	
	 children in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 	
	families	
	children in families which include a disabled	
	person	
	children in families which include an individual	
	whose adjusted taxable income does not exceed	
	the lower income, or who or whose partner are	
	on income support	
	 children in families from a non-English speaking 	
	background	
	children in socially isolated families	
	children of single parents. Format + Aligne	tted: List Paragraph, Bulleted + L ed at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5"

5.4. POLICY

5.14.1 Council will administeroperate a central enquiryenrolment system for all Council-operated <u>Child Care Centres where enquiries</u>, information, allocation and <u>a</u> prioritised waiting list list function for all Council operated Child Care Centres will be administered.

5.24.2 Council will implement the CommonwealthAustralian Government Priority of Access Guidelines and allocate places at Council-operated Child Care Centres giving preference to applicants who live, work, study, or have family or business connections within or study, in Glen Eira.

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Council-Operated Child Care Centres – Enrolment System Page 3 - 4

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4.3 Council will offer child care place vacanciesplaces, to applicants on the prioritised Formatted: Expanded by 0.15 pt waiting list list to ensure maximum utilisation of Child Care Centres. 5.3 Formatted: Heading 1 Char **Formatted:** Normal, Level 1, Right: 0", No bullets or numbering, Tab stops: Not at 1.49 HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER COMPATIBILITY 6.5. This Policy has been assessed as being compatible with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006. 7.6. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS Child Care Centre Fees Policy Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service Policy 8.7. REFERENCES/RESOURCES arter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 Child Care Service Handbook (current) (Australian Government, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations 2012-13 and Training) CommonwealthAustralian Government Priority of Access Guidelines Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010 Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

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Policy ID Number 17.3

Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service

Date first adopted: 3 February 1997	Version: <u>34</u>	Status: Reviewed
Amended and adopted: 5 February 2013 4 February 2014	Next review date: June 2015<u>2020</u>	
Position Title of Responsible Business Unit Manager:	Manager Family <u>. Youth</u> and Children's Services	

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Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service

Glen Eira City Council

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1. TITLE

Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service

2. OBJECTIVE

2.1—To provide <u>for</u> a central enrolment service for participating community-<u>managedbased</u>, stand-alone kindergartens for four-<u>year</u>-<u>olds-old children</u> in Glen Eira.

2.2 To provide families of children with a single point of enrolment for community managed, stand-alone kindergartens that provides for an equitable allocation of places.

3. BACKGROUND

Kindergarten programs are funded and regulated by the State Government. The State Government's kindergarten policy aims to provide all four year olds with access to kindergarten <u>in</u> the year prior to <u>commencing</u> school. Kindergarten programs are provided in community and privately managed children's services, early learning centres and schools.

Council provides <u>ana central</u> enrolment service to assist in the administration of the kindergarten enrolment process. This service provides the community with a single <u>entry</u> point of access for <u>enrolments</u> to <u>enrol in</u> participating community-<u>managedbased</u> kindergartens in Glen Eira.

All stand-alone_community-based kindergartens in Glen Eira are operated by committees of management or not-for-profit management bodies and not by Council. Council has no direct role in kindergartenthe management_of community-based kindergartens.

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term	Meaning	
N/a Special consideration	When an immediate family member has an illness or additional need, and at the request of Glen Eira City Council, enrolments will be considered as long as it does not displace an existing family enrolled at the kindergarten	Formatted Table
Priority of access criteria	This criteria must be used by services when prioritising enrolments • Children at risk of abuse or neglect, including children in Out-of-Home Care • Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children • Asylum seeker and refugee children • Children eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy • Children with additional needs, defined as children who _ • Require additional assistance in order to fully participate in the kindergarten program • Require a combination if services which are individually planned • Have identified specific disability or developmental delay	Formatted: List Paragraph, Bulleted + Level + Aligned at: 0.5" + Indent at: 0.75"

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5. POLICY

5.1 Enrolment process

Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service

Glen Eira City Council

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- (a) Council will provide an annual Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service for all participating community-managed, stand-alonebased, kindergartens to in the Glen Eira municipality to centralise the enrolment process and to provide a single entry point of enrolment for families and to contralise the seeking to enrol their children into community-based kindergarten enrolment process.
- (b) A child must be at least four years <u>of age</u> by 30 April in the year they attend four--year--old kindergarten. Enrolments are accepted from 1 May, 21 months prior to attendance.
- (c) Parents will be able to nominate three kindergartens in order of preference on the enrolment application form and every effort will be made to offer a place within a preferred kindergarten.
- (d) Where a family requests a change of preference without a change of address the priority date of the application will be changed to the date of the preference change.
- (e) Council will provide all participating kindergartens with the relevant enrolment applications in accordance with families' nominated preferences.
- (f) Enrolment applications will be provided to kindergartens in order of the date application forms were received by Council. Where the number of applications received on the same day exceeds the number of places available, offers will be determined through a ballot.
- (g) Kindergartens will be responsible for making offers to families <u>thatwho</u> have submitted enrolment application forms.

5.2 Fees

- (a) An enrolment fee will be charged by Council for each child enrolled through the Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service. Enrolment fees are not refundable.
- (b) The level of the enrolment fee for the Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service will be determined by Council on an annual basis.

5.3 Kindergartens

The responsibilities of kindergartens that participate in the Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service are as follows:

- (a) Kindergartens are responsible for making offers to families that<u>who</u> have submitted kindergarten enrolment applications to Council.
 - (b) Kindergarten enrolment officers will offer places in writing to families on the dates determined by Council.
 - (c) Kindergartens will give preference to families who live, work or study in Glen Eira.
 - (d) Kindergartens will make offers to families in order of the dates applications were received by Council, unless a family has applied for 'special consideration'.
 - (e) All participating kindergartens will have a policy to address 'special consideration circumstances'. All such applications will be assessed by the kindergarten committee of management and a decision will be recorded at a meeting prior to notifying a family of the outcome; and

(f) Kindergartens will retain one place within each kindergarten group for children with additional

Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service

Glen Eira City Council

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needs.Places will be available for eligible children according to the priority of access criteria, within the requirements of relevant legislation.		
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6. HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER COMPATIBILITY		Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.89", No bullets numbering
This Policy has been assessed as being compatible with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.		

7. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Child Care Centre Fees Policy Council-Operated Child Care Centres – Enrolment System

8. REFERENCES/RESOURCES

<u>CharterDepartment</u> of <u>Human RightsEducation</u> and <u>Responsibilities</u>Training Kindergarten Funding <u>Guide (VIC Gov)</u> <u>Education and Care Services National Law</u> Act <u>20062010</u> <u>Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011</u>

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Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service

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Policy ID Number 17.1

Child Care Centre Fees

Date first adopted: 3 February 1997 Amended and adopted: 19 October 2012 4 February 2014	Version: 4 Next review date: June 2020	Status: Reviewed
Position Title of Responsible Business Unit Manager:	Manager Family, Youth and Children's Services	

Child Care Centre Fees

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Child Care Centre Fees

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1. TITLE

Child Care Centre Fees

2. OBJECTIVE

To provide for a high quality Child Care Service that is cost neutral to Council.

3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term	Meaning
N/a	

4. POLICY

- 4.1 Council will set Child Care Centre fees annually at a rate that ensures the service operates within a 'cost neutral' budget.
- 4.2 Council will inform all enrolled families of their eligibility to apply for Child Care Benefit, Child Care Rebate, and Jobs, Education and Training Child Care Fee Assistance. These are benefits available to eligible families to assist with the cost of child care. They are paid by the Australian Government through the Department of Human Services, Family Assistance Office.
- 4.3 Council will negotiate the timing of the payment of fees with families experiencing financial difficulties and will apply for special child care assistance on behalf of the family after eligibility has been determined in accordance with the guidelines contained in the Australian Government, Department of Education and Training Child Care Service Handbook.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER COMPATIBILITY

This Policy has been assessed as being compatible with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.*

6. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Council-Operated Child Care Centres - Enrolment System Policy Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service Policy

7. REFERENCES/RESOURCES

Child Care Service Handbook (Australian Government, Department of Education and Training).

Policy ID Number 17.2

Council-Operated Child Care Centres -Enrolment System

Date first adopted: 3 February 1997 Amended and adopted: 12 August 2002 4 February 2014	Version: 4 Next review date: June 2020	Status: Reviewed
Position Title of Responsible Business Unit Manager:	Manager Family, Youth and Children's Services	

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Council-Operated Child Care Centres – Enrolment System Page 2 - 4

1. TITLE

Council-Operated Child Care Centres - Enrolment System

2. OBJECTIVE

To provide for the operation of a Central enrolment system for Council-operated Child Care Centres.

3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term	Meaning
Prioritised waiting list	 Used when there is a waiting list for a child care service or when a number of parents are applying for a limited number of vacant places. Priorities - First Priority: a child at risk of serious abuse or neglect Second Priority: a child of a single parent who satisfies, or of parents who both satisfy, the work/training/study test under Section 14 of the 'A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999' Third Priority: any other child. Within these main categories priority should also be given to the following children: children in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families children in families which include a disabled person children in families which include an individual whose adjusted taxable income does not exceed the lower income, or who or whose partner are on income support children in families from a non-English speaking background children in socially isolated families

4. POLICY

- 4.1 Council will operate a central enrolment system for all Council-operated Child Care Centres where enquiries, information, allocation and a prioritised waiting list function will be administered.
- 4.2 Council will implement the Australian Government Priority of Access Guidelines and allocate places at Council-operated Child Care Centres giving preference to applicants who live, work or study, in Glen Eira.
- 4.3 Council will offer child care places to applicants on the prioritised waiting list to ensure maximum utilisation of Child Care Centres.

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5. HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER COMPATIBILITY

This Policy has been assessed as being compatible with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.*

6. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Child Care Centre Fees Policy Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service Policy

7. REFERENCES/RESOURCES

Child Care Service Handbook (current) (Australian Government, Department of Education and Training) Australian Government Priority of Access Guidelines Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010 Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

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Policy ID Number 17.3

Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service

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1. TITLE

Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service

2. OBJECTIVE

To provide for a central enrolment service for participating community-based, stand-alone kindergartens for four-year-old children in Glen Eira.

3. BACKGROUND

Kindergarten programs are funded and regulated by the State Government. The State Government's kindergarten policy aims to provide all four year olds with access to kindergarten in the year prior to commencing school. Kindergarten programs are provided in community and privately managed children's services, early learning centres and schools.

Council provides a central enrolment service to assist in the administration of the kindergarten enrolment process. This service provides the community with a single entry point to enrol in participating community-based kindergartens in Glen Eira.

All stand-alone community-based kindergartens in Glen Eira are operated by committees of management or not-for-profit management bodies and not by Council. Council has no direct role in the management of community-based kindergartens.

Term	Meaning
Special consideration	When an immediate family member has an illness or additional need, and at the request of Glen Eira City Council, enrolments will be considered as long as it does not displace an existing family enrolled at the kindergarten
Priority of access criteria	 This criteria must be used by services when prioritising enrolments – Children at risk of abuse or neglect, including children in Outof-Home Care Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children Asylum seeker and refugee children Children eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy Children with additional needs, defined as children who – Require additional assistance in order to fully participate in the kindergarten program Require a combination of services which are individually planned Have identified specific disability or developmental delay

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

5. POLICY

5.1 Enrolment process

(a) Council will provide an annual Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service for all participating

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community-based, kindergartens in the Glen Eira municipality to centralise the enrolment process and to provide a single entry point for families seeking to enrol their children into community-based kindergarten.

- (b) A child must be at least four years of age by 30 April in the year they attend four-year-old kindergarten. Enrolments are accepted from 1 May, 21 months prior to attendance.
- (c) Parents will be able to nominate three kindergartens in order of preference on the enrolment application form and every effort will be made to offer a place within a preferred kindergarten.
- (d) Where a family requests a change of preference without a change of address the priority date of the application will be changed to the date of the preference change.
- (e) Council will provide all participating kindergartens with the relevant enrolment applications in accordance with families' nominated preferences.
- (f) Enrolment applications will be provided to kindergartens in order of the date application forms were received by Council. Where the number of applications received on the same day exceeds the number of places available, offers will be determined through a ballot.
- (g) Kindergartens will be responsible for making offers to families who have submitted enrolment application forms.

5.2 **Fees**

- (a) An enrolment fee will be charged by Council for each child enrolled through the Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service. Enrolment fees are not refundable.
- (b) The level of the enrolment fee for the Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service will be determined by Council on an annual basis.

5.3 Kindergartens

The responsibilities of kindergartens that participate in the Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service are as follows:

- (a) Kindergartens are responsible for making offers to families who have submitted kindergarten enrolment applications to Council.
- (b) Kindergarten enrolment officers will offer places in writing to families on the dates determined by Council.
- (c) Kindergartens will give preference to families who live, work or study in Glen Eira.
- (d) Kindergartens will make offers to families in order of the dates applications were received by Council, unless a family has applied for 'special consideration'.
- (e) All participating kindergartens will have a policy to address 'special consideration circumstances'. All such applications will be assessed by the kindergarten committee of management and a decision will be recorded at a meeting prior to notifying a family of the outcome; and
- (f) Places will be available for eligible children according to the priority of access criteria, within the requirements of relevant legislation.

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6. HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER COMPATIBILITY

This Policy has been assessed as being compatible with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

7. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Child Care Centre Fees Policy Council-Operated Child Care Centres – Enrolment System

8. REFERENCES/RESOURCES

Department of Education and Training Kindergarten Funding Guide (VIC Gov) Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010 Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

Kindergarten Central Enrolment Service

ITEM 9.9	COMMUNITY GARDENS
Author:	Ana Tsaganos
File No:	17/163678
Attachments:	<i>Community grants funding for communal garden projects since 2010</i> – Attachment 1
	Open Space Strategy excerpt on community gardens – Attachment 2
	Summary of different Councils involvement in community gardens - Attachment 3.

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

At the Council meeting of 28 February 2017 Council resolved "that officers prepare a report on Community Garden(s) including such aspects as viable location(s), resource requirements, setup and maintenance costs, social benefits and comparable activities in other Councils (E.g. Hobsons Bay)."

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. commences a consultation process regarding traditional and pop up community gardens examining; locations, style of gardens and community governance arrangements. This consultation should include community groups currently operating community gardens, gardening groups, sustainability groups and Moorleigh Village tenants, as well as individuals in the broader community who might be interested in participating in a community garden.
- 2. receives a report regarding the outcomes of the consultation including preferred community location, style of garden and governance arrangements.

BACKGROUND

Community gardens are spaces for people to grow and cultivate produce. They are generally recognised as contributing a range of valuable social, environmental and economic benefits.

Traditional community gardens are located on either public or private land leased or licensed to local community members. They are generally managed by an incorporated community group or auspiced by a church, community house or small organisation (e.g. gardening club, resident group). Also, traditional community gardens are fenced and limit access to members who pay an annual membership fee and/or fee to rent an individual garden plot. There are examples of traditional community gardens that have allocated lots but open access during certain hours to the general community.

In contrast, some newer gardens focus more on shared garden spaces that are open and accessible to all community members; such as shared gardens on railway corridors. These focus on maximising inclusive and communal aspects; with open beds and an emphasis on interacting and sharing amongst members and the wider community.

The concept of 'Community garden' also includes diverse forms of growing spaces, such as 'pop up' planter boxes and gardens on footpath verges.

Local government involvement with community gardens varies and can range from:

• actively partnering in the development of community gardens

- providing lease and license arrangements for community gardens
- providing funding and funding streams to support community gardens
- facilitating skill development, community connections and capacity building in gardening generally.

In Glen Eira there are two known 'traditional' community gardens:

- 1. **Caulfield South Community Garden** based at Caulfield South Community House in Kooyong Road Caulfield.
- 2. **Murrumbeena Community Garden** based at Koornang Uniting Church in Murrumbeena Road, Murrumbeena.

Glen Eira City Council has supported community gardens through the community grants program. Murrumbeena Community Garden has received two community grants, one as part of seed funding for the establishment of the garden and one to expand it. Council's Community Grants program has funded the establishment of seven communal garden projects since 2010 (Attachment 1).

Open Space Strategy

Councils Open Space Strategy includes a section on Community gardens (Attachment 2) which states: 'Council's preference that community gardens continue to be located where feasible on ancillary and private open space given the high demands on the public open space network' It also provides a set of guidelines for existing and future proposals for community gardens in open space. With a key consideration to minimise loss of open public open space.

In 2014, Council considered a request to establish a community garden at Moorleigh Village. Initial consultation and scoping for a community garden was undertaken but the project did not proceed.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Possible Locations

There are a variety of spaces that Council could consider to develop community gardens. These include public land (a park or in public open space), private property (such as a vacant lot), at a school or church, in planter boxes on footpaths, or as part of nature strip planting.

The assessment of a viable location for a community garden needs to include: site access, parking, topography, soil type, other vegetation assessment, policy restrictions and planning overlays, land size, access to water and whether power is required. In addition, issues such as access to public toilets and community safety are a consideration.

The resource considerations to be factored into the search for viable locations include capacity for rainwater tanks, shelter, compost and material bays, raised garden beds, seating, green houses for propagating, garden irrigation, paths and edging, removal of existing plants and trees.

An initial search for locations to develop a future Community Garden in Glen Eira suggested the following options:

• Moorleigh Village

The benefits of this option are that Moorleigh has access to toilets, water and other amenities. The downside is that soil testing would be required or a barrier to ground soil would be needed to install above ground planters. In addition, Moorleigh is not located in the municipality's higher density areas which would benefit most from a community garden.

• Caulfield Racecourse Wedge on the corner of Booran and Kambrook Road. This benefit of this option is that it would activate an area of land that currently has limited use and is reasonable in size (approximately 5584 square metres). The downside is that it is located near a five way roundabout, the nearest public toilets are 400 metres away and it would not be accessible during race days. It would also take away from an area that is currently used for dogs off leash.

New railway stations or revitalised shopping precincts.

The benefit of this option is that it is an approach with a specific objective to engage community members and build connections through an urban community garden project. The downside is that it would require active ongoing support from Council and considerable work to engage community members as this would be the essential purpose. The challenge would be to find a location that does not impinge pathways, receives adequate sunlight, is easy to access and addresses security issues.

• Unused spaces such as carparks or laneways for pop-up community gardens The benefit of this option is that it could help to activate community engagement using planter boxes. This option could help revitalise areas of land that are not being well used or are poorly maintained. The downside is finding the right location and the costs of establishing and maintaining temporary veggie patches. The movement of this type of temporary feature would need to be built into the initial scoping of such a project

Actionable Location

In the short term development of community garden at Moorleigh Village is the most realistic option. The advantages of Moorleigh are that it can be progressed immediately and has access to toilets and water which will limit the set up costs. Furthermore, a site between two of the wings at Moorleigh currently has limited use as public open space.

In the longer term planning for the new linear park and space adjacent to the new railway stations may provide a viable location.

Resource requirements (including set up and maintenance costs)

Advice from one local Council with extensive experience in community garden projects indicated that a recent community garden project cost sixty five thousand dollars (\$65,000).

Maintenance and ongoing costs of community gardens are usually managed by member fees. The elements of successful community gardens which may impact on resourcing include:

- Location

- Composting
- External funding sources Sharing what you grow
- Health, safety and welfare
- Water wise practices
- Soil contamination
- Keeping animals
- Vandalism and raiders Pest control
- Insurance and duty of care
- Incorporated associations
- Complaints and conflict
- Preventing crime

The costs scoped for this report are indicative only and if toilet facilities or extensive rainwater catchment is required then the costs can be considerably more.

Benefits of Community Gardens

In general there are a range of benefits derived through traditional community gardens, which can be defined under economic, social and environmental factors:

Economic	Social	Environmental
 Affordable fresh food 	 Participation 	 Collaborative consumption
Distribute surplus as donation	 Promote healthy eating 	 Waste reduction
 Alternative community space 	Education	Compost
 Promote Social Enterprise 	Connection	Production
 Creates Partnerships 	 Improved area amenity 	 Heat Island Reduction
	 Links diverse groups 	 Air quality improvement

For pop up gardens the benefits and uses are slightly different. For instance, a pop up garden is often used as a way to reactivate a space or initiate a community connecting activity. Their smaller capacity means they have more incidental use as food production areas. In addition they are more at risk of being seen as a hazard or be subject to vandalism. They are also more likely to need external management arrangements (Including Council involvement). The benefits of pop up gardens defined under the same headings as more traditional community gardens are:

Economic	Social	Environmental
Alternative community spaceCreates Partnerships	ParticipationConnectionLinks diverse groups	Production

Challenges and Disadvantages of Community Gardens

There are a range of challenges and possible disadvantages that need be considered when planning to establish a community garden. These include:

- Finding the right location
- Ensuring the right governance structure is in place
- Funding to establish and maintain the garden
- Ensuring wide community benefit
- Health, safety and welfare issues
- Accountability for water wise practices
- Management of pests and soil contamination
- Crime, vandalism and raiders
- Loss of open space if Council owned land is used

Council's role in Community Gardens

There is significant diversity in the role local governments take in supporting community gardens and in the types of community gardens that are established and promoted.

Desk top research and telephone contact was made with the following Councils; Boroondara, Maribyrnong, Port Phillip, Hobsons Bay, Melbourne, Monash, Moreland and Yarra. A detailed summary of each Councils involvement in community gardens and urban agriculture can be found in Attachment 3.

In summary the following key Council approaches and practices were identified:

- In many instances community gardens are located on Council owned land and sit under a lease or license agreement
- Councils do not manage day to day operations of community gardens, these are generally entirely community run
- Councils often support community gardens through some type of grant funding stream
- There has been a shift towards Councils exploring more diverse approaches to community gardens including urban greening agricultural approaches (e.g. planter boxes, nature strips)
- Many Councils promote community gardens on Council websites, in publications and at events
- Some Councils support networking, and help develop partnerships with community gardening groups and other community groups and stakeholders.
- Facilitation of Advisory groups that support urban agriculture are sometimes linked to Community Garden projects
- Councils sometimes provide access to education workshops that support the growing and sharing of local food
- Councils provide some level of advice, support and assistance when establishing new or managing existing gardens.

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Depending on council's role in community gardens and urban agriculture there may be a range of financial, resource and asset management implications related to grant funding, community engagement, policy development, open space planning and development, facilitation of workshops, and urban agricultural consultancy.

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The support for community gardens will require the development of Council policy and guidelines. There may be further implications for the Asset Management Strategy, the Open Space Strategy, Street Tree Strategy and/or Community Leases policy.

Implications associated with *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* 1999; Food Act 1984, Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008, Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009, Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004, Road Management Act may need to e explored.

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Any project or development around a community garden project/s will need to include a robust community engagement strategy. Community support and facilitation is central to successful community garden projects.

An initial approach could be to invite community groups to participate in an active exploration and planning activity which might include mapping location options, identification of issues, proposed organisational structures and early design. This could be the precursor to further discussion for investment and support from Council.

LINK TO COUNCIL PLAN

Theme 7 Sustainable community assets and infrastructure

Strategic objective: To enhance and develop sustainable community assets and infrastructure to meet the needs of current and future generations.

Theme 8 Community building and engagement

Strategic objective: To build a strong connected community that actively participates and engages with Council to improve outcomes for the community.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

Council should contribute to the development of Community Gardens by undertaking community consultation and planning activities to scope the opportunities for development of community gardens in the City, taking into consideration:

- Opportunities for open communal garden areas at the point of redevelopment or renewal of a Council controlled open space
- Co-locating community gardens with existing community facilities or when developing new facilities
- Possibilities for community garden spaces as part of shopping strip redevelopment;
- Developing a community garden in the communal areas at railway corridors and places where grade separation works are currently occurring (e.g. Carnegie, Murrumbeena, Caulfield).

The approach should also focus on supporting a community organisation to take a lead in the project with Council support.

ATTACHMENT 1

Community grants funding for community garden projects since 2010ⁱ

Year	Organisation	Project funding description	Funding received
2010/2011	Ormond Community Church of Christ (auspiced by Churches of Christ Community Care)	Assist with the construction of a community garden with plots for hire to local residents & water tanks installed.	\$3,000
2011-2012	Murrumbeena Community Garden (auspiced by Yooralla)	To assist with implementing the Murrumbeena Community Garden joint venture project, between Yooralla and Koornang Uniting Church.	\$5,245
2013-2014	Murrumbeena Community Garden	To assist with expanding the sheltered area of the garden to accommodate members.	\$2,120
2014-2015	Church of Christ Carnegie- Gardening Club	To assist with the formation of a gardening club to replant the whole of the front church garden and footpath with indigenous plants. Community will be invited to attend planting sessions as part of the project.	\$1,000
2014-2015	City of Caulfield Lions Club	To assist with a community volunteer project to plant a sustainable indigenous garden in Bentleigh West in cooperation with neighbouring organisations including Bentleigh Child Care Services and Kindergarten, Classic Residences retirement village, and Bentleigh West Primary School.	\$1,899.90
2015-2016	Rotary Club Of Glen Eira	To assist with completing a sustainability garden project in partnership with the Katandra School, Ormond.	\$2,980
2015-2016	Port Phillip Housing Association Limited	To assist with creating a community garden program for older persons. The garden will reduce isolation and develop connectedness between the tenants of the McKinnon Property.	\$ 2,437.00

ⁱ Excludes grant funding provided for gardens at community based kindergartens

ATTACHMENT 2

Except from Council's Open Space Strategy 2014 (page 287-88)

7.10.1 Community gardens

Currently existing community gardens in Glen Eira are located on ancillary open space and private land. This includes gardens in a number of schools, the Murrumbeena Community Garden at the Koomang Uniting Church and one being established at Caulfield Hospital. It is Council's preference that community gardens continue to be located where feasible on ancillary and private open space given the high demands on the public open space network.

The following guidelines are to be applied to the future assessment for potential sites for community gardens identified in Recommendation 5.2M and the existing and future proposals for community gardens in open space.

Guidelines for existing and future proposals for community gardens in open space:

- Demonstrate the use of land as a community garden is benefiting local residents from within the Municipality.
- b) The land area is large enough to sustain a viable community garden including areas for plots, compost, sheds and water storage.
- Meets the multiple-use and sustainability principles (e.g. co-located with a Neighbourhood house to share facilities and resources such as rainwater harvesting).
- d) There is adequate public open space available in the surrounding area or on the remainder of the site to retain adequate access to open space for the broader community into the future.
- compatible with adjoining land use for amenity and health risks associated with growing food, and consideration of environmental values of adjoining open space.
- The site is suitable for vegetable growing including adequate sunlight access, water, visible and complements and potentially improves the open space character.
- g) The community gardens are run by an incorporated organisation that meets regularly.
- h) The land does not currently have a recognised public open space use or value that benefits the broader community.
- The assessment criteria for allocation of plots to give priority to applicants who do not have access to their own gardens.
- Should adhere to agreed land management practices and access arrangements as stipulated by Council.
- k) Maintain an agreed edge treatment between the community garden and the public open space reserve.
- All infrastructure and plants established as part of the community garden be removed if the land is being returned to Council.
- m) If the land is identified to be required for an alternative public open space use, Council have the right to reclaim the land for that purpose.
- Apply sustainable management principles and provide educational opportunities to interpret environmental sustainability principles and practices in the open space.
- The proposed location does not negatively impact on heritage or identified environmental values.

ATTACHMENT 3

Council	No. of Community gardens	Location	Grant funding available?	Promote community gardens on websites, publications?	Dedicated staff?	Does Council actively assist interested individuals or groups to establish community gardens?
Hobsons Bay	Hobsons Bay has 2 community gardens	Both gardens are on Council land	The grants program (small expenses grants) supports both gardens	None	Council has an officer to progress the My Smart Garden initiative	Council is a member of the My Smart Garden initiative which builds community gardening knowledge and capacity. Workshops for the community on gardening are run in existing community gardens
Boroondara	6 traditional community gardens; 1 open communal garden; planter boxes on High Street, Ashburton; 5 community gardens on private land; A number of gardens on school land	All traditional type gardens are on council land; however there are some on privately owned land, some in school grounds, some in the grounds of community houses.	Funding available through the grants program (up to \$10,000) and the 'Sustainable Communities' stream	Council's website lists gardens. Elsewhere, the site includes a report on growing and sharing food in the City, information, a guide for working with Council (a resource document)	Council has a Community Sustainability Officer (role is around all types of local food environment)	Yes – Council runs 'how to' workshops on gardening as part of the 'Living for our Future' sustainable living program Active collaboration on new gardens and on planter boxes
Port Phillip	14 that are classed as 'community gardens' plus at least 2 pop up gardens, multiple gardens located on school grounds and multiple gardens located on private land	6 gardens are located on the grounds of Neighbourhood Houses/ Community Centres. 2 are located on Church grounds. 2 are located on public housing sites (open only to tenants) 6 are located on other public ground – mostly parks	Council advertises 'Small Poppy Neighbourhood Grants' as specifically designed to assist people wanting to set up community gardens. They aim to improve neighbourhoods via supporting small community driven projects. Up to \$10,000 maximum	Council's website lists the gardens and links to information on each	Council has a Community Health and Service Planning project officer and more broadly, community gardens are facilitated by the CH&SP Department which both sponsors the gardens capital works and is the point of contact for groups and residents	Council provides advice and facilitates governance training for community groups
Maribyrnong	Maribyrnong has 7 community gardens	Two gardens are located with Neighbourhood Houses/ community centers and the remaining five are located on Council land	Council's grant program has supported community gardens in previous years	Yes, some information, including a list of gardens and contact details for those involved in each are available online	Yes, Council has a Project Officer Health and Wellbeing	Council is a member of the My Smart Garden initiative which builds community gardening knowledge and capacity. Workshops for the community on gardening are run in existing community gardens

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

4 JULY 2017

		-	-	-		
Moreland	Moreland has 14 community gardens – two of which are very substantial (West Brunswick and Ceres). Moreland encourages people to make requests to plant on nature strip 17/1100581s, with reference to some guidelines	Five gardens are on council owned land, two are located with Neighbourhood / community Houses, one with a social housing estate, three are on private land, one located with a school and an additional two on other publically owned land	No specific stream but the grants program cites community gardens as an example of things that can be funded under Council's Capital Works Partnership Grant (up to \$40,000)	Extensive information provided on Council's website, including an overview of the gardens in Moreland, upcoming events at these, and a link to the broader work Council is doing in Urban agriculture and local food systems, which includes social enterprise, food swaps, and festivals	Council's community wellbeing officer responds to queries. Council is considering developing community garden guidelines and establishing a single point of referral at council regarding the process and council support available	Current support is ad hoc – Council is looking to strengthen its support by developing a central point of contact
Yarra	Yarra has three traditional type community gardens, 6 community gardens for public housing tenants, over 50 planter boxes in neighbourhoods, and numerous initiatives on private land	All three traditional gardens are located on public land, planter boxes are mostly on public land as well	The Yarra grants program has supported community gardens in recent years	Council's website is a rich source of information on community gardens, including how they work, a link to guidelines, a resource booklet, a link to the broader Yarra community food systems,	Council has a Urban Agriculture (Community Gardens) Facilitator	Yarra actively works to facilitate new community gardens. Twice a year, Council sponsors an event for community to learn how to develop a community growing space and prepare a successful Urban Agriculture application. An officer acts as a point of contact for residents and groups. Community gardens are a component of Council's Urban Agriculture approach, one of numerous local food initiatives supported by the city. People can apply to set up an urban agriculture site online. The initiative is supported by an Urban Agriculture Advisory Committee
Melbourne	Melbourne has 16 community gardens plus a number of community planter boxes (currently two)	8 gardens are located with public and social housing estates, 4 are located with schools and 5 are on privately owned land	Council's grant program supports community gardens and Council's community garden policy states that grants are open for gardens regardless of whether they are on public or private land	Council's website has information on community gardens, and resources available, including a Community Food Map and Community Food Guide	Not advised	Council provides governance training for groups, the provision of information and advice, and assistance with the planning stage of the garden

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Darebin	Darebin has 14	Seven gardens	Council's Urban	Council has	Council has a	Council provides
	community gardens	are located on either Council or public land, three located with Community houses/ Health services, two with churches and two that are on private land	Food Production Strategy states that community gardening groups are entilled to access the grants program regardless of whether they are based on private land	information on its website on the gardens in Darebin, and how to start one, including Council Guidelines and checklist for establishing a communal garden. Darebin enables planting on nature strips and the website includes information on Guidelines for this	Sustainable Food Officer. The broader Sustainability unit is the website contact for queries	information and advice and has also been an active partner with the community to develop an urban food demonstration site for all cultures and communities. Council's Urban Food Production Strategy commits Council to supporting productive community gardens – building the capacity of the community, working in partnership and demonstrating leadership. One practical measure is that Council waives rent/fees for community food growing on Council land
Monash	Monash has 7 community gardens	One community garden is located on public land, four are co- located with Neighbourhood Houses, one is located at a secondary school and one with Monash University	The grants program has supported community gardens in past years	Very little. Council's website lists gardens in Monash and their location	Not advised	Not advised
Moonee Valley	Moonee Valley has 8 community gardens	4 gardens are located on Council land; one is co-located with a Neighbourhood House. Three gardens are on public housing sites and are for residents	The grants program is not advertised as an avenue to support community gardens, but gardens are mentioned in the grants program guidelines	Council's website lists community gardens with contact details	Council has an officer to progress the My Smart Garden initiative	Council has in the recent past, run workshops for the community to build local capacity to create community gardens. Workshops for the community on gardening are run in existing community gardens. Council is a member of the My Smart Garden initiative which builds community gardening knowledge and capacity.

ITEM 9.10	APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES TO STRATEGIC TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Author:	Mat Bonomi - Coordinator Transport and Place Design
File No:	17/1174161

Attachments: 1. Strategic Transport Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

For Council to review the community representative applications for the Strategic Transport Advisory Committee and to appoint the successful candidates

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. endorses the preferred candidates; Marcus Burke, Cathy McNaughton, Jenna Fivelman and Joshua Stewart for appointment to the Strategic Transport Advisory Committee;
- 2. writes to the successful applicants congratulating them on their appointment;
- 3. writes to the unsuccessful applicants thanking them for their applications.

BACKGROUND

The Strategic Transport Advisory Committee (STAC) is a newly formed committee.

The Terms of Reference for the STAC were adopted by Council on 7th February 2017. A copy of the Terms of Reference is attached. Members of the STAC are to be appointed by Council. External representatives have two year terms.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

In response to the advertisement calling for community nominations, Council received ten applications.

The applications were circulated to the three elected Councillor Representatives for consideration and nomination for appointment.

The following community members were selected as the preferred community representatives to Council's Transport Advisory Committee:

- Marcus Burke
- Cathy McNaughton
- Jenna Fivelman and;
- Joshua Stewart

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The vacancies were advertised in the Glen Eira News, in Council e-newsletters and on Council's website and Facebook page.

LINK TO COUNCIL PLAN

Theme 2 – Traffic Parking and Transport: to promote a safe movement of pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle traffic in a way that minimises the impact of traffic and parking on the local amenity and physical environment.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

The Transport Advisory Committee is established to provide assistance to Council in the preparation and implementation of Council's Integrated Transport Strategy and other transport matters as required.

The Integrated Transport Strategy is a key strategy that is to be delivered by City Futures this year (2017); as such it is important to appoint diverse and qualified community members to the advisory committee.

ATTACHMENT 1 - STRATEGIC TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE



ROLE DESCRIPTION

TITLE:

STRATEGIC TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE -COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE (x4)

UPDATED: APRIL 2017

OVERVIEW:

Glen Eira City Council serves a vibrant and diverse community of more than 144,000 people, approximately 58,000 households, 160 different ethnic groups and over 14,000 registered businesses. Council provides a range of services to the community, from planning, designing, building and maintaining the City's roads, drains, footpaths, parks and facilities, to catering for children, families, young people and the elderly, collecting waste, providing animal management, traffic and local law services, working with local businesses, providing libraries and staging cultural events for the community.

Council has recently resolved to establish a Strategic Transport Advisory Committee to provide assistance to Council in the preparation and implementation of Council's Integrated Transport Strategy and other transport matters as required. The Committee operates within the Terms of Reference that Council sets (refer to attachment).

Membership of the Strategic Transport Advisory Committee includes three Councillors and four community representatives.

THE ROLE

The role is as a non-voting member of Council's Transport Advisory Committee.

The role and function of the committee is to advise Council on transport issues. Community representatives will be expected to provide technical and non-technical advice, input and feedback with respect to transport related initiatives, policy and strategies.

The committee will then form recommendations and report to Council as required. The community representatives will be expected to liaise and communicate with members of the Glen Eira community to:

- Facilitate understanding of transport initiatives and strategies
- Seek community involvement and feedback with respect to transport issues
- Seek input from informed stakeholders
- Provide advice with respect to advocacy of transport issues within the community and to other key stakeholders

This role does not act or speak on behalf of the advisory committee or Council.

UNDERTAKING

The role is voluntary and attracts no remuneration. In accepting the role, the incumbent commits to:

- Attending at least four Transport Advisory Committee meetings annually.
- Abiding by Council's policies and procedures.
- Requesting leave of absences and notifying Chair of apologies prior to meetings.

TERM

Council will appoint members to the Strategic Transport Advisory Committee on a biennial basis.

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA:

COMMUNITY

- Must be a resident of the City of Glen Eira.
- Demonstrated commitment to community action and or involvement is desirable.
- Interest and involvement in use of sustainable and active transport is desirable.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS:

- Ability to analyse and synthesise information presented in a variety of forms.
- Ability to identify key issues, trends and interrelationships between issues.
- Ability to think strategically and identify likely implications.
- Ability to generate new ideas and creative approaches to issues and practices.

- Knowledge of transport, accessibility and/or transport related infrastructure, particularly issues relevant to local government and the Glen Eira community desirable.
- Knowledge of public transport systems within Glen Eira, including the State Government's roles and responsibilities desirable.
- Knowledge of Council's broader role in serving the Glen Eira Community desirable.
- Knowledge of the legal and financial limitations of Council desirable.
- Awareness of Council's stance on financial management, rates, cost shifting and risk management desirable.
- An understanding of local government's role in relation to other levels of Australian government desirable.

INTERPERSONAL SKILLS:

- Ability to effectively participate and contribute in meetings.
- Well developed written and oral communication skills.
- Ability to motivate, influence and engage others to become involved in transport related discussion, advocacy and participation.
- Ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals.

EXPERIENCE:

• Experience in a similar role would be an advantage.

	Terms of Reference	
1.	Name	Strategic Transport Advisory Committee
2.	Classification	Advisory Committee
3.	Background	To provide assistance to Council in the preparation and implementation of Council's Integrated Transport Strategy.
4.	Function and Role	 To provide advice and recommendations to Council in relation to strategic transport planning, including: Providing advice on the development of a Integrated Transport Strategy Facilitating understanding of transport initiatives emerging in Glen Eira Leading community engagement, including holding public forums to gain comprehensive community involvement of strategic transport topics Considering urban design initiatives to achieve high quality pedestrian friendly public realm outcomes Provide advice on significant State Government projects such as grade separation projects Providing advice on Council's advocacy roles Making recommendations on policy issues where appropriate, and
5.	Term of Committee	Two (2) years from appointment of members.
6.	Membership and Term of Membership	A minimum of 3 Councillors (preferably 1 from each Ward).
		Four community representatives being non-voting members, with a strong connection to Glen Eira.
		Community members may include: - Transport Planning professionals - Planning professionals

		 Urban Design Professionals Public and Community advocates, Experts in all ability access, Enthusiasts of walking, cycling and alternative transport forms Appointment of members shall commence on the date of the resolution appointing them and end on the earlier of: The expiration of two years, The cessation of the committee; The member(s) resigning; Council resolving to remove the member from the Committee; The expiration of the Council term.
7.	Chairperson and Term of	Chairperson:
	Chairperson	A Councillor appointed by the Committee annually
8.	Voting Rights	Councillors only have voting rights, with Chairperson having casting vote.
9.	Quorum	Two (2) Councillors and two (2) remaining members
10.	Conduct of Members	Meetings of the Committee will be treated as an Assembly of Councillors. Councillors' Code of Conduct applies. The conflict of interest and confidentiality provisions in the Local Government Act 1989 apply to all members.
11.	Role of Council Staff Attendee(s)	Executive Officers to the Committee Council Officers who may also attend meetings include, Director Planning and Place Manager City Futures Group Manager Property, Environment and Sustainability
12.	Meeting Frequency	At least four (4) times annually
13.	Reporting Requirements	Advisory Committee minutes and recommendations will be submitted to the next appropriate Ordinary Council Meeting for consideration.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

14.	Other Relevant Information	Council reviews the ongoing need for Advisory Committees annually. Council may cease a committee or update Terms of Reference at any stage by Council Resolution.
15.	Committee Contact Details	Director Planning and Place
16.	Date of Council Approval of Terms of Reference	7 February 2017
17.	Date of Next Review of Terms of Reference	Terms of Reference to be reviewed annually

ITEM 9.11 APPOINTMENT OF SIGNATORIES FOR 2016-17 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Author: John Vastianos (Chief Financial Officer)

File No: 17/169973

Attachments: Not Applicable

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

To appoint two Councillors as signatories to the 2016-17 Financial Statements and Performance Statement.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council appoints the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to sign the 2016-17 Financial Statements and Performance Statement.

BACKGROUND

The State Government has a structured process it applies to approving the end-of-year Financial Report.

Council is required to consider the (proposed) Financial Statements after the external auditors (Victorian Auditor-General's Office - VAGO) have performed their role but before the audit by the Auditor-General is finalised.

Council is not expected to audit any of the figures itself. Council is expected to assure itself that due process has been followed (e.g. by the activities of the independent external auditors etc.), to ensure that the statements represent the financial position of the Council. In Glen Eira, this role is carried out mainly through the Audit Committee with its mix of Councillors and independent Members.

Past practice has been that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, or one Councillor Member of the Audit Committee are the signatories.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

The 2016-17 Financial Report will be reviewed at Council's Audit Committee meeting on Friday, 18 August 2017.

Council will be asked to adopt the statements 'in principle' at the Ordinary Council meeting on Tuesday, 5 September 2017. This will in effect mean that Council is confirming that an appropriate process (as confirmed by the Audit Committee) has been followed in preparing the Statements. In this respect, Council will be relying on the Victorian Auditor-General's Office to confirm the accuracy of the statements and compliance with accounting standards.

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Financial conclusions should not be drawn until after the statements are audited and finalised by the Auditor-Generals Office.

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

(i) Local Government Act 1989

Section 132 (5) - Annual Report preparation:

The Council must ensure that the Performance Statement and Financial Statements, in their final form after any changes recommended or agreed by the auditor have been made, are certified in accordance with the regulations by:

- 2 Councillors authorised by the Council for the purposes of this subsection; and
- any other prescribed persons.

(ii) Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014

- Section 18 Certification of Performance Statement; and
- Section 21 Certification of Financial Statements.

(iii) Audit Act 1994

Section 9 - Audit opinions on Financial Statements:

The *Audit Act 1994* requires the Auditor-General to form an opinion on your Financial Report and Performance Statement and provide a copy of the audit reports to you and the Minister for Local Government.

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The Audit Committee will meet on 18 August 2017 to consider the accounts and recommended that the accounts be adopted in principle, subject to some minor amendments, and subject to no significant changes by the Auditor-General.

LINK TO COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY PLAN

Theme 5: Informed and Engaged.

A transparent and accountable Council that engages its residents in decision-making.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

That Council appoints the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to sign the 2016-17 Financial Statements and Performance Statement.
ITEM 9.12 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 MAY 2017

Author: John Vastianos (Chief Financial Officer)

File No: 17/1138633

Attachments: Yes

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

To report Council's finances in the Financial Management Report for the period ending 31 May 2017.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Financial Management Report for the period ending 31 May 2017.

BACKGROUND

The report includes a comparison of year-to-date (YTD) actual income and expenditure with budgeted (YTD and forecast end-of-year) and other information for the current financial year.

This report also provides a review of the 2016-17 Capital Works Program, cash flow reports and investment reports.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Council's forecast cash balance has improved but is still expected to remain at relatively low levels, sufficient to cover current liabilities.

One of the items which has placed additional pressure on Council's Liquidity Ratio is classification of leave entitlements. Notwithstanding a majority of leave entitlements are not expected to be settled within 12 months, almost all leave entitlements are classified as current liability provisions in Council's balance sheet, placing greater pressure on the liquidity ratio.

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The key financial objectives for Council are:

- Manage finances appropriately within the constraints set by the State Government's Rate Capping regime.
- Generate funds to provide additional public open space and renew and upgrade our ageing assets and community facilities.
- Maintain essential services at not less than current levels.
- Set rates and fee increases that are manageable and sustainable.
- Focus on continuous improvement.
- Keep day-to-day costs and rates below our peers.

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Section 138 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act).

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Council officers in preparing the Financial Management Report, take into account other plans and strategies in regard to services and initiatives which commit financial and non-financial resources for the current financial year.

LINK TO COUNCIL PLAN

Theme 4: Governance – To deliver strong local leadership and governance in an open and responsible manner in the best interests of the community.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

The positive operating result year to date is higher than was anticipated when the annual budget was set. The Balance Sheet position and the cash position are sound.

ATTACHMENT: Financial Management Report for the period ending 31 May 2017

1. Contents

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Executive Summary

for the period ending 31 May 2017

a) Current Month Budget Result

At the end of May 2017, the performance against budget from ordinary activities showed a positive variance of \$10.32m due to higher than anticipated income of \$7.18m and favourable variance in operating expenditure of \$3.13m (refer to page 15 for details of the variances).

b) Current Month Forecast Result

The forecast result expected for the financial year is an operating surplus of \$28.45m compared with the original adopted *2016-17 Annual Budget* of \$17.22m.

Any surplus from day-to-day operations is used to accelerate capital works projects. The current monthly forecast movement shows an increase in operating revenue of \$2.44m and an increase in operating expenditure of \$1.32m.

c) Liquidity

Working capital is the excess of current assets above current liabilities. This calculation recognises that although Council has current assets, some of those assets are already committed to the future settlement of liabilities in the following 12 months, and are therefore not available for discretionary spending.

Council needs to ensure working capital is maintained such that sufficient cash reserves are available to meet normal cash flow requirements. Over the last few years, Council has invested heavily in its capital works program by fully utilising cash reserves.

Council will continue to have a large investment in capital works projects. Council is required to hold sufficient cash to cover 'Restricted Assets' such as: Residential Aged Care Deposits, Public Open Space Reserve, Contract Deposits and *Fire Services Property Levy*.

d) Open Space Contributions

Contributions

All multi-unit developers now need to pay a uniform 5.7 per cent of the value of the land (or give Council 5.7 per cent of the area of the land). All money raised by the levy will go into more and better open space.

The uniform rate of 5.7 per cent is the highest rate ever achieved across a whole municipality by any suburban council.

Council formulated the new levy in 2014, based on the analysis in the Open Space Strategy. The 5.7 per cent levy was supported by an independent panel in October 2014 and was approved by the State Planning Department. The higher rate took effect from 12 March 2015.

Open Space Reserve

The balance of the Open Space Reserve as at 31 May 2017 is as follows:

Description	2016-17 Current	2016-17
	Month Actual	Year-to-Date
Open Space Contributions Received	\$109,553	\$6,500,509
Open Space Capital Expenditure *	(\$575,447)	(\$7,767,454)
Net Movement	(\$465,894)	(\$1,266,945)
Opening Balance as at 1 July 2016		\$4,093,307
Closing Balance – Open Space Reserve		\$2,826,362

*Includes: Booran Reserve, 6 Aileen Ave, Caulfield South and 53 Magnolia Road, Gardenvale.

Superannuation – Defined Benefits Scheme

Vested Benefits Index (VBI)

The VBI is the key index that the super fund regulator, APRA, considers when assessing the financial position of the Defined Benefit Plan. In simple terms, this measures whether there would be enough assets to meet the liabilities of the Defined Benefit Plan if it became necessary to pay all members their total entitlements on a particular day.

For the Plan to be in a satisfactory financial position requires a VBI of 100% or more. Below is the estimated VBI since 30 September 2012:



Forecast adjustments for May 2017

Income from ordinary activities increase of \$2.44m

The favourable income forecast movement is mainly due to:

- Grants (Operating and Capital) an increase of \$2.09m mostly due to:
 - announcement of 50 per cent of the Victoria Grants Commission funding for 2017-18 to be received in June 2017 (\$1.83m), and
 - receipt of *Black Spot Programme* funding from VicRoads (\$109k) offset by a forecast increase in capital expenditure for road safety.
- Statutory Fees and Fines relate mainly to fees and fines levied in accordance with legislation and include animal registrations, health act registrations and parking fines.

The increase of \$313k is mainly due to higher than forecast parking infringements income across the municipality. This increase is due to the emphasis on safety around schools and balancing trader and patron parking due to increased building activity and the grade separation works.

Expenditure from ordinary activities increase of \$1.32m

The unfavourable expenditure forecast movement is mainly due to:

• **Employee Costs** – includes all labour related expenditure and on-costs such as allowances, leave entitlements, employer superannuation and WorkSafe.

The increase of \$201k is due to the timing of staff recruitment and periodic leave provision adjustments.

- Contractor Payments the increase of \$829k is mostly due to:
 - increased costs of parking management (\$484k) which is offset by increased income; and
 - parks grounds oversowing and tree pruning (\$212k).
- **Maintenance** an increase of \$237k mainly due to grounds maintenance within parks (\$141k) and cleaning and general maintenance at GESAC (\$100k).

Capital Works Expenditure Program

As at the end of May 2017, total capital works expenditure in 2016-17 is expected to be \$39.47m, represented by:

- New capital works projects as per the 2016-17 Annual Budget \$31.36m
- Capital works funding \$1.94m
- Carry forward expenditure from the 2015-16 financial year \$2.05m
- Forecast increase year to date \$4.12m.

Capital reductions for the month of May include:

- Reduction for the Multi-purpose Sports Court Redevelopment at Koornang Park (\$81k) and Marlborough Pavilion upgrade works (\$25k), as these projects are on hold pending outcomes of the Master Plan reviews.
- Reduction of \$237k for Patterson Road within the Streetscape Program due to an additional needs analysis for pedestrian crossing associated with Patterson Station. Additional intersection traffic modelling is required for the intersection at Patterson Road and North Avenue.

Capital increases for the month of May include:

- Funding for water sensitive urban design at Booran Reserve of \$96k due to contribution from Melbourne Water. This funding is part of the *Living Rivers Program*.
- Additional funding of \$109k from VicRoads for *Black Spot Programme*. These works are for a splitter island at Kangaroo Road.
- Increase of \$20k to accommodate Elsternwick Plaza rectification works.
- Increase of \$61k to accommodate works at Duncan Mackinnon Netball Courts due to price increases and safety improvements above the original scope.
- Accommodation works at town hall of \$70k including ground floor demolition works, relocation of Continuous Improvement business unit, and amendments to level three office space.
- Increase of \$75k for defect rectification works at Duncan Mackinnon Pavilion. This
 has been funded by construction company bank guarantee income received in 201617.
- Increase of \$5k to upgrade the access gate security at the Works Depot (total cost estimate of \$40k). This was identified from an internal audit finding during 2016-17. Additional funding of approximately \$35k will be required in the first quarter of 2017-18.

Financial Strategy

Each year, the Auditor-General of Victoria performs an audit of the Local Government sector and produces a report to Parliament of the results of those audits. As part of this process, the Auditor-General assesses the financial sustainability of Councils. In 2015-16 the Auditor-General assessed the financial sustainability risk at an individual Council level. The following pages explain and present the Auditor-General's financial sustainability risks and criteria and page 11 provides indicators for Glen Eira City Council.

Indicator	Formula	Description
Net result (%)	Net result / Total revenue	A positive result indicates a surplus, and the larger the percentage, the stronger the result. A negative result indicates a deficit. Operating deficits cannot be sustained in the long term. Net result and total revenue is obtained from the
		comprehensive operating statement.
Liquidity (ratio)	Current assets / Current liabilities	This measures the ability to pay existing liabilities in the next 12 months.
		A ratio of one or more means there are more cash and liquid assets than short-term liabilities.
Internal financing (%)	Net operating cash flow / Net capital expenditure	This measures the ability of an entity to finance capital works from generated cash flow. The higher the percentage, the greater the ability for the entity to finance capital works from their own funds. Net operating cash flows and net capital expenditure are obtained from the cash flow statement.
Indebtedness (%)	Non-current liabilities/own-sourced revenue	Comparison of non-current liabilities (mainly comprised of borrowings) to own-sourced revenue. The higher the percentage, the less able to cover non-current liabilities from the revenues the entity generates itself. Own-sourced revenue is used-rather than total revenue-because it does not include grants or contributions.
Capital replacement (ratio)	Cash outflows for property, plant and equipment / Depreciation	Comparison of the rate of spending on infrastructure with its depreciation. Ratios higher than 1:1 indicate that spending is faster than the depreciating rate. This is a long-term indicator, as capital expenditure can be deferred in the short term if there are insufficient funds available from operations, and borrowing is not an option. Cash outflows for infrastructure are taken from the cash flow statement. Depreciation is taken from the comprehensive operating statement.
Renewal gap (ratio)	Renewal and upgrade expenditure/depreciation	Comparison of the rate of spending on existing assets through renewing, restoring, and replacing existing assets with depreciation. Ratios higher than 1.1 indicate that spending on existing assets is faster than the depreciating rate. Similar to the investment gap, this is a long-term indicator, as capital expenditure can be deferred in the short term if there are insufficient funds available from operations, and borrowing is not an option. Renewal and upgrade expenditure are taken from the statement of capital works. Depreciation is taken from the comprehensive operating statement.

(a) Financial sustainability risk indicators

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

Financial Strategy (continued)

(b) Financial sustainability risk assessment criteria

The financial sustainability risk of each local council is assessed using the criteria outlined below:

Risk	Net result	Liquidity	Indebtedness	Internal financing	Capital replacement	Renewal gap
	Less than negative 10%	Less than 0.75	More than 60%	Less than 75%	Less than 1.0	Less than 0.5
High	Insufficient revenue is being generated to fund operations and asset renewal.	Immediate sustainability issues with insufficient current assets to cover liabilities.	Potentially long- term concern over ability to repay debt levels from own-source revenue.	Limited cash generated from operations to fund new assets and asset renewal.	Spending on capital works has not kept pace with consumption of assets.	Spending on existing assets has not kept pace with consumption of these assets.
	Negative 10%–0%	0.75-1.0	40-60%	75–100%	1.0-1.5	0.5–1.0
Medium	A risk of long-term run down to cash reserves and inability to fund asset renewals.	Need for caution with cash flow, as issues could arise with meeting obligations as they fall due.	Some concern over the ability to repay debt from own-source revenue.	May not be generating sufficient cash from operations to fund new assets.	May indicate spending on asset renewal is insufficient.	May indicate insufficient spending on renewal of existing assets.
	More than 0%	More than 1.0	40% or less	More than 100%	More than 1.5	More than 1.0
Low	Generating surpluses consistently.	No immediate issues with repaying short- term liabilities as they fall due.	No concern over the ability to repay debt from own-source revenue.	Generating enough cash from operations to fund new assets.	Low risk of insufficient spending on asset renewal.	Low risk of insufficient spending on asset base.

Source: Victorian Auditor-General's Office.

4 JULY 2017

Financial Strategy (continued)

Monthly Report Relative to Financial Strategy

Financial Sustainability Risk Indicators	Objective	2015-2016 Actuals	2016-2017 Annual Budget as at 30 June 2017	2016-2017 Annual Forecast as at 30 June 2017	2016-2017 Risk based on Annual Forecast as at 30 June 2017	Comment			
(1) Net Result	Generating surpluses consistently of greater than 0%.	7.73%	10.41%	16.28%	Low	Council is generating positive surpluses.			
(2) Liquidity	To measure Council's ability to repay short-term liabilities as they fall due. The inidcator is to be greater than 1.0.	0.99	1.04	1.17	Low	Council's forecast to 30 June 2017 indicates a Liquidity Ratio of around 1.0.			
(3) Indebtedness	Lower than 40% relates to the ability to repay debt from own-source revenue.	19.48%	16.91%	15.76%	Low	Council is operating at a ratio of lower than 40%, therefore has the ability to repay debt from own-source revenue.			
(4) Internal Financing	Generating enough cash from operations to fund new assets. The indicator is to be greater than 100%.	121.00%	116.94%	132.70%	Low	Council is generating enough cash from operations to fund new assets.			
(5) Capital Replacement	To ascertain the level of risk of insufficient spending on asset renewal. The inidcator is to be more than 1.5.	1.72	1.57	1.82	Low	Council operates at a low level of risk with respect to capital replacement.			
(6) Renewal Gap	To ensure there is sufficient spending on Council's asset base. The indicator is to be greater than 1.0.	1.42	1.22	1.22	Low	Council spends sufficient funds on its asset base.			
Council aims to keep average rates and charges significantly below benchmark Councils and provide a pensioner rate rebate over the State Government's universal rebate.	Council aims to keep average rates and charges significantly below benchmark Councils and the pensioner rate rebate above the State Government 's universal rebate.	\$1,532	\$1,594	\$1,600	metropolitan Coun Inner Melbourne C assessment (\$17.0 Council charges \$	erage rates and charges are well below the average of inner tropolitan Councils. In 2015-16 Gien Eira is the second lowest of the 21 er Melbourne Councils (2014-15: also second lowest) and is \$269 per sessment (\$17.02m) below the average outcome. This means that uncil charges \$17.02m p.a. less than inner metropolitan municipalities d has \$17.02m p.a. less for upgrading or providing facilities and services			
Average Rates and ChargesPensioner Rate Rebate		\$270	\$270	\$270					
Operating costs per property should be kept as low as possible in order to generate <u>both</u> operating surpluses <u>and</u> lower Rates.	Council should aim to keep average operating costs below the average benchmark Councils.	\$1,996	\$2,340	\$2,307	ranks as spending	n terms of operational expenditure (excluding depreciation), Glen Eira anks as spending \$48 less per assessment (\$3.04m) than the average f he Inner Melbourne Councils grouping.			

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

Page 11

Assurance Map

The assurance map considers the key risks to Council in achieving its objectives and performance expectations, and the assurance activities which have been conducted over the operation of controls that apply to those risks. The Assurance Map is indicative of the type of activity in place to provide Council Management with comfort that the control environment is operating as intended. A formal review of strategic risks is undertaken annually by Executive. The risks have been identified, assessed and ranked in order of risk exposure to Council. The assurance map will be updated after every formal review and when assurance activities are proposed or undertaken.

			Ту	pe of As	surance			
		Management		External	Parties		Internal Audit	
Council's Strategic Risks	Risk Rating	Management Review / self-assessment	Insurance Coverage	LG Investigations / Compliance Inspectorate	VAGO Performance Audits*	Independent Consultants / External party review	Internal Audit	Previous and proposed IA activity 2016/17-2017/18-2018/19, and/or other independent reviews/checks
1. State Government decisions impacting our community	÷							Food Safety (2011/12) Statutory Planning (2013/14)
Terrorist Attack – Lone Wolf	н		٠				•	Security Protocol Review (2014) Disaster Recovery Planning and Business Continuity Planning (2017/18)
Vulnerability to cyber attack	н	٠	•				٠	Cyber Security Review including mobile devices website management and penetration testing (2016) Development of Information Management Strategy (2017/18)
Contracts – contracting process by Council	н	•	•	•			٠	Tendering (2013/14) Contract Management (2013/14) Financial Compliance transaction analysis (ongoing) Contract Management Review (2017)
Vulnerability to litigious action	н							Risk Management Framework(2015-16) Fraud Management Review (2016-17) Claims Management Review (2017)
Failure to keep pace with emerging technologies and digital environment	н	•				٠	•	IT Sensitive Information (2011/12) IT Security (2012/13, 2014/15) IT General Controls (2015/16) IT Strategy (management) (2013/14) Regular penetration testing on the internal and external network infrastructure and external websites Development of Information Management Strategy (2017/18)
Vulnerability to significant fraud	н	•	•		•		•	Fraud Review (2013/14) Financial Controls (2014/15) Financial Compliance transaction analysis (ongoing) Risk Management Framework(2015-16) Fraud Management Review (2016-17) Procurement and Contracts (2017/18)
Not sufficiently agile to respond to change	н							Change Management Framework Promapp
Failure to effectively plan for the changing demographic of our workforce	м	٠	•					SafetyMAP recertification (2013/14) OH&S Review (2015/16) People and Culture Audit (2018/19)
 Transformation program fails to deliver anticipated benefits for the organisation and community. 	м	•						

Prease note that the External Audit process is designed to enable the AG to express an opinion on the annual innancial report. The external audit is not a comprehensive audit of all systems and processes and is not designed to uncover all deficiencies, breaches and irregularities in those systems & processes.

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

Income Statement

for the period ending 31 May 2017

Tor the period ending 31 way 2017	2016-17 Year to Date Actual	2016-17 Year to Date Budget	2016-17 Year to Date Variance	2016-17 Year to Date Variance	2016-17 Last Month Forecast	2016-17 Current Month Forecast	2016-17 Current Month Forecast Movement	2016-17 Annual Budget	2016-17 Budget Forecast Variance	2016-17 Budget Forecast Variance
	\$ 000's	\$ 000's	\$ 000's	(%)	\$ 000's	\$ 000's	\$ 000's	\$ 000's	\$ 000's	(%)
Income										
Income from Ordinary Activities										
General Rates	85,348	85,051	297				74	85,051	297	
Supplementary Rates	749	800	(51)	(6.4%)	858	799	(59)	800	(1)	(0.1%)
Waste and Recycling Charges	14,770	14,744	26	0.2%	14,847	14,847	(0)	14,821	26	0.2%
Grants (Operating and Capital)	22,769	22,018	751	3.4%	25,067	27,161	2,093	24,443	2,717	11.1%
Interest Received	1,275	825	450	54.5%	1,298	1,350	52	900	450	50.0%
User Fees	24,133	23,476	658	2.8%	26,194	26,203	10	25,500	703	2.8%
Statutory Fees and Fines	8,003	4,953	3,050	61.6%	8,347	8,660	313	5,610	3,050	54.4%
Contributions (Monetary)	6,501	5,095	1,405	27.6%	7,096	6,801	(295)	5,500	1,301	23.6%
Other Income	2,189	1,590	600	37.7%	2,671	2,921	249	2,321	599	25.8%
Total Income from Ordinary Activities	165,737	158,552	7,184	4.53%	171,651	174,089	2,438	164,947	9,141	5.5%
Expenses										
Expenses from Ordinary Activities										
Employee Costs	63,563	65,163	1,600	2.5%	68,854	69,055	(201)	70,660	1,605	2.3%
Materials and Consumables	4,711	5,541	831	15.0%	5,513	5,445	69	6,040	596	9.9%
Contractor Payments	27,010	27,034	24	0.1%	29,649	30,478	(829)	29,729	(749)	(2.5%)
Maintenance	5,571	5,793	222	3.8%	6,036	6,273	(237)	6,323	50	0.8%
Utility Services	3,556	3,822	266	7.0%	4,119	4,182	(63)	4,218	36	0.9%
Insurances	789	975	186	19.1%	935	927	7	1,075	147	13.7%
Other Expenses	4,226	4,007	(219)	(5.5%)	4,640	4,723	(84)	4,438	(285)	(6.4%)
Grants and Subsidies	640	870	230	26.5%	717	691	26	922	230	25.0%
Borrowing Costs	709	703	(6)	(0.8%)	763	768	(4)	762	(6)	(0.8%)
Total Expenses from Ordinary Activities	110,774	113,908	3,134	2.8%	121,226	122,543	(1,317)	124,166	1,624	1.3%
Surplus before non operational activities	54,963	44,644	10,318	23.1%	50,425	51,546	1,121	40,781	10,765	26.4%
Non-operational Actviities										
Proceeds from Sale of Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment	592	450	142	31.5%	582	632	50	481	152	31.6%
Written Down Value of Assets Sold/Disposed	1,902	1,403	(499)	(35.6%)	1,541	2,030	(489)	1,531	(499)	(32.6%)
Depreciation and Amortisation	19,780	20,638	858	4.2%	21,754	21,700	54	22,514	814	
Surplus for the period	33,873	23,054	10,818	46.9%	27,712	28,448	736	17,216	11,232	65.2%
		Key to Variance - Po revenue and increas		e to an increase i			iture. Negative fig	ures relate to a c	lecrease in	

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

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Balance Sheet

for the period ending 31 May 2017

Tor the period ending 51 may 2011	Actuals 2015-16	Annual Budget 2016-17	Annual Forecast 2016-17	Year to Date Actual 2016-17	Previous Month's Actuals
	\$ 000's	\$ 000's	\$ 000's	\$ 000's	\$ 000's
Assets					
Current Assets					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	45,930	45,582	59,432	61,183	57,287
Trade and Other Receivables	10,408	8,984	10,408	21,038	33,335
Other Assets	1,297	1,309	1,297	0	0
Total Current Assets	57,635	55,875	71,137	82,221	90,622
Non-Current Assets					
Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment	2,047,138	1,727,370	2,192,517	2,182,369	2,181,092
Intangible Assets	1,042	750	1,042	749	769
Investments in Joint Operations	2,125	2,595	2,125	2,125	2,125
Other Financial Assets	5	5	5	5	5
Total Non-Current Assets	2,050,310	1,730,720	2,195,689	2,185,248	2,183,992
		4 200 202			
TOTAL ASSETS	2,107,945	1,786,595	2,266,826	2,267,469	2,274,614
Liabilities					
Current Liabilities					
Trade and Other Payables	16,494	11,832	14,994	8,443	6,698
Trust Funds and Deposits	25,501	24,670	25,501	32,666	33,966
Provisions	12,891	13,692	12,891	12,693	12,354
Interest-Bearing Liabilities	3,149	3,349	3,349	3,056	3,328
Total Current Liabilities	58,035	53,543	56,735	56,859	56,347
Non-Current Liabilities					
Provisions	1,186	1,187	1,186	1,388	1,393
Interest-Bearing Liabilities	21,734	18,113	18,113	18,974	18,974
Other Liabilities - Joint Operations	2,568	3,352	2,568	2,568	2,568
Total Non-Current Liabilities	25,488	22,652	21,867	22,930	22,935
Total Liabilities	83,523	76,195	78,602	79,789	79,282
Net Assets	2,024,422	1,710,400	2,188,224	2,187,680	2,195,333
Equity					
Accumulated Surplus	890,150	908,144	924,952	925,291	933,848
Asset Revaluation Reserve	1,130,179	797,983	1,259,179	1,259,563	1,259,343
Public Open Space Reserve	4,093	4,273	4,093	2,826	2,141
Total Equity	2,024,422	1,710,400	2,188,224	2,187,680	2,195,333
		· ·			

Performance Graphs



Financial Performance for the period ending 31 May 2017

■ Actuals ■ Budget

The May 2017 year to date financial performance was \$10.82m better than the year to date budget mainly due to:

- Better than anticipated income received for statutory fees and fines \$3.05m, open space contributions \$1.41m, government grants \$751k, user fees \$658k, other income \$600k, interest received \$450k and general rates and charges \$297k.
- Favourable variances in expenditure items including: employee costs \$1.6m, materials and consumables \$831k, utility services \$266k, grants and subsidies \$230k, maintenance \$222k and insurances \$186k.

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

Capital Works Expenditure







Council's capital expenditure is behind forecast by \$5.45m mainly due to Roads to Recovery \$850k, GESAC Wellness Centre and Defect Rectification works \$828k, Warm Season Grass program \$760k, Road Rehabilitation \$608k, Traffic Engineering \$535k, Renewal of Heating, Ventilation, Air conditioning \$513k, Replacement of Local Area Traffic Management \$329k, Car Park Rehabilitation \$270k, Annual Shopping Centre Streetscapes \$264k, Open Strategy Initiatives \$239k, Building Improvements \$216k and Information Systems \$205k.

Offsetting this is capital expenditure ahead of forecast for Local Road resurfacing \$558k mainly due to timing.



Cash and Investments Balances

for the period ending 31 May 2017



Council's year to date cash balance of \$64.33m is higher than budget for the current month. Council's forecast position to June 2017 of \$59.43m has been adjusted to reflect the movements in Council's Income Statement and Capital Works Program forecast adjustments.

Council has cash assets that are subject to restrictions. Restricted funds as at 31 May 2017 include: residential aged care deposits of \$25.1m, trust funds and deposits \$4.37m (including asset protection permits), open space reserve \$2.83m and fire services property levy \$2.14m.

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

4 JULY 2017

Rates Income and Debtors

for the period ending 31 May 2017

Rate and Charges Income – is an important source of revenue, accounting for approximately 61 per cent of the total revenue received by Council annually. Glen Eira continues to have the second-lowest average rates and charges in metro Melbourne.

Rate Capping - The Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) limits the maximum increase in Councils' average rates. The amount is calculated by dividing total revenue from general rates by the total number of rateable properties in the municipality.

Each year the Minister for Local Government sets the average rate cap increase for Councils.

The cap for 2016-17 was set at forecast CPI last year (at 2.5%) - the first year Victorian Councils operated under a rate cap.

Rate Payments - Rates are paid in four instalments during the year: February, May, September and November. Council's cash flow is impacted by the timing of rate payments. The following table reflects the rate debtors balance as at 31 May 2017.

Rate Debtors	2016-2017 Year
	to date
	\$'000
Arrears Brought Forward	5,104
2016-17 Rates & Garbage Generated	99,459
2016-17 Fire Services Property Levy	12,232
Total Rates & Charges	116,795
Payments/Adjustments:	
Glen Eira Pension Rebate	(414)
State Government Rebate	(1,745)
Fire Services Property Levy Rebate	(400)
Receipts	(101,664)
Interest	345
Supplementary Valuations	1,090
Adjustments	65
Total Payments/Adjustments	(102,722)
Rates & Charges Balance at Month End	14,073

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

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Actual Interest Rate vs Budget Interest Rate





_← Actuals	▲ Budget

Council achieved a lower return of 2.58% against the budget of 3.50%.

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

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Capital Works Program Expenditure

for	noriod	ondina	21	May	2017
IOI .	periou	ending	31	way	2017

Description	2016-17 Carry Forwards from 2015-16	2016-17 Adopted Annual Capital Budget	2016-17 Capital Grant Funding	2016-17 Budget Plus 2015-16 Carry Forward	2016-17 YTD Work In Progress	2016-17 YTD Forecast	2016-17 YTD Variance	2016-17 Annual Forecast Projected end of June 2017 expenditure	2016-17 Forecast Adjustments
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
CAPITAL WORKS: PRIORITY ITEMS									
Information Systems	-	837,500		- 837,500	417,096	622,000	204,904	837,500	
Vehicle Replacements	-	1,706,112		- 1,706,112	1,627,641	1,706,112	78,471	1,706,112	
Footpath Replacement		1,725,000		- 1,725,000	1,624,229	1,581,250	(42,979)) 1,725,000	
Kerb and Channel Replacement	-	160,000		- 160,000	112,976	154,000	41,024	160,000	
Road Rehabilitation	-	3,082,409		- 3,082,409	1,571,198	2,179,409	608,211	3,082,409	
Drainage Improvement	-	3,482,000		- 3,482,000	3,438,297	2,684,000	(754,297)) 3,482,000	
Local Road Resurfacing		1,500,000		- 1,500,000	1,393,798	836,000	(557,798)) 1,500,000	
Right of Way Renewal	-	330,000		- 330,000	468,830	312,000	(156,830)) 330,000	
Traffic Signal Renewal		100,000		- 100,000	-	70,000	70,000	100,000	
Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) Replacement		500,000		- 500,000	86,145	415,000	328,855	500,000	
Car Park Rehabilitation	-	775,000		- 775,000	425,061	695,000	269,939		
Roads to Recovery	-	714,999	665,001		529,574	1,380,000	850,426		
TOTAL PRIORITY ITEMS	-		665,001		11,694,845	12,634,771	939,926		
CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL									
CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL- ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES									
Bicycle Strategy Implementation	101,000	250,000		- 351,000	141,496	110,000	(31,496)) 351,000	
Warm season grass Program	-	600,000	700,000	1,300,000	539,703	1,300,000	760,297	1,300,000	
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL- ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES	101,000	850,000	700,000	1,651,000	681,199	1,410,000	728,801	1,651,000	
CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL-LIBRARIES									
Library and Information Services	-	793,467	62,811	856,278	736,822	822,965	86,143	856,278	
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL-		793,467	62,811	856,278	736,822	822,965	86,143	856,278	
LIBRARIES	-	/93,46/	62,811	856,278	736,822	822,965	86,143	856,278	
CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL-TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT									
Blackspot Treatment	-	18,000		- 18,000	8,966	18,000	9,034	127,000	109,000
Traffic Engineering	412,955	1,075,000		- 1,487,955	751,265	1,286,485	535,220	1,487,955	
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL- TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT	412,955	1,093,000		- 1,505,955	760,231	1,304,485	544,254	1,614,955	109,000
CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL-PUBLIC									
OPEN SPACES AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES									
Playground Minor Equipment/Art Rolling Program		345.000		- 345.000	389.056	350,000	(39,056)) 385,000	40,000
Carnegie Swim Centre Capital Maintenance		50,000		- 50,000	,	50,000	50,000	50,000	
Minor Park Improvements	-	899,050		- 899,050	695,310	689,050	(6,260)		
Sports Ground Lighting	-	80,000		- 80,000	74,867	80,000	5,133		
Public Hall Furniture	-	4,000		- 4,000	4,900	4,000	(900)) 4,000	
Shade Sails Rolling Program	-	105,000		- 105,000	62,685	105,000	42,315	105,000	
Plinth Curbing	-	85,000		- 85,000	77,490	65,000	(12,490)) 85,000	
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL- PUBLIC OPEN SPACES AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES		1,568,050		- 1,568,050	1,304,308	1,343,050	38,742	1,608,050	40,000

Capital Works Program Expenditure

for period ending 31 May 2017 (continue	d)
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Description	2016-17 Carry Forwards from 2015-16	2016-17 Adopted Annual Capital Budget	2016-17 Capital Grant Funding	2016-17 Budget Plus 2015-16 Carry Forward	2016-17 YTD Work In Progress	2016-17 YTD Forecast	2016-17 YTD Variance	2016-17 Annual Forecast Projected end of June 2017 expenditure	2016-17 Forecast Adjustments
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL-BUILDING									
WORKS Building Improvements		550,500		- 550,500	336,432	552,500	216,068	624,500	74,000
Kitchen/ Joinery Renewal	-	30,000		- 30.000	31,887	30.000	(1,887)		
Roof Renewal	-	113,700		- 113,700	86,112	102,330	16,218	113,700	-
Painting Program	-	111,650		- 111,650	56,701	104,850	48,149	111,650	-
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL- BUILDING WORKS	-			- 805,850	511,132	789,680	278,548	879,850	74,000
CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL-SHOPPING CENTRES									
Annual Shopping Streetscape Program	-	567,000		- 567,000	13,733	277,500	263,767	335,000	(232,000)
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: ROLLING ANNUAL- SHOPPING CENTRES	-	567,000		- 567,000	13,733	277,500	263,767	335,000	(232,000)
TOTAL ROLLING ANNUAL	513,955	5,677,367	762,811	6,954,133	4,007,425	5,947,680	1,940,255	6,945,133	(9,000)
CAPITAL WORKS: MAJOR PROJECTS									
Lord Hex Pavilion, Carnegie	-	220,000		- 220,000	-	176,000	176,000	220,000	-
Duncan Mackinnon Pavilion	-	-			13,828	-	(13,828)) 75,000	75,000
Marlborough Pavilion, Bentleigh East	-	25,000		- 25,000		-	-	-	(25,000)
Carnegie Swim Centre	-	280,000		- 280,000	20,530	190,000	169,470	280,000	-
TOTAL MAJOR PROJECTS	-	525,000		- 525,000	34,358	366,000	331,642	575,000	50,000
CAPITAL WORKS: OPEN SPACE STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION									
Open Space Strategy Initiatives	-	900,000		- 900,000	360,998	600,000	239,002	900,000	-
Booran Reserve	-	3,962,495	97,000	4,059,495	4,293,635	4,155,495	(138,140) 4,155,495	96,000
TOTAL OPEN SPACE STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION	-	4,862,495	97,000	4,959,495	4,654,633	4,755,495	100,862	5,055,495	96,000
SHORT TERM PROJECTS							-		-
CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM- ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES									
Building Improvements	-	716,676		- 716,676	463,542	566,676	103,134	716,676	
Park Lighting Energy Efficiency Upgrade	-	218,337		- 218,337	69,575	218,337	148,762	218,337	-
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM- ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES	-	935,013		- 935,013	533,117	785,013	251,896	935,013	-
CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-AGED CARE									
Building Improvements	-	83,000		- 83,000	3,990	83,000	79,010	83.000	-
ILU Refurbishment	-	120,000		- 120,000	68,483	108,000	39,517	120,000	-
Residential Services Minor Improvements	-	220,000		- 220,000	173,298	220,000	46,702	220,000	-
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-AGED CARE	-	423,000		- 423,000	245,771	411,000	165,229	423,000	-
CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES									
Replacement FDC of Equipment	.	10,000		- 10,000	9,658	10,000	342	10,000	-
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES	-	10,000		- 10,000	9,658	10,000	342	10,000	-

Capital Works Program Expenditure

for period ending 31 May 2017 (continued)

Tor period ending 31 May 2017 (Col	2016-17 Carry Forwards from 2015-16	2016-17 Adopted Annual Capital Budget	2016-17 Capital Grant Funding	2016-17 Budget Plus 2015-16 Carry Forward	2016-17 YTD Work In Progress	2016-17 YTD Forecast	2016-17 YTD Variance	2016-17 Annual Forecast Projected end of June 2017 expenditure	2016-17 Forecast Adjustments
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-PUBLIC OPEN									
SPACES AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES									
ILU Refurbishment	-	50,000	-	50,000	17,196	45,000	27,804	50,000	-
Multi-purpose Sports Court redevelopment	99,880	165,000	-	264,880	95,741	183,880	88,139	183,880	(81,000)
Recreation	130,000	875,000	195,000	1,200,000	382,513	372,000	(10,513)	1,261,000	61,000
Parks & Gardens	-	158,000	-	158,000	146,732	233,000	86,268	308,000	150,000
Outdoor Fitness Stations and Instructional Signage	-	70,000	-	70,000	17,938	35,000	17,062	70,000	-
Bin Enclosures	-	37,500	-	37,500	36,341	37,500	1,159	37,500	
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-PUBLIC OPEN SPACES AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES	229,880	1,355,500	195,000	1,780,380	696,461	906,380	209,919	1,910,380	130,000
CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT									
Parking Ticket Machines	-	150,000	-	150,000	-	150,000	150,000	150,000	-
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT	-	150,000	-	150,000	-	150,000	150,000	150,000	-
CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-BUILDING WORKS									
Renewal of Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning	-	972,000	-	972,000	86,631	600,000	513,369	972,000	-
Land Acquisition- 6, Aileen Avenue, Caulfield South	-	-	-	-	2,106,281	2,100,000	(6,281)	2,100,000	2,100,000
Land Acquisition- 53, Magnolia Road, Gardenvale	-	-	-	-	1,394,993	1,400,000	5,007	1,490,000	1,490,000
Building Improvements	-	538,635	219,000	757,635	662,622	788,000	125,378	1,017,635	260,000
Disability Access Upgrade	-	65,000	-	65,000	70,793	65,000	(5,793)	65,000	-
GESAC	1,311,128	250,000	-	1,561,128	530,399	1,358,033	827,634	1,561,128	-
Public Toilet Exeloo	-	180,000	-	180,000	3,561	-	(3,561)	180,000	-
				-	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-BUILDING WORKS	1,311,128	2,005,635	219,000	3,535,763	4,855,280	6,311,033	1,455,753	7,390,763	3,855,000
CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-LIBRARIES									
Smart Sorter Machine	-	250,000		250,000	195,698		(195,698)	250,000	
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM- LIBRARIES	-			250,000	195,698		(195,698)	250,000	
CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-OTHER									
Furniture & Fittings	-	50,000		50,000	41,303	50,000	8,697	50,000	
Refurbishment of outdoor play space		45,000	_	45,000	13,789	5,000	(8,789)	45,000	_
Drainage Asset Management Decision tool		28,000		28,000	10,709	26,000	26,000	28,000	-
Annual Plant and Equipment Replacement		28,000	-	28,000	- 49,441	120,000	26,000 70,559	131,000	-
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS: SHORT TERM-OTHER	-	254,000	-	254.000	104.533	201.000	96,467	254,000	
	4 544 000		-				· · · ·		2 095 000
TOTAL SHORT TERM PROJECTS	1,541,008	5,383,148	414,000	7,338,156	6,640,518	8,774,426	2,133,908	11,323,156	3,985,000
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE	2,054,963	31,361,030	1,938,812	35,354,805	27,031,779	32,478,372	5,446,593	39,476,805	4,122,000

10. URGENT BUSINESS

11. ORDINARY BUSINESS

- 11.1 Requests for reports from Officers
- 11.2 Right of reply
- 11.3 Councillor questions
- **11.4 Public questions to Council**

12. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS IN CAMERA

Recommendation

That the meeting be now closed to members of the public under Sections 89(2)(d) & (h) of the Local Government Act 1989 to consider the following papers that relate to contractual matters or any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

- 12.1 YMCA Leisure Facilities Contract Carnegie And Caulfield Recreation Centre -Local Government Act 1989 - Section 89 (2)(d) & (h)
- **12.2 Contract for Tender number 2018.001 Brewer Road Reconstruction** Local Government Act 1989 Section 89 (2)(d)

Number of tenders received	3
Number of evaluation criteria tenders assessed against	Three (3)
Estimated contract value	\$1,050,000.00

12.3 Contract for Provision of Pool Chemicals and Gases to Aquatic and Leisure Facilities Tender number 2017.008 - Local Government Act 1989 - Section 89 (2)(d)

Number of tenders receivedFNumber of evaluation criteria tenders assessed againstTEstimated contract value\$

Four Three (3) \$560,000 (exclusive of GST)

- 12.4 Internal Audit Community Information Glen Eira Inc. Local Government Act 1989 - Section 89 (2)(d) & (h)
- 12.5 Employment Matter Local Government Act 1989 Section 89 (2)(a)

13. CLOSURE OF MEETING