

# Minutes

## Of the Ordinary Council Meeting

**Location:** Council Chambers, Municipal Offices  
62-68 Ovens Street, Wangaratta

**Date:** 19 September 2017

**Time:** 6.00pm



RURAL CITY OF  
**WANGARATTA**

Brendan McGrath  
Chief Executive Officer



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## RURAL CITY OF WANGARATTA LIVE STREAM

CLAUSE 91(4) OF THE GOVERNANCE AND MEETING CONDUCT LOCAL LAW PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING:

*“THIS PUBLIC MEETING IS BEING RECORDED TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO THE MEETING FOR OUR COMMUNITY. THE RECORDING WILL BE PUBLISHED AND WILL BE RETAINED BY COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL’S LEGAL OBLIGATIONS. AS A VISITOR IN THE PUBLIC GALLERY, YOUR PRESENCE MAY BE RECORDED.”*

### 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

*We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we are meeting. We pay our respects to their Elders and to Elders from other communities who may be here today.*

### 1. OPENING PRAYER

*Almighty God, we humbly ask thee to bless and guide this council in its deliberations so that we may truly preserve the welfare of the people whom we serve. Amen*

### 2. PRESENT

#### Councillors:

Mr Ken Clarke OAM, Mr David Fuller, Mr Dean Rees, Mr Harry Bussell, Mr Harvey Benton, Mr Mark Currie, Mrs Ruth Amery.

#### Officers:

Brendan McGrath - Chief Executive Officer, Fiona Shanks - Acting Director Corporate Services, Ruth Kneebone - Acting Director Infrastructure Services, Jaime Carroll - Director Community Wellbeing, Jacqui Bright - Acting Director Development Services.

### 3. ABSENT

#### Councillors:

Nil.

#### Officers:

Barry Green, Director Development Services  
Alan Clark, Director Infrastructure Services

### 4. ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES & GRANTING OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

### 5. CITIZEN CEREMONY

Nil

6. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**(Moved: Councillor H Benton/Councillor R Amery)**

***That Council read and confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 22 August 2017 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the meeting.***

**Carried**

7. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE**

In accordance with sections 77A, 77B, 78 and 79 of the *Local Government Act 1989* Councillors are required to disclose a 'conflict of interest' in a decision if they would receive, or could reasonably be perceived as receiving, a direct or indirect financial or non-financial benefit or detriment (other than as a voter, resident or ratepayer) from the decision.

**Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.**

*Cr Dave Fuller declared an indirect conflict of interest regarding item 16.1 Tourism Special Events Funding Program as he is a former volunteer for the 'Ales on the Ovens' event which is potentially receiving funding.*

8. **RECEPTION OF PETITIONS**

9. **HEARING OF DEPUTATIONS**

**PRESENTATION OF REPORTS**

10. **COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

*Cr Dave Fuller presented the following report:*

One year ago, in September of 2016, I made a commitment to change, to serve the community and to challenge my strong passion for this town and surrounds. I walked into the VEC pre-poll and nominated as a candidate.

One month later and with the support of a thousand people, both known and unknown I was fortunate enough to achieve my goal and to be able to swear an oath to undertake the duties of the office in the best interest of the people in the municipality.

One year on and I have attended functions, exceeded events and spoken to various groups. Since the Peechelba meeting in August I have attended a Food Lab where the collective interest of producers and sustainability minded community members came together to hear about food networking and mapping. Followed up by chairing the Showgrounds Special Committee's AGM, where I took an opportunity to thank them for their volunteering and to congratulate Denis Backas for his life membership status. Whilst I was working my day job on the night, its proximity to the event enabled me to witness some great community engagement Down by the River. An equally highlighted night was the Small Business Festival key noted by Lydia Lassila. My final August attendance was with colleagues in Melbourne at the beginning of a network building activity that aims to bring councillors from both metro and rural municipalities together.

September has been slightly lower key so far, with attendance at a GoTafe initiative showcasing their quarter million dollar Fab Lab, a meeting of the Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Committee and consultation for the Municipal Health & Wellbeing Plan. Highlights also include the re-opening of the Everton Hall and the first sitting of the newly inducted Youth Council.

It is this group within our community in mind, that I take this opportunity tonight to speak to one topic, one minority, one group I feel might be unsure of support available. I stand committed to the cause for equality and I commend the number of local people who have supported this both online and more recently with the increase in publicity in public spaces such as shop fronts. As my personal view supports the cause, I equally recognise the many sides of the debate, and sternly encourage a polite discourse when discussing the subject. Through this plebiscite I personally feel that a divide has been widened, and it is my concern that a younger generation of adults finding themselves in the world, but ineligible to vote will miss the opportunity to voice their thoughts.

I encourage them to use their voice to ask for help if required, to seek guidance and to hold tight throughout this process and hopefully the end result will be a more tolerant understanding. I personally would prefer millions of dollars were not spent and I hope that there is an equitable, fair and just outcome. Marriage equality is much more than a piece of paper for most of the community that is directly affected by the outcome. I implore all those yet to vote, to consider a member of your life, your circle that might benefit from a positive outcome in this vote. Thank you for listening and to those who have shown me support.

## **OFFICERS' REPORTS**

### **11. EXECUTIVE SERVICES**

Nil.

## 12. CORPORATE SERVICES

### 13.1 RELATED PARTIES AND INTERESTS POLICY 2017

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 19 September 2017  
**Author:** Governance and Risk Advisor  
**File Name:** GOVERNANCE - Registers - Register of Interests  
**File No:** F16/2114

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

#### Executive Summary

This report is presented to Council to finalise the process of adopting a Major Council Policy, the Related Parties and Interests Policy 2017 (*refer attachment*).

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**(Moved: Councillor D Fuller/Councillor D Rees)**

***That Council:***

- 1. Adopts the Related Parties and Interests Policy 2017; and***
- 2. Revokes the Register of Interests Returns Policy 2014.***

**Carried**

#### Background

Council adopted a Register of Interests Returns Policy in 2014. This policy established the requirements for the lodgement of Primary and Ordinary Returns as required by section 81 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act).

The Act and the Policy ensure public transparency and also serve to remind those persons who are required to lodge returns about their obligations to avoid conflicts of interest.

The Australian Accounting Standards Board 124 Related Party Disclosures (AASB 124) requires local governments to make specific disclosures in relation to transactions and balances (including commitments) with related parties. Its commencement has led to its policy settings being appropriately merged with the Register of Interests Returns Policy to create a new Related Parties and Interests Policy given both relate to an ongoing interests disclosure regime.



## **Implications**

### **Policy Considerations**

The policy is a Major Council Policy and has been subject to the consultation process set out in the Major Council Policy Consultation Local Law No. 4 of 2015 (the Local Law).

### **Legal/Statutory**

Section 81 of the Act requires lodgement of returns by specified classes of persons and also allows for exemption of classes of persons by Council resolution.

Under the Act the primary objective of Council is to endeavour to achieve the best outcomes for the local community having regard to the long term and cumulative effects of decisions. In seeking to achieve its primary objective, Council must have regard to ensuring transparency and accountability in Council decision making.

For periods commencing on 1 July 2016 the requirements of AASB 124 will apply to financial statements prepared by local governments within Victoria.

### **Social**

In accordance with the Local Law, the policy was required to be reviewed to assess any impacts on National Competition Policy and the principles under the Human Rights Charter.

The policy is considered to be compatible with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

The introduction of the policy imposes no restrictions on competition and therefore complies with National Competition Principles.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental/ sustainability impacts identified for this subject of this report.

### **2017 – 2021 Council Plan**

This report supports the 2017-2021 Council Plan:

#### **Goal**

We are Sustainable

#### **The Non-negotiables:**

All legislative and compliance requirements are met.

**Risk Management**

The policy aims to achieve high standards of transparency and accountability.

**Consultation/Communication**

Submissions were invited from the community in regards to the policy in accordance with clause 7 of the Local Law.

A notice to this effect was advertised in the Chronicle newspaper and also on Council's website indicating that submissions would be received for 28 days.

No submissions have been received.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

**Conclusion**

The policy will ensure that the necessary transparency and accountability arrangements are in place for key Council personnel and should be adopted by Council.

**Attachments**

- 1 Related Parties and Interests Policy

## 13.2 CAPITAL PROJECTS 2016/17 CARRY OVERS

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 19 September 2017  
**Author:** Manager Finance  
**File Name:** Council Budget 2017/18  
**File No:** F17/5

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### **Executive Summary**

This report is presented to Council to endorse the end-of-year financial position in relation to the Capital Works Program and the carry forward of budget allocations or over expenditure of the relevant 2016/17 capital budget to the 2017/18 financial year.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**(Moved: Councillor M Currie/Councillor H Benton)**

#### ***That Council:***

- 1. carries forward \$869,379 from the 2016/17 capital works budget allocations to the 2017/18 financial year***
- 2. reduces capital expenditure in the 2017/18 budget by \$220,109 for capital projects commenced in the 2016/17 financial year***
- 3. reduces capital income in the 2017/18 budget for contributions and grant income received in 2016/17 of \$174,005***
- 4. carries forward \$401,739 in net non-recurrent operating expenditure to the 2017/18 financial year.***

**Carried**

### **Background**

Capital works budgets are allocated annually, however unforeseen events can impact on the ability of some of these projects to be completed within the expected timeframe. As such, it is not uncommon for there to be an amount of allocated funds to be carried over to the next financial year to enable completion of key capital projects.

### **Implications**

#### **Policy Considerations**

There are no specific Council policies or strategies that relate to this report.

## Financial/Economic Implications

### Capital expenditure

Set out below are the proposed carry over amounts in excess of \$25,000:

<b>Project</b>	<b>17/18 Carry Over</b>
00178 Plant replacement program	328,098
01690 Reseal - Parking Bays/Carparks	80,262
01686 CBD Masterplan Ovens St & King George	61,472
01573 2014 Aquatics Plan - WISAC Development	48,395
00353 R2R reseals	47,836
01460 Cemetery Development	44,150
01682 Wangaratta Skate Park Infrastructure Upgrade	32,475
01616 Renewal - Thompson and Harrison Street	29,830
01637 Cruse Street	26,421

A detailed list of carry over items, totalling \$869,379, are set out in the attachment to this report. (**Refer attachment 1**)

A number of projects budgeted for 2017/18 have been completed in 2016/17 or commenced earlier than expected and are funded from the 2017/18 approved budget. These projects total \$220,109 and are listed in the table below.

<b>Project</b>	<b>17/18 budget reduction</b>
01678 Tennis Cluster Project Lighting	(160,976)
01685 Wareena Park Lighting and Pavilion Development	(58,133)
01754 Appin Park Lighting	(1,000)
	<b>(220,109)</b>

### Capital Income

Council receives contributions from community groups and users towards the capital works program. Council also receives grant monies from the State or Federal Government and the timing of these contributions and grants can be uncertain. Inevitably there can be a mismatch between the 2016/17 Forecast and 2017/18 Budget as to the timing of the contributions and grant income.

Income from contributions in the 2017/18 Budget should be increased by \$33,440 as income was not received before 30 June 2017 for four projects: Everton Hall and precinct development (\$3,000), Dust suppression road treatments (\$20,440); Informal recreation project (\$5,000) and South Wangaratta pitch re-alignment (\$5,000).

Income from grants in the 2017/18 Budget should be reduced by \$328,400 as grants were received before 30 June 2017 for five projects: Municipal synthetic cricket pitches (\$54,000); Moyhu Recreation Reserve female friendly facilities

(\$81,000); Appin Park lighting (\$86,400), Co-located community space at Wangaratta Library (\$47,000) and Shared pathway along Tone Road (\$60,000).

Income from grants in the 2017/18 Budget should be increased by \$120,955 as income was not received before 30 June 2017 for three projects: Wangaratta Skate Park infrastructure upgrade (\$6,875); Tennis Cluster project lighting (\$9,500) and Renewal Bridges (\$104,580).

Overall, the net impact on Council's 2017/18 Budget for contributions and capital grant income will be a reduction of \$174,005 for income received earlier and later than expected.

All of these projects were approved previously by Council and are expected to be completed during the 2017/18 financial year.

#### Operating Expenditure – Non-recurrent

Some operational projects will be carried forward to the 2017/18 financial year. Typically these are linked to a specific grant funded program or occur due to slight delays in the completion of work before 30 June 2017. Further, there are two instances where Council was successful in applying for a Government Grant that was not reflected in the 2017/18 Budget and the grant was received before 30 June 2017 but the funds are to be expended in 2017/18. The projects that have carried forward operating expenditure are as follows:

<b>Project</b>	<b>17/18 Budget change</b>
Proceeds on sale of industrial land	(110,000)
Workforce planning & Gender Diversity Programs	80,000
Municipal Fire & Emergency Management Program	55,744
Disaster restoration - 2016 floods	54,502
Industrial Land Strategy	44,297
Country Wide Energy State Government grant	(40,000)
Domestic waste water Project	38,190
North Wangaratta lead contamination project	37,916
WISAC upgrade feasibility study	29,241
Country Wide Energy expenditure	25,000
Home & Community Care grant	25,000
Rural Access	22,560
Community Wellbeing Plan	20,000
FreeZa project	18,538
Showgrounds drainage inspection	16,000
Asset Planning project	16,000
Merriwa Park Asbestos remediation project	15,000
RAD project	7,892
Playspace Strategy	7,493
Bright Futures	5,862
Information Management archiving	5,553

Fire access tracks	5,000
Youth Summit	5,000
Community Grants Program	5,000
Resilient Community Program	4,955
Natural resource management projects	3,482
Valuation of Land & Buildings	2,400
Local Partnerships	1,114
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>401,739</b>

### **Legal/Statutory**

There are no legal/statutory implications identified for the subject of this report.

### **Social**

There are no social impacts identified for the subject of this report.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental/ sustainability impacts identified for this subject of this report.

### **2017 - 2021 Council Plan**

This report supports the 2017-2021 Council Plan:

#### **Goal**

We are Growing

We will achieve a 90% annual completion rate for our capital project delivery.

We are Sustainable

Our team will make the most efficient use of Council's resources.

#### **Strategic Links**

##### **a) Rural City of Wangaratta 2030 Community Vision**

N/A

##### **b) Other strategic links**

N/A

#### **Consultation/Communication**

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

**Conclusion**

Whilst every effort is made to predict the timelines of project expenditure, there are many factors that can delay or advance actual expenditure. Therefore under and over expenditures need to be carried forward to allow for budget matching with expenditure.

**Attachments**

- 1 Capital Works Carried Forward

### 13.3 ANNUAL REPORT

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 19 September 2017  
**Author:** Manager Finance  
**File Name:** FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT - Audit - Planning and conduct  
**File No:** F16/2171

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

#### **Executive Summary**

A Council must, in respect of each financial year, prepare an Annual Report containing an audited Performance Statement, audited Financial Statements and a report of operations including Council's assessment against the prescribed Governance and Management Checklist.

This report is presented to Council for approval 'in principle' of the 2016/17 Performance Statement and Financial Statements and adoption of the Governance and Management Checklist.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**(Moved: Councillor D Fuller/Councillor H Bussell)**

#### ***That Council:***

- 1. Approves 'in principle' the Performance Statement and Financial Statements for the Wangaratta Rural City Council for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2017 as endorsed by the Audit Advisory Committee on 5 September 2017***
- 2. Authorises the Mayor, Cr Ken Clarke OAM, and Cr Mark Currie, to certify the Performance Statement and Financial Statements for the Wangaratta Rural City Council for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2017 in their final form after any changes recommended or agreed to by the Auditor General have been made***
- 3. Adopts the Governance and Management Checklist for the Wangaratta Rural City Council for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2017***
- 4. Authorises the Mayor, Cr Ken Clarke OAM, to certify the Governance and Management Checklist for the Wangaratta Rural City Council for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2017.***

**Carried**



## **Background**

A Council must, in respect of each financial year, prepare an Annual Report containing an audited Performance Statement, audited Financial Statements and a report of operations containing Council's assessment against the prescribed Governance and Management Checklist.

Section 131 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) requires that the Performance Statement in the Annual Report contains the indicators required by the regulations to be reported against, their prescribed measures and the results achieved for that financial year in the following categories:

1. Service performance
2. Financial performance
3. Sustainable capacity.

For the purposes of section 131(5) of the Act, the Financial Statements contained in an Annual Report must contain a Statement of Capital Works for the financial year to which the Financial Statements relate, be prepared in accordance with the Local Government Model Financial Report, be submitted in its finalised form to the auditor for auditing as soon as possible after the end of the financial year and be certified in the manner prescribed.

The Draft Performance Statement and Draft Financial Statements of the Wangaratta Rural City Council for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and as required by the Act (***refer attachments***).

The Draft Governance and Management Checklist of the Wangaratta Rural City Council has been prepared in accordance with the Act (***refer attachment***).

## **Implications**

### **Policy Considerations**

There are no specific Council policies or strategies that relate to this report.

### **Financial/Economic Implications**

The Financial Statements include a comparison between the 2016/17 financial year and the 2015/16 financial year.

The Financial Statements comprise the:

1. Comprehensive Income Statement
2. Balance Sheet
3. Statement of Changes in Equity
4. Statement of Cash Flows
5. Statement of Capital Works
6. Notes to the Financial Statements

## ***Comprehensive Income Statement***

The Comprehensive Income Statement shows Council’s revenue and expenses for the year plus other comprehensive income.

The statement does not include the cost of asset purchases, loan repayments or reserve funds. It does however include the depreciation of asset values as an expense. Below is a summary of the Comprehensive Income Statement.

	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>Increase /</b>
	<b>\$’000s</b>	<b>\$’000s</b>	<b>(decrease)</b>
			<b>\$’000s</b>
Total income	65,082	55,171	9,911
Total expenses	58,700	55,077	3,623
Surplus (deficit) for the year	6,382	94	6,288
Other comprehensive income	77,351	4,439	72,912
Comprehensive result	83,733	4,533	79,200

Explanations of some of the key changes between 2016/17 and 2015/16 in the components of the Comprehensive Income Statement are as follows:

1. Total income increased by \$9.9 million. Some of the key movements between income categories were:
  - a. Rates and charges increased by \$1.06 million. The increase was due to a 2.5% increase in rates and 6% increase in waste charges, together with a slight increase in the number of properties of 0.6%.
  - b. Operating grants increased by \$7.4 million. The year-on-year variance is due to the timing of financial assistance grant payments. The Victorian Grants Commission (VGC) paid half of the 2017/18 allocation in advance in June 2017 (2016/17 year). The bringing forward of the VGC payment accounts for \$3.373 million of the increase. Further, in 2015/16 only half the annual allocation was paid (the other half was paid in advance in 2014/15). The fluctuations in payment timing has resulted in a year on year increase in the VGC grants of \$6.6 million.
  - c. Contributions of non-monetary assets increased by almost \$1 million. Non-monetary asset income generally relates to the transfer of infrastructure by developers to Council following completion of subdivisions. These assets become the property of Council and hence increase Council’s asset levels. The value of the assets is recorded as income when the transfer of ownership takes place. The total value of assets transferred varies considerably from year to year depending on the level of development in the municipality and subsequent transfer of infrastructure to Council. Further, during 2016/17 Council received valuable donations of artwork of \$215,000.
  - d. Found assets of \$715,000 were identified during the 2016/17 year for bridge and path assets and are now recorded on Council’s asset registers and will be depreciated.

- e. Other income increased by \$0.256 million. The year on year variance is largely due to Council recognising \$0.8 million of reimbursement income from the 2016 floods, however partially offset by the non-recurring recognition of income in 2015/16 due to a change in discount rates for the landfill provision.
2. Total expenses increased by \$3.6 million. Some of the key movements between expense categories were:
    - a. The impairment of waste management assets, together with depreciation and amortisation increased by \$2.3 million. The increase is largely due to the write down in the value of the waste management assets. Council cannot recognise the value of closed landfill sites and therefore these have been fully depreciated in the 2016/17 year. Depreciation and impairment of waste management assets (principally landfill cells) is \$4.783 million in 2016/17, compared to \$1.723 million in 2015/16. Depreciation and amortisation expense for 2017/18 is forecast to be between \$13 million - \$14.5 million.
    - b. Borrowing costs increased by \$489,000. Council is required to recognise a provision for future rehabilitation costs associated with closed landfill sites across the municipality. The provision for landfill rehabilitation is recognised as the present value of the estimated expenditures over the next 30 years. Changes in the Long Term Government Bond rate result in changes to the landfill provision and Council is required to disclose these changes as a borrowing cost.
    - c. Other expenses increased by \$1.5 million. Council has re-assessed the estimated future expenditures for the rehabilitation of closed landfill sites, including aftercare costs, and this has resulted in an increase in the landfill provision and an increase in other expenses of \$1.506 million.
  3. Other comprehensive income is \$72.9 million higher than last year. Other comprehensive income is primarily movements in the asset revaluation reserve as a result of asset revaluations. The assets are grouped into categories and in accordance with accounting standards, the asset categories are revalued on a cyclical basis over a number of years. As most infrastructure revaluations are based on current replacement cost they generally result in an increase in asset values. The 2016/17 revaluation income was associated with asset revaluations undertaken for land, buildings and infrastructure assets. In 2015/16 revaluations were conducted during the year largely for artwork and waste management. Further details are contained in the report 2016/17 Valuations.

### **Balance Sheet**

The Balance Sheet shows what Council owns as assets and what it owes as liabilities. The bottom line of this statement is Total Equity which is an accumulation over time of the net worth of Council.

2016/17 \$'000s	2015/16 \$'000s	Increase / (decrease) \$'000s
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Current assets	28,393	19,157	9,236
Non-current assets	489,566	414,702	74,864
Current liabilities	11,193	12,518	(1,324)
Non-current liabilities	22,879	21,187	1,692
Equity	483,888	400,155	83,733

4. Current assets increased by \$9.2 million. The increase in current assets is mainly due to a higher level of financial assets (investments) due to grants received in advance late in the year, together with the deferral a large part of the 2016/17 capital works program into 2017/18. The funding for these projects is included in the investment balance.
5. Non-current assets increased by \$74.864 million. Non-Current assets are assets which are not expected to be converted into cash in the next 12 months. The increase is mainly due to asset revaluations, 2016/17 capital works expenditure and assets contributed by developers following subdivisions. These increases are partly offset by the higher depreciation expense.
6. Current liabilities reduced by \$1.3 million. The decrease is mainly due to lower employee provisions at the end of the year. At 30 June 2016 Council had a redundancy provision of \$558,000 as a result of the organisation restructure. This provision does not exist at 30 June 2017. Further, Council predicts a reduction in future wage growth which is in accordance with the recently renegotiated Enterprise Agreement with employees.
7. Non-current liabilities increased by \$1.692 million. Non-Current Liabilities relate to borrowings and provisions that are not payable within the next year. Council repaid borrowings of \$1.5 million during 2016/17, however the landfill provision has increased by \$2.567 million.
8. Total equity is the term used to describe the value of the Council to its ratepayers and is divided between:
  - a. Accumulated surplus – the value of all net assets over time;
  - b. Asset revaluation reserve;
  - c. Reserves – funds reserved for specific future expenditure.

Council's accumulated surplus increased by \$15.918 million from 2015/16 which is due to (i) the operating surplus of \$6.374 million (comprehensive result) for 2016/17; (ii) a reduction in the value of land under road assets of \$20.485 million; and transfers to reserves for future expenditure requirements of \$1.8 million. The land under road assets were first recognised in Council's accounts in 2014/15 and an adjustment is required to reduce the value of these assets due to the identification of a clerical error in the calculations in 2014/15.

### **Statement of cash flows**

The Statement of Cash Flows is a record of cash received and cash paid by Council for the financial year. It excludes non-cash expenses such as depreciation that are included in the Comprehensive Income Statement and includes items such as capital expenditure and proceeds from loans or

repayment of loans that are not included in the Comprehensive Income Statement.

Overall the Statement of Cash Flows shows that cash on hand was \$7.56 million at the end of the year. The level of cash is higher than 2015/16. This was mainly due to more financial assets (investments) being included under “cash” in 2016/17 as their terms were less than 3 months at the end of the year. The level of cash should be considered in conjunction with the financial assets category as investments swing between these two asset categories when they come closer to maturity.

Overall Council’s cash flow is very strong in 2016/17 and this is evident by an overall increase in cash and investments of \$9.8 million, remembering that \$3.373 million of this balance relates to the 2017/18 VGC allocation.

### ***Budget comparison***

A budget comparison with actual performance is provided at Note 2. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* require explanation of any material variances. Council has adopted a materiality threshold of ten percent and positive or negative \$200,000. Refer to Note 2 in the attached Financial Statements.

### **Legal/Statutory**

Council, after passing a resolution giving its approval ‘in principle’ to the Performance Statement and Financial Statements, must submit them to the auditor for reporting on the audit. The auditor must prepare a report on the Performance Statement and Financial Statements in accordance with section 9A of the *Audit Act 1994* but cannot sign such a report unless the Performance Statement and the Financial Statements have been certified. Section 132 of the Act and regulations 18 and 21 of the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*, require Council to authorise two Councillors to certify the documents. The Chief Executive Officer of Council and Council’s Principal Accounting Officer are also required to certify the documents.

After Council has received the report of the Auditor, it must give public notice that it has received the Auditor’s Report and that the report can be inspected at the Council office at any time that the Council office is open to the public.

The Annual Report must contain a report of operations including Council’s assessment against the prescribed Governance and Management Checklist.

The Annual Report must be submitted to the Minister within three months of the end of the financial year being reported on, or such longer period as the Minister may permit in a particular case. After the Annual Report has been submitted to the Minister, Council must give public notice that the Annual Report has been prepared and can be inspected at the Council office.

Council must hold a meeting to discuss its Annual Report once each year. The meeting must be held within one month after submitting the Annual Report to the

Minister. The meeting must be advertised at least 14 days before it is held, stating the purpose of the meeting and the place from which copies of the Annual Report can be obtained before the meeting. The meeting must be kept open to the public while the Annual Report is discussed.

### **Social**

There are no social impacts identified for the subject of this report.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental/ sustainability impacts identified for this subject of this report.

### **2017 – 2021 Council Plan**

This report supports the 2017-2021 Council Plan.

### **Goal**

We are Sustainable.

We are connected.

### **The non-negotiables**

All legislative and compliance requirements are met.

We consult and engage effectively with the community and provide information that is clear, accessible and easy to understand about local decision making.

### **Risk Management**

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Financial Reports not prepared in accordance with Statutory requirements	Low	Medium	Medium	Consultation with external auditors and active involvement with FinPro for latest updates / changes

### **Consultation/Communication**

Extensive consultation has been undertaken with RSD Audit, Agent of the Auditor-General, during the preparation of the Performance Statement and Financial Statements. Additionally, the Statements have been endorsed by the Audit Advisory Committee on 5 September 2017.

The 2017 Annual Report timetable is shown the following table.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Activity</b>
14 - 16 August	RSD Audit	External audit field work.
5 September	Audit Advisory Committee	Endorse the Performance Statement and the Financial Statements in consultation with the external auditor.
19 September	Council	Approve, 'in principle', the Performance Statement and the Financial Statements pending sanction by the Victorian Auditor General; and Authorise two Councillors to sign certification of the Performance Statement and the Financial Statements.
22 September	Authorised signatories	Sign certification of the Performance Statement and the Financial Statements.
22 September	RSD Audit	Issue the Final Management Letter
29 September	Responsible officer	Submit the 2017 Annual Report to the Minister.
29 September	Responsible officer	Public notice of meeting to consider Annual Report; and Make Annual Report available.
17 October	Council	Meeting to consider Annual Report

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

### **Options for Consideration**

There are no options for consideration given that production of an Annual Report containing a Performance Statement and Financial Statements is required by the Act and the process is prescribed.

### **Conclusion**

The production of the Performance Statement, the Financial Statements and the Governance and Management Checklist is a critical component in the management of Council's operations to ensure accountability and public disclosure in the delivery of services and programs to residents of the municipality.

### **Attachments**

- 1 Financial Statements 2017
- 2 Performance Statement 2017

- 3 Governance & Management Checklist 2017
- 4 Report of Operations 2017



**13. COMMUNITY WELLBEING****14.1 SECTION 86 COMMITTEES OF MANAGEMENT**

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 19 September 2017  
**Author:** Community and Recreation Officer  
**File Name:** COUNCIL COMMITTEES  
**File No:** F16/1547

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

**Executive Summary**

This report is presented to Council to seek endorsement for nominations of community members new to Special Committees of Management (COM).

The Special Committees of Council are responsible for the management, promotion and maintenance of facilities under their control.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**(Moved: Councillor D Fuller/Councillor R Amery)**

**That Council *appoints the following representatives to the Section 86 Special Committees of Management:-***

<b>North Wangaratta Sports Reserve Special Committee</b>	
Dennis Powell	Football/Netball representative
<b>Carboor Memorial Hall &amp; Recreation Reserve Special Committee</b>	
Peter Manfield	Community representative
<b>Edi Upper Hall &amp; Recreation Reserve Special Committee</b>	
Monica Evans	Community representative
Mark White	Community representative
<b>Whitfield Recreation Reserve Special Committee</b>	
Pamela Deeker	Community representative
Suzanne Sims	Community representative

***Carried***

## **Background**

Council has 16 COMs established under Section 86 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) for the purpose of managing and controlling activities at Council owned/managed facilities. Section 86 of the Act provides that Council may delegate certain functions, duties or powers to a COM.

Committee of management nominees serve limited terms based on the requirements of their charter. All committee charters establish a minimum required number of positions but allow for larger membership if there is an interests from community members to serve. These nominations represent either new nominees resulting from resignations or additional interest from local community members.

## **Implications**

### **Policy Considerations**

Council's policy 'Appointment to Council Committees' applies to this matter. This policy has recently been reviewed and is currently out for public consultation.

### **Financial/Economic Implications**

There are no financial or economic implications identified for the subject of this report.

### **Legal/Statutory**

Council must make formal appointments to Section 86 Special Committees as required by the Act. The appointment of members to Special Committees by formal resolution of Council ensures that the powers, functions and duties delegated to these COMs are able to be exercised legally.

### **Social**

Closer links between Council and COMs create greater awareness of the needs of the community and of the facilities being managed on Council's behalf. The responsibilities delegated to the COMs promote the exchange of information between the committee and Council. Promotion of the facility by the COM facilitates increased community use.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

COMs are responsible for the management of any environmental issues relating to the land upon which their facilities are situated.

## **2017 – 2021 Council Plan**

This report supports the 2017-2021 Council Plan:

**We are Thriving:**

We can move around and be active, get medical attention and join in social, cultural and recreational activities with our friends and family.

**We are growing:**

Our economy and community are growing because we offer exciting opportunities and potential.

We have quality offerings for existing and new businesses and as a region we continue to attract visitors, investors and new residents.

**We are Established:**

Our community has developed to make sure that we can connect and interact with each other – by our road network and pathways, in accessible community spaces that provide activity and purpose, through effective telecommunications networks and within community facilities that are well maintained and activated.

**We are Sustainable:**

To ensure the long term viability and capacity to deliver quality services and infrastructure, we continue to meet the changing and complex challenges that face us. We focus on how we can do things better, reduce our environmental and economic impact, and create lasting benefits for our community and future generations.

**We will research and advocate:**

To ensure the health and social needs of our community are understood and considered.

On behalf of our groups and committees to ensure that they have the resources and knowledge to do the things they need to do.

**We will create and deliver:**

Timely and appropriate infrastructure to support our growth areas.

**The non-negotiables**

Our urban and rural townships are safe and equitable. Everyone can participate and contribute.

Our community can access recreation facilities and programs. We can all lead an active and healthy lifestyle.

Our team will make the best and most efficient use of Council resources.

Our rural communities are supported and recognised as significant contributors to the economic and social character of the municipality.

### **Risk Management**

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Governance risk associated with the delegation of Council powers to a committee	Possible	Moderate	Medium	The appointment of members by a formal resolution of the Council reduces governance risks by ensuring that all members appointed to a committee are covered by Council's public liability insurance

### **Consultation/Communication**

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Tools/Techniques
Inform	Keep informed	Emails/Media advertisements
Consult	Listen and acknowledge	Council will consult with the committees prior to making decisions.
Involve	Work with the respective committees to obtain feedback	Committees provide an important source of feedback for Council In the management these facilities.
Collaborate	Feedback will be incorporated into decisions as far as possible	Council collaborates with its committees prior to making decisions.
Empower	Implementation in conjunction with the relevant committees	Committees have delegated powers to make decisions in relation to the day-to-day management of the facilities.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

### **Conclusion**

The appointment of the nominations detailed herein to the relevant COMs will delegate the management, function and duties of the activities and facilities under the COMs and will uphold Council's requirements under the Act.

### **Attachments**

Nil

## 14. INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

### 15.1 RENAMING OF ROADWAY AT THE RIVER END OF OVENS STREET TO SYDNEY BEACHES

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 19 September 2017  
**Author:** Executive Assistant - Infrastructure Services  
**File Name:** Naming Proposal - Mundgee Place  
**File No:** S17/2556

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

#### Executive Summary

This report is presented to Council to consider the proposal to rename the roadway at the river end of Ovens Street to Sydney Beaches and advertise its intention and seeking community feedback.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**(Moved: Councillor M Currie/Councillor H Benton)**

***That Council advertises its intention to name the roadway at the end of Ovens Street to Sydney Beaches as “Mundgee Place”.***

**Carried**

#### Background

The Place Naming Committee made recommendation for the naming of the roadway above and the 2 suspension bridges over the Ovens River with names suggested by the Bullawah Cultural Trail Committee in a report presented to the Council meeting held on 19 April 2016. The proposed name for the roadway was Bullawah Place and the bridge names being Torryong and Dirrawarra. The proposals were advertised and Council adopted the names on 19 July 2016. The names were approved by the Office of Geographic Names and gazetted on 27 October 2016.

However, the Bullawah Cultural Trail had not been formally named and gazetted prior to the launch of the project. As the Trail had been constructed and officially opened ahead of the roadway naming this meant there was a duplicate of names (Bullawah). Duplication is not allowed in the *Naming rules for places in Victoria, Statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities – 2016* and Council's *Naming Roads, Streets and Other Accessways Policy*. The Geographic Names Registrar requested that the roadway be renamed and a

formal process is now underway to have the Bullawah Cultural Trail gazetted retrospectively.

As the roadway is close to the Bullawah Cultural Trail, further research has been undertaken by the Place Naming Committee for an alternative indigenous name. The new roadway name is proposed to be “Mundgee Place”. Mundgee meaning Murray Cod which is found in the Ovens River and is deemed by the Committee as appropriate. Refer attached location map.

### **Implications**

#### **Policy Considerations**

Council’s Naming Roads, Streets and Other Accessway Policy.

#### **Financial/Economic Implications**

The sign at the Ovens Street/ Faithfull Street roundabout will be replaced to indicate the new name at a minimal cost.

#### **Legal/Statutory**

Naming rules for places in Victoria (the naming rules) must be adhered to.

#### **Social**

Including indigenous names in road and place naming in Victoria is encouraged under the naming rules. Naming roads and places is required to allow the community to give accurate advice of their location in times of emergency.

#### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental/ sustainability impacts identified for this subject of this report.

### **2013 – 2017 Council Plan (2016 Revision)**

This report supports the 2013-2017 Council Plan:

#### **Goal**

We are established

#### **We will plan, research and advocate for the future:**

To address traffic, parking and pedestrian challenges to create communities that are safe, easy to navigate and accessible.

**Strategic Links****a) Rural City of Wangaratta 2030 Community Vision**

N/A

**b) Other strategic links**

N/A

**Consultation/Communication**

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Tools/Techniques
Consult	Seek public feedback into the naming proposal.	Wangaratta Chronicle Council's website

**Conclusion**

Further research by the Place Naming Committee for an alternative indigenous name has been undertaken and it is considered that "Mundgee Place" is an appropriate name for the roadway.

**Attachments**

- 1 Proposed Mundgee Place location map

**Questions**

***Elaine Jacobson: What does the word 'Mundgee' mean and is it relevant to our Pangerang community?***

**Ruth Kneebone, Acting Director Infrastructure Services:** Mudgee means Murray Cod, and added that the local indigenous people have been consulted.

## 15.2 MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW 2017

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 19 September 2017  
**Author:** Emergency Management Project Officer  
**File Name:** Municipal Emergency Management Plan Audits  
**File No:** F17/473

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### **Executive Summary**

This report is presented to Council to accompany the draft revised Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2017 (MEMP). The draft MEMP is proposed to be exhibited for public comment prior to the document being finalised for adoption by Council.

Councils are required to have and maintain a MEMP under the *Emergency Management Act 1986*. The MEMP is a multi-agency plan for the municipal district that incorporates State, regional and local information to assist all agencies and the community **before, during** and **after** emergency incidents, disasters and disruptions.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**(Moved: Councillor R Amery/Councillor D Rees)**

#### ***That Council:***

- 1. endorses the Draft Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2017 for public exhibition and places a notice to this effect in the local newspaper;***
- 2. invites public submissions regarding the Draft Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2017, up to close of business on Friday 20 October 2017;***
- 3. reviews and considers adopting the Draft Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2017 at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 21 November 2017.***
- 4. If no submissions are received under the Local Law, resolves to adopt the Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2017 without further resolution of Council.***

**Carried**



## **Background**

The Municipal Emergency Management Plan was last subject to review and adoption by Council in 2014. The current plan expires at the end of November 2017 and the revised plan is required adopted by Council before this date.

The revised MEMP incorporates a range of changes for emergency management at the State, Regional and Municipal level that have occurred since 2014. The changes include reference to Emergency Management Victoria, recent changes to the Emergency Management Manual of Victoria (including revised State Emergency Response and State Emergency Relief and Recovery Plans) and changes to regional and municipal emergency management arrangements.

## **Implications**

### **Policy Considerations**

There are no specific Council policies or strategies that relate to this report.

### **Legal/Statutory**

The maintenance and audit of a Municipal Emergency Management Plan is a requirement of the *Emergency Management Act 1986*.

### **Social**

There are no social impacts identified for the subject of this report.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental/sustainability impacts identified for this subject of this report.

## **Council Plan 2017 - 2021**

This report supports the 2017 - 2021 Council Plan:

### **Goal**

We are Sustainable

### **We will focus on our business:**

by working towards managing our risk for our community for flood, fire and other natural disasters and impacts.

### **The non-negotiables**

Our legislative, governance and compliance requirements will be met.

**Strategic Links****a) Rural City of Wangaratta 2030 Community Vision**

N/A

**b) Other strategic links**

State Emergency Response Plan (August 2016)

Hume Regional Emergency Relief and Recovery Plan (2017)

**Risk Management**

N/A

**Consultation/Communication**

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Tools/Techniques
Inform	The public will be informed via website of the draft MEMP. The document will be available on the website and as hard copy on request.  All relevant stakeholders will be provided with copies.	
Involve	All emergency services and other agencies that make up the MEMPC will be directly involved and have an opportunity to endorse the document prior to finalisation by Council.	

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

**Options for Consideration**

There are no other options for consideration as Council must have and maintain a Municipal Emergency Management Plan as part of statutory obligations under the *Emergency Management Act 1986*.

**Conclusion**

The draft Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2017 will be placed on display and made available for public feedback and comment.

**Attachments**

- 1 Draft Municipal Emergency Management Plan - September 2017

### 15.3 OVENS ST / KING GEORGE V GARDENS CONCEPT DESIGNS FOLLOWING CONSULTATION

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 19 September 2017  
**Author:** Coordinator - Technical Services  
**File Name:** CBD Masterplan - Ovens Street - King George V Gardens  
**File No:** F17/136

Council officer, Ben Thomas – Technical Services Coordinator, has provided advice regarding the matter and is a committee member of the organization that has submitted the petition to Council regarding the King George Gardens performance stage.

#### **Executive Summary**

This report is presented to Council to provide a summary of the findings from the community consultation undertaken for the CBD Masterplan project - Ovens Street & King George V Gardens. Based on the submissions received, a revised concept has been developed for the project. This is presented for endorsement by council prior to the commencement of detailed design.

**Cr Harvey Benton moved an alternate motion;**

***That Council:***

- 1. endorses the revised concept design for the Ovens Street and King George V Gardens precinct but retain angle parking to enable the detailed design of the project to progress.***
- 2. provides feedback to the community and consult with emergency authorities.***

**The Motion was lost.**

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**(Moved: Councillor M Currie/Councillor H Bussell)**

***That Council:***

- 1. ratifies the way in which community consultation has influenced the development of the revised concept design, and the intention to provide the community with feedback on this, including where changes from the original concept may or may not have been made.***
- 2. endorses the revised concept design for the Ovens Street and King George V Gardens project as presented, to enable the detailed design of the project to be progressed.***

**Carried**

As part of the development of the concept design for the Ovens Street and King George V Gardens, community consultation has been undertaken on the design prepared by GroupGSA in March 2017.

Based on the submissions received from community members and key stakeholders, a revision of the concept design has been completed. This report seeks to provide council with an updated concept design, one that considers community feedback whilst also maintaining the objectives of the CBD masterplan.

## **Implications**

### **Policy Considerations**

The CBD Masterplan as developed within the Wangaratta Project sets out the objectives of works to be completed within the Ovens Street and the King George V Gardens area.

### **Financial/Economic Implications**

Budget approved in 2017/18 for the Ovens Street and King George V Gardens project is \$1,410,000.

### **Legal/Statutory**

There are no legal/statutory implications identified for the subject of this report.

### **Social**

The Ovens Street and King George V Gardens project would have many social benefits for the city, improving the amenity of the gardens for various user groups.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental / sustainability impacts identified for the subject of this report.

## **2017-2021 Council Plan**

This report supports the 2013-2017 Council Plan:

### **Goals:**

#### **We are established**

The public will see the progression of major projects from the 'The Wangaratta Project' in line with successful funding provision and Council's priorities.

#### **We are Inspired**

Council will plan, research and advocate for the building of a unique creative hub in the centre of the city through the delivery of exciting spaces, engaging programs and opportunities for all our residents, community members and visitors.

### **Strategic Links**

#### **a) Rural City of Wangaratta 2030 Community Vision**

The Wangaratta Project – A Masterplan for the City (CBD Masterplan)

### **Risk Management**

No risks have been identified.

### **Consultation/Communication**

Public consultation was undertaken in May 2017 for a 28 day period for community comment on the proposed concept for the project.

With the completion of consultation all comments received have been reviewed, with the concept design amended across the following areas:

- **The installation of barbeque facilities**

Feedback from consultation suggested that barbeque facilities were not warranted in the gardens, and have been removed from the concept design.

- **The installation of interactive art**

The quantity of interactive art pieces presented in the concept design was found from consultation as not fitting in with the heritage aspect of King George V gardens. These have been reduced within the revised concept design.

- **Street lighting in Ovens Street and path lighting within the King George V gardens**

Street lighting was seen as being important to both the Ovens Street corridor and the gardens, providing a measure of safety at night for pedestrians. Street lighting is to be provided within Ovens Street and path lighting is to be provided within the King George V Gardens.

- **The addition of seating within the gardens**

A greater amount of seating within the gardens was found to be required from community consultation. This mainly focused around increasing seating areas near the playground and the toilet facility. Additional seats have been incorporated within the revised concept design, as well as seating and tables within the modified existing stage and proposed stage area (refer below).

- **Changes to the performance stage**

Consultation revealed that there was objection to the removal of the stage, with a petition submitted to retain a permanent stage in some form. At a council meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August 2017, it was decided that some form of stage structure would be maintained within the gardens.

In reviewing the implementation of the stage, the following was considered:

- The existing stage location has some issues with for early morning events, as the stage is facing west creating a position of glare from the sun for patrons at some times. It does work well however for afternoon events where patrons are provided with shade. The revised location for the stage shown in the original concept plan (near the existing interactive art piece) would work well for early morning events.
- The cost of removing the existing stage would be high due to the nature of the structure;
- There is a demand in the gardens for additional seating. The existing stage is often used as “picnic table” for people to have lunch.
- There is concern about the impact of vehicles accessing the gardens, to construct temporary staging, and to unload and load equipment for performance.

From these considerations, the following is proposed:

- Enhancement of the existing stage to incorporate seating and improve the visual aspect of the stage. The proposed seating would be removable such that the full extent of the stage could be used, if required, for occasional performances. Some examples of this have been included within the revised concept design.
- No provision of access to the existing stage site by vehicles through the gardens. Parking within Ovens Street is in close proximity to the stage and should be used for loading and unloading equipment to this stage.
- Provide an additional multipurpose stage & seating area in the location shown within the revised concept design. This position faces north-south, which would be suitable for early morning events. There is an access point from the parking on the north side of the gardens to allow for loading and unloading.

The provision of these two areas would serve to both increase the amount of seating available as requested from many in the consultation process, and provide options for events that will increase the quality of experience in the gardens.

- **Changes to car parking and pedestrian crossings within Ovens Street;**

Within the community consultation, there was objection to the changes to the parking arrangement and the removal of car parks.

The concept design for the project aligns with the vision of the CBD masterplan for this area, which sees a change in priority within the CBD area from vehicles to

pedestrians. While vehicles are still accommodated in the design with access provided, changes to the parking arrangement provide the following:

- The incorporation of a pedestrian-priority crossing in the centre of Ovens Street. This provides a connection from the CBD to the gardens, essential in providing a safe crossing point for pedestrians such as families with children to access the park.
- The increase in space for pedestrians on the western side of Ovens Street, to improve the amenity of this area.
- The reduction in vehicles speeds along Ovens Street due to the creation of the central median strip and the reduced width in carriageway.

On this basis it is proposed that the current concept arrangement of parallel parking and pedestrian-prioritised crossing be adopted.

### **Conclusion**

From the consultation process undertaken, the concept design has been refined with consideration of the submissions and feedback received. Officers will go back to the community, to provide them with feedback on how their input has been taken on board and what considerations have been made in the development of the revised concept design. This process, and the revised concept design, is presented to council, prior to the development of detailed design.

### **Attachments**

- 1 Ovens Street & King George Concept Design - 31/08/2017

### **Questions**

**Bill Bellis, Wangaratta:** *With the new alternative motion to retain the 45 degree angle car parking, how will that affect the number of car parks?*

**Cr Harvey Benton:** My understanding is that it will not retain all of the car parks, as there would be a pedestrian crossing that would reduce a fair percentage of car parks.

**Cassandra Pollock:** *How will this new alternative motion affect the ambition in the current proposal to enhance tree planting along the Ovens Street upgrade?*

**Cr Harvey Benton:** I think there will have to be some reduction in the width of the area in relation to keeping some of the trees that are there. I do not believe we need to reduce the number of trees that need to be taken out. The trees that are there would be retained if possible and would be replanted if not.

**Brian Fox:** *Could someone please tell me when the last person was injured crossing Ovens street? As I have been here all my life and I have never known anyone to be injured.*



**Cr Dave Fuller:** Someone was knocked over by a car two Tuesdays ago near the Olive Health Food Shop.

**Cr Dean Rees asked Brian Fox:** *In your history in being in Wangaratta how many times has Murphy Street been blocked and an alternate route been used?*

**Brian Fox:** I can only remember one when there was a car carrier by the old post office.

**Cr Harry Bussell:** *My question is to Cr Harvey Benton, do you envision median strip with trees planted all the way along?*

**Cr Harvey Benton:** If I had the choice, no.

## 15.4 ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY REVIEW

<b>Meeting Type:</b>	<b>Ordinary Council Meeting</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>19 September 2017</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Asset Planning Coordinator</b>
<b>File Name:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>File No:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

### **Executive Summary**

This report is presented to Council to consider a review of the Asset Management Strategy (AMS).

In accordance with section 9 of the Asset Management Strategy 2013, and the objectives of the Asset Management Policy 2016, Rural City of Wangaratta (RCoW) is undertaking a review of the Asset Management Strategy (AMS).

The purpose of the AMS is to outline direction and priorities for management of Council's Infrastructure Assets. The AMS seeks to find a balance between:

- Good asset management practice
- Community expectations regarding the condition of Council assets
- The financial capacity of Council to meet those expectations.

The purpose of this review is to:

- Identify the current state of asset management practice within RCoW
- Establish goals for the desired future state of asset management practice and
- Ensure that the AMS remains consistent with current RCoW direction, goals, and performance targets.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**(Moved: Councillor M Currie/Councillor D Rees)**

***That Council:***

- 1. endorses the Draft Asset Management Strategy 2017 for public exhibition and places a notice to this effect in the Government Gazette and in the local newspaper***
- 2. invites public submissions regarding the Asset Management Strategy 2017, up to close of business on Friday 20 October 2017***
- 3. establishes a Special Committee of Council to hear submissions on the Draft Asset Management Strategy 2017, if required, at a time to be determined***
- 4. reviews and considers adopting the Draft Asset Management***

***Strategy 2017 at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 12 December 2017, taking into consideration all submissions made.***

**Carried**

### **Background**

The Rural City of Wangaratta is custodian of asset infrastructure, valued at over \$507 million, which has been built up over generations. Most infrastructure assets have useful lives measured in decades. These assets require significant on-going investment in maintenance and renewal activities to ensure they remain fit-for-purpose, and able to deliver expected levels of service. Asset Management has a key role in enabling the sustainable delivery of services necessary to achieve the goals outlined in Rural City of Wangaratta's Council Plan 2017-2021 (Our Roadmap For the Future).

The Asset Management Strategy aims to define the Rural City of Wangaratta's current state in regards to the management of Council assets and to outline the desired future state of asset management. Gaps between our current situation and future aspirations have been identified, and strategic actions to close these gaps have been identified.

### **Implications**

#### **Policy Considerations**

The Asset Management Policy 2016 sets out objectives that the Draft Asset Management Strategy 2017 is aiming to meet.

#### **Financial/Economic Implications**

There are no financial or economic implications identified for the subject of this report.

#### **Legal/Statutory**

There are no legal/statutory implications identified for the subject of this report.

#### **Social**

There are no social impacts identified for the subject of this report.

#### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental/ sustainability impacts identified for this subject of this report.

### **2013 – 2017 Council Plan (2016 Revision)**

This report supports the 2013-2017 Council Plan:

## Goal

We are Sustainable

This goal aims to ensure Council's long term viability and capacity to deliver quality services and infrastructure, as we continue to meet the changing and complex challenges that face us. Underpinning this pillar, it has been identified as essential to ensure that *"asset management systems are maintained."*

## Strategic Links

**Asset Management Policy 2016**

## Risk Management

The proposed Asset Management Strategy aims to achieve high standards of transparency, accountability and risk management.

## Consultation/Communication

Copies of the draft Asset Management Strategy 2017 will be available on Council's website, at the Wangaratta Government Centre and will be advertised in accordance with the recommendation. The submitters will receive a response addressing their issues as part of the review process.

## Conclusion

The purpose of the review is to assess current Asset Management practice within Rural City of Wangaratta to outline the desired future state of asset management and to identify strategic actions required to close the gap.

## Attachments

1 Draft Asset Management Strategy - September 2017

2

Question:

**Terry Kirby: *Does this strategy look at mundane things as repairing pot holes in roads?***

**Cr Ken Clarke:** The short answer is no, this looks at assets.

**Terry Kirby: *Are our roads not an asset?***

**Ruth Kneebone, Acting Director Infrastructure:** It look at the service levels we are willing to maintain our assets to. We do inspections of assets to determine if the asset is at a certain standard of its life. It doesn't however talk about how frequently we would look for potholes. It is more of a higher level document. There are also asset management plans that sit underneath this document for individual assets.

**15. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES****TOURISM EVENT FUNDING PROGRAM 2017/2018**

**Meeting Type:** Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 19 September 2017  
**Author:** Tourism & Economic Development Officer  
**File Name:** Tourism Events Funding Program  
**File No:** F16/908

*Cr Dave Fuller declared an indirect conflict of interest as he is a former volunteer for the 'Ales on the Ovens' event which may benefit from this agenda item. Cr Dave Fuller left at 6.41pm and returned 6:45pm.*

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

**Executive Summary**

This report is presented to Council to provide a summary of the 2017/2018 Tourism Event Funding Program.

Council received 10 applications with a total funding request of \$41,860. The applications have an estimated economic value of \$5.2 million. The allocated funding available for the program in 2017/2018 is \$27,000.

An assessment process has been undertaken with a recommendation that 8 events are funded with a total allocation of \$27,000.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**(Moved: Councillor H Bussell/Councillor H Benton)**

***That Council allocates \$27,000 to fund the following events as part of the 2017/2018 Tourism Events Funding Program:***

Applicant	Event	Recommended Funding Amount
Glenrowan Vignerons	Savour the Flavour	\$2,250
Glenrowan Vignerons	Trails, Tastings and Tales	\$3,750
Wangaratta Motor Sports Club	SRA410 Spring Car Racing Spectacular	\$3,750
Creative Collectives Australia	Off-Grid Living Festival	\$3,750
Wangaratta Turf Club	Wangaratta Racing, Food & Wine Carnival	\$5,000
Moyhu Action Group Inc.	King Valley Easter Escape	\$3,750
Nolan Events	Ales On The Ovens	\$3,750
Burgoogee Creek Landcare Group Inc.	Pumpkin Competition, Harvest Festival and Creative Art Exhibition	\$1,000

<b>Carried</b>
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## **Background**

Each year Council's Tourism Events Funding Program provides financial assistance to event organisers for the promotion and development of their festivals and events.

The objective of the Tourism Event Funding Program is to:

- maximise the economic and community benefits
- provide significant branding and marketing opportunities for the region
- substantially build the profile of the events to attract visitors from outside the Rural City of Wangaratta
- promote the tourism product strengths of the Rural City of Wangaratta.

Grants are available up to \$5,000 for major events (events that attract over 1,000 visitors) and up to \$2,000 for minor events (events that attract less than 1,000 visitors) from the annual allocation of \$32,000. Of the \$32,000, \$5,000 is reserved for the La Dolce Vita Festival as per Council's commitment.

The 2017/2018 Tourism Events Funding Program received 10 applications. The total amount requested for 2017/2018 was \$41,860 with an estimated economic value of \$5.2 million.

Following assessment, eight events are recommended to receive funding with two events not meeting the funding criteria. These being the All GM Show & Shine which was not eligible for consideration due to the event has already secured funding from the Rural City of Wangaratta through another funding program, and the VEX Robotics National Championships was assessed not eligible due to the events primary focus being education rather than tourism.

## **Implications**

### **Policy Considerations**

The program applications have been assessed by Council officers and funding allocation recommendations made in line with the Council Plan objective for tourism, the Tourism and Economic Development Strategic Plan key directions and the grant program assessment criteria.

### **Financial/Economic Implications**

Council has an allocation of \$32,000 to fund the program in 2017/2018. Of the \$32,000, \$5,000 is reserved for the La Dolce Vita Festival as per Council's commitment. This recommended grants total of \$27,000.

	2017/2018 Approved Budget for this proposal \$	This Proposal \$	Variance to Approved Budget \$	Comments
Revenue/Inco				

	2017/2018 Approved Budget for this proposal \$	This Proposal \$	Variance Approved Budget \$	to	Comments
me					
Expense	\$32,000	\$27,000			\$5,000 – La Dolce Vita
Net Result					

### **Legal/Statutory**

There are no legal/statutory implications identified for the subject of this report.

### **Social**

Events have the capacity to increase the level of local interest and participation within the community and strengthen regional values. Increased local pride and community spirit, as well as an increased awareness of non-local perceptions.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental/ sustainability impacts identified for this subject of this report.

### **2013 – 2017 Council Plan (2016 Revision)**

This report supports the 2013-2017 Council Plan:

#### **Goal**

We are Growing

#### **We will create and deliver:**

tourism products and experiences that build our attraction to visitors.

#### **We will focus on our business:**

ensuring we are responsive, clear and active in the development of our municipality.

#### **The non-negotiables**

Our tourism industry is promoted, valued and vibrant.

Our rural community is supported and recognised as a significant contributors to the economic and social character of the municipality.

### **Strategic Links**

#### **a) Rural City of Wangaratta 2030 Community Vision**

Tourism continues to thrive, with visitors attracted to the region’s natural beauty, food and wine, cycling tracks, arts facilities, cultural heritage and festivals.

### **b) Other strategic links**

#### **Economic Development Strategy 2016 - 2020**

The strategy identifies our commitment to further development of experiential based tourism and to offer a diverse range of product.

#### **Risk Management**

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Event organisers ability to contribute cash and inkind	(3) possible	(2) minor	Medium	Ask for financial commitment and financials in application.
Event organisers capacity to deliver the promised event	(3) possible	(2) minor	Medium	Constant communication with event organisers to ensure event success

#### **Consultation/Communication**

Applications were advertised for 5 weeks in local papers, through direct email, newsletter and Council’s website.

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Tools/Techniques
Inform	Provide an event funding program	The Chronicle Industry ENewsletter
Consult		
Involve		
Collaborate		
Empower	Provide support to event organisers	Mentoring in completing and submitting applications

#### **Options for Consideration**

#### **Conclusion**

Following detailed assessment, 8 of the 10 applications are recommended for funding. These are listed in this report for Council’s consideration.

It is requested that Council consider the endorsement of Table 1

#### **Attachments**

1. Tourism Event Funding Application Summary



## 16.2 PLANNING SERVICES REVIEW

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 19 September 2017  
**Author:** Planning Coordinator  
**File Name:** Planning Services Review  
**File No:** D17/54441

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### **Executive Summary**

This report is to brief Council on the outcome of the Planning Services Review undertaken by external consultants and provide some recommendations for Council's consideration. The recommendations have considered a cost benefit analysis including assessment of the timing for implementation.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**(Moved: Councillor M Currie/Councillor D Rees)**

***That Council:***

- 1. endorses the recommendations of the Planning Services Review***
- 2. implements the recommendations of the Planning Services Review by referring the cost of engaging of an additional full-time planner for 12 months and a full-time support officer for two years to its Revised Budget 2017/18***
- 3. refers the engagement of a second support officer to its 2018/19 Annual Budget should the Chief Executive Officer consider the appointment necessary to progress and support the priorities of the Planning Services Review.***

**Carried**

### **Background**

At the request of Council, consultants were engaged to undertake a review of planning services to assess current operations and to develop a framework and implementation plan for creating positive and sustainable change.

The review involved consultation with the planning team as well as a range of stakeholders in the planning process such as referral authorities, regular customers, Councillors and other internal staff. The review also included an audit of some

previously completed files and a statistical analysis and benchmark of performance against other Councils.

While the review is primarily focussed on statutory planning services, it has highlighted that there are many interconnections across development services and other areas of Council. It is noted that some of the connections are not well understood by all who interact with the processes. The recommendations in the review incorporate opportunities for positive change across many areas of the organisation.

The priority areas for creating change focus on improving the customer experience, increasing staff satisfaction and streamlining the planning provisions to focus on key planning issues.

A Positive Change Implementation Plan with 21 “Ideal State” outcomes and 93 individual actions was prepared by the consultants as part of their final report. This report has been reviewed by the planning team in order to prioritise the actions which will achieve the greatest benefit and to facilitate a more staged approach to implementation.

Of the actions identified, the following were recommended as the top priority actions which would have the most immediate benefit:

1. Create an additional two FTE positions within the support officer team for a 2-year period (development services support team) to provide a more sustainable and integrated approach to development approvals.
2. Engage an additional planner at one FTE to provide application processing support for a period of 12 months to enable staff to be actively engaged in the change implementation.
3. Enable qualified officers to focus on technical and strategic matters unless on roster by minimising interruptions.
4. Undertake training of support team across development approvals processes, requirements, customer service skills, roles, responsibilities and priorities.
5. Creation of an interactive roles and responsibilities directory for all staff to access in a central location, such as Council’s record management system or the Intranet and keep up to date.
6. Provide adequate resources to implement a proactive audit program.
7. Cultivate an organisation wide commitment to allocating appropriate resources, particularly from Information Services and Information Management for implementation of the positive change plan.
8. Roster one technical officer per service area at any one time to provide advice to support team and by appointment for customers.

9. Review and update all application checklists, including internal and external referral requirements.
10. Develop informative and easy to navigate website content for development approvals.
11. For complex applications and issues, ensure multidisciplinary input from the start and where necessary engage specialist consultants for advice not available within Council or referral agencies.
12. Utilise an online Council inquiries and approvals portal for lodgement, tracking, payment and viewing applications, including those on notice online 24/7.
13. Utilise the existing planning and building counter as the development approvals counter with at least one support officer in attendance during business hours.
14. Planning information to include:
  - a. Referral agency contact details
  - b. Checklists – updated from existing
  - c. How to comply with planning permit conditions
  - d. Subdivision certification and Statement of Compliance process and requirements
15. Review and update the standard planning permit conditions – noting this was done within the last 18 months.

The positive change plan will require financial investment and resources in the short to medium term in order to allow staff time to work on improvements. Key costs relate to additional staff resources and software solutions however, costs can also be attributed to existing staff time.

There is existing funding of \$185,000 for development of an online Development Application Management Software Solution (DAMSS) which would fund some of the high priority actions identified in relation to improved lodgement processes and access to application status. This funding covers development and implementation of a system for both Planning and Building.

However, the top two actions with the considered highest immediate benefit relate to one additional full time planner for 12 months and an additional two full time Support Officers for two year periods.

The purpose of the additional planner is to enable existing staff to be actively engaged in implementing the actions identified and to improve customer satisfaction by ensuring adequate resources are being provided during this time.

The two additional Development Assessment Support Officers was proposed to support various departments across the full suite of development approval processes undertaken by Council. This includes Septic Tank and Food Premises permits, Works in Road Reserve permits, Local Laws permits, Event permits, approval of drainage and engineering plans as well as Building and Planning

Permits. Noting that some of these functions are outside of the Development Services directorate.

It is envisaged this Development Assessment Support Team would be the first point of contact for all Council 'approvals' and would remove much of the hand balling of a customer from one department to another. One point of contact, who would be the conduit to all departments to facilitate a more streamlined approval process.

### **Timelines**

Timelines will largely depend on resourcing. One of the conclusions of the review was that implementing change will require time and resources.

At least 20 of the actions in the final report do not require significant financial or staff resources as they are either currently underway or have been commenced and are ongoing.

Of the remaining action items, 4 have an existing budget with the online DAMSS proposal, 2 require funding for extra staff, 13 require other funding for software development and equipment and the remaining 54 actions will require significant investment of staff time to complete.

The final statement of the review document states "*There is no point coming this far and not implementing a proper review program that measures and celebrates progress with actions, staff development, wellbeing and overall performance. This will help inform evolution of your positive change program.*"

If the additional staffing and resources identified are provided, it is envisaged the priority actions and many other the other actions of the Implementation Plan could be completed within 12 months.

### **Implications**

#### **Policy Considerations**

There are no specific Council policies or strategies that relate to this report.

#### **Financial/Economic Implications**

There is an existing budget of \$185,000 for development of an online Development Application Management Software Solution (DAMSS).

The additional financial implications relate to the engagement of an additional full time planner and support officer are estimated at:

Planner – Band 6A \$73,391, plus on-costs at 16.45%: \$85,464

Support Officers – Band 4A \$57,418, plus on-costs at 16.45%: \$66,864

Plus approximately \$10,000 for office and technology services.

**Legal/Statutory**

Implementation of the actions will assist in meeting our statutory obligations.

**Social**

Implementation of the actions will improve customer satisfaction.

**Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental/ sustainability impacts identified for this subject of this report.

**2013 – 2017 Council Plan (2016 Revision)**

This report supports the 2013-2017 Council Plan:

**Goal****We are Growing**

This goal aims to ensure our economy and community are growing, that new development complies with legislation and the needs of the community and timelines are being met.

**Consultation/Communication**

Consultation with stakeholders was undertaken as part of the review process.

**Conclusion**

It is important to note that planning applications are only part of the workload dealt with by planning services, however, at this stage, there is no holistic gathering of data across all tasks undertaken for planning services.

It should also be noted that the review did not reveal any significant issue with the current performance of the planning department and it was noted that the planning team was enthusiastic, had diversity of experience, provided good support within the team, had a good relationship with most internal and external stakeholders and had a genuine desire to contribute to making the municipality a better place.

However, there is always room for improvement and there has been little time available to undertake process improvements, review documentation and work on streamlining planning provisions.

Without the additional staffing and resources recommended, it will be difficult to devote the time required to undertake the actions to make any significant change in a short time period. Whilst we could over a period of several years undertake some of the actions, there would be impact to service delivery in the interim and it is likely we would not achieve the desired outcome of achieving positive and sustainable change.

**Attachments**

- 1 Planning Services Review Report
- 2 Positive Change Implementation Plan

**Questions**

**Anne Dunston – Tarrawingee:** *Is there a perspective through the Council that this is going to happen across all departments?*

**Cr Ken Clarke:** No

**Anne Dunston – Tarrawingee:** *Would it be possible to have a flowchart of the Council so that if you are working with an officer and you are not getting satisfactory service you can see who is that persons supervisor?*

**Brendan McGrath, Chief Executive Officer:** We do have an organisational structure on the website but it doesn't go down to the detail of all officers. It probably would be possible to create a manager level structure for a particular team and who that person reports to, however, the reality is that if people put a request in through the customer request management system they will be allocated to an officer, the system is being improved, so there is now an escalation process so if the matter is not dealt with in the required time it will be escalated to that person's supervisor. We certainly prefer requests to go through that system as it provides a lot more transparency and ability to track actions

**16. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Nil

**17. ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Nil

**18. RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS****19.1 ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS**

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 19 September 2017  
**Author:** Executive Assistant Corporate Services and Councillors  
**File Name:** Governance - Registers - Assemblies of Councillors  
**File No:** S17/607

**Executive Summary**

An “Assembly of Councillors” is a meeting at which matters are considered that are intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision and is either of the following:

- a meeting of an advisory committee where at least one Councillor is present; or
- a planned or scheduled meeting that includes at least half the Councillors and at least one Council officer.

At an assembly of Councillors, a written record is kept of:

- a) the names of all Councillors and members of the Council staff attending;
- b) the matters considered;
- c) any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending; and
- d) whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest leaves the assembly.

The written record of an assembly of Councillors is, as soon as practicable:

- a) reported at an Ordinary Meeting of the Council; and
- b) incorporated in the Minutes of that Council meeting.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting details</b>	<b>Refer</b>
4 September 2017	Briefing Forum	Attachment
28 August 2017	Briefing Forum	Attachment
21 August 2017	Arts, Culture, Events & Heritage Advisory Committee	Attachment
21 August 2017	Briefing Forum	Attachment
14 August 2017	Briefing Forum	Attachment
8 May 2017	Arts, Culture, Events & Heritage Advisory Committee	Attachment

**RECOMMENDATION:****(Moved: Councillor H Benton/Councillor M Currie)*****That Council receives the reports of Assemblies of Councillors.*****Carried****Attachments**

- 1 Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee - Assemblies of Councillors - 21 August 2017
- 2 Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee - Assemblies of Councillors - 8 May 2017
- 3 Councillor Briefing Forums - Assemblies of Councillors - 14 August 2017
- 4 Councillor Briefing Forums - Assemblies of Councillors - 21 August 2017
- 5 Councillor Briefing Forums - Assemblies of Councillors - 28 August 2017
- 6 Councillor Briefing Forums - Assemblies of Councillors - 4 September 2017



**19. NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil

**20. URGENT BUSINESS****21. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**John Kirby representing Moyhu action group along with George Snowling and Neil Jarrott:** *In relation to proposed curbs and channel works within Moyhu, at a recent meeting we were advised by Cr Harry Bussell that the specifications for these works were still being prepared. When will these plans be available to residents of Moyhu for review and comment and when will they be carried out?*

**Ruth Kneebone, Acting Director Infrastructure Services:** One of our officers has a meeting with you on Monday and I believe he will be the best person to know when the time frame is and what the plans will be. The meeting will be confirmed for you.

**Brian Fox - Wangaratta:** *I'd like to know if council has made any application to lower speed limit to the central business district to either 30 or 40kms an hour?*

**Brendan McGrath, Chief Executive Officer:** Our Infrastructure team have been working with VicRoads who are the relevant authority for this issue. They have been putting together a comprehensive plan for the CBD, looking at things such as speed limits, locations and types of pedestrian crossings, and where we may need to make alterations to our existing pedestrian points. Those discussions are pretty well advanced and we should have an approved, agreed position on that relatively soon. Part of that plan does consider if part or all of the CBD might be better signposted at 40km an hour rather than the existing restrictions.

**Phil Haines - Wangaratta:** *Has Council made a submission to the regional development and decentralisation enquiry which the Australian Government is undertaking and if it has can you share a copy with rate payers please?*

**Brendan McGrath, Chief Executive Officer:** We did lodge a submission and were advised yesterday by Cathy McGowan's office that there were over 100 submissions. This was more than was expected so they have been a little slow putting them on the website. It should be publically available early next week on their website and we can put a copy on our own on our website as well.

**Anne Shaw - Wangaratta:** *At the August Council meeting Council endorsed the development of a gaming policy including community and stakeholder consultation. What are the timelines for that policy?*

**Jaime Carroll, Director Community & Wellbeing:** At the moment we are creating a communication strategy that we will present to Council soon. I expect the consultation will start in the next 4 weeks and will run for a month as well. Then the development of the policy will start. We want to ensure we consult with both our community but also organisations and bodies that can help inform us from a policy position at a state and national level. Looking at implications of gaming at both a social and economic level. Then we will use that to support the information we get from our community. Therefore we anticipate it will take around 3 months before it is back up at Council.

## 22. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**Moved: Councillor D Fuller/Councillor D Rees**

***That Council resolves to close the meeting to members of the public in accordance with section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989 to consider the following items:***

#### **23.1 Consideration of Land Purchase**

***Item 23.1 is Confidential under the terms section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989 as it contains information relating to : (e) proposed developments.***

## 23. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 7:14pm