

# Minutes

## Of the Ordinary Council Meeting

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

**Date:** 17 July 2018

**Time:** 6pm



RURAL CITY OF  
**WANGARATTA**

Brendan McGrath  
Chief Executive Officer



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

		<b>Page No.</b>
1.	<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS.....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.	<b>OPENING PRAYER .....</b>	<b>4</b>
3.	<b>PRESENT .....</b>	<b>4</b>
4.	<b>ABSENT .....</b>	<b>4</b>
5.	<b>ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES &amp; GRANTING OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE .....</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>ORDER OF BUSINESS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
6.	<b>CITIZEN CEREMONY .....</b>	<b>4</b>
7.	<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES .....</b>	<b>4</b>
8.	<b>CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE .....</b>	<b>5</b>
9.	<b>RECEPTION OF PETITIONS.....</b>	<b>5</b>
10.	<b>HEARING OF DEPUTATIONS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>PRESENTATION OF REPORTS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
11.	<b>COUNCILLOR REPORTS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>OFFICERS' REPORTS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
12.	<b>EXECUTIVE SERVICES .....</b>	<b>7</b>
13.	<b>CORPORATE SERVICES .....</b>	<b>8</b>
13.1	COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY 2018 .....	8
14.	<b>COMMUNITY WELLBEING.....</b>	<b>12</b>
15.	<b>INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES .....</b>	<b>12</b>
16.	<b>DEVELOPMENT SERVICES .....</b>	<b>13</b>
16.1	DRAFT DOMESTIC WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN .....	13
16.2	DRAFT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY .....	19
16.3	LOCAL LAW NO 1 : COMMUNITY AMENITY .....	25
16.4	TOURISM EVENT FUNDING PROGRAM GUIDELINES.....	31
17.	<b>SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS.....</b>	<b>35</b>
18.	<b>ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS.....</b>	<b>35</b>
19.	<b>RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS.....</b>	<b>36</b>
19.1	ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS.....	36
20.	<b>NOTICES OF MOTION .....</b>	<b>38</b>
21.	<b>URGENT BUSINESS .....</b>	<b>38</b>
22.	<b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.....</b>	<b>38</b>
23.	<b>CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS .....</b>	<b>40</b>
24.	<b>CLOSURE OF MEETING.....</b>	<b>40</b>

## 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.*

## 2. 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*

## 3. PRESENT

### Councillors:

Cr David Fuller, Cr Harry Bussell Cr Harvey Benton, Cr Ken Clarke OAM, Cr Mark Currie, Cr Ashlee Fitzpatrick.

### Officers:

Brendan McGrath, Chief Executive Officer Chris Gillard , Acting Director Corporate Services Alan Clark, Director Infrastructure Services Barry Green, Director Development Services.

## 4. ABSENT

### Councillors:

Cr Dean Rees has been granted leave of absence

### Officers:

Jaime Carroll , Director Community Wellbeing.

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

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

## 6. CITIZEN CEREMONY

The Citizenship Ceremony was held.

## 7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### **RESOLUTION:**

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

***That Council read and confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 19 June 2018 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the meeting.***

**Carried**

## 8. 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.**

Nil.

## 9. RECEPTION OF PETITIONS

Nil.

## 10. HEARING OF DEPUTATIONS

Nil.

## PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

### 11. COUNCILLOR REPORTS

#### **Mayors Quarterly Report**

It is with great expectations that I report to you on the last quarter of Council operations. I know it is an election year, but the Grant monies we have received in the past few weeks have exceeded my expectations and I just have a sneaking impression that Wangaratta has at long last recovered from the past 5 or so years of non-recognition of our fine City by government. Firstly, I must pay tribute to long serving staff member Ruth Kneebone who retired from the position of Director of Corporate Services on 22<sup>nd</sup> June after some 25 years of service to local government. Thank you Ruth for your contribution to the Rural City.

I reported last quarter on the Organics Plant at Bowser and everyone one in Alan’s team are getting excited as the first container holding all the control equipment is fairly close to reaching Australian waters. The road in has been completed, the trees removed and the contract for the civil works, has been let, so we are on track for being up and running early in 2019 with our first testing. This will be the first of its kind in Victoria and I see it as a major achievement for the City.

The announcement over the past few weeks of funding to now prepare the final drawings for construction of the Railway Precinct works was a real boost to our CBD master plan and I trust that this will create a great space for train travellers and locals as we embrace this major improvement around the railway station and surrounding streets. I thank the local RDV and Minister Jaala Pulford for getting this project on track. Coupled with the planning for the inland rail upgrade,

Wangaratta may be lucky enough to see some great changes around not only Glenrowan but here in the City.

The announcement by the Department of Health and Human Services of the construction of a 30 bed Rehabilitation Centre for Drug and Alcohol recovery in Wangaratta was great news, and I thank the other agencies and groups who have been so positive about the need for it to be constructed here. It will mean that both patients and North East families will be able to stay local. In talking to builders they say this will be somewhere in the vicinity of a \$10 m project and will employ many workers who presently need to travel to other parts of the State for employment. This may take some time, but I think will be a great addition to our Health services.

All indications and research point to Wangaratta having an aging population, so I was pleased to see a grant being obtained to study Friendly Ageing in the home. I hope that officers will fast track this study, so that residents gain the benefit in the short term, not see it pigeonholed and slow to come to fruition. This brings me to the other exciting grant received last week which was in connection with the development of an outdoor heated pool at the Barr. It has been a long time coming, but the Council could not continue to pour thousands of dollars into maintenance of the Swan Street pool, which has been operational since 1956 and required a major upgrade to meet current occupational health and safety standards. Coupled with another Hydrotherapy pool, it will give us a swimming complex second to none. Officers of the Council must be congratulated with their perseverance.

Major works are being carried out around the sporting ovals at the Barr also, so within a couple of years we will have ovals and car parking that will be the envy of all other cities. And when you consider the Wangaratta Football/Netball club have won the right to host this year's Ovens & Murray Grand Final we are really putting the City on the sporting map.

We are now into a new financial year and I am certainly looking forward to a great year with our capital works program. We will see some changes, hopefully this year will see commencement of a further crossing over the creek in Cruse Street Wangaratta, we are well on the way with improvements to drainage and kerb and channel in Moyhu, a public toilet block in Springhurst, the completion of renovation of North Wangaratta Football Ground and roads and footpaths throughout the municipality. Hopefully Thompson Street will soon be finished and Morgan Street is truly on the radar, so the Capital Works program is in full swing. We are even contemplating that there may be some work that our own teams can do, rather than contracts.

The job of Mayor requires many hours of attendance at functions, television radio and newspaper interviews at the drop of a hat, but I think it is a way of keeping the image of the Rural City on the front foot. I sincerely thank my fellow councillors for being so supportive in their attendance at functions and events, it is a team effort and without them my position would become untenable. Your councillors and officers continue to work effectively to make the City a better place and with so many exciting issues happening over the coming months.

**OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**12. EXECUTIVE SERVICES**

Nil.

### 13. CORPORATE SERVICES

#### 13.1 COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY 2018

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 17 July 2018  
**Author:** Media and Communications Coordinator  
**File Name:** Community Satisfaction Survey 2018  
**File No:** D18/37925

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 results of the 2018 Community Satisfaction Survey (refer attached) which was conducted between 1 February and 30 March 2018.

#### **RESOLUTION:**

**(Moved: Councillor A Fitzpatrick/Councillor H Benton)**

***That Council notes the improved results of the 2018 Community Satisfaction Survey and the actions in place to improve these results over time.***

**Carried**

#### Background

Council participates in the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey. The survey provides feedback about how Council is performing across a number of measures. It also provides Council with a means to fulfil some statutory reporting requirements.

The Survey is coordinated by Local Government Victoria (LGV) and is conducted by JWS Research.

#### Implications

Satisfaction scores have improved, or not declined in most areas since 2017. Notwithstanding this customer contact scores have declined and a range of proactive actions are in place to improve focus and responsiveness within the organisation. Council has filled a number of positions which will have a marked impact on satisfaction measures over time.

## Core measures

Council's performance on core measures remained relatively stable for the year. Notable changes occurred in the areas of **Overall Performance** and **Customer Service**.

**Customer Service** recorded a drop from 71 in 2017 to 64 in 2018. This was below the average for the state and for regional centres.

**Overall Performance** recorded an upwards shift of three points, going from 57 to 60.

The following table illustrates changes from the previous year and measures Council's performance against other regional centres and all Victorian councils.

## 2018 SUMMARY OF CORE MEASURES DETAILED ANALYSIS



Performance Measures	Wangaratta 2018	Wangaratta 2017	Regional Centres 2018	State-wide 2018	Highest score	Lowest score
<b>OVERALL PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>60</b>	57	58	59	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years
<b>COMMUNITY CONSULTATION</b> (Community consultation and engagement)	<b>56</b>	55	55	55	Aged 65+ years	Aged 18-34 years
<b>ADVOCACY</b> (Lobbying on behalf of the community)	<b>55</b>	52	54	54	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-64 years
<b>MAKING COMMUNITY DECISIONS</b> (Decisions made in the interest of the community)	<b>51</b>	50	52	54	Aged 65+ years	Aged 18-34 years
<b>SEALED LOCAL ROADS</b> (Condition of sealed local roads)	<b>56</b>	56	54	53	Urban Area, Aged 65+ years	Rural Area
<b>CUSTOMER SERVICE</b>	<b>64</b>	71	72	70	Aged 65+ years	Aged 18-34 years
<b>OVERALL COUNCIL DIRECTION</b>	<b>61</b>	61	53	52	Aged 65+ years	Aged 18-34 years

## Focus areas for coming 12 months

### **Customer Service**

A number of actions are in place to improve customer feedback and councils 2018/19 budget will also assist in this regard. Ratepayers have identified disappointment that budgets do not always allow their requests to be met. Some examples include footpath construction and street lighting. This information will be included in budget review information for council during the financial year.

Other actions planned include organisational wide training, ongoing focus on internal accountability and reviews of internal support systems to assist staff to constantly improve responsiveness.

Council’s communication and marketing efforts will also be designed to improve ratepayers awareness of the great work council is doing.

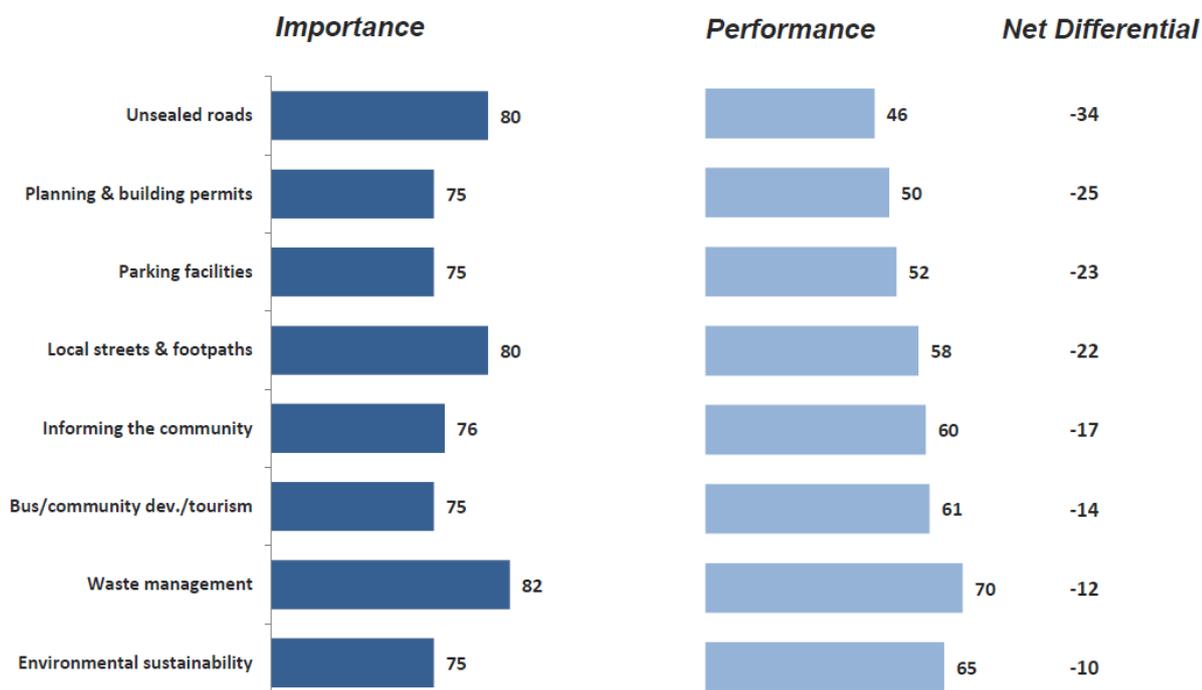
People surveyed were asked to rate the **Importance** and **Performance** of Council services. JWS Research recommends Council pay particular attention to areas where stated importance exceeds rated performance by more than 10 points.

The highest performing Council services were **Arts Centres and Libraries, Appearance of Public Areas and Recreational Facilities.**

The services rated as being the most important were **Waste Management, Unsealed Roads and Local Streets and Footpaths.**

In addition to customer service focus areas for the next 12 months are **Unsealed Roads** (margin of 34 points), **Planning and Building Permits** (margin of 25 points), **Parking Facilities** (margin of 23 points), **Condition of local streets and footpaths** (margin of 22 points) and **Informing the Community** (margin of 17 points).

Service areas where importance exceeds performance by 10 points or more, suggesting further investigation is necessary:



Communications

The most popular form of communication was **Newsletter sent via Mail** (39%), **Council Newsletter via Email** (19%), **Advertising in a Local Newspaper** (18%), **Council Newsletter as a Local Paper Insert** (12%).

## Policy Considerations

This information relates to council core need to be customer centric and to deliver on its Community promise.

## Financial/Economic Implications

	2017/2018 Approved Budget for this proposal \$	This Proposal \$	Variance Approved Budget \$	to	Comments
Revenue/Income	0	0	0		
Expense	\$12,000	\$13,455	\$1,435		
Net Result	\$12,000	\$13,455	\$1,435		

## Legal/Statutory

The Community Satisfaction Survey assists with Council's statutory reporting requirements.

## Social

If Council responds to the Focus Areas for the next 12 months then there will be positive social impacts.

## Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

Council's performance in Environmental Sustainability was 65, while the stated Importance was 75, indicating a gap between community expectations and Council's performance.

## 2017 – 2021 Council Plan (2018 Revision)

This report supports the 2017-2021 Council Plan:

### Goal

We are Sustainable

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

By accurately understanding the constraints and opportunities that face our organisation, our community and our region.

## Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Reputational	Likely	Moderate	High	Consistently improve performance

### **Consultation/Communication**

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Tools/Techniques
Inform	Broader community	Council report, website
Involve	Selected people who completed survey	Phone interviews

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

### **Options for Consideration**

The report is for noting.

### **Conclusion**

Council should be pleased that the overall performance has improved to a position where the Rural City of Wangaratta now sits above the average for Victoria and Regional Centres. There are however improvements that are necessary particularly in responsiveness. The frontline staff perform well but need support and resources to equip them to respond well to customer contact. The reduction in customer satisfaction is a broader issue that is being addressed.

### **Attachments**

- 1 Community Satisfaction Survey Results Summary 2018 [⇒](#)

## **14. COMMUNITY WELLBEING**

Nil.

## **15. INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

Nil.

## 16. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

### 16.1 DRAFT DOMESTIC WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

<b>Meeting Type:</b>	<b>Ordinary Council Meeting</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>17 July 2018</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Environmental Health Officer</b>
<b>File Name:</b>	<b>Domestic Wastewater Management Plan</b>
<b>File No:</b>	<b>F16/1939</b>

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 a finalised Domestic Waste Water Management Plan (DWMP). A DWMP is a technical document to guide Council in its ongoing required management of on-site domestic wastewater within the municipality. The plan requires implementation and sign off by relevant water authorities and is an operational document. The implications of not having an approved and implemented DWMP is that water authorities will not approve new development in unsewered areas, particularly within proclaimed water catchments which cover approximately 70% of the municipality.

The aim of the DWMP is to protect the natural environment, economic stability, community and social health and wellbeing via a proactive approach to improving domestic wastewater management. This is achieved through systematic ongoing monitoring and evaluation and promotion of sustainable wastewater practices for both future and existing development.

The draft DWMP was exhibited from 21 March 2018 to 23 April 2018 and a total of four submissions were made, 3 external and 1 internal. This report informs Council of the content of the submissions and key issues raised by submitters.

In general, the submissions were supportive of the Draft DWMP. However, there was some concern regarding specific elements of the DWMP, particularly the potential costs for individuals' due to implementation of the plan. The plan is putting in place a monitoring and compliance program to ensure that existing on-site wastewater systems are operating and being maintained in accordance with their respective approval and current legislative requirements. Costs associated with the implementation of the DWMP are borne by Council. Any potential costs for landowners will be in response to the outcomes of the audit where systems that are found to be not operating correctly and need to be rectified.

**RESOLUTION:****(Moved: Councillor H Bussell/Councillor H Benton)*****That Council, having considered the submissions received to the Draft Domestic Wastewater Management Plan;***

- 1. Make changes to the draft DWMP as indicated in attachments 1 and 2***
- 2. Adopts the DWMP with the changes outlined in attachments 1 and 2 for finalisation and implementation***
- 3. Advises all submitters and the water authorities of Council's decision.***

***For:*** Councillor H Benton, Councillor K Clarke OAM, Councillor M Currie, Councillor A Fitzpatrick and Councillor D Fuller***Against:*** Councillor H Bussell**Mayor declared the motion carried.****Carried****Background**

Council is required to develop a DWMP under State legislation, Clause 32 of the State Environment Protection Policy (Waters of Victoria,) to assist with the management of on-site disposal of effluent where land is not connected to a reticulated sewerage system. A DWMP establishes preferred approaches to monitoring the condition and management of on-site effluent treatment systems, enforcement and direction for planning decisions on land use and development within the municipal district.

***Summary of Community Feedback (Key Issues Raised)***

Council received 4 submissions following the close of the exhibition period. The submissions received were from a mix of land owners, consulting businesses and internal Council officers.

Submissions by submitter type:

- Concerned resident seeking the addition of the north Wangaratta area as a separate area to be addressed – The DWMP covers the whole municipality and focusses on the areas not connected to reticulated sewerage. North Wangaratta is generally well serviced with reticulated sewerage services.
- Community members, signed by four of them, who own land within the municipality, concerned with any cost increases to landowners for inspection and maintenance.
- Local consultant, supportive of the plan but seeking some minor amendment to wording to expand Clause 4.2 (Future Houses in Sewered Areas) and Action X to encourage Council and NEW to routinely review the demand for

residential growth across the shire and consider extending sewerage districts, sewerage infrastructure, rezoning land, and planning for appropriate provision of sewerage to new houses at the time of development.

- Internal submission requested that Tarrawingee and Eldorado be added as towns for future sewer consideration and two minor corrections.

### ***Consideration of Submissions***

Officers and the consultant team have reviewed the submissions and the general content of submissions can be described as:

- Support the plan
- Concern with costs and inspections
- Seeking clarification of inclusion of North Wangaratta
- Seeking inclusion of additional towns of Tarrawingee and Eldorado for future sewer consideration
- The Domestic Wastewater Management Plan and its subsequent maintenance and monitoring will assist in gathering information that would advance a case for reticulated sewer. An updated DWMP provides background and data for a future submission to schemes for funding future sewer reticulation. **Recommended change:** Consider expanding Section 4.2 (Future Houses in Sewered Areas) and Action X to encourage Council and NEW to routinely review the demand for residential growth across the shire and consider extending sewerage districts, sewerage infrastructure, rezoning land, and planning for appropriate provision of sewerage to new houses at the time of development.
- There are no direct costs for landowners associated with the inspections and maintenance of these systems as Council is not a water Authority, Council cannot impose charges for the inspections of the onsite wastewater systems. Many original permits and statutory approval of systems installed did include conditions regarding monitoring and maintenance requirements..
- North Wangaratta is already included in the DWMP as it covers the whole of the municipality. North Wangaratta is outside the Special Water Supply Catchment area, has reticulated sewer available in some areas and is not a highlighted area for future intensive growth and therefore poses a lesser threat to water quality degradation and the natural environment.
- Change Action X to include periodic review of sewer districts, include Tarrawingee and Eldorado in Action I, corrections S1.7 and S3.2.

### **Implications**

#### **Policy Considerations**

The development and implementation of a DWMP is supported by Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2014.

## **Financial/Economic Implications**

There will be some additional financial or economic implications for Council as identified within this report. The initial costs are budgeted for in the 2018/19 budget with additional costs for future years for the life of the plan.

## **Legal/Statutory**

There are legal/statutory implications identified for the subject of this report. The DWMP is a legal requirement for Local Governments and the consequences of not having an approved and implemented DWMP are that water authorities will refuse development approval applications.

## **Social**

There are potential social impacts identified for the subject of this report as in the absence of an approved and implemented DWMP water authorities are unlikely to support planning applications for proposals such as dwellings relying on septic systems.

## **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are environmental/sustainability impacts identified for this subject of this report. There is an adverse impact on the environment if the DWMP is not implemented through the identified actions or delayed in implementation.

## **2017-2021 Council Plan**

This report supports the 2017-2021 Council Plan.

### **We are thriving:**

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

### **We are established:**

To address the management of domestic wastewater and storm water, including reuse opportunities.

## **Council Resolution**

Since the consideration of the plan by Council at its May Council meeting the following has been undertaken:

- A briefing and update was provided to the Councillors on 4 June, any questions as a result of the briefing were answered;
- A draft Community Handbook and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) were finalised;
- Further notification of the plan was provided and any additional questions answered; and

- Two community information sessions were arranged.

The Community Handbook and the FAQs were finalised and made available to the public. The Handbook and the FAQs explain the reasons behind the implementation of the DWMP and what is expected from landowners in plain English text. Both the Handbook and FAQs are displayed on the Council website.

A public meeting was held in Oxley and as part of the questioning there were two questions raised regarding the DWMP. Answers were provided to the Oxley meeting to address the questions raised.

Additional information sessions were held in Greta on 27 June and Tarrawingee on 4 July, to directly answer questions and discuss concerns from the community. A total of 17 people attended these sessions. Copies of the Community Handbook and FAQs were also made available on these nights. Many of the concerns raised were in regard to the potential costs for landowners associated with any repairs or upgrades. These costs are unable to be accurately quantified until the initial audit is undertaken and a risk assessment undertaken to determine the risk.

### **Conclusion**

The implementation of the DWMP will assist to clarify requirements and help facilitate growth in some areas of the Rural City of Wangaratta as well as protect Special Water Supply Catchments from contamination. The establishment of inspection and reporting systems for current and future onsite waste water treatment systems will allow Council to more proactively protect the environmental attributes of the municipality as well as protecting the health and wellbeing of the community who live here.

Due to the submissions received there are some changes proposed to the wording of part of the draft DWMP generally around the extension of future sewer districts and the towns to be considered.

### **Attachments**

- 1 Response to Public Submissions Report [↗](#)
- 2 Draft Domestic Wastewater Management Plan [↗](#)

### **Public Questions**

*Gary Marshall - Greta West stated that at the Greta meeting Mr Green was asked if there were any problems. He stated that Lake Eildon was a bit of a problem. It was also stated that countries such as India China and Asia also had problems. How can you compare wastewater management in the North East to these countries? What does India, China and Asia have to do with North East Victoria with the difference in population, culture and even the soil density?*

Barry Green, Director Development Services responded that it was the Environmental Health Officer who mentioned those particular countries at the Greta meeting and that the statement was from information the Environmental

Health Network had provided. They use those as test studies to see what has occurred in other locations and we need to be learning from other areas of the world and also within Australia. Certainly our soil conditions are different, but taking into consideration what they have learnt from their communities where their water supplies are contaminated, as how do we stop that from happening in Australia.

*Gary Marshall asked if there was an easier way to save money and if a survey would be a cheaper and easier option for everyone?*

Mayor Ken Clarke responded that going on the number of residents in the City, 13 people at Greta , Hansonville and 4 at Tarrawingee, he believed that they would not complete a survey?

Brendan McGrath, CEO responded that Council were always open to suggestions about how to do things better.

## 16.2 DRAFT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 17 July 2018  
**Author:** Economic Development and Tourism Officer  
**File Name:**  
**File No:** F16/865

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 feedback and summarise the changes proposed to the Economic Development Strategy as a result of the public exhibition period.
- Endorse the strategy inclusive of the recommended changes to address the feedback received.
- Support the implementation of the Economic Development Strategy.

#### **RESOLUTION:**

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

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

- 1. makes changes to the final Economic Development Strategy 2018 - 2023 in accordance with changes identified within the table in Attachment 2 to address feedback from the exhibition process;***
- 2. endorse the final Economic Development Strategy 2018 -2023 (Attachment 1) and update the track changes in a final adopted version;***
- 2. advises all submitters of its decision; and***
- 3. commences implementation of the final Economic Development Strategy 2018 – 2023.***

**Carried**

### **Background**

Council resolved at its ordinary meeting of 20 March 2018 to place the draft Economic Development Strategy on public exhibition for 34 days.

The Economic Development Strategy sets the Rural City of Wangaratta's future directions that will drive Wangaratta's economic growth through innovation, investment, expansion and the creation of employment.

Council engaged experienced personnel who have a strong background in planning development and economic analysis to develop the strategy. The strategy was developed in consultation with Council, the Wangaratta Economic Development & Tourism Advisory Committee and the Agriculture Agri-business Advisory Committee who held workshops on 29 November 2017 and 6 March 2018.

A public exhibition period occurred between 20 March and 23 April 2018. At the conclusion of the exhibition period three (3) submissions were received. Follow up meetings were conducted with two of the submitters and a phone conversation with one organisation to provide further clarification around their submissions in order to refine the feedback for amendments to the strategy. A summary of the submission and amendments is found in Attachment 2.

The key objectives of the Economic Development Strategy are:

- **Strengthen Wangaratta's driver sectors** through investment attraction, facilitating growth with existing businesses, encouraging new technology and innovative ideas and a strong brand for Wangaratta.
- **Skilling up the Wangaratta labour** force through facilitation with education providers, building education pathways, promotion to attract skilled workers and consideration of ways to attraction younger generations to embrace agriculture.
- **Investing in strategic infrastructure** through future development of the Wangaratta Aerodrome, supporting primary health care, the provision of industrial land and advocate for digital technologies.
- **Supporting local businesses** through destination retail attraction, strategies to differentiate the municipality, foster growth of the population and drive the community to support local business.

## **Implications**

### **Policy Considerations**

The Economic Development Strategy will replace the former strategic document that was endorsed by Council in 2016.

### **Financial/Economic Implications**

The Strategy identifies a range of initiatives which will drive economic growth for Wangaratta. The Strategy identifies a range of objectives that will have a direct cost to Council. Council has identified projects from within the strategy and added provision in the 2018/2019 Budget for development of the Brand Wangaratta - \$250,000.

Ongoing investment to achieve the recommendations of the Strategy will be required to ensure the objectives set can be achieved.

	2017/2018 Approved Budget for this proposal \$	2018/2019 Approve Budget for this proposal \$	Variance Approved Budget \$	to	Comments
Revenue/Income					
Expense	28,510				Consultant fee
		\$250,000			Brand Wangaratta
Net Result					

### **Legal/Statutory**

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

### **Social**

Implementation of the strategy will have an impact on population and business growth for Wangaratta.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

Some of the recommendations identified within the Strategy will have an impact on the environment with the creation of new industry and expanding industry. The use of resources such as: land for development or agriculture, water, energy and natural resources will be impacted by economic growth. The impact of investment can be lessened through considered planned development and encouraging sustainable business practices.

### **2017 – 2021 Council Plan (2018 Revision)**

This report supports the 2017-2021 Council Plan:

#### **Goal**

We are Growing

#### **We will research and advocate:**

- To advance the opportunities and potential of our agriculture communities and industries
- For the provision of growth of locally available higher education opportunities through Charles Sturt University, Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE and other providers
- For the investment of new development within the municipality
- To support our existing industry sector to innovate, adapt and grow
- To ensure we have sufficient available and serviced industrial land to attract new businesses and advance employment opportunities

- To encourage growth in Wangaratta’s CBD and establish it as a regional business and retail centre
- To facilitate considered planning and development in line with long term strategic objectives for sustainability of our community and environment
- To provide attractive long term residential growth opportunities

**We will create and deliver:**

- Collateral that promotes the unique characteristics and position of the municipality for investment
- Tourism products and experiences that build our attraction to visitors
- Programs and training that support our local businesses and attract people to the CBD

**We will focus on our business:**

- To ensure that we understand and plan for the long term opportunities, challenges and priorities that face our growth potential.

**The non-negotiables**

- Our rural communities are supported and recognised as significant contributors to the economic and social character of the municipality
- We encourage considered investment in the development of new, and the growth of our existing, industries and businesses

**Strategic Links**

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

- The Rural City of Wangaratta is the employment and industrial centre of the North East
- There is a strong and vibrant business community, consisting of a diverse range of small, medium and large enterprises
- Manufacturing and service industries continue to grow and provide substantial employment opportunities
- Agriculture-based production continues to play a major economic role across the region
- The economic base of the region is diverse, stable and strong
- Tourism continues to thrive, with visitor attracted to the region’s natural beauty, food and wine, cycling tracks, arts facilities, cultural heritage and festivals
- Innovation is key to business across the region remaining at the forefront of their sectors and ensuring long-term future viability

**b) Other strategic links**

N/A

## **Risk Management**

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Negative public perception to the Strategy	Unlikely (2)	Major (4)	Medium (6)	Localised consultation will occur to invite constructive feedback for the strategy
Regional, national or global economic instability reducing the capacity to deliver the Strategies objectives	Possible (3)	Major (4)	High (7)	Consistent communication advising of the delivery of the objectives within the Strategy to update the community

## **Consultation/Communication**

The development of this Strategy involved expert facilitation, research and collation by the consultant team. The objectives of the Strategy were derived through the knowledge and expertise of the Wangaratta Economic Development & Tourism and Agriculture & Agri-business Advisory Committees.

A further review of the strategy was conducted by the Wangaratta Economic Development & Tourism and Agriculture & Agri-business Advisory Committee early March 2018 with the amendments included in the draft strategy.

The draft Strategy was placed on public exhibition from 21 March until 23 April 2018. Three submissions were received. A meeting has been held with two of the submitters and phone conversation with the third submitter to clarify and discuss their feedback.

A summary of the submissions is contained in attachment 2.

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Tools/Techniques
Consult	Wangaratta Economic Development and Tourism, and Agriculture Agri-business Advisory Committee  Business, industry, state government agencies and community invited to provide feedback on the draft strategy.	Workshop x 2  Public exhibition of the draft strategy

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

### **Options for Consideration**

1. Council does not endorse the draft Economic Development Strategy
2. Council makes further amendments which have not been considered in this report to the draft Strategy prior to endorsement.

### **Conclusion**

An Economic Development Strategy will give guidance to Council relating to decision making for economic growth throughout the municipality. It will ensure the growth of business and industry for not only today but for the future.

The implementation of the strategy will commence following endorsement with further development of actions to meet the objectives as identified in the Strategy.

### **Attachments**

- 1 Draft Economic Development Strategy 2018 - 2023 [⇒](#)
- 2 Submissions Summary Draft Economic Development Strategy [⇒](#)

### 16.3 LOCAL LAW NO 1 : COMMUNITY AMENITY

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 17 July 2018  
**Author:** Manager Building, Planning and Compliance  
**File Name:** Policies, Standards & Guidelines - Local Laws  
**File No:** F17/255

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 seeks Council's consideration of the submissions made in response to exhibition of proposed Local Law No 1 - Community Amenity 2018 (LL No1) and the minor amendments that are recommended to satisfy the concerns raised; and then to adopt LL No1 as amended.

The amended local law was prepared by Council's legal representatives to incorporate the former local law no.3 (Rail Trail) into LL No1, to make some minor amendments and updates to the LL No1 and to redraft LL No1 in accordance with current best practice.

LL No1 was exhibited in March 2017 and after some amendments were made in response to submissions was re-exhibited in May/June 2018.

Response to re-exhibition of the revised local law has been minimal which suggests that the community are content that the provisions of the proposed local law for community amenity are reasonable.

Once Council adopts a local law it comes into effect by carrying out the remaining requirements under Section 119 of the Local Government Act 1989 including publishing notice in the Government Gazette that the Local Law has been made.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Council:*

- 1. Having considered submissions made in response to exhibition of proposed Local Law No 1 - Community Amenity 2018 and the minor changes that are recommended to satisfy the concerns raised;*
- 2. Adopt the Local Law No 1 - Community Amenity 2018 with the recommended changes;*
- 3. Give notice in accordance with the requirements of Section 119(3) of the Local Government Act;*

4. *Provide a copy to the Minister for Local Government; and*
5. *Make the Local Law No 1 - Community Amenity 2018 available for public inspection and purchase at the Council offices and available on Council's website.*

Carried

**RESOLUTION:**

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

***That Council:***

1. ***Having considered submissions made in response to exhibition of proposed Local Law No 1 - Community Amenity 2018 and the minor changes that are recommended to satisfy the concerns raised;***
2. ***Adopt the Local Law No 1 - Community Amenity 2018 with the recommended changes; and include a definition of the class of persons that includes the Country Fire Authority personnel***
3. ***Give notice in accordance with the requirements of Section 119(3) of the Local Government Act;***
4. ***Provide a copy to the Minister for Local Government***
5. ***Make the Local Law No 1 - Community Amenity 2018 available for public inspection and purchase at the Council offices and available on Council's website.***

Carried

**Background**

The draft Local Law No.1 has been prepared by Council's legal advisors with the review intended to:

- repeal and incorporate the provisions relevant to Wangaratta of Local Law No 3 – Murray to Mountains Rail Trail;
- to revise existing Local Law No 1 2014 by modernisation of language and layout;
- achieve greater compatibility with local laws throughout Victoria; and
- largely to contain the same provisions as the existing local laws but add some provisions where changes in society through altered behaviour or technology e.g. skateboards has introduced the need to have additional controls to protect community amenity.

The proposed LL No 1 was exhibited in March 2017 as required along with a Local Law Community Impact Statement that detailed how the proposed local law differs to the existing local law made in 2014. There were eight submissions received from Council officers and five submissions received from the community in response to the original exhibition of the draft revised local law.

Eight internal submissions raised questions or suggested housekeeping edits to ensure consistency with the effect of previous local law provisions where an unintended alteration may have occurred. Council's legal advisors recommended the addition of references to policies and guidelines in decision making on permit applications in Clause 91, and the inclusion of Clause 96 which incorporates three existing local law policies on Droving of Livestock, Grazing of Livestock and Footpath Activities, in order that they continue as adopted and the permit conditions retain their validity.

Council expended considerable time and resources including public consultation to establish the comprehensive policies in the previous local law, and the guidelines for making local laws provides that conditions to be used in permits under local laws should generally be in the law or known in advance.

Two submissions were received about the provisions for allowing itinerant trading, with one former operator wanting to reduce the 300m limitation distance to businesses with like product offerings to 100m, and one milkbar operator wishing to extend the distance to 500m. The distance has generally worked well at 300m and the provision was not altered in the draft local law.

Three submissions were received from pigeon keepers because the restructuring the provisions for animal management had inadvertently removed the ability to grant a permit for the keeping of pigeons. The ability to grant a permit was reinstated and this change to what was exhibited was considered by Council's legal advisors to be sufficiently material that re-exhibition of the draft local law was warranted to avoid any later challenge.

Re-exhibition during May/June 2018 resulted in one internal response suggesting some minor housekeeping edits and amendments that do not alter the effect or intent of the local law but clarify that expected and permitted recreational uses particularly in relation to Council land would still be permitted. Along with a small number of minor edits, Clause 97 was inserted by Council's legal representative to make explicit that various permissions, leases, licences and exceptions granted by Council outside the local law for activities did not require a permit under the local law.

It is considered that the attached draft local law as amended in response to community consultation satisfies Council's current needs in respect to community amenity and has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines.

### **Implications**

#### **Policy Considerations**

There are no specific Council policies or strategies that relate to this report. The Local Law assists the delivery of a key result area of community wellbeing, where Council works with the community to enhance the quality of life, culture and wellbeing of all residents.

## **Financial/Economic Implications**

New or revised penalties while necessary for improved governance are unlikely to involve a large number of infringements.

## **Legal/Statutory**

The approval of the LL No1 2018 will supersede existing Local Law No 1 2014 Community Amenity and repeal Local Law No 3 Murray to Mountains Rail Trail.

## **Social**

It is considered that any new provisions are what our community would expect to be covered in their local law for amenity, and the low level of response to exhibition could indicate the provisions are generally accepted as reasonable to achieve their purpose.

## **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 Thriving

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

Our urban and rural townships are safe and equitable..

### **The non-negotiables**

All legislative and compliance requirements are met.

## **Strategic Links**

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

N/A

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

N/A

## **Risk Management**

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
The local law is not revised	Low	Medium	Medium	Adopt the revised local law

Re-exhibition of the proposed local law has removed the risk of future challenge. The risk now is that unless adopted, Council's existing local law provisions will slip further out of date and not adequately respond to current community concerns for amenity control

## **Consultation/Communication**

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Tools/Techniques
Inform	The draft local law was advertised	Local media and Council digital media
Consult	Draft document has been available on public exhibition	Inform the community in the newspaper and other local media that the draft local law is on exhibition and inviting submissions.
Involve	All submissions will be considered	Submissions are available to Council to assist consideration prior to approval

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

## **Options for Consideration**

- a) As the draft local law has been reviewed by authorised officers in consultation with Council's solicitors, Council adopt the amended Local Law No 1.
- b) That consideration of the draft local law be deferred.
- c) That revision of the local law be abandoned

Neither b) or c) is recommended as substantial time and advice has gone into drafting and exhibiting the revised Local Law. All submissions have been properly considered and necessary edits have been made in consultation with Council's legal representatives. The logical next step is to adopt the local law to better protect the community amenity for all residents.

The requirement to review the Local Law No.1 is the result of a Council resolution to abandon the former Local Law No.3 and incorporate its provisions into one revised Local Law No.1.

## **Conclusion**

Council's officers and its legal representatives consider that the procedure followed in the making of the revised local law has met all the requirements of State Government Guidelines in the Local Laws Manual and of the Local Government Act 1989.

The submissions made in response to public exhibition have been properly considered and any necessary changes have been made to the draft local law. Two existing local laws have been combined, reviewed and presented in a more logical format to achieve the community's expectation that its local laws remain relevant and able to respond appropriately to protect amenity for all residents and visitors.

It is recommended that Council consider the submissions made in response to public exhibition and adopt the local law as amended by Council's legal representatives in consultation with authorised officers.

## **Attachments**

- 1 Local Law No 1 - Community Impact Statement [⇒](#)
- 2 Draft Local Law No 1 of 2018 [⇒](#)

## 16.4 TOURISM EVENT FUNDING PROGRAM GUIDELINES

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 17 July 2018  
**Author:** Economic Development and Tourism Officer  
**File Name:**  
**File No:** F16/908

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 review the revised guidelines for the Tourism Events Grants program. The grants program guidelines have been revised to align with the recently adopted Events and Attraction Strategy.

#### **RESOLUTION:**

**(Moved: Councillor H Bussell/Councillor A Fitzpatrick)**

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

- 1. adopts the amendments to the guidelines for the Tourism Events Grants program; and***
- 2. endorses the advertising for applications for the Tourism Events Grants program 2018/2019***

**Carried**

### **Background**

The Rural City of Wangaratta Tourism Events Funding Program supports the growth of events in the region that attract intrastate, interstate and international visitors. Events supported under this program have a strong tourism focus that demonstrate the potential to promote the destination.

The guidelines and application forms have been revised for 2018/2019 to align them with the recently adopted Wangaratta Events & Attractions Strategy. The changes to the application include:

- details of the Tourism Grants Assessment Panel which will consist of a Councillor, a Director, a Manager, the grants coordinator and a member of the Wangaratta Economic Development & Tourism Advisory Committee who will assess all applications.
- an update of the application guidelines and application aligning the event classifications with the Wangaratta Events & Attractions Strategy. The event classifications are:

- Marque events, attract greater than 3,000 visitors
  - Major events, attracts between 500 to 2,999 visitors
  - Minor events, attracts less than 500 visitors
- Inclusion of a question in the application to provide details of environmental sustainability.

Timeline:

- Applications open 18 July 2018
- Applications close 22 August 2018
- Applications presented to Council 18 September 2018
- Funding Agreements 19 October 2018
- Financial acquittal 30 June 2018

### **Implications**

#### **Policy Considerations**

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

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

Financial allocation in the 2018/2019 Budget.

	2018/2019 Approved Budget for this proposal \$	This Proposal \$	Variance to Approved Budget \$	Comments
Revenue/Income				
Expense	\$27,000	\$27,000		
Net Result				

#### **Legal/Statutory**

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

#### **Social**

The granting of funds to event organisers achieves social outcomes that increase visitation and contributes to a vibrant and active community.

The unsuccessful events are supported through in kind promotion and advice on other opportunities.

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

There are significant environmental sustainable impacts from hosting events. Event organisers are encouraged to adopt sustainable practices that will reduce waste or damage to the environment. The assessment of events applications includes a requirement to address environment and sustainable actions.

## **2017 – 2021 Council Plan (2018 Revision)**

This report supports the 2017-2021 Council Plan:

### **Goal**

We are Growing

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

- Tourism products and experiences that build our attraction to visitors

#### **We will plan and make decisions for the future:**

- To promote regional cycle tourism for the benefit of our community and the local economy

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

- To ensure that we understand and plan for the long term opportunities, challenges and priorities that face our growth potential

### **The non-negotiables**

- Our tourism industry is promoted, valued and vibrant
- Our rural communities are supported and recognised as significant contributors to the economic and social character of the municipality

### **Strategic Links**

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

A thriving regional economy

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**

Draft Economic Development Strategy

### **Risk Management**

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Negative public perception of the new guidelines	(3) Possible	(2) Minor	Medium	Provide more detailed information to event organisers

## **Consultation/Communication**

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

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

## **Options for Consideration**

### **Conclusion**

The changes align with a recently adopted strategy of Council and have been made to ensure consistency. Advertising for applications will be open for a 5 week period with promotion in local papers, direct email, newsletters, social media and Council's website.

### **Attachments**

- 1 2018 2019 Tourism Events Funding Program Application Form [⇒](#)
- 2 2018 2019 Tourism Events Grants Program Guidelines [⇒](#)

**17. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Nil.

**18. ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Nil.

## 19. RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

### 19.1 ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

**Meeting Type:** Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Date of Meeting:** 17 July 2018  
**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.

Date	Meeting details	Refer
2 July 2018	Councillor Briefing Forum	Attachment
25 June 2018	Councillor Briefing Forum	Attachment
5 June 2018	Economic Development and Tourism Advisory	Attachment
18 June 2018	Councillor Briefing Forum	Attachment

#### **RESOLUTION:**

**(Moved: Councillor H Bussell/Councillor A Fitzpatrick)**

***That Council receives the reports of Assemblies of Councillors.***

**Carried**

**Attachments**

- 1 Assembly of Councillors - 18 June 2018 - Briefing Forum [⇒](#)
- 2 Assembly of Councillors 5 June 2018 - Eco Dev and Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting [⇒](#)
- 3 Assembly of Councillors - 25 June 2018 - Briefing Forum [⇒](#)
- 4 Assembly of Councillors - 2 July 2018 - Briefing Forum [⇒](#)

**20. NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil.

**21. URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil.

**22. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

*Chris Bellfour asked if the Aerodrome Masterplan as presented by T70 had been accepted by Council, if amendments had been made in light of the submissions put forward by the Wangaratta Aero Club and the aviation community and if so, what the changes were?*

*Mr Bellfour also referred to publicity of the Federal Government grant of \$400,000 or more for the purpose of building two commercial hangers at Wangaratta and asked if an update could be provided to the public on what progress had been made and whether a location had been identified for the hangers? He also asked if tenders have been called for and when construction might commence and be completed?*

Mr Barry Green, Director Development Services responded that Council had received submissions, sent those submissions onto the consultants and that a further meeting had been held between Council officers and consultants. He also advised that as a result, changes have been made to the masterplan and will be presented to a future Council Briefing Forum. Following that process there will be a meeting with the submitters, and then a final report will be presented to Council to consider adoption of the plan.

*Chris Bellfour asked if the community would get plenty of notice about the changes that have been proposed?*

Mr Barry Green, Director Development Services responded that notice of changes will be provided in relation to submissions. Mr Green also informed Chris of a survey of the area, around the existing airport hangers including the land recently purchased by council was the most recent works undertaken and once officers receive the survey final locations will be considered, also taking into account, feedback from the Masterplan. Mr Green also confirmed that funding would conclude at the end of 2020.

*Chris Bellfour asked if the tenders for this were likely to go to a local company as opposed to company from Melbourne?*

Mr Barry Green, Director Development Services responded that Council could not specify who, or who may not get the tender as it would go through a public tender process, particularly because of the cost of the works.

*Mary Daley referred to the petition presented at the Council Meeting August in 2017 and a resolution which stated Council endorse the development of a Gaming Policy to guide the Council's future direction and to support the of*

*gaming applications and projects to be developed with Community and Stakeholder consultation. Mary asked what the progress was on the development of this policy.*

Mr Brendan McGrath, Chief Executive Officer responded that Jaime Carroll, the Director of the area is developing that work and was currently attending a public information session on Councils behalf. Mr McGrath advised that the question would be taken on notice.

*Mr Brian Smith, Greta Valley Free Range Pork asked if Councillors and Barry Green read and understand planning permits that are presented to Councillors for decision.*

Mayor Ken Clark responded that Councillors make decisions based on what is presented to them however, they do rely on Cr Dean Rees to guide them on planning issues given his background and portfolio.

*Mr Brian Smith, Greta Valley Free Range Pork asked if Barry Green understood what he was reading?*

Mr Barry Green, Director Development Services responded that he did certainly understand what officers prepare having written these types of reports himself, as do the executive team before they are presented to Council.

*Mr Brian Smith, Greta Valley Free Range Pork referred to the Council meeting of August in 2017 where he was promised advise on objections to his permit and asked if there were in fact any objections to his piggery before they applied for their permit?*

*Mr Brian Smith presented a letter to Mr Brendan McGrath, Chief Executive Officer.*

*Mr Brian Jones also asked if Council could obtain funds to construct a bridge over the Ovens River?*

Mr Alan Clark, Director Infrastructure Services responded that there had been discussion about another bridge over the Ovens in Wangaratta for many years, however there had not been any support from either the State or Federal level and therefore was not likely occur in the foreseeable future.

**23. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS****RESOLUTION:****(Moved: Councillor D Fuller/Councillor M Currie)**

***That the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with section 89 of the Local Government Act 1989 to deal with a matter deemed to fall within the scope of s.89(2) (d) of the Act and which has been deemed to be a confidential matter pursuant to s.77(2)© of the Act.***

**Carried****RESOLUTION:****(Moved: Councillor K Clarke OAM/Councillor A Fitzpatrick)**

***That the Meeting be resumed (7.24 p.m.)***

**Carried****24. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The Meeting closed at 7.26pm .