

# New Youth Justice Centre

## Summary of Community Advisory Group Meeting Eleven

### Meeting details

<b>Meeting title:</b> Community Advisory Group	<b>No:</b> 11
<b>Date:</b> Monday, 14 April 2018	<b>Time:</b> 4.00pm to 5.00pm
<b>Location:</b> WestJustice Building, Level 1 / 8 Watton Street, Werribee VIC 3030	

### Attendees

**Community Advisory Group Members:** Justin Giddings (Chair) Barbara McLure (Deputy Chair), Marisa Berton, Lisa Heinrichs, Kim McAliney, Walter Villagonzalo, Peter Maynard, Garry Jackson, John Menegazzo, Richard Wittmack, Natalie Walker and Les Sanderson.  
**Other attendees:** Louise Baring.

### Apologies

Walter Villagonzalo, Amelia Seymour and Peter Ewer.

### Meeting overview

#### Opening

The meeting was opened by the Chair who thanked members for attending.

## **Community feedback and community issues/concerns and community engagement opportunities**

### **Debrief and insights from Karreenga Correctional Centre tour**

- Positive feedback was received from members who attended the tour of the z Karreenga Correctional Centre, noting they though ti was an impressive prison in terms of design and operations.
- In particular, members were impressed by the accommodation units and how prisoners maintain their residential area, budget and prepare food. This is something that members could see as valuable for young people in Cherry Creek.
- Members also liked that the facility was open campus and looks and feels like a community with strong security features.

### **Mental health beds**

- Mental health beds at Cherry Creek facility was discussed.
  - A question was asked if the number of mental health beds in the facility was sufficient to support children and young people who may have mental health issues.
  - The department confirmed the mental health beds are specifically for young people in the centre who have genuine and significant high levels of mental health episodes and/or issues.
  - The department confirmed that it is common for around one to three offenders to utilise the mental health beds at any given time.
  - In Parkville, 20 to 24 young people receive mental health services including psychiatrists and psychologists at any given time, without being allocated to a specific mental health bed.
  - The young offenders who utilise the mental health beds may also have experienced family violence and/or drug/alcohol addiction within their families. This requires additional support services as opposed to a dedicated bed.
  - The department also confirmed that anecdotally the ratio of bed numbers to allocated mental health beds was higher than existing youth justice and adult correctional facilities.
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## Youth Justice Centre Facility Plan and Community Plan

- The final version of the Youth Justice Centre Facility Plan was circulated, along with all assessments reports and attachments.
- Department confirmed the plan is the latest version and will be finalised in a design format.
- A communications plan was circulated that outlined the approach to sharing the plan with the community, including hosting at the Wyndham City Council, Engage Vic website and advertising through the Wyndham Star Weekly.
- The plan will be finalised in the design format and published.
- The council offered to share communications on the plan through their publication and provide a link on their website.
- A discussion was held on if the plan should be hosted in libraries. It was noted that this may not be the most effective channel to reach people but a good point to provide a postcard size flyer on the plan being available online.

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## Community Feedback/Issues

- Community are seeking information about when the construction commences and are keen to ensure the facility is built.
- The department confirmed it could put a rough timeline on the Engage Vic website of dates for early works and construction to commence.
- Recent media coverage reported that a number of items were identified on the site during the environmental assessments. The department confirmed that the Targeted surveys for a variety of Matters of National Environmental Significance have been completed.
- Only two items identified on the site which were the golden sun moth and Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain community (NTGVVP).
- The department confirmed that the following were not identified on the site:
  - Striped Legless Lizard;
  - Button Wrinklewort
  - Clover Glycine;
  - Spiny Rice-flower;
  - Large-headed Fireweed; and
  - Matted Flax-lily.

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## Project Update

- On 12 December 2017 the Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) responded to the draft Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) with advice that it was not adequate.
- Project team members and Biosis are meeting with the RAP on 25 January to discuss the assessment and agree actions to address the concerns identified in the assessment.
- Subject to the outcomes of the meeting, the draft CHMP will be revised and then resubmitted to the RAP for approval.

## Ancillary services

- The option for establishing electricity has been agreed, and an application lodged with the service provider, Powercor, by Aurecon.
- Aurecon and HDR have confirmed that the facility can be operated adequately without gas, and on this basis a gas connection will not be required. A report detailing this approval is being finalised.
- In light of feedback from City West Water on a proposed potable water connection, further work is required to finalise an agreed approach.
- In light of feedback from Melbourne Water and City West Water on a proposed sewer connection, further work is required to finalise an agreed approach.
- Aurecon has prepared a recommended design approach for the new access road and intersection with Little River Road and submitted it to VicRoads and Wyndham City Council.

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## Key meeting outcomes

- A site visit to be organised for February's meeting for all CAG members.
  - The next meeting to be organised for Karreenga prison for members to participate in a tour of the facility.
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## Project Update

### Design

- Schematic design is progressing well. Building layouts illustrating rooms, dimensions, circulation, and lines of sight are being tested with operational staff and key stakeholders. Key areas include: accommodation units, education and recreation, general and mental health, intensive supervision unit, admissions, gatehouse, Koori, cultural, visits centre and staff administration.
- Commenced early discussion on external finishes and palette for roofs, walls and floors with the design intent to be durable, robust, humane, distinctive, visually tactile and expressive.

### Managing Contractor

- The request to the Treasurer to approve the appointment has progressed internally and is expected to reach the Ministers office week 16-20 April

- Following all the required approvals, it is expected the Managing Contractor will commence in late April or early May 2018.

### **Site purchase and transfer of land**

- The Contract of Sale has been executed by both parties. Settlement will occur upon Melbourne Water obtaining Commonwealth approval to vary existing Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
- (EPBC Act) conditions that apply to the site. Melbourne Water confirmed that Department of Environment and Energy (DEE) have not provided update on their request yet.

### **Planning approvals**

- Request for the planning approvals for the project is currently under consideration by the Minister of Planning.
- Minor legal comments/changes were received from Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning on 12 April 2018. The department accepted all comments and it is expected that the planning request will be approved shortly.

### **Environmental approvals**

- DEE sent their decision of the assessment approach on 13 March 2018 advising that the proposed action will be assessed by preliminary documentation. Specific conditions that need to be addressed in the preliminary documentation were sent to the department on 11 April 2018. The project team are working with environmental consultants on preparation of Preliminary Documentation.
- The delay associated with the EPBC Act approval process is impacting the start of the early works which cannot commence until approval is granted by DEE.

### **Cultural heritage assessment**

- Revised Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) was approved on 6 March 2018. A new notice of intent has been lodged to undertake another CHMP required for sewer and portable water services.
- Inception meeting with Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) is scheduled for 18 April 2018.

### **Ancillary services**

- The engineering consultants are developing a proposal to operate the centre without gas, which will be reviewed by the project following submission.
- Further discussions between Melbourne Water, City West Water and the project engineers has been held on the sewerage services connection point. All parties have now confirmed the final termination point with environmental surveys being finalised for this route. Due to crossing a number of waterways a CHMP will need to be undertaken prior to these works being undertaken.