Ordinary Meeting of Council
Olympia, Hawdon & Ibbott Rooms
Level 4, 1 Flintoff Street, Greensborough

- Council Meeting commencing at 7.00pm

- Public Question Time commencing at the conclusion of the Council Meeting
Acknowledgement of the Traditional Owner, the Wurundjeri willam people
“Our Meeting is being held on the Traditional Land of the Wurundjeri willam people, and on behalf of Banyule City Council, I wish to acknowledge them as the Traditional Owners. I would also like to pay my respects to the Wurundjeri Elders, past and present, and to the Elders of other Aboriginal peoples who may be here today.”

Apologies and Leave of Absence

Confirmation of Minutes
Ordinary Meeting of Council held 8 April 2019

Disclosure of Interests

1. Urgent Business

REPORTS:

2. Petitions
   Nil

3. People – Community Strengthening and Support
   Nil

4. Planet – Environmental Sustainability
   4.1 Environmental Stewardship Strategic Plan - For Endorsement ..... 5

5. Place – Sustainable Amenity and Built Environment
   5.1 Greensborough Parking Plan - Community Consultation ............ 9
   5.2 North East Link - Update...................................................... 18
   5.3 Draft Heidelberg Activity Centre and Medical Precinct Public
       Realm Strategy.......................................................................... 30
   5.4 Brixton Avenue, Eltham North - Drainage Upgrade.................. 34
   5.5 Ford Park South - Change Room minor upgrade........................ 38
   5.6 Banyule Business Grants Pilot Program ..................................... 41

6. Participation – Community Involvement in Community Life
   6.1 Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service Meeting Procedures - Local
       Law Amendment 2018.............................................................. 49

7. Performance - Use Our Resources Wisely
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   7.3 Advisory Committees’ Report.................................................. 69

8. Sealing of Documents
   Nil

9. Notices of Motion
   Nil

10. General Business

Public Question Time

Closure of Meeting
Audio Recording of Council Meetings

Please note that all Council Meetings are audio recorded, with the exception of matters identified as confidential items on the Agenda. This includes public participation during the meeting. These recordings will be made available on Council’s website www.banyule.vic.gov.au.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Monday, 20 May 2019.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Banyule’s four-year environmental strategic plans are due for review across the key pillars of energy, water, biodiversity and stewardship.

A report on climate action was considered at the Council meeting on 10 December 2018. One of the actions included the public consultation/exhibition of the strategic draft plans for water, biodiversity and stewardship. These draft plans have been exhibited over a four week public consultation period during the month of February 2019.

Based on the feedback received changes include the explanation of the key ways in which Council undertakes its work in this space. These relate to the following:

- Engaging: provision of information and resources to ensure the community is equipped with the knowledge to move towards a more sustainable lifestyle
- Enabling: building capacity within key demographics and remove barriers to the uptake of sustainability practices
- Partnering: establishing community and program partners to deliver integrated and holistic environmental programs
- Leading: undertaking sustainability action within our own operations

The revised, final Stewardship Plan is presented in this report for Council endorsement, with further individual reports to be provided in the coming months for the Water Plan and Biodiversity Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

2. Publish the Environmental Stewardship Plan on its website.
COUNCIL PLAN

This report is in line with Banyule’s Council Plan key direction to “Be environmental stewards”.

BACKGROUND

The Council Plan 2017-2021 sets out key directions and objectives for Banyule in helping to serve and support the community.

Council’s approach to environmental sustainability is outlined within the ‘Planet’ section of the Council Plan. This establishes the key directions as shown below, which are supported by standalone environmental Strategic Plans.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Direction</th>
<th>Supporting Environmental Strategic Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project and enhance our natural environment</td>
<td>Biodiversity Strategic Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conserve water and improve stormwater management</td>
<td>Water Strategic Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead in planning for, and responding to, climate change</td>
<td>Banyule’s Action on Climate Change – Our Plan for Carbon Neutrality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avoid waste generation</td>
<td>Towards Zero Waste Management Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be environmental stewards</td>
<td>Stewardship Strategic Plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Following Banyule City Council’s resolution of 10 December 2018 (CO2018/267) that committed to urgent action on climate change, the Biodiversity, Stewardship and Water Plans have been updated and revised.

The Energy Plan will be integrated into a broader, Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan in mid-2019, following completion of the current climate action analysis work.

This Paper presents the final Stewardship Plan for endorsement by Council.

CONSULTATION

Following a period of internal review, including with the Banyule Environment Advisory Committee (BEAC), the Stewardship Plan was presented for a four week public consultation period.

The consultation was advertised to the community via Council’s environmental newsletter GreenWrap and Facebook and Council’s engagement platform, Shaping Banyule on Council’s website.

Feedback on the Stewardship Plan was generally positive, with a small number of comments received that noted:

- Support for Council’s partnership approach
- The need for Council to declare a ‘climate emergency’
- Support for greater integration of indigenous heritage within stewardship activities
- The need for SMART actions across all key areas (including ‘leading’).
These comments have been considered and integrated where relevant within the final Stewardship Plan (attached).

**THE STEWARDSHIP PLAN**

Changes to the Stewardship Plan have included explanation of the key ways in which Council undertakes its work in this space, as described below. This is particularly helpful in articulating to the community why certain programs are prioritised and delivered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA OF WORK</th>
<th>EXAMPLE PROJECT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engaging: provision of information and resources to ensure the community is equipped with the knowledge to move towards a more sustainable lifestyle</td>
<td>• Sustainability themed workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enabling: building capacity within key demographics and remove barriers to the uptake of sustainability practices</td>
<td>• Environmental grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnering: establishing community and program partners to deliver integrated and holistic environmental programs</td>
<td>• Change Makers event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leading: undertaking sustainability action within our own operations</td>
<td>• Climate action work to achieve carbon neutrality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Environmental Representatives Program (Enviro Reps)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEGAL CONSIDERATION**

There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation contained in this report.

**HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER**

In developing this report to Council, the subject matter has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

**OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* (Act) requires members of Council staff, and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP STRATEGIC PLAN - FOR ENDORSEMENT
cont’d

CONCLUSION

The Banyule City Council Stewardship Strategic Plan 2019-23 has been developed following a community consultation process that has included Banyule Environment Advisory Committee and the wider community. The Stewardship Strategic Plan is now presented to Council for endorsement.

ATTACHMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Environmental Stewardship Plan, 2019 - 2023</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.1 GREENSBOROUGH PARKING PLAN - COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Author: Kathleen Petras - Transport Planning Team Leader, City Development
Ward: Bakewell

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The development of parking management plans for Banyule’s Major Activity Centres is identified in the Banyule Integrated Transport Plan. The Heidelberg and Bell Street Mall Parking Plan and the Ivanhoe Parking Plan have previously been adopted by Council.

The draft Greensborough Parking Plan considers parking trends and growth projections in the Greensborough Activity Centre and surrounds and provides strategies to manage parking in the immediate and long (20 years) terms.

Key stakeholders were invited to provide input to the development of the Plan. Input was provided by the Greensborough Chamber of Commerce, WaterMarc, Greensborough RSL and various local schools and community groups.

Key findings during the development of the Plan are that:
- A sufficient supply of car parking is currently available with over 7000 publically available car parking spaces.
- There is a moderate level of parking overstay currently occurring proximate to Greensborough Plaza.
- There is a potential need for 100 to 500 new car parking spaces in the Activity Centre over the next 20 years associated with increased development.

A set of recommendations have been developed taking into consideration the key findings and stakeholder consultation. They include actions to:
- Promote sustainable transport use.
- Improve safety and accessibility to car parks.
- Improve vehicle turnover.
- Apply parking rates in line with similar activity centres.

It is considered that the continued use of existing car parking requirements causes an increased legislative burden to potential developers and business owners relative to other centres.

Future car parking needs will be accommodated by the increased use of existing underutilised parking as well as a change of travel mode choice. Building of new car parking facilities will also be considered if needed.

Community comment to the public exhibition of the draft will inform the development of the final Greensborough Parking Plan.
RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Invite community feedback on the draft Greensborough Parking Plan during a six week public exhibition period from 29 April to 8 June 2019.

2. Develop a Shaping Banyule consultation page to provide information and collect feedback on the draft Greensborough Parking Plan and advise the community via social media channels and the Banyule Banner.

3. Provide two drop in information sessions to the community to provide information and obtain feedback on the draft Greensborough Parking Plan.

4. Write to all traders and land owners and occupiers within the study area to invite feedback on the draft Greensborough Parking Plan.

5. Consider a future report on the final Greensborough Parking Plan including community feedback obtained during the consultation period.

COUNCIL PLAN

This report is in line with Banyule’s Council Plan key direction to “Support sustainable transport”.

BACKGROUND

Car parking provision plays an important role in the development of Activity Centres. It needs to be carefully managed to ensure a centre is economically strong with good accessibility, social connectivity and amenity.

Parking plans set out strategies to manage existing and future car parking demand. A parking plan is also required to support any proposed amendment to vary the standard Victorian car parking provisions as set out in the Banyule Planning Scheme.

The development of a Greensborough Parking Plan (GPP) is identified in the Banyule Integrated Transport Plan 2015-2035 and the Banyule Activity Centre Car Parking Strategy. It follows on from the adoption of the Heidelberg and Bell Street Mall Parking Plan in 2016 and the Ivanhoe Parking Plan in 2018.
TIMELINES

The GPP development process is shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Greensborough Parking Plan – development process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Process</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appointment of Consultant</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking supply and demand surveys</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background study</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Options paper</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder consultation</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft Plan</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Consultation</td>
<td>Upcoming – 29 April – 8 June 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Plan</td>
<td>Upcoming - July/Aug 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STUDY AREA

The study area was divided into a central commercial area (Zone A) and a surrounding residential area (Zone B). These are shown in figure 1 below.

![Study Area Map]

**Figure 1: Study Area – Greensborough Parking Plan**

FINDINGS

Car Parking Supply

A car parking supply audit was undertaken as part of the car parking study. Table 2 below shows the availability of public car parking spaces across the study area.

**Table 2: Car Parking Spaces in Greensborough**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Car Parking Spaces</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Street</td>
<td>2,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Street</td>
<td>4,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone A – Central commercial area</td>
<td>4,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone B – Residential surrounding area</td>
<td>2,460</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- In Zone A, very short (less than 1 hour) and short term (1.5 - 3 hours) parking restrictions apply to around 70% of all available parking.
In Zone B, 90% of parking is unrestricted.
Greensborough Plaza car parks provide 75% of all short term parking spaces in Zone A.

Car Parking Demand and Duration of Stay

Parking surveys to understand both demand for (occupancy of) car parking spaces and how long the spaces were occupied (duration of stay) were undertaken on a typical weekday (Thursday) and on a Saturday between 7am and 10pm in September 2017. The key findings are outlined below. Complete findings can be found in the attached Draft Greensborough Parking Plan.

Parking Demand
- Parking demand peaks at around midday on both weekdays and Saturdays.
- At peak demand around 78% of available car parking in Zone A is in use. This has remained consistent since 2006.
- At peak demand around 20% of available parking within Zone B is in use.

Duration of stay
- In Zone A:
  - The majority (70%) of car parking spaces are occupied for less than one hour.
  - Most of the remaining spaces are occupied for less than two hours.
- In Zone B, car parking spaces are occupied for longer with:
  - A third of spaces being occupied for more than three hours.
  - Only 40% are occupied for less than one hour.

Overstay
- The highest incidence of parking overstay is occurring around Greensborough Plaza where 18% of vehicles overstay the signed restrictions (on a typical weekday).
- Other areas where moderate overstay is occurring include near the Greensborough RSL and in the Carter Reserve (WaterMarc/Savers) car parks.

FUTURE PROJECTIONS

The Banyule Economic Information Base was used in the Greensborough car parking study to forecast possible future car parking conditions up to 2036.

The analysis found that additional car parking in the Greensborough Activity Centre may be required as follows:
- 400 spaces for retail uses.
- 300 - 500 spaces for office uses.
- 400 - 600 spaces for medical uses.
- Parking for an additional 1,100 residential dwellings.

It is considered that the additional residential dwelling car parking needs will be largely accommodated within the existing residential areas where parking supply is currently abundant (being only 20% utilised at peak).

Also given that there are currently around 1,000 spaces vacant in Zone A at peak demand, this analysis suggests a potential need for 100 to 500 additional spaces.
within the Greensborough Activity Centre in the next 20 years. It is considered that this need will be able to be met by:

- Behaviour change of parking behaviour – where more distant parking is utilised.
- Behaviour change to usage of other modes of transport.
- Building of new car parking facilities if needed.

CAR PARKING RATES

Car parking requirements for land uses in Greensborough are specified in the Banyule Planning Scheme Clause 52.06 and Clause 45.09 - Schedule 1 to the Parking Overlay – Greensborough Activity Centre.

A recent change across all Victorian planning schemes effectively lowered the car parking requirements in activity centres with good public transport access to Column B rates.

Schedule 1 is considered to be no longer appropriate to the Greensborough Activity Centre and should be removed. This is because the continued use of existing car parking requirements causes an increased legislative burden to potential developers and business owners relative to other centres.

Table 3 below outlines the proposed changes to the parking requirement for restaurants, shops, and residential developments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land use</th>
<th>CURRENT Measure</th>
<th>RECOMMENDED Measure</th>
<th>Car parking rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dwelling</td>
<td>1 to each one and two bedroom dwelling</td>
<td>2 to each three or more bedroom dwelling</td>
<td>to each one and two bedroom dwelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.2 visitor spaces to each dwelling</td>
<td>0 visitor spaces to each dwelling</td>
<td>visitor spaces to each dwelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restaurant</td>
<td>0.4 to each seat</td>
<td>3.5 – to each 100 sqm of leasable floor area</td>
<td>to each one and two bedroom dwelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shop</td>
<td>4.6 to each 100 sqm of leasable floor area</td>
<td>3.5 to each 100 sqm of leasable floor area</td>
<td>visitor spaces to each dwelling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that a Banyule Planning Scheme amendment will be required to remove Schedule 1 from Clause 45.09 and enact these changes. This future amendment would need to be supported by the inclusion of this recommendation in the Greensborough Parking Plan.
STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Local traders, community facility operators, local schools and community groups were consulted in the development of the draft Plan. The concerns raised have been summarised in Table 4 below.

Table 4 – Draft Greensborough Parking Plan - Stakeholder issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Issue raised</th>
<th>No. of Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Inadequate long term parking availability for staff / commuters</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Inadequate parking available for patrons accessing WaterMarc</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Inadequate parking available for shop customers</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Illegal parking (i.e. parking at driveways, adjacent to 1 Flintoff/ WaterMarc off-street car park)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Safety concerns - staff walking to remote all day car parking locations</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Inadequate disabled car parking spaces</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Pedestrian access – between 1 Flintoff/WaterMarc and Savers car parks</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Inappropriate parking restrictions adjacent to businesses</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Inappropriate operational speeds within off-street car parks</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These issues have been addressed in the recommendations of the draft Plan in the following ways:

- Development of a wayfinding map to assist in finding all day parking within the Greensborough Activity Centre.
- Car park improvements to lighting and pedestrian access.
- Ensure adequate provision of parking for people with disabilities.
- Increase of parking enforcement.

The complete list of recommendations are outlined in the following section.

RECOMMENDATIONS

A set of recommended actions have been developed to allow Council to strategically manage car parking provision into the future in Greensborough. These are outlined below.

Promotion of alternate transport modes

- Advocate to State Government authorities for the provision of improved pedestrian and cyclist access to Greensborough Station.
Advocate to State Government authorities for the completion of public and active transport projects as outlined in the Greensborough Transport Masterplan.

Car park improvements

- Investigate the installation of electronic signs at the WaterMarc/ Savers multi-level carpark to let visitors know if the carpark has empty parking spaces available.
- Review existing parking restrictions signage within the Henry Street car park and consider additional signage to make existing parking restrictions clearer.
- Encourage the provision of 1 motorcycle or scooter parking space for every 50 car parking spaces constructed within new car parks.
- Promote the use of available public car parking in the medical precinct.
- Develop a wayfinding map to all day parking locations to within the area to assist local staff and others requiring this type of parking.
- Ensure adequate parking is provided for people with disabilities adjacent to appropriate land uses.
- Provide adequate lighting and pedestrian footpaths to ensure accessibility to off street parking locations.
- Bicycle parking is to be provided at a rate of 1 bicycle space to each car space waived when a reduction to car parking requirement for a residential development is approved.

Parking restrictions and enforcement

- Ensure appropriate parking restrictions are implemented and enforced to maintain access to driveways and off-street car parking facilities.
- Increase car parking enforcement throughout the Carter Reserve multi-deck car park.
- Increase car parking enforcement throughout the 90-minute car parking area within Greensborough Plaza (in consultation with Plaza management).
- Increase both on-street and off street parking enforcement in central locations especially near the RSL and Van Dykes swimming academy.

Car parking rates

- Remove Schedule 1 to the Parking Overlay – Greensborough Activity Centre so that car parking rates for all land uses are specified as per Clause 52.06 of the Banyule Planning Scheme
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

It is proposed to run community consultation from 29 April to 8 June 2019. This consultation will include:

- Shaping Banyule online information and survey open throughout consultation period.
- Two evening drop-in information sessions to be held at Council offices in Greensborough on Thursday 16 and Tuesday 28 May 2019.
- Invitation by letter to all land owners, tenants and traders within the Greensborough car parking study area to invite them to provide feedback.
- Banyule Banner notification to be distributed 6 – 10 May 2019.

After consultation is complete the Greensborough Parking Plan will be finalised taking into account the feedback obtained. The final Greensborough Parking Plan will then be presented to Council.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (Act) requires members of Council staff, and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

LEGAL CONSIDERATION

There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation contained in this report.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

In developing this report to Council, the subject matter has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

CONCLUSION

It is proposed that the draft Greensborough Parking Plan be publically exhibited for a six week period from 29 April to 8 June April 2019. Public feedback will inform the finalisation of the Plan and it’s parking management strategies to be implemented in Greensborough.

ATTACHMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Draft Greensborough Parking Plan - April 2019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.2 NORTH EAST LINK - UPDATE

Author: Michelle Herbert - Senior Transport Engineer, City Development

Previous Items
Council on 25 Feb 2019 7.00pm (Item 5.1 - North East Link Update)
Council on 29 Oct 2018 7.00pm (Item 5.1 - North East Link - Progress Report)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council hosted a successful North East Link Environment Effects Statement (NELEES) community forum on the 27 March 2019 at the Ivanhoe Civic Centre which included discussion around the key issues, public inquiry and submissions. In addition to Council representation, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and Maddocks Lawyers presented at the forum.

The Environment Effects Statement (EES) was released for public exhibition on 10 April 2019, for a period of 40 business days to 7 June 2019. Over the coming weeks stakeholders will have an opportunity to review the key findings of the NELEES Report and make a submission to the NELEES Panel Hearing. Following the Panel Hearing a report to the Minister for Planning will be developed, this will be utilised to progress North East Link decision making.

Council is preparing a comprehensive submission to the public inquiry. The key issues around transport, business, ecology, landscape and visual, and social impacts will be the focus of Council’s submission. Council is also preparing a submission to the Federal Government’s process, the Public Environment Report (PER). The PER consolidates Flora and Fauna matters of National significance. A future report will be provided to Council seeking endorsement of the submission to the EES and PER at its 20 May meeting.

North East Link Project (NELP) also released an alternative design for the Watsonia Precinct. Major changes include a green bridge for cars, bikes and pedestrians to connect Elder Street to both sides of Greensborough Road and the Watsonia station carpark. There will be a multi-storey car park and quick drop-off zone at the Watsonia Station. The design also includes a central bus stop on Watsonia Road, and signalised crossings at Greensborough Road, Watsonia Road and Elder Street.

Ethos Urban was engaged to complete a Watsonia Precinct Concept Plan, supplementing the Council endorsed structure plan Picture Watsonia, in order to capture opportunities afforded by the proximity of the NEL. Enhancements to Watsonia Village including access, land use and functionality improvements aligned with Picture Watsonia.

BabEng, an international tunnelling expert has completed an analysis of the feasibility of extending the NEL tunnel north of Watsonia Station. The recommended option is a tunnel to just north of Hurstbridge Rail Line. There are a number of benefits to the Banyule municipality due to reduced surface works south of the rail line. However, there are complexities associated with a long tunnel north of the rail line, where the tunnel terminates and interfaces with the Grimshaw Street Interchange. Land at AK Line Reserve, Watsonia Primary School and Trist Reserve and potentially the rail line would be impacted.
The Andrews Government announced that two major construction firms, CPB and Laing O’Rourke have been shortlisted to deliver the first package of works on the North East Link. The $200 million first works package will start next year, once planning approvals are in place, and deliver a range of power, water and other utility works to pave the way for major construction on the $15.8 billion project.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive and note the report including the advice on the long tunnel option provided by the international tunnelling expert BabEng.

**COUNCIL PLAN**

This report is in line with Banyule’s Council Plan key direction to “Support sustainable transport”.

**BACKGROUND**

NELP is progressing its design and development of the North East Link based on the Government decision to adopt corridor Option A.

Council’s adopted position on the North East Link Project is as follows:

‘Council is opposed to the North East Link through Banyule as it does not provide the best transport outcome for the future needs of Melbourne. As the state government has now decided to implement this route, Council will continue to advocate for changes to protect our natural environment, preserve our local neighbourhoods, avoid dividing our community and provide for real solutions to the transport issues in the north.’

The EES has been prepared by NELP in 27 chapters which are informed by detailed technical reports in 18 discipline areas. The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) has been overseeing this process with the assistance of a Technical Reference Group (TRG). The TRG included stakeholder representatives from across government authorities including Council. Council has contributed to the EES development since February 2018.

NELP opened a staffed community drop in centre at 17 Watsonia Rd, Watsonia in December 2018 that is expected to remain open for the duration of the North East Link construction.

NELP funded 1.5 EFT to enable Council to assist the NELP process. It has been proposed to extend this arrangement until 31 December 2019. Council is pursuing further funding support for its contribution to the project.
Consultants have been engaged to complete a Watsonia Precinct Concept Plan in order to capture opportunities afforded by the proximity of the NEL; and investigate the possibility of a long tunnel option to north of Watsonia.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATION**

There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation contained in this report.

**HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER**

In developing this report to Council, the subject matter has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

**CURRENT SITUATION**

**North East Link Environment Effects Statement (NELEES) Forum 27 March 2019**

Council held a successful community forum on the 27 March 2019 at the Ivanhoe Civic Centre which included discussion around the key issues, public inquiry and submissions. In addition to Council representation, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and legal representatives from Maddocks Lawyers presented at the forum. Approximately 60 community members attended the forum.

The format of the evening included an opportunity for community members to talk to Council representatives about the issues to be included in Council’s submission. A further opportunity for the community to communicate ideas to Council’s submission is available on [www.shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au](http://www.shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au) until 5 May 2019.

**Release of the Environment Effects Statement (EES)**

The EES has been prepared by NELP in 27 chapters which are informed by detailed technical reports in 18 discipline areas. The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning has been overseeing this process with the assistance of a Technical Reference Group (TRG). The TRG included stakeholder representatives from across government authorities including Council. Council has contributed to the EES development since February 2018.

The EES was released for public exhibition on 10 April 2019. The EES will be on display for 40 business days until Friday 7 June 2019, to enable stakeholders and the community to consider the detailed documents and make a submission. The EES is available to read at [www.northeast.vic.gov.au](http://www.northeast.vic.gov.au) and in hard copy at the Banyule Customer Service Centre, 1 Flintoff Street, Greensborough and the North East Link Community Hub, 17 Watsonia Road, Watsonia and various other locations.
NORTH EAST LINK - UPDATE cont’d

To assist the community in understanding the EES, NELP is conducting community engagement sessions across Melbourne’s north-east and eastern suburbs in April and May. Technical specialists will be available to talk through how the project could affect the environment during construction and operation, and how NELP is planning to manage these impacts. EES Information sessions in Banyule and nearby in Bulleen include:

Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 May
Manningham Hotel and Club
1 Thompsons Road, Bulleen
10am – 2pm each day

Saturday 11 May
North East Link Community Hub
17 Watsonia Road, Watsonia
10am – 4pm

Council’s Submission to the EES Public Inquiry

Council is preparing a submission to the public inquiry.

Key issues to be considered in the review of the EES include:

• Transport
  o Interchange designs
  o Alternate design options i.e. long tunnel option
  o Watsonia access and connectivity
  o Impacts to local roads and access
  o Traffic Management during construction

• Business
  o Impacts to businesses and services during and post construction

• Ecology
  o Water Sensitive urban design
  o Impacts to flora and fauna
  o Impacts to Warringal Flats, Banyule Wetlands and Banyule Creek
NORTH EAST LINK - UPDATE cont’d

- Landscape and visual
  - Quality of constructed project
  - Impacts on landscape and amenity
- Social Impacts
  - Impacts to community facilities
  - Impacts on community groups
  - Impacts on local areas

Legal representatives and subject matter experts have been appointed to assist Council in the preparation of the submission. A future report will be provided to Council seeking endorsement of the framework and key issues to submission to the EES at its 20 May 2019 meeting.

It is encouraged that the community becomes actively involved in the EES process. There are two ways the community can have its say on the NELEES and Council is encouraging the community to do both. They are:
- Provide input into Council’s submission
- Make your own submission.

More information is available at [www.shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au](http://www.shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au)

**Public Environmental Report**

In a tandem Federal government process, a Public Environment Report (PER) is also being prepared for the NEL. This is necessary due to potential for significant impacts on three Matted Flax Lily populations and commonwealth land at the Simpson Army Barracks.

The PER is on public display from 16 April 2019 to 30 May 2019. The community can access more information on [www.northeastlink.vic.gov.au](http://www.northeastlink.vic.gov.au) and at all Council customer services centres and libraries in Banyule. Council is preparing a submission to the report.
Watsonia Alternative Design

NELP released an alternative design for the Watsonia Precinct and local trips (Figure 1). Major changes include a green bridge for cars, bikes and pedestrians to connect Elder Street to both sides of Greensborough Road and the Watsonia station carpark.

Parking at the station will be re-configured with a multi-storey car park and quick drop-off zone. A central bus stop on Watsonia Road is proposed to improve commuter movement between trains and buses.

Signalised crossings at Greensborough Road, Watsonia Road and Elder Street will make it safer and easier to get to and from the station and shops. The design keeps the through traffic on North East Link and off local streets easing congestion and keeping local roads for local trips.

Watsonia Concept Precinct Plan

Ethos Urban has been engaged to complete a Watsonia Precinct Concept Plan, supplementing the Council endorsed structure plan Picture Watsonia, in order to capture opportunities afforded by the proximity of the NEL.

Enhancements to Watsonia Village including access and functionality improvements are being considered. This consultant work is co-funded by NELP and is expected to be completed in early May.
NORTH EAST LINK - UPDATE cont’d

Options which are currently being considered include:
- Additional east - west connections
- North East Link alternate layouts adjacent to Watsonia Station and Watsonia Road connection
- Direct and unobstructed shared path connections
- Land-rezoning opportunities
- Improvements to Watsonia Station

The final report is expected to be completed shortly and a future report will be provided to Council outlining the proposed plan.

NEL Early Works Packages

The Andrews Government has announced that two major construction firms, CPB and Laing O’Rourke have been shortlisted to deliver the first package of works on the North East Link. The $200 million first works package will start next year, once planning approvals are in place, and deliver a range of power, water and other utility works to pave the way for major construction on the $15.8 billion project.

Long Tunnel Assessment

An international tunnelling consultant (BabEng) was appointed to explore options to extend the tunnelled section of the current NEL alignment to north of Watsonia. BabEng has completed its assessment and the final report is attached (Attachment 1).

The assessment explores four extended tunnel options, recommending an option that extends the tunnel to just north of the Hurstbridge Rail Line (Option A2 within the Attached Report). BabEng explored the option of extending the tunnel further north, but this would preclude NEL connections to Grimshaw Street and would lead to the closure of Kempston Street.

With the current NEL design, there are concerns regarding impacts to the Watsonia Activity Centre due to extensive surface works proposed around Watsonia. A longer tunnel would significantly reduce the extent of surface impacts, as it bypasses Watsonia. In the recommended option by BabEng, construction works would mainly be concentrated north of the Hurstbridge Rail Line. The road network connections south of the railway line would therefore remain as existing. This ensures optimised road access and capacity around Watsonia during construction.

The EES report indicates that approximately 7800 trees will be removed between M80 Ring Road and the Northern Portal under the reference design presented by NELP. There are also locally significant Studley Park Gum trees, largely located within the Simpson Army Barracks that are expected to be removed. There is also significant land and private property acquisition along Greensborough Road. The longer tunnel option will avoid these affected areas and mitigates impacts to trees and land.

Furthermore, the extended tunnel section will have a consistent and flatter gradient through the alignment compared to the proposed NEL design. This would assist in the efficient freight movements through the NEL.

However, there are complexities associated with a long tunnel north of the rail line, where the tunnel terminates and interfaces with the Grimshaw Street Interchange.
With the proposed Option A2, the northbound off-ramp on to Grimshaw Street would start north of the rail line. To meet road design standards, the distance and level difference between the rail line and Grimshaw Street is not adequate to have a straight ramp similar to the alignment proposed in the NEL design. In order to achieve satisfactory ramp length and grades, the ramp alignment needs to be curved and ramp interface will be shifted to the west. This would also likely necessitate a shift of the entry point of the on – ramp to M80 Ring Road and Greensborough Road. Therefore to accommodate the northbound ramps, permanent acquisition of AK Lines Reserve, Trist Reserve and private properties would likely be required.

Similarly, to accommodate the southbound ramp on to NEL, the Hurstbridge rail line would need to be occupied to maintain its structural integrity. Closure of the rail line for a significant period can add to the congestion during construction and it would cause significant issues in accessing residences, jobs and businesses. It is critical that the public transport network operates efficiently during the construction to manage traffic within the municipality.

A road reservation width of approximately 70m would be required to accommodate the TBM extraction. With the long tunnel option, TBMs will be extracted north of the rail line and this could not be accommodated within the available road reservation width north of the railway line. This would require temporary acquisition of part of both Watsonia Primary School and AK Lines Reserve.

Figure 2 below summarises the impacts associated with the longer tunnel.

Due to sensitivities associated with the project procurement, NELP would not provide the construction rates used for the project reference design. As such, BabEng has used their known tunnelling costs and has adjusted these figures to living costs in Australia. Based on their estimates, it would cost approximately 90 million dollars for the additional tunnelling component. However, the cost estimate does not include items outside of tunnelling such as additional work at Grimshaw Street, structural support to the rail line, savings due to reduced trenching works and land acquisition. Balancing these additional costs and factoring in some savings would increase the overall cost up to approximately $350 million.

In regards to timing of the project delivery, BabEng has indicated that the additional tunnelling works could extend the construction period by up to 1.5 years. The construction period would be further extended with structural integrity rail works. This construction traffic for an additional period of time would increase the economic impacts for the local community and businesses, beyond the NEL impacts.
Figure 2 – Long Tunnel Impacts
The Table1 below summarises the pros and cons of the long tunnel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reduced community severance</td>
<td>Increase in construction period of up to 1.5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retention of existing road network connections</td>
<td>Permanent partial land acquisition at AK Lines Reserve and Trist Street Reserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced impacts to businesses in Watsonia Activity Centre during construction</td>
<td>Temporary land acquisition at Watsonia Primary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced number of private property acquisition south of the Hurstbridge Railway Line</td>
<td>Additional private property acquisition north of the Hurstbridge Railway Line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced land acquisition south of the Hurstbridge Railway Line</td>
<td>Additional tunnel ventilation and fire safety shafts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced tree removal</td>
<td>Increase in spoil removal associated with the long tunnel compared to trenching works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significantly less surface works south of the Hurstbridge Railway Line</td>
<td>This will lead to increased truck movements during construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consistent and flatter tunnel gradient</td>
<td>Ground stabilisation around the rail line is required to maintain structural integrity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Long Tunnel – Pros and Cons

FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

NELP has recently written to Council informing that it will extend its funding commitment of 1.5 EFT to 31 December 2019. However, this funding only reimburses for the minimum requirement of Council assisting the NELP process, and Council has expended considerably more resource on the EES process and assisting the community to understand and become engaged in the project.

Council has expended over $500,000 in consultant fees for EES development advice. It has also employed dedicated staff resources and used staff time across Council disciplines throughout 2018 to respond to the EES development.

Council committed an additional $1.2 million at its meeting of 6 August 2018 to cover anticipated costs. These include completing Council’s response to the development...
NORTH EAST LINK - UPDATE cont’d

of the EES, preparing a submission to the public exhibition and participating with legal representation in the EES panel process.

Council considers it appropriate that NELP cover the costs incurred and has written to NELP requesting further funding support to adequately resource Council input.

CONSULTATION

Council held a successful community forum on the 27 March 2019 at the Ivanhoe Civic Centre which included discussion around the key issues, public inquiry and submissions. 60 people attended the forum.

Information has been placed on the Shaping Banyule website to assist the wider community in either making their own submission, or commenting on the issues that Council will be addressing in its submission. Council is encouraging the community to make individual submissions so as to have their voice heard. The strength of individual voices is not to be under estimated in this process. Together, Council’s submission and individual submissions are likely to be mutually reinforcing, adding more weight overall.

NELP is conducting community engagement sessions related to the EES release across Melbourne’s north-east and eastern suburbs in April and May.

Council continues to update the community through Council reports, bimonthly articles in The Banner, and through the Shaping Banyule website.

TIMELINES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Release of the Environment Effects Statement.</td>
<td>10 April – 7 June 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submissions to be made by:</td>
<td>7 June 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Release of Public Environment Report (PER)</td>
<td>16 April – 30 May 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EES Panel Hearing</td>
<td>July/August 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministers Assessment and Decision</td>
<td>Early 2020</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (Act) requires members of Council staff, and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.
NORTH EAST LINK - UPDATE cont’d

CONCLUSION

NELP is progressing its design and development of the North East Link based on the Government decision to adopt corridor Option A. Council is pursuing further funding support for its contribution to the Project.

Council hosted a successful NEL EES forum on 27 March 2019 attended by 60 people.

On 10 April 2019, NELP released the EES for public exhibition. The EES will be on display for 40 business days until Friday 7 June 2019, allowing for the community and stakeholders to consider the detailed documents and make a submission. NELP also announced an alternative design for the Watsonia Precinct.

While NEL will have a significant impact on Banyule, it provides a great opportunity to advocate for enhancements to achieve significant benefits for the Banyule community. It is considered imperative that Council continue to engage with and advocate to NELP to achieve the best results for the community.

ATTACHMENTS

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<th>No.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>BabEng Long Tunnel Options Report</td>
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</table>
5.3 **DRAFT HEIDELBERG ACTIVITY CENTRE AND MEDICAL PRECINCT PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY**

Author: Rod Spivey - Senior Open Space Planner, Assets & City Services

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Heidelberg Activity Centre and Medical Precinct Public Realm Strategy (the Strategy) has been prepared to guide the future direction of public spaces within the Heidelberg Activity Centre and Medical Precinct.

The Strategy is a priority action within the Banyule Public Open Space Plan (2016 – 2031) and is consistent with the objectives of the Heidelberg Activity Centre Structure Plan (2010), the Banyule Integrated Transport Plan (2015) and the Victorian Planning Authority Latrobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster Framework Plan (2017).

In accordance with Council’s resolution on 6 August 2018 the Strategy was placed on public exhibition for 6 weeks in September 2018. The feedback from the public was generally positive and supported the intent to deliver a network of high quality public spaces for an area identified for high population growth and a substantial increase in residential density.

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt the Heidelberg Activity Centre and Medical Precinct Public Realm Strategy.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopt the Heidelberg Activity Centre and Medical Precinct Public Realm Strategy.

**COUNCIL PLAN**

This report is in line with Banyule’s Council Plan key direction to “Provide great public and open spaces”.

**BACKGROUND**

A key recommendation in the Banyule Public Open Space Plan (2016 – 2031) is to prepare a local open space strategy for the Heidelberg Activity Centre in order to identify strategies to address the specific and complex public open space needs in this designated high growth area, including improving connectivity, potential agreements with other stakeholders and investment in appropriate open space related infrastructure. The scope of the Strategy was subsequently increased to include the public realm (all external space that is available for public use). The intent was to produce a comprehensive document to guide open space development.
The draft Strategy was considered at a Council meeting on 6 August 2018 where it was resolved that the Strategy be released for public consultation with the outcomes to be reported back to Council.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATION**

There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation contained in this report.

**HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER**

In developing this report to Council, the subject matter has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

**Locality Plan**

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The Strategy is a precursor to the Heidelberg Structure Plan Review Project which is anticipated to commence in 2019. The Strategy will provide high level guidance and recommendations associated with public spaces to inform this project.
CONSULTATION

At its meeting of 6 August 2018 Council resolved to place the Strategy on public exhibition for 6 weeks in August and September 2018. Community information sessions were held in Heidelberg on 19 September and the Strategy was uploaded onto Shaping Banyule with an online survey being the primary method of seeking public comment and feedback. Whilst the number of completed surveys was nominal (three in total) the number of views to the web page was significant (523).

The feedback received was generally positive and supported the intent to deliver a network of high quality public spaces for an area identified for high population growth and a substantial increase in residential density.

Common themes included the need to improve landscape amenity, enhance access to the public realm, improve facilities and maintain the feel and character of the area. The primary concerns raised focussed on the need to retain car parking within the precinct and ensure that traffic congestion is well considered and mitigated.

There has been no need for alterations to the Draft Strategy as all the feedback issues are addressed in the document and detailed design consultation would occur prior to implementation of any recommendations.

DISCUSSION

The Victorian Planning Authority predicts that the population within the Heidelberg precinct will grow by 260% by 2030 resulting in increased pressure on the existing level of open space provision. To address the unprecedented growth and urban intensification the Strategy articulates a future vision for the precinct under six Strategic Directions.

The vision for the Heidelberg precinct is to support the substantial growth of the community, delivering a state-of-the art public open space network that encourages social interaction, recreation and healthy living, and celebrates existing biodiversity and the diversity of the community. It is envisaged that the precinct will comprise highly permeable networks of streets, paths and public spaces that will prioritise the safe and convenient movement of people within and around the precinct. Mixed-use development will contribute positively to the character and amenity of the site, whilst new and existing public spaces will provide a diverse range of areas for the community to recreate, gather and connect.

The six key directions contained within the Strategy comprise:

1. Support walking as the primary means of access and movement within the precinct and encourage pedestrian activity in public spaces.

2. Provide pedestrian friendly streetscapes that are dynamic, support street life and are places for social interaction and recreation.

3. Improve open spaces to provide diverse opportunities for passive and active recreation, social and community activities, visual relief, wildlife habitat, stormwater management and to enhance the strong visual links with the Yarra Valley.
DRAFT HEIDELBERG ACTIVITY CENTRE AND MEDICAL PRECINCT PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY cont’d

4. Seamlessly integrate the public realm with public transport and cycling infrastructure.

5. Protect and conserve the natural environment while promoting sustainability within the public realm.

6. Promote and embed the management and execution of the Strategy within planning and design policy across Banyule.

TIMELINES

Pending Council adoption, the Strategy will be uploaded onto the Council website in May 2019.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (Act) requires members of Council staff, and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

The draft Heidelberg Activity Centre and Medical Precinct Public Realm Strategy was available for public comment during August and September 2018. No changes are required to the draft strategy as all the feedback issues are addressed in the document, and detailed design consultation would occur prior to implementation of any recommendations.

It is recommended that the draft Heidelberg Activity Centre and Medical Precinct Public Realm Strategy be adopted by Council and a copy of the Strategy be uploaded onto Council’s website.

ATTACHMENTS

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Draft Heidelberg Activity Centre and Medical Precinct Public Realm Strategy Background and Context</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Draft Heidelberg Activity Centre and Medical Precinct Public Realm Strategy Strategic Directions and Recommendations</td>
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</table>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council adopted 2018/19 budget included increased investment to improve our drainage systems performance during intense rainfall events of $1.09M. This included the inclusion of a Drainage Acceleration Program, with an allocated budget of $300,000 to assist in improving the drainage network.

As part of the Stormwater Management Catchment Program, Brixton Avenue drainage upgrade was designed in early 2018/19 and subsequent community consultation was completed in November 2018. The scope of this project is to reduce the risk of flooding to adjacent and downstream properties by upgrading the existing drainage system and constructing a retarding basin in Glendale reserve.

It was identified during the feasibility and detailed design stages, that the project scope to resolve this drainage issue has increased significantly from the original project to minimise major disruption to property owners and the nearby school. Due to the significant benefits of the project, the expanded project is considered a suitable project to utilise the funding in the Drainage Acceleration Program budget.

It is recommended that $271,000 from the Drainage Acceleration Program budget be utilised to complete the Brixton Avenue, Eltham North, drainage upgrade.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council utilise $271,000 from the 2018/19 Drainage Acceleration Program budget for the construction of the Brixton Avenue, Eltham North, drainage upgrade to be completed this financial year.

COUNCIL PLAN

This report is in line with Banyule’s Council Plan key direction to “Renew and maintain Banyule’s public assets and infrastructure”.

BACKGROUND

The 2018/19 budget included increased investment to address current climate change issues and improve our drainage system performance during intense rainfall events. This included the inclusion of a drainage acceleration program with an allocated budget of $300,000 to assist in improving the drainage network.

As part of the Stormwater Management Catchment Program a flood study was completed by Council, which identified Brixton Avenue (Glendale reserve) as a priority project. The initial scope of this project was to duplicate pipeline through existing easements. During the initial design phase it was established that the
proposed solution was going to cause major disruption to property owners and the nearby school so alternative solutions were required.

The alternative design was completed at the beginning of the 2018/19 financial year followed by consultation with all potentially impacted residents. The scope of this expanded project is now to complete works at Glendale reserve including:

- landscaping
- construction of a retarding basin
- installing new and upgrading existing drainage pipes and stormwater pits

The purpose of this project is to reduce the risk of flooding to properties adjacent to and downstream of Glendale Reserve including Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School and properties along Weidlich Road. The retarding basin serves to alleviate the existing drainage capacity concerns by diverting the excess runoff into the proposed retarding basin. This allows other drainage infrastructure within surrounding streets (Dale Avenue, Brixton Avenue, Riversdale Avenue and Pymm Avenue) to have the capacity to convey more stormwater runoff and reduce the risk of flooding.

It was identified during the feasibility and detailed design stages, that the project scope to resolve this drainage issue has increased significantly from the original project. Due to the significant benefits of the project, the expanded project is considered a suitable project to utilise the funding in the drainage acceleration budget.

LEGAL CONSIDERATION

The awarding of this contract complies with the tendering provisions of Section 186 of the Local Government Act 1989.

The process for inviting quotations and evaluation was undertaken in accordance with Council’s Procurement Policy.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

In developing this report to Council, the subject matter has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.
FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

The estimated project cost is $438,000. It is proposed that works be funded by the Brixton Avenue drainage upgrade ($167,000) and the Drainage Acceleration program ($271,000).

CONSULTATION

Consultation using the preliminary design proposals was conducted through a letter mail out to affect residents and a page set up on Council’s consultation website, Shaping Banyule. The consultation period ran from October 2018 until November 2018. All comments were taken on board and considered where applicable.

TIMELINES

It is anticipated that construction will commence early May 2019, with a completion date at the end of June 2019.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (Act) requires members of Council staff, and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.
CONCLUSION

The proposed Brixton Avenue Drainage upgrade works are necessary in order to alleviate flooding risks to residents and property in the area. It is recommended that the budget from the Drainage Acceleration program is utilised to allow this project to be completed this financial year.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil
5.5 **FORD PARK SOUTH - CHANGE ROOM MINOR UPGRADE**

Author: Nicole Maslin - Leisure & Cultural Services Coordinator, Community Programs

Ward: Olympia

**Previous Items**
Council on 17 Sep 2018 7.00pm (Item 3.2 - Draft Ford Park AFL Infrastructure Study)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In September 2018 Council adopted the *Ford Park AFL Infrastructure Study*. At that meeting Council also requested officers work with the tenant clubs to identify minor works that could be undertaken to improve the amenity and use of the Ford Park change rooms and receive a further report to consider the works identified.

This need was identified by the Ivanhoe Junior Football Club during consultation. Staff have met with representatives from the Ivanhoe Junior Football Club and agreed that a low cost improvement of the facility could facilitate a positive short term outcome where juniors and female players can benefit from until the facilities are redeveloped in the longer term.

These investigations have now concluded and this report presents the costs and options for Council's consideration.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council allocate $12,000 from the Open Space Reserve to undertake minor improvements at Ford Park South change rooms including internal painting and installing partitions in the existing shower area.

**COUNCIL PLAN**

This report is in line with Banyule’s Council Plan key direction to “Renew and maintain Banyule’s public assets and infrastructure”.

**BACKGROUND**

The Ford Park AFL Infrastructure Study was adopted by Council in September 2018. AFL Victoria have identified the Ford Park Reserve as a key site for future redevelopment. A key project identified in this study is the development of the pavilion to service both the North and South ovals.

There is an existing pavilion with canteen and social room at Ford Park North (under the grand stand) and the South oval is services by a small pavilion with two small change room’s, toilets, open showers and urinals.
FORD PARK SOUTH - CHANGE ROOM MINOR UPGRADE  cont’d

Currently Ford Park is utilised by Ivanhoe Junior Football Club for training and games in winter as well as Yarra Junior Football League. Bellfield Cricket Club are the key tenant in summer. During the consultation phase of the Ford Park AFL Infrastructure Study, the Ivanhoe Junior Football Club raised concern regarding the existing facilities and suggested some improvements should be considered in the short term. Improving the Ford Park South change facilities was identified as priority given its existing poor presentation and the increasing use it is experiencing. A number of the Clubs who have existing girls teams play at this venue.

Council officers met with Ivanhoe Junior football Club representatives on site to determine priorities and what could be achieved at minimal cost to make improvements to the change rooms, including painting and installing partitions in the existing showers.

LEGAL CONSIDERATION

There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation contained in this report.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

The estimated cost to undertake the works is $12,000.

DISCUSSION

The proposed works have been discussed with representatives of the Ivanhoe Junior Football Club who are very keen to see the works carried out as soon as possible given their season has commenced.

TIMELINES

The works can be completed promptly should expenditure be approved.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (Act) requires members of Council staff, and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

Ford Park is undergoing significant changes with more development planned for the future. In the meantime it is important that existing facilities continue to offer a basic level of service and comfort to players, particularly where demand is growing for girl’s football. This small investment of funding provides an efficient short term solution to improve the Ford Park South change rooms until major development of the pavilion, fields and other infrastructure occurs in the future.
FORD PARK SOUTH - CHANGE ROOM MINOR UPGRADE  cont’d

ATTACHMENTS
Nil
5.6 BANYULE BUSINESS GRANTS PILOT PROGRAM

Author: Daniela Ahimastos - Economic Development Officer, City Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Banyule Business Grant pilot program aims to deliver Banyule City Council’s first ever small business grants program. Outcome measures and anecdotal evidence demonstrate that business grants are much sought after in Banyule.

Small Business grants have been developed to encourage businesses to lead innovation, invest in their businesses, promote themselves to the market and build a vibrant community. It encourages applicants who have a sound business idea and who can demonstrate the capability to implement it.

Selection criteria for the Grants Program has been scoped based on other like business grants programs across Victoria. The criteria proposed aligns with Economic Development’s ‘Strategic Objectives’ including Investment and Attraction and Vibrant Precincts. In addition, grants will also be offered to businesses who seek to improve or introduce sustainability practices, keeping in line with Council’s climate action policy.

Grants of up to $5,000 will be on offer with a funding pool of $30,000. In addition, five Business Energy Audits, each valued at $1,000 will be offered to encourage positive sustainable change.

The program will conclude with a grand networking event in November. A public reveal of grant recipients will provide the formalities, with a drawcard key note speaker providing inspiration to the business audience.

This proposal is in line with ongoing feedback and results received from the Banyule BestBiz Awards program. Participants have indicated that a biennial event would be preferable and more beneficial for businesses across the city. Therefore, it is proposed to redirect the BestBiz Awards program funding and allocate towards the Banyule Business Grants pilot program.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. adopt the proposed Banyule Business Grants pilot program
2. approves the redirection of funds from the Banyule BestBiz Awards for the 2019 year to fund the pilot program.
COUNCIL PLAN

This report is in line with Banyule’s Council Plan key direction to “Stimulate business, employment and investment opportunities”.

BACKGROUND

The Banyule Business Grant pilot program aims to deliver Banyule City Council’s first ever small business grants program. In recent years, business support has centred on a successful annual Business Awards Program, the BestBiz. The BestBiz Awards recognises Banyule’s most loved businesses.

In 2018, the program was reenergised to encourage business engagement and a diverse finalist and winners list. Whilst business engagement saw a threefold increase (from 250 to 700), repeat finalists and winners continued to dominate each category, creating apathy and disengagement in the business community. This has been reported by Centre Managers and businesses alike. It was proposed via feedback that resting the BestBiz Awards for a period of 12 months may assist in influencing desired outcomes in future.

The proposed Banyule Business Grants pilot program aims to offer the next level of support to our local small businesses. (A small business is defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as employing less than 20 people).

The proposed pilot program aims to:
- Unlock new business opportunities, create employment and build a resilient, innovative local economy
- Widen our service offerings to our local small businesses
- Meet increasing industry demand. A recent Council-conducted survey of 99 homebased businesses found that after networking, business grants was the most sought after program (50%) that would benefit homebased businesses in the coming 12 months. These figures also reflect the enquiries Council receives on a weekly basis.
- Engage businesses through grant funding and networking.

With current economic uncertainty driven by an upcoming federal election and falling house prices linked to a decrease in discretionary spend, economists report that our local economies are most at risk. A Business Grants program is well timed to deliver a financial boost to local small businesses.

Strategic Context

The Banyule Council Plan (2017 – 2021) sets out Council’s priorities and direction over four years. The Plan includes a key direction to “Stimulate business, employment and investment opportunities” and focus areas to:
- Encourage and assist the development of small business and social enterprise
- Partner with agencies that support training and employment opportunities
- Proactively lead employment opportunities for disadvantaged communities and people with disabilities
- Work in partnership with agencies that strengthen investment opportunities.

This is supported by Council’s Economic Development Plan 2015 – 2020 that references small business support and suggests activities and initiatives to respond.
BANYULE BUSINESS GRANTS PILOT PROGRAM cont’d

The Climate Action Package, endorsed by Council in December 2018 includes a mix of initiatives council has committed to pursue in an effort to combat climate change. This includes an increase to the environment grant funds allocation over the next two years.

Current Unemployment Rate

Recent Small Labour Area Market figures from December 2018 demonstrate that Banyule’s overall unemployment figure of 3.27% currently sits below the Metropolitan, State and National averages. Whilst the figure has trended downwards from 4.6% since June 2017 as demonstrated in Graph 1, there are distinct pockets of local high unemployment in suburbs that include Heidelberg West (8.3%) and Bundoora (4%).

Graph 1. Quarterly Unemployment Rate

The Business Grants pilot program seeks to support small business growth, with the potential for employment creation being the most desired result. Specifically tailored grant criteria will help to achieve this economic outcome.

Grant Criteria

Small Business grants will be developed to encourage businesses to lead innovation, invest in their businesses, promote themselves to the market and build a vibrant community. It encourages applicants who have a sound business idea and who can demonstrate their capability to implement it.

Council will welcome proposals that align with Economic Development’s Strategic objectives, in particular Investment and Attraction and Vibrant Precincts.

Investment and Attraction

- Is new or innovative to Banyule
- Is wanting to grow or expand
- Is economically sustainable
BANYULE BUSINESS GRANTS PILOT PROGRAM cont’d

The goal is to support ideas that:

- create employment opportunities
- increase business investment in Banyule
- minimise commercial vacancy
- broaden the service and retail mixes seen currently in our shopping precincts
- demonstrate solid market potential and a sound business model, including financial viability.

**Vibrant Precincts**

- Offers a public benefit
- Increases city visitation or diversity

The goal is to support ideas that:

- Provides information to the broader community about Banyule
- Provides a new or enhanced resident or visitor experience
- Increases footfall and patronage into strip shopping centres.

**Environmental and Sustainable Considerations**

- Demonstrate sustainable business practices and alignment with Council’s Climate Action Policy.

Individual grants of up to $5,000 will be offered with acquittal reporting due 30 April 2020.

In addition to the above, five Business Energy Audits, each valued at $1,000 will be offered to encourage positive sustainable change.

**Existing Local Government Business Grant Programs**

There are a number of local government bodies in Metropolitan Melbourne that offer similar small business grants programs.

The City of Melbourne has a well-established program awarding over $8.3 million in funding to almost 400 small businesses since commencing in 1996. The program offers grants for start-ups and expansion (up to $30,000) and export or expansion into overseas markets (up to $10,000). Notable recipients include KokoBlack (2003), Keep Cup (2008) and Melbourne Rooftop Honey (2017). In 2019, funding rounds were increased to two rounds annually, strengthening Council’s support to small businesses.

Frankston City Council’s Business Grants program is another well-established program, having commenced in 2011. In 2018, Council passed a resolution to increase the budget from $60,000 to $120,000, realising the value of the program in driving the city’s goals, particularly in attracting investment both locally and internationally. Grants of up to $30,000 are currently on offer. In 2018-2019, a manufacturing company was awarded a grant to fund machinery estimated to increase productivity six-fold and create a number of local jobs. In addition, a $5,000 grant awarded to a consultancy company for marketing purposes provided the company with an opportunity to grow the business.
BANYULE BUSINESS GRANTS PILOT PROGRAM cont’d

The City of Boroondara piloted a small business grants program in 2018 with a 50% co-contribution model capped at $3,000. They deemed their program a success and brought it back in 2019. A 2018 recipient of the grant will utilise funds to establish a school above his florist.

The City of Whittlesea are also realising the advantages of a small business grant program with the commencement of a pilot this year.

The Cities of Ballarat, Greater Shepparton and Greater Dandenong are three further examples of councils supporting small business growth though grant funding in regional areas.

LEGAL CONSIDERATION

There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation contained in this report.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

CURRENT SITUATION

Whilst small business grants are currently not on offer, Council does provide financial support and guidance to social enterprise through its Tailored Partnerships program. This program recognises barriers to success for social enterprise and offers tailored support and guidance, in addition to funding, to ensure positive outcomes are achieved.

Grants to improve sustainability practices of our small businesses are currently not offered by Banyule City Council. This pilot aims to fill the current gap by engaging with small businesses to financially support the identification of sustainable practice opportunities.
FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

Redirection of funds from the BestBiz Awards program combined with sponsorship, event ticket sales and Environment Team support will enable financial delivery of the pilot. A breakdown of forecast income and expenditure is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Business Grants Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Forecast Expenditure ($) (incl. GST)</th>
<th>Forecast Income ($) (incl. GST)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Council allocation (redirection from BestBiz Awards)</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment Team Contribution</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorship</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Grants</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networking Event:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 50 tickets</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 100 ticket sales</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>($30 per ticket)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Of Ceremonies</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promo Video of the event and two recipients</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Photography</td>
<td>480</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing Collateral / Invites</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media</td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract hours: 10 hours per week for 17 weeks</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>52,780</td>
<td>53,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TIMELINES

FINALISE GUIDELINES
COMMENCE BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT
May / June 2019

GO LIVE
July / Aug 2019

REVIEW APPLICATIONS
Sep / Oct 2019

GRAND NETWORKING EVENT
Nov 2019

ACQUITTAL REPORT DUE
Apr 2020
OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (Act) requires members of Council staff, and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

The Business Grants pilot program aims to fill a gap in the current Economic Development offering of Council. Survey results and anecdotal evidence demonstrates that a grant program is much sought after by the local business community, providing the next level of support in a period of economic uncertainty.

The program lends itself to being run on alternating years, complementing the successful Banyule BestBiz Awards and widening our service offering to the business community.

In summary, the business grants pilot has been developed to allow businesses to stretch their thinking, to practice sustainability and to encourage a vibrant community. The Banyule Business Grant pilot program is not just about the money. It’s about the types of communities we want to live work and play in.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil
6.1 YARRA PLENTY REGIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE MEETING PROCEDURES - LOCAL LAW AMENDMENT 2018

Author: Allison Beckwith - Director Community Programs, Community Programs

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In August 2018, The Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service Board (Board) was asked to consider an in-principle agreement to a policy change out of session to meet a media opportunity.

At its next meeting, the Board then directed Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service (YPRLS) to investigate the Meeting Procedure (Amendment) Local Law 2013 to allow the Board to make resolutions out of session in extraordinary circumstances or to meet major opportunities.

Hunt & Hunt Lawyers were requested to review the amendment for compliance with the YPRLS legislative obligations. The draft of the proposed amendment was published in the Government Gazette on 1 November 2018 and in the Leader Newspaper, Diamond Valley, Heidelberg and Whittlesea editions, in the week beginning 29 November 2018.

The proposed document was also advertised on YPRL's website and displayed in Branch libraries of each Member Council. Members of the public who wished to make a submission could do so in writing by 6 December 2018. No submissions were received.

The Regional Library Agreement states that a resolution of the Board to adopt or amend a Local Law must not be passed unless and until the proposed Local Law has been ratified by each Member Council being Whittlesea City Council, Nillumbik Shire and Banyule City Council.

At the YPRLS Board meeting in February 2019, the Board resolved to refer the Meeting procedure (Amendment) Local Law 2018 to Member Councils for ratification.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council ratify the Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service Meeting Procedure (Amendment) Local Law 2018.

COUNCIL PLAN

This report is in line with Banyule’s Council Plan key direction to “Engage meaningfully with our community and encourage participation”.

BACKGROUND

In August 2018, The Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service Board (Board) was asked to consider an in-principle agreement to a policy change out of session to meet a media opportunity.

At its next meeting, the Board then directed Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service (YPRLS) to investigate the Meeting Procedure (Amendment) Local Law 2013 to allow the Board to make resolutions out of session in extraordinary circumstances or to meet major opportunities.

The Meeting Procedure (Amendment) Local Law 2018 was prepared (Attachment 1).

LEGAL CONSIDERATION

The Meeting Procedure Local Law is modelled on Council Meeting procedures and has been discussed and agreed to by the YPRLS Board.

Hunt & Hunt Lawyers were requested to review the amendment for compliance with the YPRLS legislative obligations and to ensure compliance with the Local Government Act.

There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation contained in this report.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

In developing this report to Council, the subject matter has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

CONSULTATION

The draft of the proposed amendment was published in the Government Gazette on 1 November 2018 and in the Leader Newspaper, Diamond Valley, Heidelberg and Whittlesea editions, in the week beginning 29 November 2018.

The proposed document was also advertised on YPRL’s website and displayed in Branch libraries of each Member Council. Members of the public who wished to make a submission could do so in writing by 6 December 2018.

No submissions were received.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (Act) requires members of Council staff, and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.
CONCLUSION

To ensure continuity of business and for YPRLS to quickly respond to beneficial opportunities the Board does need a mechanism to make decisions out of session. The proposed amendment received no public submissions after advertising online and in regional and state wide media which indicates that there is no public concern with the proposal.

It is recommended that the Meeting Procedure (Amendment) Local Law 2018 be ratified.

ATTACHMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service - Meeting Procedure (Amendment) Local Law 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7.1 BANYULE COUNCIL APP

Author: Shawn Neilsen - Corporate Communications Coordinator, Corporate Services

Previous Items
Council on 04 Feb 2019 7.00pm (Item 9.1 - Banyule City Council App)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the 4 February 2019 Council meeting, Council resolved to call for a brief report outlining the costs and benefits of developing a Banyule Council app. This report outlines considerations around the need for a Banyule app along with high level options of how an app could be delivered.

Three app delivery options have been explored:

1. Building a custom Banyule App
2. Populating a generic app with Banyule specific information
3. Utilising the new Banyule website currently being developed and promoting specific web app features that deliver customers an app like experience that is compatible across all mobile devices.

Council’s website Banyule.vic.gov.au is the primary source of information and a place to transact services for residents, businesses and visitors.

A new Banyule website is being developed and is due for launch in July and will be:

- **Mobile first** – responsive to devices and designed to work well with mobiles with the ability for residents to install a “web app” version of the site.
- **User focused** – presenting clear, accurate and easy to understand information
- **Service focused** – understanding that people come to the site to get things done and making service transactions as simple and easy as possible.

Promotion of “web app” features of the new website is recommended as the best way to present customer requests, news and information in a mobile friendly app like way.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Continue to focus on the delivery of the new mobile friendly Banyule website for launch in July 2019.

2. Promote web app features and mobile functionality of the site via Council publications and communication channels.
### BANYULE COUNCIL APP cont’d

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Continue the improvement and replacement of Council business systems that enhance customers’ ability to request services easily and in a digital first way.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Explore the need and options for a Banyule app at a later stage once Council business systems are better integrated and a clearer use case for a Banyule app is identified.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### COUNCIL PLAN

This report is in line with Banyule’s Council Plan key direction to “Manage the systems and assets that support service delivery”.

### BACKGROUND

At the 4 February 2019 Council meeting, Council resolved to call for a brief report outlining the costs and benefits of developing a Banyule Council app. Based on research into apps offered by other councils, and evidence of the information and requests Council receives face to face, over the phone, and via the Banyule website; three potential categories for information and services that could be delivered via an app have been identified:

1. Customer requests
2. Events and activities
3. Other information about Council

This report outlines the options and benefits of using an app to deliver these categories of information along with three options of how a Banyule app could be delivered.

#### Banyule Website

Council’s website Banyule.vic.gov.au is the primary source of information and a place to transact services for residents, businesses and visitors. The website receives over 700,000 visits every year with approximately 50% of these from people using a mobile device (smart phone or tablet).

The experience visitors’ face when visiting the current website from a mobile device is currently poor. The design and technology of the site is not responsive to mobile devices and much of the information contained on the site is lengthy and not easy people to digest and act on.

#### New website

Starting in late 2018, Council commenced a project to deliver a new corporate website that is:

- **Mobile first** – responsive to devices and designed to work well with mobile.
- **User focused** – presenting clear, accurate and easy to understand information
- **Service focused** – understanding that people come to the site to get things done and making service transactions as simple and easy as possible.
BANYULE COUNCIL APP  cont’d

Good progress is being made on the new site and it is on track to be launched in July 2019. The new website will be a vast improvement on the current site with enhanced accessibility, mobile responsive design and clearer content.

Online Services
Over the past few years, good progress has been made to assist people to transact services online. Customers are now able to transact directly through online forms and portals for various high volume services including hard waste collections, planning permits and general customer requests.

In the majority of cases these online forms respond well to mobile devices and offer a better user experience compared to the overall corporate website. While customers are able to request services through online forms, a range of manual processes are required behind the scenes to take information submitted via online forms and transfer it into Council business programs and applications.

While the development of online forms has improved how people transact certain services online, the bulk of the work required to deliver truly integrated and functional services online depends on a replacement of Council’s Enterprise Resource Program (ERP). A project to deliver a new ERP is currently underway. A new ERP is planned to be gradually introduced over the next 1 – 3 years.

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 (Act) requires members of Council staff, and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

LEGAL CONSIDERATION

There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation contained in this report.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

In developing this report to Council, the subject matter has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

CURRENT SITUATION

Over recent years the development of mobile technologies and apps has become a part of everyday life. Many people use mobile apps to manage their utilities, access social media and entertainment and plan and manage their daily life including, for example banking and holiday planning.

While many companies have moved into developing apps to complement their businesses this hasn’t necessarily been the case for local governments. In Victoria a very small number of councils have developed apps and those that have are using generic off the shelf apps that are populated with content relating to the council or just simply linking from an app to an existing website. Research and conversations
with other Victorian councils identified that at this time a clear use case for councils to develop and maintain apps has not been identified, and councils in general are not actively pursuing app development.

In South Australia some years ago, a collective of councils developed apps that linked directly from their corporate websites. This was achieved through a generic app that provides basic information about the council area and could be adopted by individual councils as an add-on to their website.

One key challenge for council apps relates to frequency of use. Most customer interactions with Council are infrequent, happening only a few times a year. Value add services like paying rates, reporting dumped rubbish or requesting a hard waste collections are very infrequent and unlikely to benefit from the development of an app.

While individuals do access news and event related information from Council on a more frequent basis, a standalone council app is not likely to provide a benefit for accessing this information given many people are already active on other digital channels and apps (social media) where this type of information is presented to them.

FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

Each of the options presented in this report have a resourcing implication both in terms of project delivery and ongoing maintenance. The specific financial implications are presented in each of the app delivery options.

DISCUSSION

Based on research into apps offered by other councils and evidence of the information and requests we receive face to face, over the phone and via our website; three potential categories for information and services that could be identified on an app have been identified:

1. Customer requests
2. Events and activities
3. Other information about Council

The following discussion identifies whether delivering these services or categories of information via an app would provide a benefit to the end user.

1. Customer requests

Based on the requests taken from Council’s customer service data, the top interactions customers have with Council relate to service requests. Across a year the top requests relate to:

- Waste – hard waste/bundled branch collections & missed bins
- Enquiries about rates – payment arrangements etc.
- Calls about the waste recovery centre

Looking at website visitation data over a year the top pages visited are:

- Home
- Search
BANYULE COUNCIL APP  cont’d

- Contact us
- Boulevard lights (periodic)
- Ivanhoe Aquatic
- Waste Services – rubbish and recycling

*Data taken from the 2018 calendar year.

**Use case for an app**

Due to the nature of the requests and the dependence on integrating with other corporate systems many of the top requests currently received would not be easier or simpler for customers through the use of an app. Customers would not be able to track the status of their request or easily view different types of requests via an app due to restrictions with Council’s existing business systems. The best outcome currently achievable would be to present an existing online form via an app that allowed customers to submit a request that would then need to be manually managed in the same way as customer requests made over the phone, in person or via Council’s website.

Many of the requests customers make to Council occur once or twice a year or as required (requesting action on an isolated issues). The nature of interactions customers have with Council is quite different to how apps are used for other organisations where customer usage is far for frequent.

Based on the information presented, developing an app to enable customers to request services from Council is not seen to be beneficial at this point in time.

**2. Events and activities**

An app could also potentially be used to promote the events and activities run by Council. Every year dozens of events are held that are of interest to people living in and visiting Banyule.

**Use case for an app**

Council currently utilises a range of existing communication channels including social media to promote Council events and activities.

Social media channels which are app based on mobile devices, present the strongest opportunity to communicate events and activities based on factors such as:

- Residents, business and visitors are already actively using these channels
- The ability to publish information to them as needed
- The ability to target information to individuals who may not even be connected with Council through paid campaigns
- Residents are able to share events and information easily with others through social media networks this expanding the reach and distribution of the information.
- The ability to adjust our marketing approach based on available data and analytics

Promoting events and activities through a standalone app would involve either:

- Linking from an app directly to the event information available elsewhere (website or social media)
BANYULE COUNCIL APP cont’d

- Creating duplicate information for the event (with the challenge of keeping the content up to date. Currently there is no resourcing to manage another separate channel)

While apps have the potential to use notifications to “push” information to residents, a range of steps are needed from the user to enable this and not all apps deliver this functionality. Significant development work would be involved to develop this functionality and communicate this to users.

Based on these factors an app is unlikely to be effective and used by residents to access information related to events and activities.

3. Other information about Council

Residents also seek a large and diverse range of other information about Council that could be presented via an app. It is difficult to prioritise this information and know what might be the most useable information without a dedicated piece of user research. Based on the approach of other councils, information presented includes details for local facilities and sporting clubs, general news etc.

Use case for an app

Similar challenges exist in this information category as information about events and activities. The options to present a broader range of other information via an app is either to:

- Link from an app directly to the event information available elsewhere (website)
- Create duplicate information for the content (with the challenge of keeping the content up to date. Currently there is no resourcing to manage another separate channel)

While a range of other information could be presented through an app, there is no clear benefit or identified user need to present the information via a standalone app.

App Development options

Despite research indicating no clear user need for an app at this point in time, and current system limitations which would greatly restrict the functionality of a standalone app, three potential options for delivery have been scoped.

| 1. Custom Mobile app (Developed for Banyule based on organisational requirements) |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| **Pros** | **Cons** |
| Permanently present on a person’s device once downloaded – no need to open the search engine. | Requires technology to be developed and maintained across multiple operating systems. |
### BANYULE COUNCIL APP cont’d

| Can allow some information to be presented to people via notifications (push notifications) | Requires campaign and promotion to get people to download at launch and ongoing. Relies on a series of user steps to set up and manage notification settings to receive notifications. |
| Can present information faster in some situations (static content not relying on downloads) | Requires additional resources to manage content that is completely separate from website and existing communications channels. |
| Can allow offline access to content – published events, service information etc. (not to transact services) | Known limitations in people downloading and adopting usage (based on experiences of other councils) |
| Council unable to provide integrated mobile services (hard waste pick up, customer service request etc.) until new system implemented over the next 1 – 3 years. |

### Costs/resources:
- Development cost estimated to be $70k plus depending on functionality
- Maintenance cost estimated to be $30k + each year
- Would require additional staff resources to develop and maintain content for the app which is separate from existing systems ($50-60K)
- Would need dedicated project management resources to deliver app ($50-60K)

### Delivery timeframe:
Difficult to estimate given lack of clear scope on what would be included or excluded from the app but approximately 6 – 12 months including potential tendering process to appoint developer etc.
2. **Council centric generic app** (Using existing platform that is populated with links to Council website and systems (where available) and some custom content.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Permanently present on a person’s device once downloaded – no need to open the search engine.</td>
<td>Dependant on the chosen provider to maintain the app technology and compatibility with multiple operating systems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can present information faster in some situations (static content not relying on downloads)</td>
<td>Requires campaign and promotion to get people to download at launch and ongoing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Can allow offline access to content (not to transact services) | Directly links to existing content on website. Limited benefit as the information is already available directly through the site.  
Note: We wouldn’t link an app to the current site as it is not mobile responsive. New Council website will be mobile responsive from July 2019 so any work would not commence until after that. |
| | Known limitations in people downloading and adopting usage (based on experiences of other councils) |
| | Council unable to provide integrated mobile services (hard waste pick up, customer service request etc) until new system implemented over the next 1 – 3 years) |
| | Reputational risk as it’s really only a bridge between an app and corporate website. |
BANYULE COUNCIL APP cont’d

Costs/resources:

- Development cost estimated to be up to $5 - 30k (Graphic design, content creation, marketing)
- Maintenance cost estimated to be $1 - 30k each year depending on complexity of the solution.
- Would require some additional staff resources to maintain links to content from the website and other corporate systems. (up to $20K)
- Would need dedicated project management resources to deliver ($50K)

Delivery timeframe:

6 – 8 months allowing for requirements to be identified, content developed, testing and launch. Some dependence on new website launch in July 2019.

Recommended option**

3. **Mobile web app** (Using new mobile friendly website with app like features)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compatible across all current and future mobile devices.</td>
<td>Doesn’t live in apps stores and doesn’t currently support push notifications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Technology providers are constantly updating their offerings to add and improve access to features. At the time of writing some websites/web applications can send push notifications once activated by the user. This service is currently only available to non-iOS based browsers. It is understood Apple has also been working on this functionality though it is not yet available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides app like interactions and use on mobile features (camera, photos, video) etc.</td>
<td>Relies on internet – not seen to be an issue given people would likely be accessing the site while in and around places with internet coverage.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BANYULE COUNCIL APP cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requires less promotion at launch. Promo could be targeted to get people to install the “app” client on their phone via a notification. This would provide an app like experience to customers.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing resources in place to ensure content is up to date and current.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to present mobile forms that allow people to submit certain requests. Amount of forms gradually increasing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Costs/resources:**

- No additional development costs as already factored into website project
- Future resource consideration likely needed to compliment a more centralised approach to managing content across the whole website (estimated at $70 – 80k per year for 1 EFT)
- Small project budget to promote the web app installation ($10k)

**Delivery timeframe:**

In line with website project – July 2019.

**OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* (Act) requires members of Council staff, and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

**CONCLUSION**

While there is a future opportunity to create an app that delivers integrated online services and access to news and information, limitations in Council’s current systems mean that a high quality user experience is not currently achievable.

Over the past few years, good progress has been made to assist people to make requests for services online with basic online forms and portals. In the majority of cases these online forms respond well to mobile devices.

Council’s website banyule.vic.gov.au is the primary source of information about Council. The website is an established place for people to transact services and
access information. The website receives over 700,000 visits every year with approximately 50% of these from people using a mobile device (smart phone or tablet).

A new Banyule website due for launch in July will be:

- **Mobile first** – responsive to devices and designed to work well with mobiles with the ability for residents to install a “web app” version of the site.
- **User focused** – presenting clear, accurate and easy to understand information
- **Service focused** – understanding that people come to the site to get things done and making service transactions as simple and easy as possible.

Complementing the new site with the promotion of “web app” features is recommended as the best way to present customer requests, news and information in a mobile friendly app like way.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil
7.2 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

Author: Rhylie De Graaff - Governance Support Officer, Corporate Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under the Local Government Act 1989 an Assembly of Councillors is defined as:
A meeting of an advisory committee of the Council, if at least one Councillor is present or;
A planned or scheduled meeting of at least half of the Councillors and one member of Council staff which considers matters that are intended or likely to be:
   a) the subject of a decision of the Council or;
   b) subject to the exercise of a function, duty or power of the Council that has been delegated to a person or committee.

In accordance with Section 80A of the Local Government Act 1989 Council is required to report as soon as possible to an Ordinary Meeting of Council a record of any assemblies of Councillors held. Below is the latest listing of notified assemblies of Councillors held at Banyule City Council.

RECORD OF ASSEMBLIES

| Date of Assembly: | 1 April 2019 |
| Type of Meeting: | Councillor Briefing |
| Councillors Present: | Peter Castaldo, Alison Champion, Mark Di Pasquale, Rick Garotti, Craig Langdon, Tom Melican, Wayne Phillips |
| Staff Present: | Simon McMillan – Chief Executive Officer, Marc Giglio – Director Corporate Services, Kathy Hynes – Acting Director Assets & City Services, Scott Walker – Director City Development, Emily Outlaw - Executive Governance Officer, James Stirton – Manager Environment & Planning, Michelle Isherwood – Economic Development Officer, Daniela Ahimastos – Economic Development Officer |
## ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Assembly:</th>
<th>2 April 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of Meeting:</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Advisory Committee Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Matters Considered: | - Banyule Festival, Journey Through Life Exhibition  
- BACAC Working Groups  
- Ivanhoe Library & Cultural Hub  
- Public Art Policy Update  
- Homefront Documentary Screening  
- Banyule Website Study  
- Pinpoint Art in Public Spaces |
| Councillors Present: | Peter Castaldo  
Craig Langdon |
| Staff Present: | Darren Bennet – Manager Leisure, Recreation & Cultural Services  
Hannes Berger Arts & Cultural Team Leader |
| Others Present: | Rebecca Armstrong  
Fran Lee  
Anne Bennett  
Les Walkling  
Kevin Ritchie  
Genelle Ryan  
Craig Eloranta  
Sandra Diaz  
June Gassin |
| Conflict of Interest: | Nil |

### 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Assembly:</th>
<th>8 April 2019</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of Meeting:</td>
<td>Councillor Briefing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Matters Considered: | Items on the Council Agenda for the Ordinary Meeting 8 April 2019 as listed below:  
Urgent Business - Car Park Extension Opposite Watsonia RSL  
3.1 Gambling Policy - Gambling Reduction and Harm Minimisation |
3.2 Social Enterprise & Local Jobs Progress Update
3.3 Shop 48 The Harmony Centre - Progress Update
4.1 2019 Environment Grants Framework and Guidelines
5.1 Postcode 3081 Urban Design Framework - Planning Scheme Amendment C120
5.2 4 Poulter Avenue, Greensborough - Options for public car park to enable redevelopment
5.3 State of Assets Report
7.1 Preparation of Council Plan 2017-2021 (Year 3)
7.2 Banyule City Council Budget 2019/2020 - For Public Exhibition
7.3 Banyule’s Electoral Representation Review
7.4 Proposed Lease - Banyule City Council and Heidelberg Theatre Company Inc - 36 Turnham Avenue, Rosanna
7.5 Award of Contract Number ‘0976-2018 - Cultural Heritage Consultant Panel’
7.6 Award of Contract No 0974-2018 - Construction of Pedestrian Bridge from Wood Street to Olympic Park, Heidelberg West
7.7 Award of Contract 0973-2018 ‘Contractor for Major Civil Works Panel’
7.8 Assembly of Councillors
8.1 Sealing of Documents - Yarra Valley Hockey Club Inc - Cyril Cummins Reserve, 67-71 Liberty Parade, Bellfield

Councillors Present:
Alison Champion
Mark Di Pasquale
Rick Garotti
Craig Langdon
Tom Melican
Wayne Phillips

Staff Present:
Simon McMillan – Chief Executive Officer
Allison Beckwith – Director Community Programs
Marc Giglio – Director Corporate Services
Kathy Hynes – Acting Director Assets & City Services
Scott Walker – Director City Development
### ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS cont’d

| Others Present: | Gina Burden – Manager Governance & Communications  
Ellen Kavanagh – Governance Officer  
Emily Outlaw - Executive Governance Officer  
James Stirton – Manager Environment & Planning  
Jonathan Risby- Manager Transport  
Luca Verduci – Senior Digital Communications Officer  
Mohammad Rashid – City Assets Coordinator  
Klover Apostola – Acting Principal Strategic Planner  
Tania O’Reilly – Manager Finance & Procurement  
Nil |
| Conflict of Interest: | Nil |

| Date of Assembly: | 15 April 2019 |
| Type of Meeting: | Councillor Briefing |
| Matters Considered: |  
- Shaping our Fate  
- Banyule App  
- Councillor Resilience & Training Planning  
- Watsonia Concept Plan  
- Council’s Emissions Reduction Plan  
- NorthEast Link Update |

| Councillors Present: | Peter Castaldo  
Alison Champion  
Mark Di Pasquale  
Rick Garotti  
Craig Langdon  
Tom Melican |

| Staff Present: | Simon McMillan – Chief Executive Officer  
Allison Beckwith – Director Community Programs  
Marc Giglio – Director Corporate Services  
Geoff Glynn – Director Assets & City Services  
Scott Walker – Director City Development  
Gina Burden – Manager Governance & Communications  
Kerryn Woods – Executive Assistance CEO & Councillors  
James Stirton – Manager Environment & Planning  
Jonathan Risby- Manager Transport  
Luca Verduci – Senior Digital Communications Officer  
Klover Apostola – Acting Principal Strategic Planner  
Sian Gleeson - Acting Coordinator Environmental Sustainability  
Shawn Neilson- Communications Coordinator  
Paul Bellis- Transport Planning & Advocacy Coordinator  
Roberta Colosimo – Manager Youth & Family Services |
ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS cont’d

| Leonie Farrell – Youth Services Coordinator  
Kate James – Youth Engagement Officer  
Erica Hardie – Acting City Futures Coordinator  
John Milkins – Environmental Operations Coordinator  
Ellie Hall – Environmental Sustainability Officer  
David Bailey – Senior Technical Advisor  
Larry Parsons, Nikki Hill – Ethos Urban  
Luke Sarsons, Joan Ko - ARUP |
| Conflicts of Interest: Nil |

RECOMMENDATION

That the Assembly of Councillors report be received.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil
7.3 ADVISORY COMMITTEES’ REPORT

Author: Michael Uniacke - Community & Social Planner, Community Programs

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Advisory Committees are made up of Councillors and community members. They have terms of references and meet to discuss issues and advise Council. Advisory committees provide important linkages between Council, Community and State agencies and interest groups. Following an Advisory Committee meeting, a report will be submitted to Council to note the minutes. Recommendations to Council from Advisory committees will generally be made to the next Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the following minutes/reports:

1) Banyule Disability and Inclusion Advisory Committee meeting on 20 February 2019.
2) Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Intersex Queer Plus Advisory Committee meeting on 7 March 2019.
3) Multicultural Advisory Committee meeting on 21 March 2019.
4) Age Friendly City Advisory Committee meeting on 25 February 2019.
5) Banyule Arts and Culture Advisory Committee meeting on 19 February 2019.
6) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee meeting on 28 February 2019.
7) Banyule Environment Advisory Committee meeting on 13 March 2019.
8) Banyule Environment Advisory Committee meeting on 13 February 2019.

1. Report/Committee Name: Disability and Inclusion Advisory Committee
   Officer: Michael Uniacke
   Brief explanation: The Disability and Inclusion Advisory Committee met on 20 February 2019 at the Greensborough Council offices. The minutes of this meeting is in Attachment 1.

   The aim of the Disability and Inclusion Advisory Committee is to provide Council with advice and information on issues facing people with disabilities and on the development and implementation of Council’s Disability Plan.

   Councillor Langdon chaired the meeting. Following his early departure to attend another commitment, Lisa Raywood, Manager Health, Aged and Community Planning, assumed the Chair. Eight committee members attended.

   There were no formal recommendations arising from this meeting.

   Highlights of the meeting included a presentation on the Information, Linkages and Capacity Building component of the NDIS by senior staff from the Brotherhood of St Laurence, Alison Stanyer and Wennie Van Riet.
2. **Report/Committee Name:** LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee  
**Officer:** Gemma Boucher  
**Brief explanation:** The LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee met on 7 March 2019 at the Greensborough Council offices. The minutes from the meeting are in Attachment 2.

The aim of the LGBTI Advisory Committee is to provide Council with advice and information on issues facing the LGBTI community and on the development and implementation of Council’s LGBTI Plan.

Councillors Langdon and Melican attended the meeting. Fourteen committee members attended.

There were no formal recommendations arising from this meeting.

At the meeting, members did an evaluation of the QWere Street event, were updated on the progress of plans for Trans Day of Visibility and the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia as well as reported on the preliminary outcomes of the Inclusive Clubs survey.

3. **Report/Committee Name:** Multicultural Advisory Committee Meeting  
**Officer:** Gemma Boucher  
**Brief explanation:** The Multicultural Advisory Committee met on 21 March 2019 at the Hatch Contemporary Arts Space at Ivanhoe. The minutes from the meeting are in Attachment 3.

The aim of the Multicultural Advisory Committee is to provide Council with advice and information on issues facing the Multicultural community and on the development and implementation of Council’s Multicultural Plan.

Councillor Langdon chaired the meeting. Nine committee members attended the meeting.

There were no formal recommendations from this meeting. Members discussed in detail the Christchurch Terrorist attack and the impact it has had on the local community, updated on the 3081 Cultural Precinct project and were updated on Cultural Diversity Week activities and opening of the Cultural Diversity grants round.

4. **Report/Committee Name:** Age Friendly City Advisory Committee  
**Officer:** Leanne Horvath  
**Brief explanation:** The aim of the Age-friendly City Advisory Committee is to provide Council with advice on older adult issues and ageing well in Banyule. The Committee will oversee Council’s involvement in the World Health Organisations Global Network of Age-friendly Cities.

The Age-Friendly City Advisory Committee met on 25 February 2019 at the Council offices in Greensborough. The minutes from this meeting are at Attachment 4.
Councillor Champion chaired the meeting. Councillors Langdon and Melican also attended. Eleven committee members were in attendance. There were no recommendations from this meeting.

Among the highlights of this meeting:
- The Committee focused on social participation and transportation and discussed the projects and advocacy efforts which will enhance the wellbeing of Banyule older residents in relation to these priorities.
- After the Advisory Committee meeting, Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service nominated Margaret Breare, Rosanna library to be an organisation representative. This will be a positive addition for the Advisory Committee.

5. **Report/Committee Name:** Banyule Arts and Culture Advisory Committee  
**Officer:** Hannes Berger  
**Brief explanation:** The Banyule Arts and Culture Advisory Committee met on 19 February 2019 at the Hatch Contemporary Arts Space in Ivanhoe. The minutes from the meeting are at Attachment 5.

The aim of the Banyule Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee is to provide a formal mechanism for Council to consult with key stakeholders, seek specialist advice and enable community participation in the development and delivery of the 2017 – 2021 Arts and Culture Strategic Plan.

There were no councillors in attendance. Fourteen committee members attended. Hannes Berger, Arts & Culture Team Leader, acted as Chair.

There were no recommendations from this meeting.

A major agenda item of this meeting was a facilitated workshop on the development of Banyule’s new Public Art Policy.

6. **Report/Committee Name:** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee  
**Officer:** Theonie Tacticos  
**Brief explanation:** The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee met on 28 February 2019 at the Barrbunin Beek Gathering Place in Olympic Park, Heidelberg West. The minutes from the meeting are in Attachment 6.

The aim of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee is to provide Council with advice and information on issues facing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and on the development and implementation of Council’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Plan.

Councillor Castaldo chaired the meeting. Councillor Langdon also attended the meeting. Five committee members attended the meeting.
There were no formal recommendations from this meeting.

Members gave their feedback on the program proposed for Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week.

Members were also informed that the draft Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan which will form Council’s Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is with the Wurundjeri Land Council for feedback prior to coming to the Advisory Committee.

A working group will also meet prior to the next Advisory Committee to go over the Terms of Reference and include protocol for checking that all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members have had an opportunity to speak before moving on to the next agenda item.

7. **Report/Committee Name:** Banyule Environment Advisory Committee (BEAC)  
**Officer:** Sian Gleeson  
**Brief explanation:** The Banyule Environment Advisory Committee (BEAC) met on 13 March 2019 at the Council offices in Greensborough. The minutes from the meeting are in Attachment 7.

The purpose of BEAC is to provide on-going community input to Council from residents committed to and concerned about a sustainable environment, particularly in relation to the development and implementation of strategic environmental documents and programs.

Katalin Erdosi chaired the meeting. Cr Castaldo was in attendance. Six committee members attended.

There was one formal recommendation arising from the meeting:

- BEAC recommends that any Power Purchasing Agreement (PPA) that Council enters into is for new renewable energy projects. This will ensure that the Power Purchasing Agreement supports the growth of the renewable energy sector. The Power Purchasing Agreements should not be for projects that are already in existence.

8. **Report/Committee Name:** Banyule Environment Advisory Committee (BEAC)  
**Officer:** John Milkins  
**Brief explanation:** The Banyule Environment Advisory Committee (BEAC) met on 13 February 2019 at the Council offices in Greensborough. The minutes from the meeting are in Attachment 8.

The purpose of BEAC is to provide on-going community input to Council from residents committed to and concerned about a sustainable environment.
environment, particularly in relation to the development and implementation of strategic environmental documents and programs.

Hoesin Gharavi chaired the meeting. Cr Castaldo was in attendance. Seven committee members attended.

There were no formal recommendations from this meeting.

Discussions in the meeting included the following:

- BEAC would prefer more detailed recording of meeting discussions in the Notes, and will highlight any items of particular note that should be recorded.
- BEAC advised that their advice from November 2018 regarding the draft Notice of Motion (NoM) on Climate Action was to encourage stronger wording. It was noted that the eventual NoM included stronger wording, and this strengthened further in Council’s Resolution on Climate Action on 10 December 2018
- BEAC recommended the website reflect the reality of climate change, the urgency of the need for Climate Action, and be a means for transparent communication with the community

**ATTACHMENTS**

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<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<td>Banyule Disability and Inclusion Advisory Committee Minutes - February 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transexual Intersex Queer Plus Advisory Committee Minutes - March 2019</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Multicultural Advisory Committee Minutes - March 2019</td>
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<td>Age Friendly City Advisory Committee Minutes - February 2019</td>
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<td>8</td>
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