

Chisholm Road Prison Project

Summary of Community Advisory Group Meeting

Meeting details

Meeting title:	Community Advisory Group	No:	5
Date:	Wednesday 20 March 2019	Time:	4.20pm to 6.00pm
Location:	Marngoneet Correctional Centre (Boardroom Administration Building), 1170 Bacchus Marsh Road, LARA		

Attendees

Community Advisory Group members: Councillor Kylie Grzybek (Winderemere), John Brne (community member), Barry White (community member), Jeff Cahn (community member), Ivan Valder (Acting Executive Director, Barwon South West Region), Garry Jackson Program Director, New Builds (delegated to Dijana Dragovic) Dijana Dragovic (Acting Program Director, New Builds), David Withington (community member), Leigh Bartlett (community member), Rod Wise (Deputy Commissioner, Corrections Victoria), Marylyn Pettit (community member).

Additional: Louise Baring (Communication Manager, New Builds), Rachel Robertson (Senior Communication Manager, New Builds)

Apologies:

Justin Giddings (Chair), Corrina Eccles (community member), Leanne Rayner (Sergeant, Lara Police Station), and Nigel Bird (community member),

Meeting overview

Previous minutes

Previous minutes were endorsed.

Tour of Barwon Prison

A tour of Barwon Prison was conducted for Community Advisory Group (CAG) members prior to the meeting. Members who attended the meeting noted how valuable it was to see inside a maximum security prison, including the opportunity to build an understanding of the processes and operations of a prison.

Members who attended found they gained an understanding of the prison system more broadly whilst giving them a vision for the future prison at Chisholm Road.

Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference were reviewed and discussed by the group. The functions of the group were discussed and members agreed they accurately represented the scope of the CAG.

The functions were endorsed as follows;

- Attend CAG meetings.
- Identify relevant issues of public interest or concern in relation to the Chisholm Road Prison Project and report these to CAG meetings.

- Provide advice on matters of significance raised in relation to the Chisholm Road Prison Project through wider community feedback and the group's own deliberations.
- Provide advice on effective communication arrangements to be established with interested residents, community and special interest groups, businesses, local council and relevant government agencies to ensure appropriate communication during the design and construction phases of the project.
- Provide a focus for community input into the development.

It was noted that the background in the Terms of Reference was outdated and needs updating which the department agreed to complete.

A Deputy Chair for the group had not been appointed to chair meetings in the absence of the Independent Chair. The department noted it would send an expression interest amongst members to act as Deputy Chair.

It was noted that the group would endorse Kylie Councillor Kylie Grzybek to act as Deputy Chair.

Community feedback and community issues/concerns and community engagement opportunities

Lara Golf Course Water Agreement

It was raised if the Golf Course had received a response to its correspondence regarding the regarding the Water Agreement with the Department of Justice and Community Safety and the City of Greater Geelong.

It was confirmed that the Golf Course did receive correspondence from the Chair of the Group.

The letter outlined that the CAG requested the department to consider options for surplus water from stormwater collection to be utilised by the Elcho Park Golf Course.

The department confirmed;

- it considered potential waste water treatment facilities and options for surplus stormwater collection to be utilised by the local community.
- a waste water treatment plant was decommissioned in 2016 and replaced with a more cost-effective and sustainable waste water solution, which connects directly to the main city sewer system and appropriately meets the prison needs.
- with the new solution in place, there is no provision for a new waste water treatment facility as a part of the Chisholm Road Prison Project.
- any surplus water that becomes available from stormwater collection at the new prison will be re-used within the facility to decrease environmental impacts, including reducing its carbon footprint.

Traffic management

- Traffic management was discussed and the issue of ensuring that any impacts on traffic during construction and when the prison is operational are reduced where possible.

- The department confirmed it will follow the appropriate processes to formally consult with VicRoads and the City of Greater Geelong on traffic management and specifically on the Traffic Impact Assessment Report.
- The department confirmed it was acutely aware of the issues relating to traffic management and that it is committed to reducing any impacts.
- The department confirmed it will share the Traffic Impact Assessment Report for the project as a part of the consultation on the Correctional Facility Plan when completed.
- Discussion was had on the development of the Traffic Impact Assessment Report and the department confirmed it is being developed in partnership with VicRoads and will go to the Council for review after its development as a part of due process.

The department also confirmed that;

- Once the Managing Contractor has been appointed, they will develop a Traffic Management Plan in partnership with the department to reduce any impacts on the local community.
- The Managing Contractor will be instructed to follow specific routes and to make arrangements that take into consideration likely impacts on the local community. CAG members will be kept informed and engaged as the Managing Contractor is appointed and any feedback from the local community on impacts will be shared with them.
- To minimise the impacts of local traffic, the department will raise CAG's concerns with VicRoads and Regional Roads Victoria to work on options for signs be placed on Bacchus Marsh Road, directing passing traffic to the Geelong Ring Road and away the Little River and Lara town centres.

Correctional Facility Plan

The development of the Correctional Facility Plan was discussed and the department noted to the group that appendices are still being developed.

As part of developing the facility plan, a range of assessment reports are being completed, including a landscaping and visual impact assessment and a traffic impact assessment.

The draft Correctional Facility Plan is currently being finalised and will be made available to CAG members (in-confidence). CAG members will have approximately one to two weeks to provide feedback to the department.

The facility plan and its appendices will also be concurrently shared with the City of Greater Geelong Council. The Council has an integral role in ensuring the proposed arrangements meet community needs and are considered as a part of long term planning.

The department committed to sharing the Facility Plan and all appendices together when finalised.

Project Update

Design

- Design of the new prison is still in progress with works continuing on both the detail design and schematic design.

Managing Contractor Procurement

- Tender evaluations for the Managing Contractor are still in progress with the appointment expected to take place in the coming months.

Planning

- Planning approvals are still in progress with a range of assessment reports and technical documents being prepared the Chisholm Road Prison Project Correctional Facility Plan to obtain a planning permit for the new prison.