

# Meeting Summary

Chisholm Road Prison Project - Community Advisory Group

## Meeting details

<b>Meeting title:</b>	Community Advisory Group	<b>No:</b>	8
<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 26 June 2019	<b>Time:</b>	4.00pm to 6.00pm
<b>Location:</b>	Marngoneet Correctional Centre (Boardroom Administration Building), 1170 Bacchus Marsh Road, Lara		

## Attendees

**Community Advisory Group members:** Justin Giddings (Chair), John Brne (community member), Barry White (community member), Jeff Cahn (community member), Leanne Barnes (Executive Director, Barwon South West Region), Garry Jackson (Program Director, New Builds), Dijana Dragovic (Deputy Program Director, New Builds), David Withington (community member), Leigh Bartlett (community member) and Marylyn Pettit (community member).

**Additional:** Louise Baring (Communication Manager, New Builds)

## Apologies:

Barry White (community member), Garry Jackson (Program Director, New Builds), Rod Wise (Deputy Commissioner, Corrections Victoria) (delegated to Andrew Reaper), Councillor Kylie Grzybek (Winderemere), Leanne Rayner (Sergeant, Lara Police Station) and Marylyn Pettit (community member)

## Meeting overview

### Name of the prison precinct

A discussion was held on a suitable name for the entire prison precinct, which would include Marngoneet Correctional Centre, Karreenga Annex, Barwon Prison and the new prison.

Two names were put forward for the prison precinct which included;

- Barwon South West Prison Precinct
- Geelong Prison Precinct.

It was decided at the meeting that a vote should be held by group members between the two names suggested.

### Community Work- improving outcomes presentation

A presentation was delivered by the department on key community work in the Barwon South West region relating to corrections.

The department confirmed that;

- Community Work is ordered by the courts, Adult Parole Board or as part of a fine reparation
- It also offers the opportunity to gain work skills and give back to the community
- Community Correctional Services (CCS) run community work programs that are supervised by CCS Field Officers or agency supervisors across Victoria.

- Local partnerships include: local sporting clubs, Op Shops, neighbourhood houses, environmental & conservation groups and Parks Victoria.
- These partnerships are essential in the success of community work, providing positive mentorship and integrating our clients back into the community.

A range of programs were highlighted, as outlined below.

#### *Employment pathway programs*

- All employment pathway programs in Barwon South West are linked to a community work activity, which gives back to the community
- All programs are developed utilising ACFE (Adult Community Further Education) hours of training, supported by the Department of Education
- Engaging in meaningful community work increases attendance
- It is renowned worldwide that offenders engaged and supported into employment or education reduces the risk of recidivism, and therefore makes communities safer.

#### *Diversitat and Justice Partnership*

Partnership developed that was able to provide ACFE (Adult Community Further Education) non-accredited training opportunities to community work clients

- Programs designed were:
- Cooking for Confidence
- SEW (Skills and Empowerment for Women)
- DIG (Diversity in the Garden).

#### *BASE (Building Ability and Skills for Employment)*

- The BASE evolved due to the success of the Cooking for Confidence program, which moved from the North Shore football club to café in Mercer Street Geelong.
- The focus of the project is to create a community-based catering/café/retail social enterprise which offers nutritious, low cost, sustainable food and provides clear and strong employment and career pathways for participants
- The enterprise supports a range of disadvantaged cohorts including: Justice clients, disadvantaged youth and those facing barriers to employment - including new arrivals to the region from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) refugee and migrant backgrounds

#### *Pre-Employment program options (offered at the warehouse)*

- Introduction to Woodwork
- Suited for the Job
- SEW (Skills and Empowerment for Women)
- SPACE (Screen Printing and Community Enterprise).

## **Correctional Facility Plan**

As a part of the development of the Correctional Facility Plan, a copy (and its appendices) were presented to CAG members for their review and feedback at the May meeting.

There was consensus in the group that the plan captured the issues identified by the community, with the exception of the feedback received.

Feedback was received from members and the following was incorporated;

- Additional reference to Lovely Banks and Geelong as location points from the prison
- Update on the population of Lara since the 2016 census data
- Updated measurement to Lara town centre from the prison
- Language of the wall referred to consistently as 'neutrally coloured'
- Further acknowledgement to Traditional Owners in the message from the Community Advisory Group
- Additional and separate reference noting that an emergency management plan will be developed in consultation with emergency services to detail arrangements for responding to emergency events at the new prison.

Feedback was received on the Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA), noting that this report did not respond to the community issues outlined in the Facility Plan.

The department confirmed the TIA is a technical document on the interface of traffic into the new prison.

The purpose of the issues identification table in the Correctional Facility Plan is to outline the steps the department will take to minimise traffic impacts, such as signage.

The department confirmed that as each issue on traffic management was raised in the Correctional Facility Plan, it was not required to be incorporated into the TIA.

A copy of the Facility Plan will be sent to the Council for formal review and input, following the feedback and input received by CAG members.

## **Community feedback**

Community members expressed interest in ensuring local jobs can be promoted once available, including the employment targets relating to social procurement during the construction phase.

The department confirmed once the Managing Contractor is appointed they will be invited to the CAG to discuss their plan on meeting the procurement targets and working with the local businesses etc.

## **Project Update**

### *Design*

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

### *Managing Contractor Procurement*

- The Managing Contractor is in its final stages of being appointed, with an update to be expected in the coming months.

### *Planning*

- Approvals relating to planning are still in progress with the Chisholm Road Prison Project Correctional Facility Plan to be sent to the Geelong City Council, prior to being sent to for planning permit approval for the new prison.

### *Emergency management planning*

- Meetings are continuing to occur with emergency management agencies to plan for the new prison, including with representatives from Victoria Police, CFA and Ambulance Victoria.

### **Next meeting date**

The group agreed to meet bi-monthly and consider monthly meetings once the Managing Contractor is appointed, likely to be in August or September.