MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 24 May 2022
6:00 pm

City Hall
57 Little Malop Street, Geelong 3220

LIVE STREAMED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE:

www.geelongaustralia.com.au/meetings

COUNCIL:

Cr S Asher (Bellarine Ward) - Mayor
Cr T Sullivan (Bellarine Ward) - Deputy Mayor
Cr J Mason (Bellarine Ward)
Cr E Kontelj (Brownbill Ward)
Cr S Mansfield (Brownbill Ward)
Cr P Murrihy (Brownbill Ward)
Cr B Harwood (Kardinia Ward)
Cr B Moloney (Kardinia Ward)
Cr R Nelson (Kardinia Ward)
Cr A Aitken (Windermere Ward)
Cr K Grzybek (Windermere Ward)

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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Present: Cr T Sullivan (Deputy Mayor), Crs A Aitken, K Grzybek, B Harwood, E Kontelj, S Mansfield, J Mason, B Moloney (virtual attendance), P Murrihy, R Nelson

Also Present: K Phyland (Acting Chief Executive Officer), G Smith (Director City Planning and Economy), G Wilson-Browne (Director City Services), M Dugina (Director Customer and Corporate Services), R Stevens (Director Community Life), S McKew (Manager Governance)

Opening: The Deputy Mayor declared the meeting open at 6.00pm.

1. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Council acknowledges the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.

1.2. Apologies

Cr Asher – Mayor (Leave of Absence)

1.3. Leaves of Absence

1.4. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

1.5. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLUTION - Item 1.5.1

Cr Mason moved, Cr Murrihy seconded -

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 April 2022 be confirmed.

Carried

1.6. Public Question and Submission Time

The following persons submitted questions prior to the Council Meeting on the following various subjects:

1. Jarred Crowe – Building Better Bike Connections;
2. Ian – Ocean Grove – Dog Regulation Breaches;
3. Peter Wright – Proposed Social Housing – 5A Dean Street Reserve;
4. Ally – Proposed Social Housing – 5A Dean Street Reserve;
5. Lindsay Cameron – Councillor Conduct;
6. Sian Jones – Documents relating to 5A Dean Street Reserve;
7. Jeanne Nel de Koker – CoGG Tree Management and related documents;

8. Louis de Koker – The CoGG Urban Forest Strategy;
9. Vanessa Whitten – Tree Removal for Development in Highton and the CoGG Urban Forest Strategy;
10. Katherine Talbot – Proposed Social Housing – 5A Dean Street Reserve;
11. Bill Marshall – Tree Planting Schedule for 2022; and
12. Warren Chapman – Ocean Gove – All Ability Access.

Peter Wright asked:

1. Why were the neighbours who use the 5A Dean St Reserve as rear access to their properties, Dorothy Avenue, not consulted or even notified before temporary fencing was erected?

Thank you for your questions, Peter.

This demolition and associated works are not being managed or delivered by the City. The City will contact Scouts Victoria to ask them to provide further community engagement with neighbours.

2. Why has a Planning Permit not been posted at the Scout Hall 5A Dean St before the fencing was erected? Isn't this compulsory before commencing demolition?

A planning permit is not required for demolition however a building permit is likely to be required. These can be issued by private surveyors.

3. Why has the council not made available to the public the engineers report condemning the Scout Hall at 5A Dean St?

It is usual practice for any document containing information deemed to be commercial in confidence to be requested under Freedom of Information legislation so that it can be assessed in accordance with the provisions of that Act.

4. COGG does not have a copy of the engineers report on file, it remains with the Engineer who apparently will conduct the demolition. In an effort to maintain transparency shouldn't this be made available to the local community?

The demolition of the buildings on 5A Dean Street has occurred because the tenancies have ended or are ending. While the buildings are not owned by the City of Greater Geelong, the land is, and the buildings require demolition in accordance with their tenancy agreement when vacating the site.

The demolition of the buildings on this site is not related to the proposal to use the site for social housing, which Council will decide upon later this year. Should Council decide against using 5A Dean Street for social housing and consider other uses for the site, the buildings still require demolition under the tenancy exit agreement.

Peter Wright (on behalf of wife Ally) asked:

1. Why were the Council's intentions, Social Housing, for the block at 5A Dean Street and 237 High Street Belmont not announced prior to the community hub being demolished?

Thank you for your questions, Ally.

The demolition of the buildings on 5A Dean Street has occurred because the tenancies have ended or are ending. While the buildings are not owned by the City of Greater Geelong, the land is, and the buildings require demolition in accordance with their tenancy agreement when vacating the site.

The demolition of the buildings on this site is not related to the proposal to use the site for social housing, which Council will decide upon later this year. Should Council decide against using 5A Dean Street for social housing and consider other uses for the site, the buildings still require demolition under the tenancy exit agreement.

2. Why does the compulsory allocation of large areas of Public Open Space in new estates take precedence over retaining existing POS in Central Belmont? The known benefits to residents of POS is reflected in state/local planning rules yet this area, 5A Dean Street, is not even being considered by council for this purpose despite an obvious shortage in the area?

   A recent Google Earth survey shows a 150 ha. Cross-section of Central Belmont having approximately .5ha POS of which .4ha is at 5A Dean Street. Whilst approximately 260 ha of new estate in Highton has approximately 26.5ha.

   Why the disparity? Maps to be provided to Councillor Moloney for meeting, cannot be attached.

The requirement to provide public open space within new subdivisions came into effect in the Victorian Planning Scheme in 1989. The planning for the development of new estates in Highton and other areas such as Armstrong Creek are subject to a requirement within the Geelong Planning Scheme for the provision of up to 10% of developable land to be provided as public open space.

The open space contribution requirement was not in effect at the time of the development of the City's more established suburbs and consequently these areas often have a lower provision of public open space compared to new subdivisions. A cross section taken from Google Earth does not accurately convey designated land use.

The new estate in Highton has several large reserves which may appear as public open space on an aerial image yet have in fact been provided as drainage reserves to convey overland flows in rainfall events. These reserves do not function as public open space and are typically not counted toward the subdivisions open space contributions.

3. The Scout Hall at Rugby Street is currently running at or above capacity, complaints have been received by Council from local residents relating to parking and noise at this location.

   Has the Council had an independent engineer's report conducted on this structure also?

Property at 36-38 Rugby Street Belmont is owned by Scouts Victoria. Scouts Victoria has advised Council of its intention to move this Scouts group to another location.

4. Although it is privately owned it is used as a public facility, shouldn't it be held to the same level of structural scrutiny as a Scouting structure on Public Land at Dean Street?

   Why has the facility at 5A Dean Street not been considered for improvement with its larger size and greater off street parking capacity?

Robyn Stevens, Director Community Life, took the question on notice for a written response.

Sian Jones asked:

1. Is it correct that the surveyors/engineers report, claiming the buildings on site were unsafe, upon which the demolition of the buildings at 5a Dean St were based, cannot be located by council staff as it is no longer on file and why if this is the case, can a copy not be procured and supplied as requested by community groups? A yes or no answer will suffice.

Thank you for your questions, Sian.

No formal report was received by the City. The City has been in negotiation with Scouts Victoria regarding the removal of this building as a requirement by the tenant at the end of lease.

2. Is it correct that the firm contracted to produce this now missing report deeming the buildings on site as unsafe and requiring demolition, has connections with the firm actually undertaking the demolition? A yes or no answer will suffice.

The City did not contract a firm to complete a report and the contractor engaged to conduct the demolition has been contracted by Scouts Victoria.

3. Why is Council refusing to supply some relevant documentation requested citing it is commercial in confidence but has suggested we instead submit an FOI to access this information?

It is usual practice for any document containing information deemed to be commercial in confidence to be requested under Freedom of Information legislation so that it can be assessed in accordance with the provisions of that Act.

Jeanne Nel de Koker asked:

1. A transcript of the proceedings of the 22 March Council meeting reflects that the director of City Services, Mr. Guy Wilson-Browne, confirmed that requests for funding to develop and maintain the Significant Tree register were submitted ‘on a number of occasions in previous budget years’. However, the CoGG minutes of the meeting, confirmed by the Council on 26 April 2022, do not reflect Mr Wilson-Browne’s response accurately. In particular, it does not contain any reference to funding requests in previous years.

   Can the Council clarify why the minutes deviate significantly from the transcript?

Thank you for your questions, Jeanne.

The Council meeting minutes are not a verbatim record of the meeting. Minutes provide a brief summary of question time and submissions, with full recordings of the meeting made available on the City’s website.

2. During the March 2022 Council meeting, Mr Gareth Smith, the director City Planning and Economy, responded to a question about the CoGG Urban Forest Strategy stating that 'We will next measure our canopy coverage in 2024. We anticipate we will see an increase in canopy coverage across the City at this time.'

   However, the CoGG Annual Report 2020-21, tabled at the October 2021 meeting, reported that the City is not anticipating an increase in urban tree canopy for the next 10 years (2031).

   Can the Council clarify the contradiction?

The City is working to plant as many trees as possible however canopy development takes time. The City is anticipating a measurable increase in tree canopy in ten years, which is to be expected as young trees will not provide significant canopy coverage until they mature.

3. During the March 2022 Council meeting, the City Services director reported that a request for funding for a Significant Tree Register has been submitted for the 2022-23 budget. It is not clear from the proposed budget documents available on the City's website whether the proposed budget has allocated funds to the development and maintenance of a Significant Tree Register.

   Can the Council confirm:
   a. Whether the request for funding for a Significant Tree Register has been approved for the 2022-23 budget; and if so,
   b. The amount allocated.

Funding for a Significant Tree Register is not in the draft 2022-23 Budget however the City has recently developed an Urban Forest Dashboard on the Geelong Data Exchange which displays the City-owned tree population. The City is now intending to add the identification of significant trees to this data set. The City will therefore be seeking funding to enable this project to continue.

Louis de Koker asked:

1. 'Ensure the urban forest objectives are integrated into all key City documents where possible' is an action under objective 4 of the City of Greater Geelong's Urban Forest Strategy, adopted by the Council in November 2015.

   Since the adoption of the Strategy in November 2015, please indicate the steps the CoGG took to amend the Local Planning Policy Provisions to integrate the urban forest objectives into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme?

Thank you for your questions, Louis.

The objective from the Urban Forest Strategy to deliver 25 per cent tree canopy coverage has been included at clause 21.20 for the Northern and Western Geelong Growth Areas to guide new development.

The review of the Greater Geelong Municipal Strategic Statement is currently underway and will further incorporate major policy initiatives related to sustainable development in our planning scheme. Sustainable design, shading and urban heat principles are currently addressed through existing clauses in the Planning Scheme. This includes Clause 15.02-1S, which has direction to reduce urban heat island effect by greening urban areas. Council also has a range of objectives promoting best practice for Environmental Sustainable Design in Clause 22.71 of the Planning Scheme. Additionally, there are specific requirements in place for planning permit applications to include landscape plans and meet a minimum level of permeability and garden area in appropriate zones.

Further, in General Residential and Neighbourhood Residential Zone, there is also a requirement for canopy trees to be planted for each dwelling constructed. The City's Environment Strategy 2020-2030 and Urban Forest Strategy 2015-2025 are complementary to the planning requirements mentioned above, and all of the principles, directions and recommendations in both strategies continue to be major factors in Council decision-making processes relating to these matters.

2. The Strategy also lists 'Measure all Key Performance Indicators in 2020 and report progress'. However, the 2020-21 CoGG Annual Report only reports on the tree canopy and annual street tree planting.

   Can the Council confirm whether the City, in 2020, measured and completed a separate progress report on all the KPIs listed in the Strategy? If so, please indicate how residents can access the report or other 2020-21 reports that contain progress reports on the Strategy's KPIs.

High level KPIs such as the number of trees planted and net gain are reported through the Annual Report.

The City has developed a progress report that measures all of the KPIs and will include this on the City's website linked to the Urban Forest Strategy.

The Geelong Data Exchange also reports in real time the number of new trees planted and a detailed breakdown of the top 10 species and the age, height, structure, health, and Useful Life Expectancy of our urban forest.
https://www.geelongdataexchange.com.au/pages/urban-forestry/#detailed-view

3. Several CoGG documents highlight the Council's commitment to the health and wellbeing of Geelong residents. Most recently, the proposed 2022-23 budget states that 'the health and wellbeing of our community is central to everything we do'. In September 2020, a Deakin Research Team reported to the Council that many suburbs in Geelong are already vulnerable to heat-risk factors and that 'Should nothing change (e.g., increased canopy cover), the consequences of heatwaves on the Geelong population will include more deaths, greater heat stress and heat related medical conditions, ...'.

   The CoGG Urban Forest Strategy identifies an increase in the tree canopy as the most cost-effective and efficient tool to mitigate the urban heat island effect. Unfortunately, the CoGG reported in October 2021, that due to urban growth, it does not anticipate an increase in the urban tree canopy until 2031. Despite this, the Council's official response to the tree canopy petition submitted by residents in December 2021 indicated that "[t]he development of tree protection controls in suburban areas is not on our current work program".

Can the Council indicate how, in view of the information set out above, the decision not to develop tree protection control measures to secure the Greater Geelong tree canopy, supports and promotes residents' current health and well-being?

Our Environment Strategy 2020-2030 and Urban Forest Strategy 2015-2025 are focused on protecting and improving the health of our local environment. These strategies play a key role in Council decision-making processes as we recognise the important role the natural environment plays in the health and wellbeing of our community. While sustainable design, shading and urban heat principles are addressed through existing clauses in the Planning Scheme, through the MSS review we will be looking at ways to further incorporate objectives relating to sustainable development, including tree canopy, into our planning scheme.

Vanessa Whittem asked:

As explained in an answer to a question addressed to the Council Meetings on 26 October 2021 and 23 March 2022, during the years 2015-2021 the total number of trees planted by Council in Highton in GRZ4 and RGZ2 was 120.

By contrast, in only 9 development applications, i.e., a small portion of total applications, the number of trees to be removed was 402.

a. 114 South Valley Road 21;
b. 45 South Valley Road 8 (removed 12);
c. 54 Barrabool Road, Highton 7;
d. 102-110 Colac Road, Highton 37;
e. 62 South Valley Road 42 (tree removal not part of subdivision application);
f. 297-307 Roslyn Road 65 + 95 = 160 (of which 9 currently remain);
g. 4 Taylor Court, Highton 46;
h. 16 Duggan Court, Highton 17; and
i. 2 Morven Court 62 (if the application had not been defeated at VCAT).

1. Would each Councillor please advise individually if they were aware of the scale of tree removal for development in Highton?

Cr Sullivan responded that all Councillors are aware of the tree planting program.

2. Given Council's own Urban Forest Strategy requirement to increase tree cover to 25%, will Council explain how they plan to correct this imbalance?

Thank you for your questions, Vanessa.

The City is increasing canopy coverage to 25% by 2045 throughout the City through initiatives such as:

- *Planting over 2,500 trees annually in our streets and parks, creating a net gain of over 1,500 trees per year*
- *Ensuring growth areas plan for a sufficient number of trees to meet the goals of the Urban Forest Strategy and monitoring the stock quality and care of the young trees*
- *Collaborating with 'Friends of' and community groups to undertake mass planting programs such as National Tree Planting Day*
- *Running educational programs through the Geelong Botanic Gardens to promote the value and planting of trees*
- *Adopting policy requirements for offset trees to be planted when a City-owned or managed tree is removed to facilitate works.*

Katherine Talbot asked:

1. Why has there been no traffic impact study done on the proposed Social Housing Development at the 5A Dean Street site?

   There is already significant traffic and parking issues on Dorothy Avenue, Dean Street and Lloyd Street. Due to the site's close proximity to Oberon P.S. and TLC nursing home carpark. We have been told this would take place after the site has been handed over to a developer.

At this stage the community has been engaged to seek their views on whether 5A Dean Street should be made available for social housing development. Any assessment of the potential impact of a development on local traffic and parking would only be undertaken if Council decided to proceed with this proposal.

Therefore, should Council proceed with transferring 5A Dean Street for social housing, then such assessments would be undertaken in order to inform the design of the development.

2. Why were the public not adequately informed that the State Government will no longer be paying the rates on the 100 social housing properties that council plan to transfer land to have built?

   At the 22/2/22 Council meeting it was said that the council will absorb these costs. During the consultation phase for Social Housing on Council land this information was not published.

The rates exemption was not legislated at the time and therefore there was no certainty that it would be enacted. Since the February Council meeting, the State Government has withdrawn this proposed legislation and therefore social housing is not exempt from rates.

3. Why have residents in the Belmont community not been consulted about what they want the Dean Street site to be used for?

   When others and I asked this question during online forums about Social Housing at the Dean Street site, we were told to add what we wanted to see done with the site instead of social housing. Many members of the community were not aware of this and want a separate and transparent community consultation about what the site should be used for. This is the only Public Open Space in this part of Belmont and a significant community asset that should be available for future generations.

The recent six-week community engagement on the proposal to transfer 5A Dean Street, Belmont for the purposes of social housing asked community members their views on this proposal.

Community members were asked to what extent they supported the proposal and to provide their reasons why. Where there were community members who opposed the proposal because of a preference for an alternative use, those community members were encouraged to provide those views via the Have Your Say survey.

Bill Marshall asked:

1. Which Geelong suburbs will receive priority planting of street trees for the 2022 planting season?

2. Please provide a schedule by suburb and number of street trees planned to be planted in the 2022 planting season?

Thank you for your questions, Bill.

1. *The 2022 Priority Tree Planting Program will focus on Corio, also with sites in Lara, Rippleside, Geelong, Portarlington, Ocean Grove and Barwon Heads.*

2. *The City is happy to provide you with a schedule including breakdown by suburb, number and species of trees to be planted. The City will also make this available on our website.*

Supplementary Questions from the Gallery:

Vicky Grosser asked her question in relation to the 26 January – Community Engagement and National Reconciliation Week and asked Councillors how do they currently see/think about reconciliation?

Cr Mason responded Reconciliation means acceptance and respect of each other and is a process achieved through a deeper cultural understanding, truth telling and ultimately treaty. We have a tool at the moment, a generously offered tool, which is the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which I am proud to say this Council has already endorsed.

Cr Mansfield added Reconciliation is not an end point, but a journey, and it is important for us to listen to our community - what they are feeling, what they are telling us and as leaders in the community and as part of that Reconciliation journey, we need to act on what we are asked to do by the community.

Cr Aitken responded that Reconciliation is really a movement for the Australian people to actually have a better future, which is what we are attempting to do, and encouraged everyone to look at ways in which they can participate in Reconciliation. This is something we learned from the development of the Uluru Statement from the Heart in 2017.

Tom O'Connor commented on the Community Engagement Interim Report and provided what he deemed to be an excellent recent example of Community Engagement in a recent Asset Survey conducted by Council officers and consultants in Portarlington, with input from community individuals.

He also commented on a preference for single Councillor wards, either four or back to the original 12 wards – coupled with the role of local Advisory Committees, and also encouraged Council to commit to the IAP2 spectrum – in particular the last element that states under the heading *'Empower – we deliver what you decide'*.

Ingrid Sutherland presented a submission on behalf of the Belmont Traders Group regarding the Building Better Bike Connection Project and commented on inconsistencies during the consultation process.

1.7. Petitions

Cr Sullivan presented a petition containing 104 signatures from Petra Porter asking for speed humps to be installed in Princess Street, Drysdale.

Cr Moloney presented a petition containing approximately 770 signatures from Katherine Talbot asking the City of Greater Geelong to halt its plan to sell the Dean Street Plantation Reserve land.

2. REPORTS

2.1. Social Equity Framework 2022-25

Source: **Community Life**
Director: **Robyn Stevens**

Purpose

1. For Council to adopt the Social Equity Framework 2022-25 (the Framework) **(Attachment 1)**.

Background

2. In February 2022, Council endorsed community engagement for the Draft Social Equity Framework (Draft Framework) for a period of four weeks.

Key Matters

3. The City received 13 completed surveys, three additional contributions through direct contact with officers, input from Council Advisory Committees and seven social media comments.

4. Comments from the survey and other feedback (**Attachment 2**) fell into four key categories:
   - 4.1. those that did not support Council adopting a framework;
   - 4.2. those that were supportive and satisfied with the Framework;
   - 4.3. those that were supportive and provided detailed, constructive feedback; and
   - 4.4. those that shared implementation considerations for the Framework.

5. In response to the feedback, the following has been addressed:
   - 5.1. strengthening the link between social justice and equity;
   - 5.2. visual accessibility (e.g. contrasts);
   - 5.3. reviewing definitions for key concepts and the addition of an equality definition;
   - 5.4. clarifying Council and the City's role in social equity;
   - 5.5. content relating to priority groups (e.g. preferred language and definitions); and
   - 5.6. reviewing data and definitions in Appendix 3.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.1

Cr Mansfield moved, Cr Mason seconded -

> **That Council adopt the Social Equity Framework 2022-25.**

Carried

Financial Sustainability

6. The implementation of the Framework will be funded through existing operational budgets.

Community Engagement

7. Engagement on the Draft Framework was undertaken from 23 February to 23 March 2022 via survey on the City's Have Your Say online page. Additional feedback was provided from Council Advisory Committees.

Social Equity and Sustainability

8. The Framework has been informed by the City's Social Equity Principles 2017. The Framework is a key deliverable of Our Community Plan 2021-2025 and underpins the delivery of a range of services and programs. It also falls under the 'Social' pillar of sustainability, a top strategic priority focus for the City.

9. Actions and activities are informed by up-to-date demographics and data on priority groups for attention, with a focus on addressing needs within these groups.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

10. The relevant legislation and policy that informs the Framework has been referenced in the Framework.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

11. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
    Healthy, caring and inclusive community.
    Strong local economy.
    Sustainable growth and environment.

12. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:
    An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.
    Creative and diverse culture.
    People feel safe wherever they are.

Conflict of Interest

13. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

14. Social equity or social inequities continue to be a risk factor for many in our community. Understanding the long-term structural, economic and cultural barriers and bringing these issues under the umbrella of a social equity framework aims to assist in greater understanding and awareness of the inequities that exist. Without concerted and continued efforts to address these issues, the growing gap around socio-economic issues will continue.

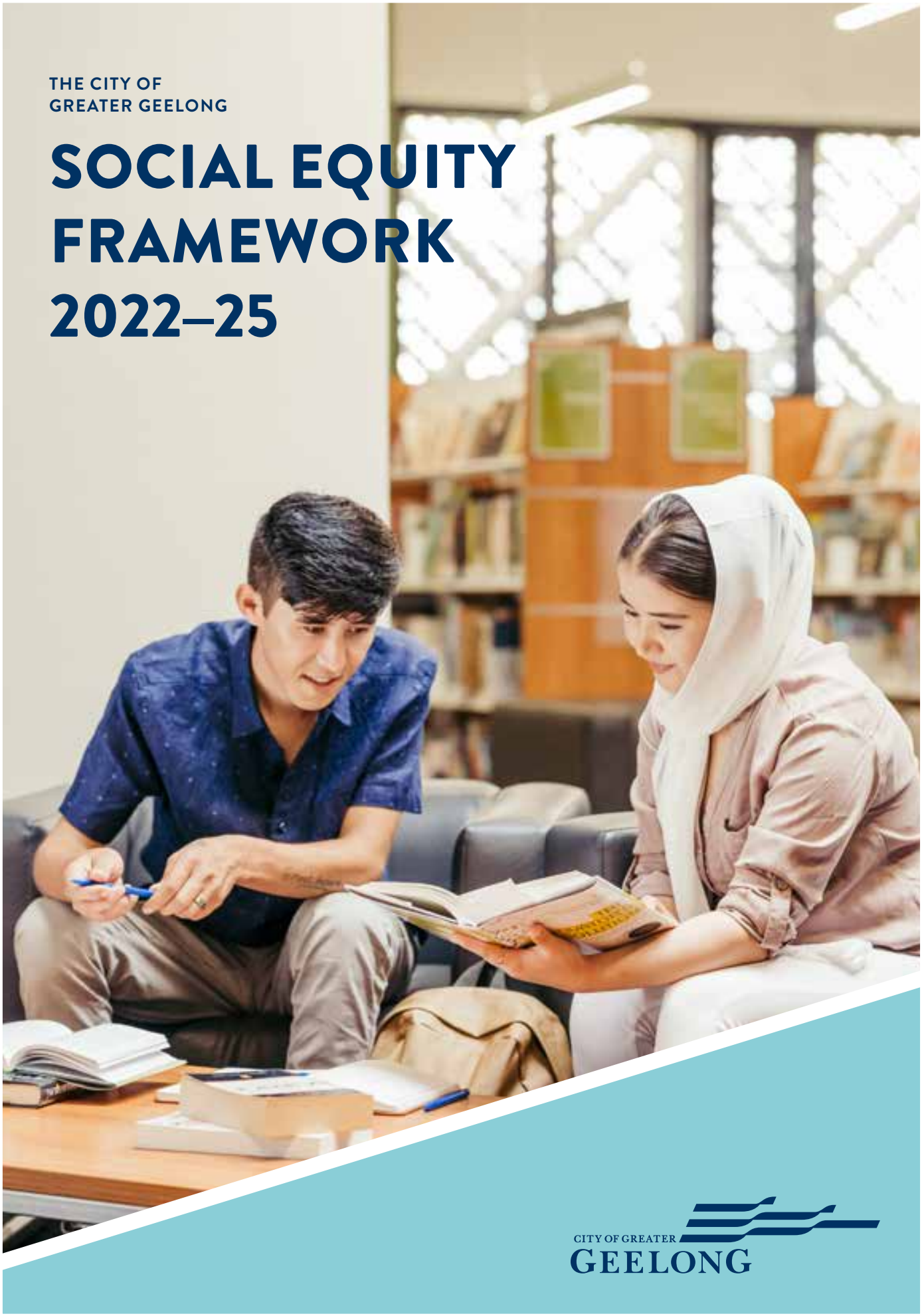
15. The Framework assists the City to strengthen our work in identifying those population groups who require additional support and assistance and to guide our service and program delivery.

Environmental Sustainability

16. Environmental sustainability has been considered when identifying the key issues and challenges facing priority groups within the Greater Geelong community.

Attachments

1. Social Equity Framework 2022-25 [**2.1.1** - 40 pages]
2. Social Equity Framework - Engagement Feedback [**2.1.2** - 12 pages]



THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

SOCIAL EQUITY FRAMEWORK 2022–25

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG



We acknowledge the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways & Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are a part of our Greater Geelong community today.

Artwork: *Corio* by Dr Jenny Murray-Jones

Acknowledgement of Country in Wadawurrung language:

We acknowledge the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the land, water, and sky. We pay our respects to their Elders of the Past, Present, and those Emerging.

Wadawurrung Dja muyni Djilang wurdi-karrong. Nganyaki-i-beek wurdi Wadawurrung gerrupa-tjarra-dja

Wadawurrung kinkinbil beek wurdi getjawil detetj-gupma-bul mooroop-a.

The City of Geelong is part of Wadawurrung Country. A small part of land that's connected to the larger Country of Wadawurrung

We acknowledge the Wadawurrung People and the spiritual connection they share with the lands.

SUPPORT FOR THE ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

We have proudly pledged our support for the Uluru Statement from the Heart outlining the reforms – Voice, Treaty, Truth.

The Statement calls to enshrine a First Nations voice in the Australian constitution and to establish a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process for both agreement making between governments and First Nations People, and historical truth-telling. This provides a path forward as identified by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People for their own self-determination, and true reconciliation in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.



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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Our aim of a creative, thriving and socially sustainable Greater Geelong relies on equity for all members of our community. To achieve this, we will need to overcome existing barriers facing our underrepresented and most vulnerable groups.

Our Social Equity Framework gives us a common set of principles so that every member of our community can be supported to participate fully, be included and have the opportunity to live a healthy and fulfilling life.

We know that our population is growing rapidly and, as we continue to welcome more people into our community, we become stronger and more diverse. To make sure we remain socially sustainable, we need to focus on how we can support and celebrate the unique experiences, skills, and stories each person and group brings.

We recognise that right now, certain groups may experience disadvantage, or their voices may not be fully heard. This is something we want to change. This framework outlines our approach to achieving greater representation of every member of our community, giving us a common understanding of how we think about social equity. We have also identified groups who need extra support, and we've developed a range of action plans and strategies to help these important members of our community access the resources they need.

Everyone in Greater Geelong brings unique value, and no group or identity exists in isolation from another. Welcoming and hearing the voices of all individuals will help us to support our diverse and inclusive, clever and creative community.



Cr Trent Sullivan

Deputy Mayor,
City of Greater Geelong



Pictured: Young people enjoying a game of tennis

OUR VISION FOR EQUITY



Our community-led, 30-year vision for a clever and creative future is underpinned by how we support every member of our community. Our vision is community-led and collaborative in how we address our challenges, create opportunities and embrace new ways of doing things.

Sustainability is a key challenge to achieving a thriving region over the next 30 years. Sustainability for Greater Geelong means focusing on creating the best outcomes for people, the environment, and the economy both now and in the future. Social sustainability is about expanding opportunities to create a more inclusive community, empowering community members and fostering a more resilient and prosperous society.

We recognise that some social groups may experience barriers to representation and their voices may not be heard. This reinforces the importance of equity, access and inclusion in the way we deliver services and programs, and partner with community when achieving our community-led vision.

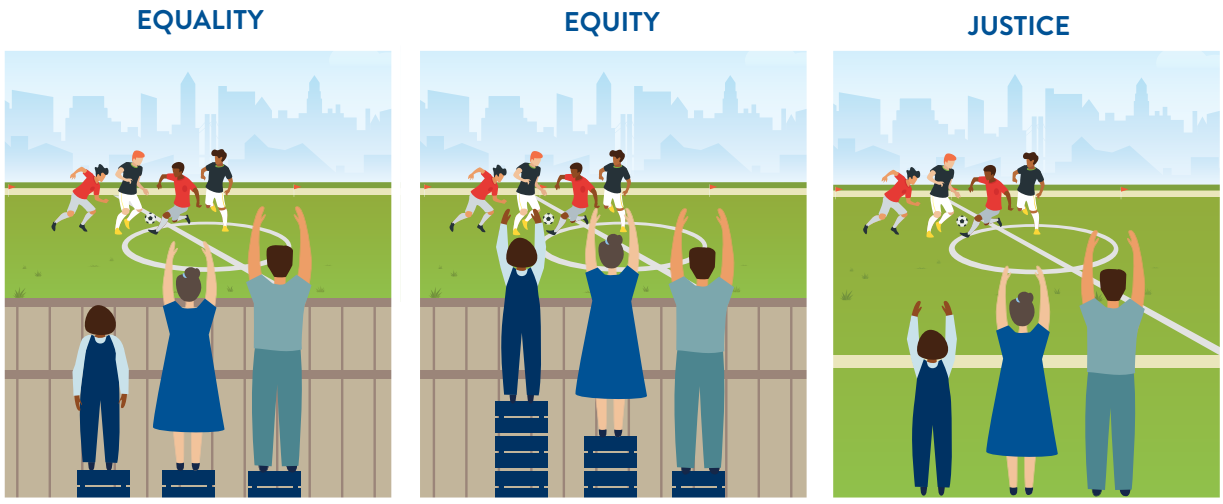


The Social Equity Framework provides a common set of principles so that every member of our community can be supported to participate fully, be included, and can live a healthy and fulfilling life. The framework informs how we will work with the community to become a thriving region, with equitable access to council services and facilities, partnerships that achieve better health outcomes, and an approach that harnesses community knowledge to drive sustainable change.

This framework also considers the concepts of social justice, equity, diversity, inclusion, and human rights in every service and program we deliver, and every space and place we manage. By adopting an equity approach, we will move closer to realising social justice in our community.

Aligning to the community's 30-year Clever and Creative Vision and Our Community Plan 2021–25, the framework will help us strive for a fairer society by reducing barriers and sharing resources fairly. By putting equity at the centre of everything we do, we will build a healthy, thriving community where everyone is welcomed and valued.

Figure 1: Visual representation of Equality, Equity, Justice



OUR COMMUNITY

Located 75 kilometres south-west of Melbourne, the municipality covers an area of 1,252 km^2, comprising suburban, coastal and country areas. Greater Geelong is bound by the Moorabool Shire in the north, Wyndham City Council and the Borough of Queenscliffe in the east, Surf Coast Shire and Golden Plains Shire in the west, and Bass Strait in the south.



FAST FACTS

Figure 2: Statistics about our community

2,402 (1%) PEOPLE IDENTIFY AS BEING ABORIGINAL OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER

6.3% OF FEMALES & **5.7%** OF MALES NEED ASSISTANCE DUE TO A SEVERE OR PROFOUND DISABILITY

26.7% OF ADULTS SPEAK A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME

2,026 PEOPLE ARE REFUGEE CLIENTS OF DIVERSITAT

122 PER 10,000 WOMEN ARE VICTIMS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE INCIDENTS

5% OF ADULTS IDENTIFY WITH BEING LGBTQI+

13.3% OF THE POPULATION IS MADE UP OF YOUNG PEOPLE (15–24 YEARS)

30% OF THE POPULATION IS MADE UP OF OLDER PEOPLE (55+ YEARS)

ONE-THIRD OF ALL UNEMPLOYED PERSONS LIVE IN CORIO-NORLANE

UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL EQUITY – DEFINITIONS

EQUITY

Equity is a concept based on the principle of human rights and fairness in the distribution of services, resources, benefits and responsibilities, on the basis of people's current opportunities and barriers. It recognises that people have different needs, life experiences, levels of influence and access to decision making and that these differences should be identified and addressed in a manner that rectifies imbalances, to provide equitable outcomes for all.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Human rights recognise the inherent value of each person, regardless of background, where we live, what we look like, what we think or what we believe. They are based on principles of dignity, equality, and mutual respect, which are shared across cultures, religions and philosophies. They are about being treated fairly, treating others fairly and having the ability to make genuine choices in our daily lives. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a milestone document which outlines the common standard of treatment for all peoples and all nations. Respect for human rights is the cornerstone of strong communities in which everyone can contribute and feel included.

EQUALITY

Equality affirms that all human beings are born free and equal, having the same rights and are entitled to the same level of respect, treatment or prosperity regardless of gender, race, religion, ethnicity, sexuality, age, ability or religion.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Social justice is based on principles of human-rights and fairness. It recognises the systemic causes of disadvantage. It seeks to remove barriers to enable every individual to participate fully and equally in society, regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or ability.



DISADVANTAGE

Disadvantage is linked closely to living standards and quality of life. Disadvantage is a complex interplay between the characteristics of residents in a community and the effects of the social, economic and environmental context in which they exist. We can think about disadvantage as components of deprivation, capability and social exclusion.

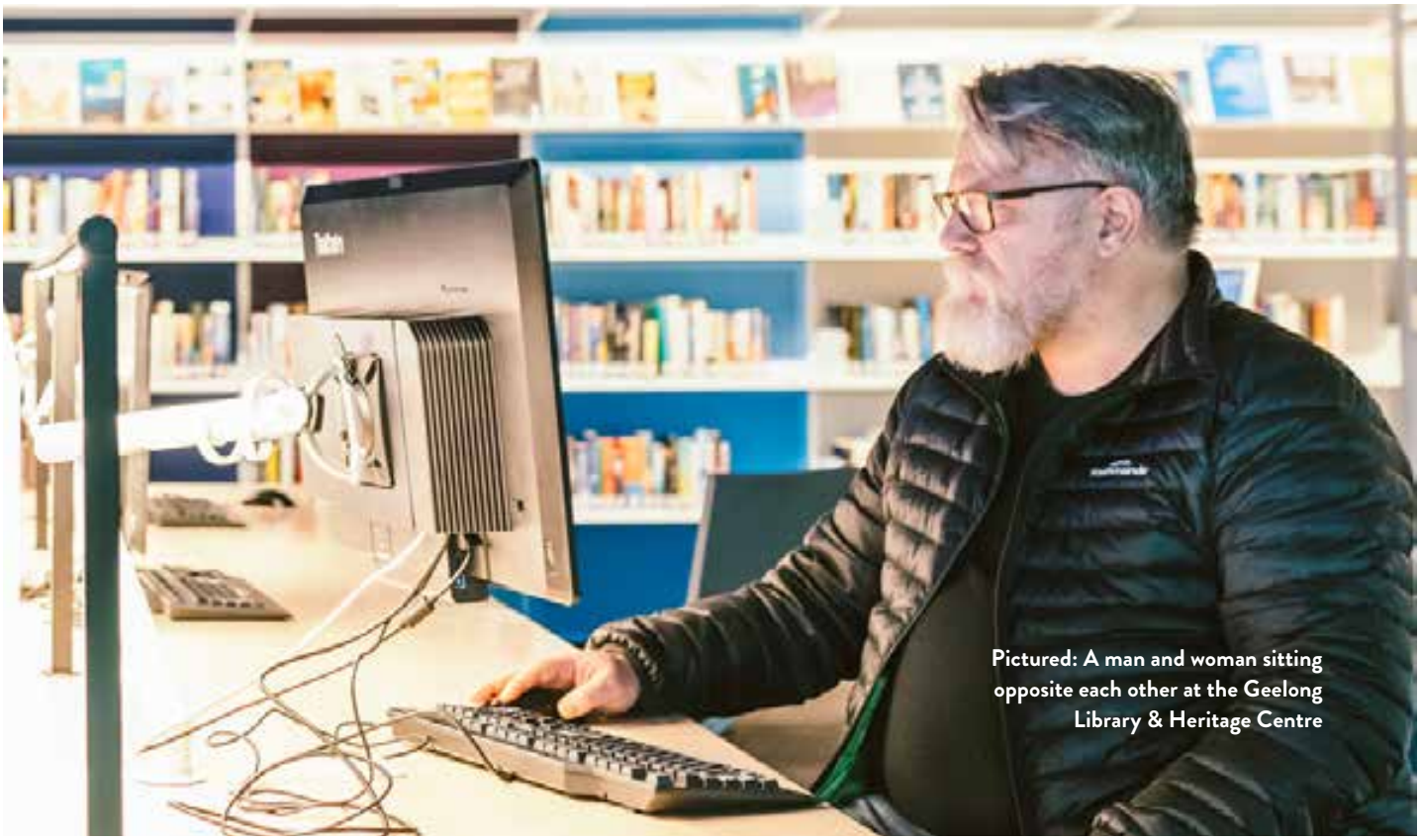
- Deprivation: What people miss out on because of where they live or what they can afford.
- Capability: What people are effectively able to do and aspire to be.
- Social exclusion: When people are unable to participate adequately in economic, social and cultural life.

DISADVANTAGE WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY

We have identified a number of priority groups that experience greater disadvantage in the Greater Geelong community. By placing an emphasis on equity, justice and inclusion, we can address the challenges and barriers these groups face.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

Social inclusion is a process of improving the way individuals and groups can freely contribute to and benefit from the social, economic, political, and cultural spheres of community life. Like equity, it aspires to create equal opportunity, reduce disadvantage, and increase participation, by removing barriers for certain population groups. Social inclusion promotes active engagement, participation, and voice for all community members, especially those experiencing disadvantage based on their identity, and allows community members to shape their futures and influence decisions which affect them.



Pictured: A man and woman sitting opposite each other at the Geelong Library & Heritage Centre

DEVELOPING OUR SOCIAL EQUITY FRAMEWORK

We are committed to empowering and supporting all people in our diverse community. The *Social Equity Framework 2022–25* will guide the way we engage with the communities of Greater Geelong to hear their voices. It recognises that we need to create opportunities for participation, support community members to have a say in decisions that affect them, and listen to community needs, to progress social equity.





Pictured: A smiling man mowing the lawn

With the City's role in service provision, community infrastructure, enforcing state and local laws, planning for future communities and growth of the city, and supporting the health and wellbeing of all our community members, we can play a positive role in influencing equity in our community.

In 2017, we developed the following three fundamental Social Equity Principles to help ensure that fair and equitable access to all of our services and facilities regardless of gender, age, background, and ability, was a key focus of our work. The Principles are:

1. DECISION-MAKING INFORMED BY SOCIAL EQUITY DATA

All activities of the City will be informed by demographic and geographic information on social equity in the region which is up-to-date and identifies priority areas and groups for attention.

2. EFFECTIVE AND FOCUSED PARTNERSHIPS

Planning of all activities will be informed by effective, focused partnerships and engagement with priority groups and areas, aimed at fully understanding the needs and obstacles they experience in accessing services and facilities.

3. DESIGNING FOR COMMUNITY NEED AND EQUITY

Service and infrastructure design, location, communication and support arrangements will address the needs and obstacles faced by priority areas and groups.

The Social Equity Framework incorporates these principles and further identifies the:

- supporting Social Equity Enablers which we need to adhere to
- the need to promote the Social Equity Framework to our partners and stakeholders
- community outcomes that this framework aims to achieve
- means to track our performance on an ongoing basis
- opportunities for our partners and agencies to better understand our community profile, apply these principles in their own work and assist the broader commitment of Equity for All
- priority actions to take as next steps.

OUR SIX SOCIAL EQUITY ENABLERS

The *Social Equity Framework 2022–25* aims to provide a common set of enablers to inform the way we develop policies, processes and action plans, and make decisions that support an equitable community. The enablers aim to create consistency across our organisation and will inform all planning, resource allocation and delivery of services. They also underpin how we will address the challenges and barriers faced by the priority groups in our community.

This Framework outlines six Social Equity Enablers shown in Figure 3 that will guide how we work with the community.

Figure 3: Our Social Equity Enablers





Pictured: Billy-Jay O'Toole holding a NAIDOC Week 2020 banner featuring his artwork entitled *Wadawurrung Country and Connection* (2019)

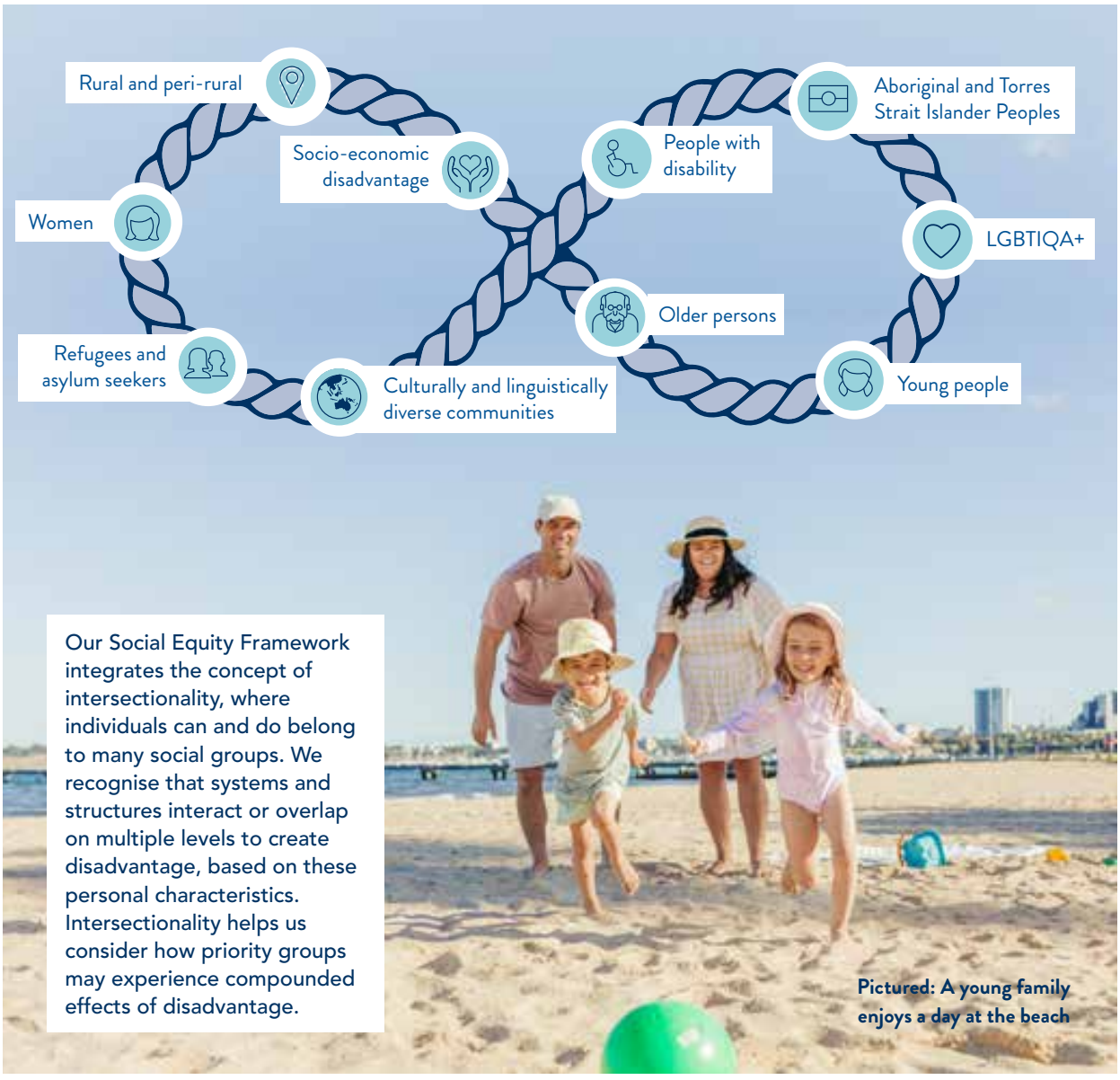
OUR COMMITMENT TO PRIORITY GROUPS

Every member of our community belongs to multiple groups with intersecting identities, meaning they have unique experiences and face unique challenges.

According to our research and data, we know that identified priority groups experience increased disadvantage such as: accessing services, structural inequalities; linguistic and cultural barriers; discrimination and stigma; and geographical distance and isolation. We recognise and commit to addressing barriers experienced by these groups, as well as acknowledging that, within these groups, community members with extraordinary skills, knowledge and leadership exist.

Economic and social disadvantage does not preclude resilience, neighbourliness, family unity, development or belonging.

Figure 4: Intersectionality and priority groups



Our Social Equity Framework integrates the concept of intersectionality, where individuals can and do belong to many social groups. We recognise that systems and structures interact or overlap on multiple levels to create disadvantage, based on these personal characteristics. Intersectionality helps us consider how priority groups may experience compounded effects of disadvantage.

Pictured: A young family enjoys a day at the beach

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES

We support the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to experience the full range of choice, opportunity and influence in their lives. We acknowledge that historically, government legislation and practices enforced on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have contributed to many being unable to realise their full potential. These policies have left lasting inter-generational impacts. Various pieces of government legislation and policies have contributed to dispossession of land, racism, social and emotional wellbeing issues, culture loss, family fragmentation, unemployment, poor housing, low literacy and numeracy rates, alcohol and substance misuse and poverty.

We have developed the Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan around four key deliverable themes including Relationships, Respect, Opportunities and Governance. It is based on priorities and aspirations identified through consultation with Traditional Owners and members of the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. It builds on advancing a positive relationship, demonstrating respect and self-determination for local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, and ensuring equality of opportunity and access in all dealings with the community.

CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

Our City is strongly committed to respecting and celebrating the cultural, linguistic and religious diversity in our community. It recognises that our multicultural communities face unique barriers to participation, including lack of accessible information, cultural differences, racism and exclusion. We strive to create inclusive services, places and programs that respond to the needs of all our communities. Greater Geelong values the richness that multicultural communities bring to the social and economic fabric of the community.

LGBTIQA+ COMMUNITIES

We work to ensure that the strength and diversity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and gender diverse, intersex and asexual people (LGBTIQA+) is valued, celebrated and affirmed. We recognise that the LGBTIQA+ community face barriers to participation including vilification, exclusion, lack of safety, poor mental health and other health and wellbeing outcomes. We are committed to working with the LGBTIQA+ community to build a safer and more inclusive community.

PEOPLE AS THEY AGE

We understand that everyone experiences ageing differently depending on biological, environmental, geographic, cultural and health factors; access to resources and support; and the inclusiveness of local environments. We address age specific barriers to ensure safe and equitable access to services, infrastructure and community amenities. These experiences can also be shaped by economic and social drivers such as where you live, employment background and housing stability. People as they age are at higher risk of facing poverty, isolation and exclusion. We are committed to fostering an age-friendly environment where people feel welcome, respected and connected to other people in their community, including through intergenerational connections, neighbours and social groups.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

We recognise the need to reduce barriers created by structures, attitudes, and practices that limit opportunities for all community members to realise their right to fully participate and achieve their aspirations. For people experiencing disability, including physical, developmental, behavioural or emotional, and sensory conditions, we are committed to supporting and improving access and choice. We value including an individual's unique experience and understanding of their disability to create opportunities for access and equal participation.



REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKER COMMUNITIES

We acknowledge that our refugee and asylum seeker communities face unique and complex challenges, these include possible experiences of persecution, violence, conflict, detention, distance and lack of communication with families, visa insecurity, trauma, genuine fear and ongoing mental health issues, financial difficulties and lack of work opportunities. These challenges are in addition to linguistic and cultural barriers. We are committed to working with partner agencies to support our refugee and asylum seeker communities and ensure they are included, welcomed and valued in the Greater Geelong community.

RURAL & PERI-URBAN COMMUNITIES

Peri-urban communities exist at the boundaries of urban development and rural environments and include those areas making a transition away from rural land use. Rural communities include those in farming areas and those with low population densities, at a distance from regional or urban centres. These communities face additional challenges with access to facilities, services and places, and exposure to weather, including extreme weather events. We are committed to addressing the barriers faced by these communities and ensuring there are opportunities for access, inclusion and participation in the social and economic activity of our region.

YOUNG PEOPLE

We recognise that young people make up a significant percentage of Greater Geelong's community and are affected by decisions made on their behalf. We recognise that young people face many challenges relating to health and wellbeing, inclusion, access, voice and safety. We are committed to learning from and working with young people to understand their aspirations and needs, and to shape a sustainable and prosperous future for them.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE

We recognise that some residents face multi-faceted inequalities due to poverty and low income which, are influenced by structural inequalities and have a community-level impact. The Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) shows the suburbs of Norlane, Corio and Whittington experience higher levels of socio-economic disadvantage compared to Greater Geelong as a whole. While our municipality has experienced significant growth and change, this opportunity has not been evenly spread and there is a need to address low levels of employment, education, housing and health and wellbeing. We are committed to addressing these inequalities through various initiatives, including those related to environmental issues, liveability, mobility and transport, neighbourhood activity centres, open space and social infrastructure, as well as crime and safety.

WOMEN

We recognise the power imbalances that exist for different genders, and the impact that this inequity can have on the safety, health and wellbeing, and economic life of women and gender diverse people. We understand that gender equality is crucial to ending violence against women and children. To achieve authentic gender equity and address gendered forms of disadvantage, we are committed to addressing barriers, acknowledging and celebrating the crucial role of women and girls in our community and economy, and recognising the importance of working together to create an equitable future for all.



Pictured: A man in a wheelchair and a woman walk down a garden path

OUR SOCIAL EQUITY FRAMEWORK

LEADERSHIP, COMMITMENT AND GOVERNANCE

Our councillors and senior leaders will be responsible for demonstrating leadership and commitment to applying these Social Equity Principles across all decisions relating to services, facilities, budgets and planning approvals.

The responsibility to apply and uphold the Social Equity Framework lies with all directorates. In the initial phases of rolling-out and implementing the Social Equity Framework, the Community Life directorate will take stewardship of the Social Equity Principles, enablers, and future action plans, continuing to drive our organisation towards achieving strong social equity outcomes. Furthermore, our Strategy, People and Performance directorate will work to ensure that the Social Equity Principles and enablers are ingrained in the DNA of the organisation by incorporating them into business plans to ensure that they are accurately tracked and measured internally, and that their importance and impact is shared more broadly with our community.

OUR PARTNERSHIP APPROACH TO SOCIAL EQUITY

Guided by our Social Equity Principles and driven by community need, we will work with existing advisory committees, priority groups and partners, as well as exploring new partnerships to achieve our desired community objectives.

We will undertake early engagement with community, priority groups and partners to ensure deliberative and meaningful engagement when considering services and facilities for those with the greatest need, and those most affected by our decisions.

SOCIAL EQUITY OUTCOMES FOR THE GREATER GEELONG COMMUNITY

Successful implementation of the framework and guiding principles will be evidenced by the delivery of a range of outcomes with our partners over time for our community, including:

1. Positive shifts in the indices of disadvantage (e.g. Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)) that reflect more equitable resource allocation and economic changes.
2. Positive shifts in community health and wellbeing indexes and data.
3. Increased number of community-based partnerships which focus on progressing social equity across our municipality.
4. Increased involvement and engagement from priority groups on community issues that affect them.
5. Increase, among priority groups, in awareness, attendance, and use of services, programs and events across our city.
6. Reduced incidence, prevalence and impacts of justice related matters and community safety issues, such as family violence.

MEASUREMENT PROGRAM

We will track these outcomes and monitor our social equity performance through our existing *Our Community Plan 2021-25* and sustainability reporting.

OUR COMMUNITY PLAN 2021–25 REPORTING

Our annual report will provide an end-of-year overview of our performance, including how we are tracking against social equity actions and indicators.

SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE

We will report our sustainability performance annually against the Global Reporting Initiative Standards and align our activities with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Refer to the following pages for our sustainability priorities.



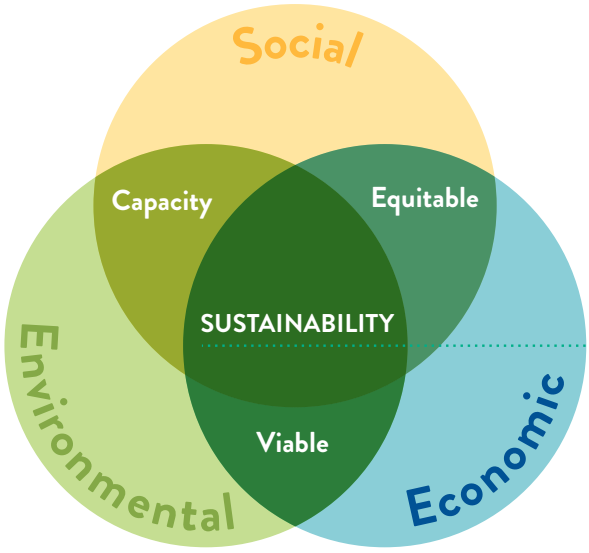
Pictured: A business woman works at her desk

OUR BROADER SUSTAINABILITY PRIORITIES

Sustainability is an integral part of our business strategy over the next four years.

The three pillars of sustainability – environmental, social and economic – intersect and have direct impacts on each other. Therefore, although policies or frameworks may align more strongly to one of these pillars, it is important to consider how the pillars interact and influence each other.

Figure 5: Three pillars for a sustainable city



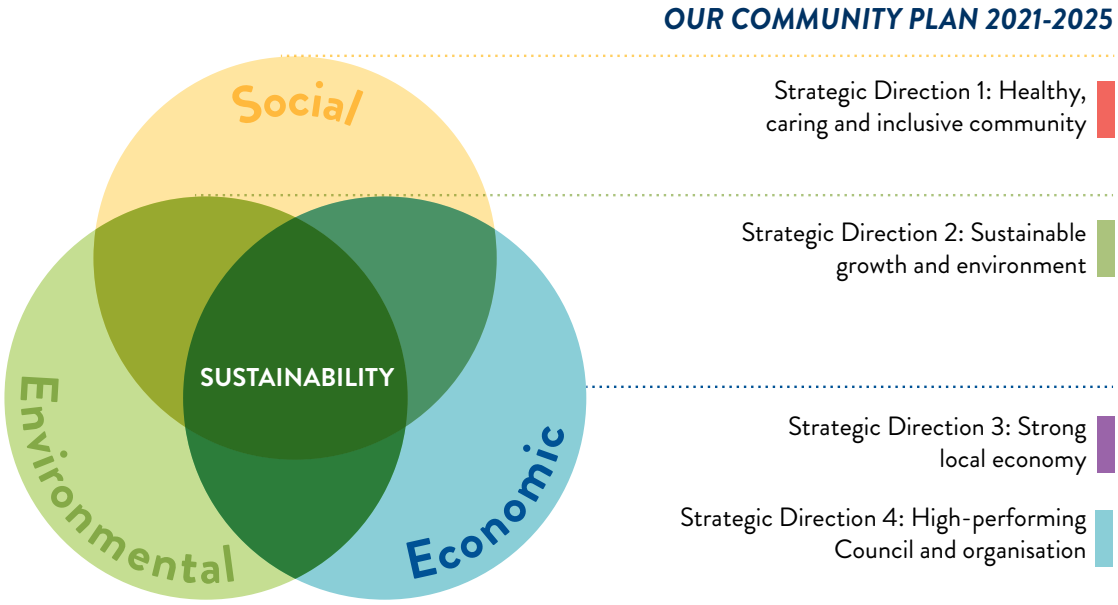
Sustainability aims to guarantee the planet's future integrity and to improve quality of life. All three pillars are important and if one pillar is weaker than the others, the system can become unsustainable.



Pictured: A father and his two sons play at the beach

Our Community Plan 2021–25 outlines four strategic directions that align directly to the three spheres of sustainability, as illustrated below:

Figure 6: Sustainability delivered through our strategic priorities



The Social Equity Framework aligns primarily to the 'social' pillar of sustainability, providing targeted support to key priority groups to address issues of social equity. The Social Equity Framework outlines our approach to considering, consulting and designing equitable programs, services, spaces and places, across all strategic directions, and informs how specific action plans are developed and delivered.

Furthermore, it is important to also consider the influence of the 'environment' and 'economic' pillars on the priority groups identified through the Social Equity Framework. Socio-economic factors can also affect our community's vulnerability and exposure to environmental risks - with socially disadvantaged groups being identified as more likely to suffer from the negative impacts of pollution, climate change and natural hazards. As we work to address the environmental and economic challenges of our time, in an effort to create a more sustainable future for generations to come, the Social Equity Framework will be critical to ensuring that priority groups are given adequate attention and support when planning to mitigate these risks.

Disadvantage and inequity are complex social issues that are challenging and may never be completely resolved. However, our actions as a community will make progress toward realising our shared vision. How we work with the community will be guided by the Social Equity Framework and will ensure we consider social equity in all that we do. This means ongoing consideration of ways to make our community fair for all, by providing resources and supporting priority groups in ways that are designed for them.

NEXT STEPS

To successfully implement this Social Equity Framework, we will take the following next steps:

- socialising and embedding the framework into our practices (including through priority actions outlined in Appendix 1)
- continuing to develop action plans that address inequality for key groups and create opportunities for all, regardless of background
- designing engagements, services, programs, places and spaces to meet the needs of the community
- evaluating the impact of our social equity initiatives and continuing to refine these to meet changing community needs.

Social equity is key to achieving a thriving Greater Geelong that creates the best outcomes for all community members. We have worked in partnership with our community and have defined a pathway to guide us toward social equity. Our approach is collaborative and focuses on how we address our challenges together. We will work together to realise the vision of a socially sustainable Greater Geelong region that improves quality of life, creates opportunities, and removes barriers for all.





Pictured: A young girl enjoying a swing with her parents



Pictured: A young man and woman working in a cafe

REFERENCES

City of Greater Geelong. *Access and Inclusion Action Plan 2018–22*

City of Greater Geelong. *Ba-gurrk: A Gender Equity Framework*

City of Greater Geelong. Commission of Inquiry into the Greater Geelong City Council

City of Greater Geelong. Community Engagement Policy

City of Greater Geelong. *Fair Play Strategy 2017*

City of Greater Geelong. *Health Equity and Planning Decision Making Tool 2021*
Note: not currently available

City of Greater Geelong. *Karreenga Aboriginal Action Plan 2014–19*
Note: no longer available, superseded by the document above.

City of Greater Geelong. Managing Diversity Policy (1999)
Note: no longer available

City of Greater Geelong. *Multicultural Action Plan 2018–2022*

City of Greater Geelong. *Municipal Emergency Plan 2017–2019*

City of Greater Geelong. *Our Community Plan 2021–25*

City of Greater Geelong. *Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan*

City of Greater Geelong. *Social Infrastructure Plan - Generation One: 2020–2023*

City of Greater Geelong. *Sustainability Framework 2020 and Action Plan*

APPENDIX 1:

PRIORITY ACTIONS

IN PURSUIT OF SOCIAL EQUTY

Social equity will be addressed in collaboration with our staff, stakeholders, partners and communities through the *Social Equity Action Plan 2022–24*, as part of the Social Equity Framework.

This action plan outlines priority actions to be taken and draws on existing programs, plans and strategies, including, but not limited to:

- *Our Community Plan 2021–25*
- *Ba-gurrk: A Gender Equity Framework for the Greater Geelong region*
- *Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan*
- *Respected, Connected and Thriving: Positive Ageing Strategy 2021–47*
- *Multicultural Action Plan 2018–2022*
- Mental Health Action Plan
- *Climate Change Response Plan 2021–30*
- *Social Infrastructure Plan - Generation One: 2020–23*
- *Access and Inclusion Action Plan 2018–22*
- *Municipal Early Years Plan 2018–22*
- *Gender+Equality Action Plan 2022–25*
- *Diversity and Inclusion Road Map*

Priority Actions
1. Incorporate our Diversity and Inclusion Roadmap into relevant employee induction and training programs
2. Gender Plus Impact Assessments to be incorporated into key business and community planning processes
3. Gender Plus Impact Assessments to be conducted for programs, policy and services that have a direct and significant impact on the public
4. Determine the relevance and future use of social equity measures already in place
5. Ensure that the summary advice on social equity implications in reports to Council are reflective of the principles and material outlined in the Social Equity Framework
6. Define processes that link social inclusion and social equity gains, from externally funded programs, to the 30-year community-led vision *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future* measures of success
7. Incorporate the Social Equity Principles and enablers within existing and new business and action plans
8. Conduct regular reviews of our services and facilities, to ensure fair and equitable access, noting the priority population groups as outlined in this framework
9. Publish documents providing advice on matters relating to social equity
10. Align the measurement and reporting of our social equity performance to the existing measures outlined in *Our Community Plan 2021–25* and sustainability reporting

APPENDIX 2:

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Convention on the Rights of the Child

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity 2005

FEDERAL LEGISLATION CONTEXT

Disability Discrimination Act 1992

Sex Discrimination Act 1984

Racial Discrimination Act 1975

Age Discrimination Act 2004

Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986

STATE LEGISLATION CONTEXT

Racial and Religious Intolerance Act 2001

Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

Multicultural Victoria Act 2004

Multicultural Victorian Amendment Act 2008

The Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006

Women's Charter: https://www.vlga.org.au/sites/default/files/190809%20Womens%20Charter.pdf

Gender Equality Act 2020

Inclusive Practice Guide: https://www.vic.gov.au/inclusive-language-guide

Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission

- https://www.humanrightscommission.vic.gov.au/discrimination/discrimination/types-of-discrimination/gender-identity-lawful-sexual-activity-sexual-orientation
- https://www.humanrightscommission.vic.gov.au/human-rights/lgbti-rights

APPENDIX 3:

COMMUNITY DATA

Unless otherwise stated, data contained in this section was extracted from 2016 ABS Census data.

First Nations peoples

Facts and stats – Greater Geelong population	2402 people (1%) in Greater Geelong identify as being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (2016 ABS Census).
Why a focus on First Nations peoples?	We support the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to experience the full range of choice, opportunity and influence in their lives. We acknowledge that historically, government legislation and practices enforced on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have contributed to many being unable to realise their full potential. These policies have left lasting inter-generational impacts. Various pieces of government legislation and policies have contributed to dispossession of land, racism, social and emotional wellbeing issues, culture loss, family fragmentation, unemployment, poor housing, low literacy and numeracy rates, alcohol and substance misuse and poverty. *City of Greater Geelong Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan* has been developed around four key deliverable themes including Relationships, Respect, Opportunities and Governance. It is based on priorities and aspirations identified through consultation with Traditional Owners, the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community and input from the Working Group members. Our Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan builds on advancing a positive relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and non-Indigenous people, demonstrating respect and self-determination for local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples ensuring equality of opportunity and access in all dealings with the community. We aim to celebrate and promote Greater Geelong's Aboriginal heritage, culture and achievements through funded events, our dedicated First Nations Heritage Grants program, and other targeted initiatives.
Want to know more?	List of City of Greater Geelong resources and policies that support this objective: • *Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan* • Kilangitj Advisory Committee • Aboriginal sites and venues, NAIDOC week • First Nations Cultural Heritage Grant Program • First Nations Women In Community Life Award Contact: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Senior Policy Officer, Healthy Communities 03 5272 4480

Multicultural (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) communities

Facts and stats – Greater Geelong population

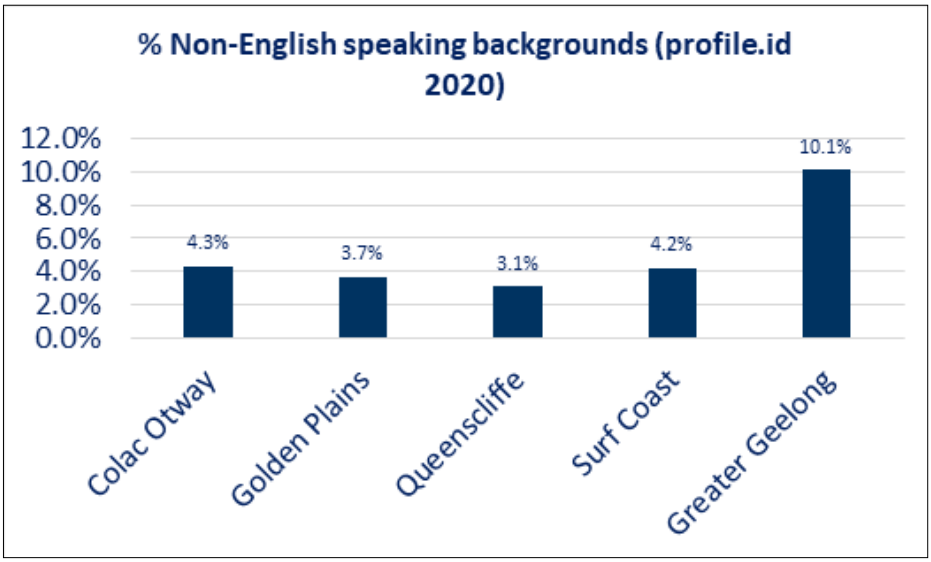
Countries with the highest number of people arriving to Geelong between 2011 and 2016:

- India (+1244)
- China (+650)
- Afghanistan (+432)

26.7% of Greater Geelong adults speak a language other than English at home. Top 3 languages:
1. Italian
2. Croatian
3. Mandarin

City of Greater Geelong has the highest percentage of people born in predominantly non-English speaking countries in the G21 region (11%).

English proficiency is an issue for 1.7% of residents (3896 people).



Why a focus on multicultural communities?

We are committed to respecting and celebrating the cultural, linguistic and religious diversity in our community. We recognise that our multicultural communities face unique barriers to participation, including lack of accessible information, cultural differences, racism and exclusion. We are striving to create inclusive services, places and programs that respond to the community's needs. We value the richness that multicultural communities bring to the social and economic fabric of our region.

Want to know more?

List of City of Greater Geelong resources and policies that support this objective:

- *Our Community Plan 2021–25*
- *Multicultural Action Plan 2018–2022*
- Reducing Racism – Community Reporting Tool
- Multicultural resources

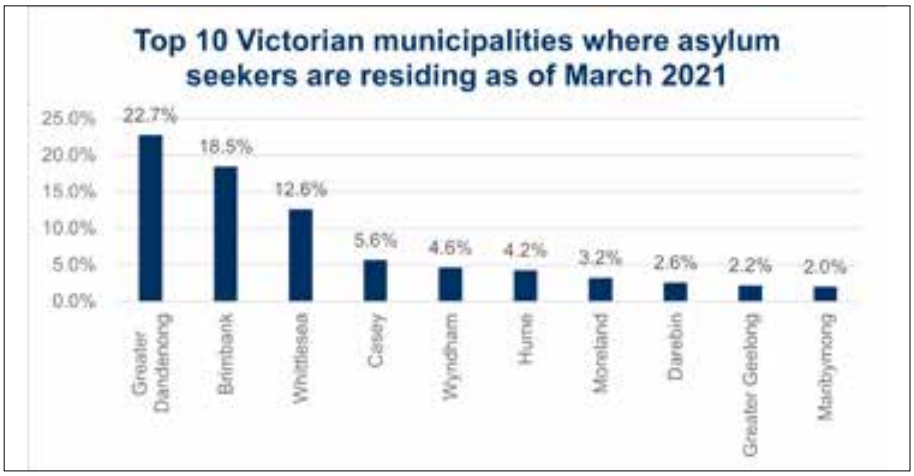
Contact:
Multicultural Community Development Officer, Healthy Communities
03 5272 4480

Refugee and asylum seeker communities

Facts and stats – Greater Geelong population

Diversitat has 2026 refugee Greater Geelong clients (Humanitarian entrants who have arrived in Australia within the last 5 years). The top three ethnicities are Hazara (578 refugees), Karen (360 refugees) and Iraqi (184 refugees) (Diversitat 2020).

As of March 2021, 2.2% of asylum seekers who had arrived in Australia by boat, and settled in Victoria, were living in Greater Geelong (Department of Home Affairs 2021).



Why a focus on refugess and asylum seeker communities?

We acknowledge that our refugee and asylum seeker communities face unique and complex challenges. These include possible experiences of persecution, violence, conflict, detainment, distance and lack of communication with families, visa insecurities, trauma and ongoing mental health issues, financial difficulties and lack of work opportunities. These challenges are in addition to linguistic and cultural barriers. We are committed to working with partner agencies to support our refugee and asylum seeker communities and ensure they are included, welcomed and valued in the Greater Geelong community.

Want to know more?

List of City of Greater Geelong resources and policies that support this objective:

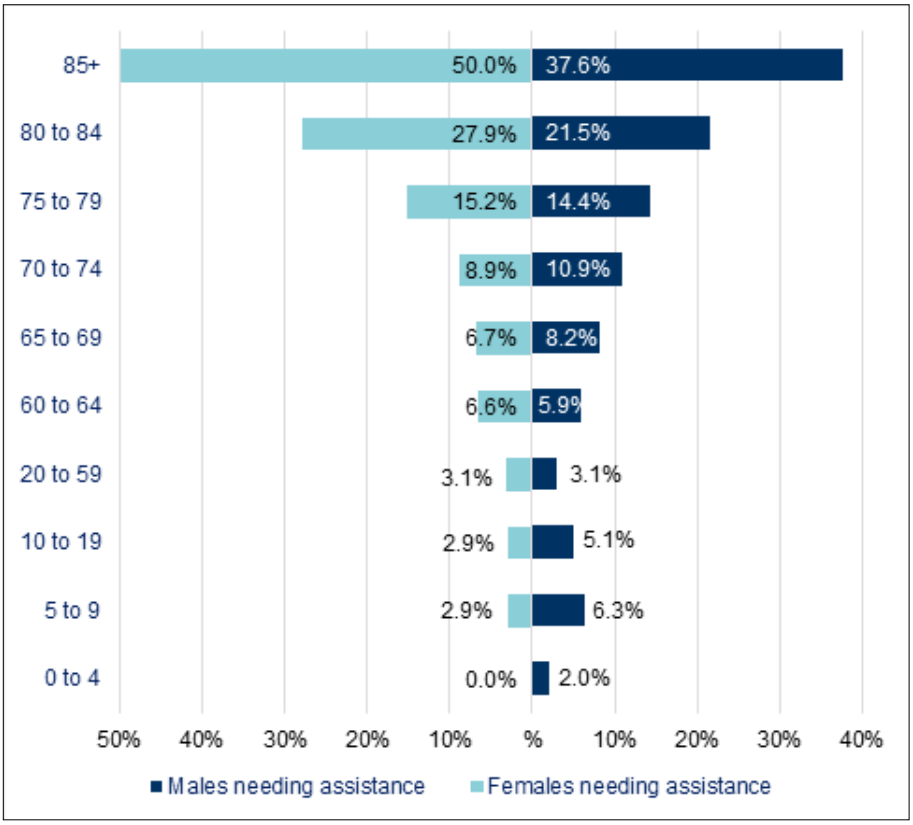
- *Our Community Plan 2021–25*
- *Multicultural Action Plan 2018–2022*
- Reducing Racism – Community Reporting Tool
- Multicultural resources

Contact:
Multicultural Community Development Officer, Healthy Communities
03 5272 4480

People with disability

Facts and stats – Greater Geelong population

The reported need for assistance due to a severe or profound disability is higher for Greater Geelong females (6.3%) than males (5.7%). The need for assistance increases with increasing age.



Why a focus people with disability?

We value including an individual's unique experience and understanding of their disability to create opportunities for access and equal participation. We recognise the need to reduce barriers for people with disability. These maybe created by structures, attitudes, and practices and limit opportunities for community members to fully participate. In addition, we recognise that built, social and policy environments can inhibit full participation. We are committed to supporting and improving access and choice for people with a disability.

Want to know more?

List of City of Greater Geelong resources and policies that support this objective:

- *Our Community Plan 2021–25*
- *Access and Inclusion Plan 2018–22*
- Wheelchair Accessible Taxis
- Geelong Awards for People with Disability
- Disabled Parking Permits

Contact:
Community Development Project Officer, Connected Communities
SMuratti@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

Women

Facts and stats – Greater Geelong population	In 2019, there were more victim reports of family violence incidents from women than men in Greater Geelong (121.58 and 38.73 per 10,000 people, respectively) and Victoria (115.6 and 38.1 per 10,000 people, respectively) (Victorian Women's Health Atlas 2019).
Why a focus on women?	We recognise the power imbalances that exist for different genders, and the impact that this inequity can have on the safety, health and wellbeing, and economic life of women and gender diverse people. It is evident that gender equality is crucial to ending violence against women and children. We have collected qualitative data that illustrates the wide and complex range of impacts on women and gender diverse people caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, including how gender stereotypes and gendered roles were exacerbated. Negative experiences were heightened when there was more than one pre-existing challenge, such as lack of affordable housing, family violence, mental illness, disability, limited English language or limited mobility. Gender equity is a governance, community and organisational issue. To achieve authentic gender equity, we must eliminate barriers and acknowledge and celebrate the crucial role that women and girls play in our economy and our community, and the importance of working together to create an equitable future for all. As of 31 March 2021, we are obligated under the state government Gender Equality Act 2020 to ensure that gender equity is embedded in all policies, processes and services, enabling an intersectional approach to the way the organisation does business.
Want to know more?	• *Ba-gurrk: A Gender Equity Framework for the City of Greater Geelong* • Women in Community Life Advisory Committee • *Gender COVID-19 Impact Analysis Report and action plan* • Family Violence, gender and culturally diverse support services. gender information and resources • Women's Health & Wellbeing Barwon South West • Sexual Assault Family Violence Centre • InTouch Multicultural Family Violence Service • Women with Disabilities – our Place Contact: Social Equity Policy Officer, Healthy Communities Gender Equity Officer, Healthy Communities 03 5272 4480

LGBTIQA+ communities

Facts and stats – Greater Geelong population

5% of Greater Geelong adults identify with being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer (LGBTQA+)* compared to 5.7% for Victoria (VAHI 2020).

*VAHI 2020 refers to LGBTQ+ rather than LGBTIQA+ as used by the City. LGBTIQA+ includes lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and gender diverse, asexual, and intersex people.

Why a focus on LGBTIQA+?

We work to ensure that the strength and diversity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and gender diverse, asexual, and intersex people (LGBTIQA+) are valued, celebrated and affirmed. It recognises that the LGBTIQA+ community face barriers to participation including, vilification, exclusion, lack of safety, poor mental health and health and wellbeing outcomes. The City is committed to working with the LGBTIQA+ community to build a safer and more inclusive community, which benefits from the contributions of all community members.

Want to know more?

List of City of Greater Geelong resources and policies that support this objective:

- *Ba-gurrk Gender Equity Framework for the Greater Geelong Region*
- The GASP Project
- Gender COVID-19 Impact Analysis Report and action plan
- Family Violence, gender and culturally diverse support services. gender information and resources

Contact:
Community Inclusion, Connected Communities
Youth Development Unit, Connected Communities
gasp@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

Young people

Facts and stats – Greater Geelong population

Young people (15–24 years) make up 13.3% of the total population of the City of Greater Geelong (31,746) (2016).

The number of young people is expected to increase by 56.6% between 2016 and 2041 (from approximately 32,000 to 50,000).

In 2016, the local areas with the greatest proportion of young people were: Waurn Ponds (29.3%); Lovely Banks – Batesford – Moorabool (17.6%); Corio (17.2%) and Norlane – North Shore (14.9%).

Areas projected to have a significant growth in the number of young people between 2016 and 2041 include Armstrong Creek (+3,043); Marshall – Charlemont (+2,090), Mount Duneed (+1,852) and Lovely Banks – Batesford – Moorabool (+1,780).

Why a focus young people?

We recognise that young people make up a significant percentage of Greater Geelong's community and are impacted by decisions made on their behalf. We recognise that young people face many challenges in regards to health and wellbeing, inclusion, access, voice and safety.

We work with young people to understand their aspirations and needs, and to shape a future and livelihood that considers them, is sustainable and is prosperous for them.

Want to know more?

- City of Greater Geelong – Young People
- Youth Council
- Youth Strategy
- Youth Spaces
- The fOrt

Contact:
Youth Development Unit, Connected Communities

People 55 and over

Facts and stats – Greater Geelong population

Older people (55+ years) comprise a significant proportion of the total population of the City of Greater Geelong (CoGG). In 2016, people aged 55 years and over comprised approximately 30 per cent of the population of the City of Greater Geelong. The number of people aged 55 and over is expected to increase by 68% between 2016 and 2041 (from approximately 72,000 to 120,000).

In 2016, the local areas with the greatest proportion of residents aged 55+ years were Portarlington (54.3%); St Leonards - Indented Head (51.6%); Rural Bellarine Peninsula (42.3%) and Drysdale - Bellarine (39.5%).

Areas projected to have a significant growth in the number of residents aged 55+ years between 2016 and 2041 include Armstrong Creek (+5,417); Ocean Grove (+3,179); Mount Duneed (+2,972) and Marshall - Charlemont (+2,902).

Why a focus on older persons?

Everyone experiences ageing differently depending on biological, environmental, geographic, cultural and health factors; access to resources and support; and the inclusiveness of local environments. Targeted interventions are often required to address age specific barriers to ensure safe and equitable access to services, infrastructure and community amenity. These experiences can also be shaped by economic and social drivers such as where you live, employment background and housing stability.

Poverty is a real risk for people over 55 who are displaced from the workforce. Ageism often means they find it difficult to return to the workforce, relying on job seeker payments until they are eligible for the age pension at 67 years. This can lead to long-term experiences of poverty. Women are particularly at risk. They are often employed in a casualised workforce with low job security and little to no superannuation. Women 55 and over are the fastest growing cohort of people experiencing homelessness.

People as they age want to feel welcomed, respected and connected to other people in their community, including through intergenerational connections, neighbours and social groups. However, for some the experience of isolation has resulted in feelings of loneliness and segregation. Those from culturally and linguistically diverse populations are particularly at risk. The health impacts of this include increased risk of physical and mental health conditions such as heart disease, depression and cognitive decline.

Want to know more?

List of City of Greater Geelong resources and policies that support this objective:

- *Respected, connected and thriving: Positive Ageing Strategy 2021–47*
- *Access and Inclusion Action Plan 2018–22*
- *Social Infrastructure Plan 2020–2023*
- *Social Housing Plan 2020–2041*
- *Sustainability Framework*
- Social Equity Principles
- *Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan*
- *Multicultural Action Plan 2018–22*
- Community Engagement Policy
- *Ba-gurrk Gender Equity Framework for the Greater Geelong Region*

External to City of Greater Geelong:

What's age got to do with it

Squalor and neglect: time to regulate Victoria's hidden shame

Contact:

Healthy Ageing Officer, Healthy Communities

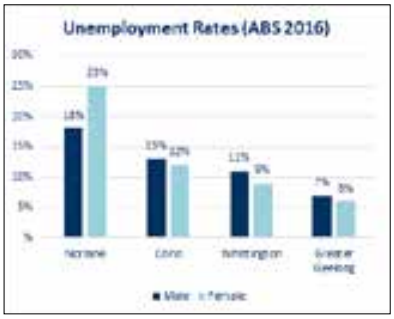
03 5272 4480

Socio-economic disadvantage

Facts and stats – Greater Geelong population

Norlane, Whittington and Corio

- Areas with highest disadvantage (IRSD 2016 index: Corio 832; Whittington 821; Norlane-North Shore 731).
- Almost one-third of all unemployed persons across Greater Geelong live in Corio-Norlane.
- Over the last 10 years, the unemployment rate of Corio-Norlane has been, on average, 12 percentage points higher than for Greater Geelong with a gradually widening difference (at 14.8 percentage points in the last 12 months).
- 24% (Norlane), 20% (Whittington), 16% (Corio) of young people (15-24 years) are disengaged (not employed or in education) (Greater Geelong: 9%).



Socio-economic disadvantage is not confined to certain suburbs and there are others across Greater Geelong affected, for example:

- 10.8% of households are experiencing housing stress, and 33% of rental households.
- 9,654 people receive JobSeeker or Youth Allowance (Department of Social Services, February 2022).

Why a focus on socio-economic disadvantage?

The suburbs of Norlane, Corio and Whittington experience higher levels of socio-economic disadvantage compared to Greater Geelong as a whole. Of note:

- All three suburbs are ranked in the 1st percentile for relative disadvantage (SEIFA), making them among the most disadvantaged areas in Victoria.
- The *Dropping off the Edge Report* (2015) suggests that Corio and Norlane are two of the most disadvantaged areas in Australia.
- In most key indicators – employment, education, housing and health and wellbeing – these suburbs rank poorly. There are also environmental issues with liveability including mobility and transport, neighbourhood activity centres, open space and social infrastructure, as well as crime and safety.

The challenges residents face are multi-faceted and influenced by structural inequalities that have a community-level impact. They are also mirrored in other areas of Australia, where outer-urban localities reliant on the manufacturing industry have become increasingly vulnerable as manufacturing has declined. Whilst Greater Geelong as a municipality has experienced significant change and challenges, the negative impacts have been unevenly felt in Norlane, Corio and Whittington. Because the outcomes of residents in those localities are so dependent on environmental and structural factors, additional effort and place-based strategies are required to support those communities to reach their potential.

Want to know more?

List of City of Greater Geelong resources and policies that support this objective:

- *Vital Communities Project – Strategies for Alleviating Locational Disadvantage in Geelong*
- *Social Housing Plan 2020–2041*
- *Corio Norlane Structure Plan 2012*

Contact: Social and Affordable Housing Policy Officer, Healthy Communities
03 5272 4480

APPENDIX 4:

GLOSSARY

ACCESSIBILITY
Accessibility refers to services, programs, facilities and places that should be made available and easy to reach for all people in the community.

ACCESS AND INCLUSION
Access can be defined as the availability of physical features in the built environment that reduce barriers for people to participate in their community. Inclusion can be defined as fostering a culture that is open minded, unbiased and welcoming; a culture where everyone feels valued and part of the greater whole.

CITY
The City of Greater Geelong organisation, led by the Chief Executive Officer.

COUNCIL
The City of Greater Geelong Council comprised of elected councillors and led by the Mayor.

DIVERSITY
Diversity refers to the visible and invisible differences that exist between people including (but not limited to) disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, physical impairment and relationship and parental status. Diversity also encompasses the ways people differ in terms of their educational background, life and working experiences, carer responsibilities, socio-economic background and geographical location[1].

ELT
The Executive Leadership Team of the City, as constituted from time to time.

ENGAGEMENT
A process for improved decision-making that invites the feedback from, and incorporates the insights, wisdom and concerns of, affected stakeholders and also meets the needs of the decision-making body.

EQUALITY
Equality affirms that all human beings are born free and equal, having the same rights and are entitled to the same level of respect, treatment or prosperity regardless of gender, race, religion, ethnicity, sexuality, age, ability or religion.

EQUITY
Equity is a concept based on the human-rights principles of justice and fairness in the distribution of services, resources, benefits and responsibilities on the basis of people's current opportunities and barriers. It recognises that people have different needs, life experiences, levels of power and access to decision-making and that these differences should be identified and addressed in a manner that rectifies imbalances, in order to provide equitable outcomes for all.

GENDER EQUALITY
Gender equality is the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women, men and trans and gender diverse people. Equality does not mean that women, men and trans and gender diverse people will become the same, rather their rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on their gender.

HUMAN RIGHTS
Human rights are often defined in different ways, these include:

- The recognition and respect of peoples' dignity
- A set of moral and legal guidelines that promote and protect a recognition of our values, our identity and ability to ensure an adequate standard of living
- The basic standards by which we can identify and measure inequality and fairness
- Those rights associated with the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights[2]

PARTICIPATION
Community participation is an active process whereby beneficiaries influence the direction and implementation of initiatives that affect their lives. This is done through meaningful engagement, consultation and having the community involved in decision-making to enable people from all backgrounds and experiences to genuinely be a part of shaping their own community, environment and future.

SOCIAL INCLUSION
Social inclusion acknowledges that every person has strengths, resources and skills and when these are contributed to a community, they add value, enhance resilience, contribute to solutions and exponentially benefit everyone. It presupposes that a society is less than it could be when parts of the community are excluded[3].

It is a philosophy, that creates products, services, places, environments and experiences that are usable for everyone, and accessible to as many people as possible, regardless of a person's age, level of ability, cultural background, or any other factors that contribute to the diversity of our communities.

SOCIAL JUSTICE
Social justice is based on principles of human-rights and fairness. It recognises the systemic causes of disadvantage. It seeks to remove barriers to enable every individual to fully and equally participate in society, regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or ability.

[1] https://www.lawcouncil.asn.au/docs/551ecf84-62b0-e611-80d2- 005056be66b1/Law_Council_Diversity_Policy.pdf

[2] https://www.humanrights.gov.au/our-work/education/human-rights-explained-fact-sheet-1-defining-human-rights

[3] City of Hobart, 2014: https://www.hobartcity.com.au/files/assets/public/strategies-and-plans/city-of-hobart-social-inclusion-strategy-2014-2019.pdf

APPENDIX 5:

CASE STUDIES

CASE STUDY 1: MY STORY PROJECT

The MY STORY Project is one of the key events in our annual celebration of International Day of People with Disability and Inclusion Week. It is an opportunity for people with lived experience of disability and mental health challenges to find their individual voice and 'tell their own story in their own way'. To be as inclusive as possible, stories are told through a variety of mediums – words, paintings, digital imagery, photography, sound, music, performance and film.

The program runs over 12 weeks – from early June through to late September – with facilitators from a broad range of professional creative disciplines volunteering to mentor the participants. Mentors work with small groups of participants each week to build their skills, confidence and capacity, and encourage them to recognise themselves as community leaders. Facilitators and participants also come together fortnightly online to share their ideas, connect, engage and provide constructive feedback.

EMBEDDING SOCIAL EQUITY

As it is designed explicitly for people with lived experience of disability and mental health challenges, one of our identified priority groups, the MY STORY Project directly supports access, inclusion and equal participation. It also works to identify and reduce barriers experienced by some community members, while valuing their unique experiences and understanding of disability and mental health.

The MY STORY Project aligns strongly with the following Social Equity Enablers:

- Fairness: ensuring that the processes designed for the program are tailored to meet the needs of people with lived experience of disability and mental health challenges.
- Access: reducing the barriers that could limit the opportunities of people with disability and mental health challenges to participate.
- Voice: providing a platform for people with disability and mental health challenges to communicate with the community through creativity.
- Participation: providing an experience for people with disability and mental health challenges that builds capacity and self-efficacy, and can encourage and support greater participation in community life.
- Inclusion: providing an experience for people with disability and mental health challenges where they can feel safe, supported and have a sense of belonging.
- Empowerment: providing an experience where participants have a strong sense of empowerment, can experience an increase in confidence and have a sense of validation.

OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

The reach of the MY STORY Project extends well beyond the participants themselves, as both facilitators and community members engaged with the program and creative works can attest. Data from the 2020 shows the program reached:

- 119 participants
- 7 facilitators
- 6 stakeholders
- 33,627 via social media, with engagement of 1,039.

However, the impact of the program is best described by the participants themselves:

"I have gained a lot of wisdom out of the process. Sharing my story through song has been an awesome experience and I think this is just the start. I am going to keep writing songs about my life, my experiences and what matters to me."

"It has been a privilege to be part of the MY STORY Project. To be part of something where for so long, I felt nothing. You have lifted me up with compliments and grace. I am so pleased to be alive and part of the human race."

"It has been so special to be part of the MY STORY Project community. This was a big step to give myself permission to open up. I learnt that creativity can be expressed through so many mediums and, with this supportive community, I felt less afraid to share."

"Every person has an incredible story worth sharing and it has been fascinating to see people express themselves in different ways and share vulnerability together. I was drawn to this project because it scared me to show vulnerability and I thought I was not creative. I have learnt so much from all the incredible people involved and I will cherish this experience forever."

"The MY STORY project was an opportunity to share my story, decrease stigma of mental health and inspire others. But it ended up being so much more. This project helped me to heal and come to a deeper level of love and acceptance of myself. I learned to trust myself, my journey and my friends."

LINKS TO OUR COMMUNITY PLAN

Strategic direction: Health, caring and inclusive community

Desired outcome: Our community has equitable access to health and social services, information and infrastructure



Shaylee Hester, The Dissociation Story. Photo: Andrew Mackinnon

Program link: https://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/mystoryproject/default.aspx

CASE STUDY 2: THE ABORIGINAL OUTREACH SUPPORT PROJECT

The Aboriginal Outreach Support Project in Whittington has been established to support local families and early years services in response to the disrupted learning experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the project, an outreach worker supports Aboriginal children and their families to:

- maximise attendance at kindergarten for the remainder of 2021
- successfully transition to school in 2021
- increase enrolments for both 3-year-old and 4-year-old kindergarten and
- increase engagement in early learning supports, such as community playgroups.

EMBEDDING SOCIAL EQUITY

The Aboriginal Outreach Support Project supports social equity as it has been specifically designed to support not only Aboriginal families, but in particular those living in Whittington.

The Aboriginal Outreach Support Project aligns strongly with the following Social Equity Enablers:

- Fairness: allocating resources to develop bespoke, place-based processes for engagement with, and support for, local families.
- Access: working with local early years services to reduce barriers for Aboriginal families.
- Voice: providing an avenue for local Aboriginal people and Aboriginal organisations to impart their knowledge to the local school and kindergarten, creating opportunities for increased dialogue and connection.
- Participation: creating opportunities for local families to connect and participate in community events and connect with local organisations and services.
- Inclusion: supporting the local early years sector to provide an inviting and safe environment for local Aboriginal families, which includes a focus on cultural safety.
- Empowerment: establishing processes that support local Aboriginal families and people to provide input and influence local services, while helping to build families' confidence to connect with their local community.

OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

The Aboriginal Outreach Support Project has delivered a number of key actions so far, aimed at supporting stronger connections between Aboriginal families and the local early years sector. These include:

- Whittington Early Years Open Day: a collaboration and coming together of local families and community organisations, Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-Operative, the local school and kindergarten and the local community centre.
- Early Years Open Session: engaging families with children aged between 2 and 3.5 years with supports to help them connect with Maternal Child Health, the local kindergarten and childcare, supported playgroup and the local school.
- Engagement with Local Aboriginal Elder: connecting with the local kindergarten and school to provide invaluable knowledge and yarning.
- Children's Week event: Encompass Enterprises, by utilising a Children's Week Grant, completed a 'makeover' of the local kindergarten front garden to make the space more welcoming for local families.
- Professional Networking: connecting key organisations that support families in the local Whittington community.
- Early Years resources: focused on informing local families about local early years and school transitions, as well as resources aimed at early years professionals to support their work with local families.

The impact of the program on the early years sector is well described by a testimonial from Angela Baum, an Early Childhood Development Officer and Best Start Facilitator Family Services:

"Working in collaboration with the Aboriginal Outreach support group has provided the opportunity to gain further knowledge on working in a culturally inclusive manner with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and extended family networks. It has also emphasised the key issues facing First Nations families and the supports required for children and families to access, engage and participate in early childhood education and Maternal Child Health services.

Removing the barriers for families to participate in services has been a priority of the group and it has been vital to always be prepared to fit in with the community, work with key contacts, be visible, go to them, meet at times that suit them, always follow up and keep informed, involve them as part of planning."

LINKS TO OUR COMMUNITY PLAN

Strategic direction: Health, caring and inclusive community

Desired outcomes: Our community has equitable access to health and social services, information and infrastructure

Four-year priorities: Strengthen relationships and partnerships with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Greater Geelong



Aboriginal Art at Whittington Child and Family Centre. Photo: City of Greater Geelong

(no program link)

CASE STUDY 3: CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE SWIMMING PROGRAM

In 2019, we piloted a swimming program aimed at culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities that was delivered to men and women separately. The program was supported by the Multicultural Action Plan Committee to help deliver on the 'Increase social and health equity' priority identified in our Multicultural Action Plan 2018–2022.

EMBEDDING SOCIAL EQUITY

The program is designed to meet the needs of diverse communities by tailoring the program approach to the targeted community by understanding the gendered aspects of culture. As an example, the program responded to feedback from women and young girls that they were not accessing sporting and recreational activities due to reasons including body image issues, cultural barriers and discomfort in mixed pools.

The swimming program aligns our proposed Social Equity Enablers in the following ways:

- Fairness: allocating resources to develop and maintain a program specifically designed for CALD communities.
- Access: reducing the barriers that have often limited the opportunities of CALD communities to participate in swimming and other structured physical activities.
- Participation: providing an experience for people that builds capacity and self-efficacy and can encourage and support greater participation in community life.
- Inclusion: providing an experience for people where they can feel safe and where they can engage in physical activity in a supported environment.
- Empowerment: providing an experience where participants can experience an increase in confidence and a sense of control over their body.

OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

The 2019 pilot programs had significant reach over a 3-month period with participants from Karen, Karenni, Iranian, Liberian and Syriac communities. In total, the program attracted:

- 160 male participants
- 226 female participants.

The impact of the programs were described by the participants, who identified:

- how much they enjoyed meeting other people
- their improved connection with the community and what is available
- their increased confidence in getting out and about, as well learning water safety and swimming.

LINKS TO OUR COMMUNITY PLAN

Strategic direction: Health, caring and inclusive community

Desired outcomes: Healthy behaviours and environments are promoted, supported and accessible

Four-year priorities: Deliver health and community initiatives that are culturally sensitive and accessible across all life stages



Waterworld Leisure Centre. Photo: City of Greater Geelong

Program link: https://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/common/Public/Documents/8d90e4905c78437-allwomensswimmingprogramv3.pdf

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CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

SOCIAL EQUITY FRAMEWORK

ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Brief Summary – This report outlines feedback received during engagement on our draft Social Equity Framework.

The community engagement period ran from 23 February – 23 March 2022. The engagement was conducted via an online survey on the City's Have Your Say page. In addition, community members were given the opportunity to provide direct feedback to officers in the Healthy Communities Department.

The engagement was advertised on social media, City News, direct email to key stakeholders, via Council Advisory Committees, and to internal staff by direct email and internal newsletters.

We received 13 online submissions, three additional contributions through direct contact with officers, and input via Advisory Committees. There were also a seven social media comments, though not all were accessible.



ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS

From the survey, four respondents said the Framework met their expectations, five said it didn't meet their expectations, and four said it was almost there. Nine said they felt something had been missed in the framework, and four said nothing had been missed from their perspective. Two identified as having participated in the development of the draft framework, and nine as not being involved (two did not respond to this question).

Comments from the survey and other feedback fell into four main categories:

- those that did not support Council adopting a framework
- those that were supportive and satisfied with the framework as it is
- those that were supportive and providing constructive feedback about the content
- and those sharing implementation considerations for the framework.

Despite a modest number of responses, the reach of advertising, number of link clicks, and document downloads reflect positive interest in the Framework. It is likely that those who viewed the documents and did not provide feedback, did not have any significant objections to the Framework or its content.

NEXT STEPS

Community feedback on the draft Framework has been noted, and where appropriate incorporated into the document.

Feedback from community members provided additional information about the priority groups discussed in the Framework, and the language preferences when referring to these groups.

For some groups, elements of the document had accessibility issues, and there were also requests for Council and the City's role to be made clearer, including how this Framework relates to other plans and strategies.

In addition to comments that directly influenced the content of the document, there were a range of comments that will contribute to the development of related implementation and actions plans. These include:

- How places and spaces can be made welcoming and accessible
- How our written and online communication can be more accessible
- Actions and measurement
- How we will weigh up funding implications of various equity considerations
- Social Equity Impact Assessments
- How we might address intersectionality
- How the City as an organisation can reflect these principles and diversity in its own operations

FEEDBACK RECEIVED	
COMMENT	**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**
Survey: I would like to see more specifics in the framework of the measurable actions and short term measures and reporting. Cross referencing the our community plan 2021-25 provides only generic information of reporting processes. I note that some of this may be further detailed in the social equity action plan 2022-2024 which may still be in development. The ultimate value of the framework is in what it demonstrably delivers.	Noted - for implementation plan
Survey: An emphasis on social justice rather than equity - the diagram you've included shows equality / equity / justice. If you're trying to drive justice, perhaps the document could be retitled and moved into that space, with references to 'equity' moved to 'justice'?	Noted – minor content change
Survey: Firstly easy read versions of the these documents should be made available. Whilst the accessibility options for those with sensory disability should be more clear. People with disability are included in this plan yet they are excluded from providing feedback to this summary? That's a problem. This is also a cohort that may not be actively engaged with social media or the council. To get feedback from people with a range of disability (including women and other marginalised groups with disability) is absolutely fundamental to this plan and they must be actively sought out to contribute.	Noted - for future engagement consideration Noted - Use easier English version (already developed) when communicating about the Framework
Survey: **Children and families** particularly in the first 1000 days of a child's life, who may be experiencing circumstantial vulnerability and don't necessarily fit into one of the identified groups. Giving all children the best start through equitable access to quality childcare, 3 and 4 year old kinder, mch service, access to playgroups, extra family support will help to reduce gap by the time they start school.	Noted – for implementation
Also were **people with mental health difficulties** included as a target group? I think this is a growing area of concern	Noted – change incorporated
Survey: **Purpose**: focuses on equity, however the graphic shows the change that occurs when organisations have an aspirational goal of social justice. Ie: working to remove barriers to ensure all community members are able to fully participate and experience benefits (page 4). Suggestion - include social	Noted – minor content change

FEEDBACK RECEIVED	
justice in purpose statement. Ie: improving social equity which contributes to social justice.	
Priority groups - include children and young people (page 9).	Noted
Outcomes: change terminology from 'domestic violence' to 'family violence'. See relevant legislation and government organisations that support this change (page 12). Add a footnote re: how council defines family violence ie: intimate partner, child abuse, elder abuse and adolescent violence towards parents and/or carers.	Noted – change made
Outcomes: reporting data for family violence - reduced incident may not be an accurate measure of positive change re: family violence. For example: increased reporting of fv or child abuse to police, orange door or child first / child protection, may be a successful outcome - ie: indicating that more family members feel more empowered to report their experience and seek support. Suggestion - add additional outcome measures that could provide more helpful data re: family violence including child abuse and sexual assault.	Noted – for implementation
Survey: In the positive ageing strategy, we included the term: "people as they age" as per statement below: (people, as they age, live in safe, welcoming and strongly connected local communities) suggest: "aged 55+years". May not make any difference to content of the framework. Some do take exception though to being referred to as old or older people. I think it maybe beneficial to keep the terminology same of similar in all of the documentation the cogg puts out the the community.	Noted – change made where appropriate
Survey: The statement on **intersectionality** is good, but the picture isn't very apt. Perhaps a different graphic?	Noted
It's not just past government practices and legislation that has oppressed aboriginal people - it still happens (e.g. Child removal, public drunkenness laws, incarceration for fines, basics card...)	Noted
"the power imbalance of gender" doesn't make sense - reword like the variety of identities and experiences you've described.	Noted – change made
I personally use the **social model of disability**, and thus **identity-first language** ("disabled person"). There's different perspectives within the community about what people prefer to use for themselves. It's important to include these views if possible - something acknowledging that the built, social, and policy environment disable some people from participating fully (similar to what's there, but a little more explicit), something acknowledging that some people feel disabled by their health or bodies and that they still have the right to participate fully in community life.	Noted – reviewed and changed where appropriate
I like the emphasis on how council planning/strategy intersects with socio-economic dis/advantage the one **photo** current in there is of a while, abled family. I know it's a draft, but please do ensure a greater diversity of people are represented in the final document.	Noted – final version to have comprehensive suite of diverse images
There could be **more actions**, and some indicators to show when something will be considered 'complete', and what change you hope it will make. The work brought about by the gender equality act is wonderful, but it would also be great to see more actions, on top of what's necessary due to legislation.	Noted - for implementation plan
Submission 1 – comprehensive response including suggestions relating to:	
- Addition of equality definition	Noted – change made
- Discussion of women's disadvantage beyond family violence	Noted – change made
- Review definition of disadvantage	Noted – change made
- Socio-economic disadvantage beyond Corio, Norlane and Whittington	

FEEDBACK RECEIVED	
- Mention of additional data sources – including re: housing stability and jobseeker/youth allowance recipients - More explanation re: peri urban and rural communities - Whether early years should be explicitly addressed as a priority group	Noted – additional data included Noted - change made Noted
Sustainability Advisory Committee Feedback	
- There is no mention of the Sustainable Development Goals, why is this? - Did Council look at how it manages diversity through its own operations? Does the make-up of Council represent the diversity of the community. - Great acknowledgement at the start of the report. Were the Wadawurrung engaged on this? - Pg 19 makes a comment “stolen from a report” – does this need to be changed? Otherwise positive about framework	Noted –referenced Noted – for implementation Yes, and other First Nations people through the Kilangitj Advisory Committee Revised
Kilangitj Advisory Committee Feedback	
- The document has some structural barriers – language of framework - Readability - Relationships and partnerships input into the framework	Noted – plain English version developed Noted – for implementation

COMMENTS TO CONSIDER IN IMPLEMENTATION

COMMENT	OFFICER RECOMMENDATION
Survey: I would like to see more specifics in the framework of the measurable actions and short term measures and reporting. Cross referencing the our community plan 2021-25 provides only generic information of reporting processes. I note that some of this may be further detailed in the social equity action plan 2022-2024 which may still be in development. The ultimate value of the framework is in what it demonstrably delivers.	Noted - for implementation phase
Survey: Access to sports or other group activities for kids of low income families.	Noted - for implementation phase
Survey: While i appreciate the work that has gone into the strategy i am also aware that we live with finite resources. How do we allocate the limited resources across the various groups without creating inequality and inequity in our efforts to address these equity issues. It is a tough call but i can't find any mention of how priorities will be established amongst these important and competing areas. Will we simply allocate each area an equal share or do we apply the resources to the areas that give the best return? Difficult issues but there needs to be a mechanism to address this allocation issue that is transparent and objective.	Noted - for implementation phase
Survey: There could be more actions, and some indicators to show when something will be considered 'complete', and what change you hope it will make. The work brought about by the gender equality act is wonderful, but it would also be great to see more actions, on top of what's necessary due to legislation.	Noted - for implementation phase
Multicultural Action Plan Advisory Committee Member: Positive about framework Had questions about the type of services etc. That are run by the city and what the framework would apply to Commented that many people from his community feel embarrassed or ashamed about accessing these types of services as they don't feel they are supposed to be there, or don't know how to approach these services Suggested that options to show people that they are welcome in these places, opportunities to visit etc. Would help them to know they are actually welcome.	Noted - for implementation phase
Youth council feedback Interested in how intersectionality would be addressed Interested in the role Council and the City can play in supporting equity across services and programs.	 Noted – for implementation Noted
Email: Questions around how community data can be developed and shared across the organisation to build quality data and inform work	Noted - for implementation phase

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS

COMMENT	OFFICER RECOMMENDATION
Survey: Inclusion of ALL, in all council services, activities, opportunities regardless of personal medical choices & opinions. Or activities, leisure centres but am discriminated against because I choose not to participate in a phase 3 clinical trial of an experimental injection NO MORE DISCRIMINATION BASED ON PERSONAL MEDICAL CHOICES	Noted
Survey: Forget about your Social Equity Framework until those who aren't "fully vaccinated" are welcome back into council buildings. The "unvaccinated" are not allowed to go to the pools, attend exercise classes, go to U3A classes, go to libraries or restaurants. Until these mandates are abolished anything you pretend to do to create equity is a joke.	Noted
Survey: It's fantastic, so great to see. Thank you	Noted
Survey: In response to the question about whether there was anything left out: White people, men, poor people, Europeans, Asians, religious people the world does not revolve around gay people stop being racist to people who are not gay	Noted
Survey: Council needs to concentrate on core things like : rubbish removal green spaces roads etc NOT social justice warrior b***s***. stop spending my rates on your weak minded agendas.	Noted
Social Media: Equality good.... Equity...not so much.	Noted – consider community education in implementation
Social Media: Just fix our rates roads and rubbish we know the rest so over govts and councils in my life	Noted
Social Media: i am happy to help others navigate tertiary education after my own horror experiences as a deaf person	Noted – for implementation
Social Media: Is it still appropriate to mention gender? yes, race, gender, ability - as much as we want equality, these elements are essential in considering equity. surely diversity is equally important? absolutely, diversity doesn't exclude gender. Did I misunderstand your initial comment - if so apologies.	Noted – consider community education in implementation

SUBMISSIONS

SUBMISSIONS	OFFICER RECOMMENDATION
1. Bellarine Community Health	Noted – Changes made

Social Equity Framework Feedback (City of Greater Geelong)

Healthy and Connected Communities Team (HCCT) Submission

This submission had been collated by Bellarine Community Health's 'Healthy and Connected Communities team (HCCT).

A passionate team of Health Planners who work closely with the community and reside across the Bellarine Peninsula, with backgrounds in health promotion and community development. Therefore, this submission seeks to give voice and advocate on behalf of the Bellarine Peninsula community.

Our team are currently working on their four-year strategic plan 'Live Well Bellarine' which includes a focus on applying a health equity lens to all our work and advocating on behalf of communities who experience the greater barriers to health and wellbeing across the Bellarine.

We would be happy to discuss any of our feedback below in more detail.

The Bellarine Peninsula (background)

The Bellarine Peninsula is a fast grow region within the City of Greater Geelong, with predicted growth of nearly 30,000 people over the next 20 years from 64,675 people in 2021 to 92, 300 by 2041[i].

The Bellarine Peninsula population currently accounts for nearly 25% of CoGG's total population. 95% of the population within the Bellarine Peninsula resides within the City of Greater Geelong (CoGG) (61,667 people) with the remaining 5% residing in the Borough of Queenscliffe (BoQ) in Point Lonsdale and Queenscliff.

There is significant population growth forecast across the Bellarine with an average suburb growth of 43% with some suburbs predicted to grow by 134% (eg: Curlewis: Current population 3,499 (2021) to 8,669 (2041)). The impact of Covid-19 has seen significant migration to the Bellarine Peninsula which may mean that growth patterns are potentially underestimated.

Social Equity Framework Feedback:

Firstly, the HCCT would like to commend and acknowledge the CoGG for the development of the draft Social Equity Framework and for prioritising health equity within a local government environment.

The HCCT appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on such a significant framework.

Strengths of the framework:
There are a number of strengths to this framework and this document provides an excellent 'background' and introduction with pages 1- 11:

- Clarity around vision and purpose on page 4.
- The use of key terms and clear and consistent definitions on page 6 accompanied by the visual representation of 'equality, equity and justice. We would recommend adding equality to the definitions on page 6.
- Linkage to social equity principles previously developed in 2017.
- Clarity around 'priority groups' with their inclusion on pages 9 & 10.
- Acknowledgement of 'intersectionality – however unsure about the image on page 9, as this does not appear to align closely with 'priority groups'.
- The use of terminology 'priority populations' compared to vulnerable.

Areas for improvement:

There are two key areas where the HCCT see the need for improvement to the framework.

Point 1: Further clarity around 'priority population groups' and descriptions:

Refer to reflective points below against the priority population groups:

Young people:

- Does this have a specific age range? It would be useful for this to be included to make it clearer.
- Would this extend to children? The inclusion of children would be valuable given the importance of 'early years' as a social determinant of health and supporting the best start and opportunity. Furthermore, Council is already investing a lot of resources in supporting children and 'early years' with a focus on Maternal Child Health, Childcare, Playground. In the future this could be a useful advocacy opportunity and justification for the continuation of service delivery to children (in particular in areas with higher levels of disadvantage).

Women:

- Does this include a specific inclusion of 'single parents'? The Women's Health Atlas has some useful data on 'lone parent status' and confirms that 83% of single parents across the City of Greater Geelong are women.
- Single mothers remain one of the most economically disadvantaged groups in Australia, however the draft document doesn't appear to use the words 'single parents' or 'lone parent'. A focus on single parents would inadvertently benefit single women. This could also be an indicator under 'socio economic disadvantage'.

Socio- Economic Disadvantage (SED):

- As a priority group 'socio- economic disadvantage' is potentially one of the most complex and important measures to include. From an intersectionality perspective, if you can identify and focus on lower SES communities, you will also likely be overlapping and extending the reach to other priority groups.
- After reading Appendix 3: Community Data we feel that there is a need for data used here to have a higher specificity to be capture 'second tier' communities who experience significant SED.
- For example, 'Is there opportunity to focus on communities who experience disadvantage but to a slightly lower extent than the communities of 'Norlane, Corio and Whittington (which only represent approximately 10% of the population of CoGG).
- It is great to see 'housing affordability and stability' referenced throughout this framework, this is a key determinant to health and one which has been influenced significantly due to the changes in migration seen in the last couple of years. Are there any specific measures/indicators which could be included in Appendix 3 to highlight this in more detail?

2016 Census data has been the primary data source for this measure; however, this is now starting to become slightly out of date.

Here are a couple of potential more recent data sources which might be useful measures for SED:

Data Source 1: JobSeeker and Youth Allowance recipients:

- This dataset includes monthly data commencing from 2019 through to February 2022 capturing the number of people elibible for JobSeeker or youth allowance (eg: currently unemployed and looking for work).
- This would be a useful data source allowing consideration of the impact of COVID on communities.
- When sorting by % of population you can see from the image below that the communities of Newcomb – Moolap and Portarlington are tracking quite closely to Corio & Norlane.



JobSeeker

export reset

Current month	February 2022		March 2020		
Region - LGA/SA2	JobSeeker and youth allowance recipients	% of 15-64 age population	JobSeeker and Youth allowance recipients	% of 15-64 age population	Change
Corio - Norlane	2,412	13.3	2,508	13.9	-96
Newcomb - Moolap	928	10.1	879	9.5	+49
Portarlington	370	8.4	355	8.1	+15
North Geelong - Bell Park	684	7.0	642	6.6	+42

Data Source 2: City of Greater Geelong – Preventative Health Survey 2021.
The Preventative Health Survey has a number of interesting questions on a priority health area level, as well as some questions which can be used to support SED. When reviewing data for the Bellarine Peninsula we can see that:

- The average number of people living in the Bellarine Peninsula with a household income less than 50k is greater than the CoGG average (28.4% compared to 25.6%).
- The average number of people living in the Bellarine Peninsula with a healthcare card is greater than the CoGG average (40& versus 36%)
- While the Bellarine can have affluent pockets (eg: planning area 2), there are significant levels of diversity socio-economic disadvantage across planning areas 3, 4 & 5.
- Compounded by levels of migration, increases in the cost of living and reduction in housing affordability.

Planning Area		**Household income less than 50k**	**% live in a rental property**	**Hold a healthcare card**	**One parent family with child/children (combined)**
	Year	2021	2021	2021	2021
	Gender Interpretation*	F=M	F=M	F+	F++
	Bellarine Peninsula (average)	28.4	20.3	40	5
	CoGG (average)	25.6	23	36	8.4
2	Barwon Heads – Ocean Grove – Rural Bellarine Peninsula	22	16	34	2.9
3	Clifton Springs-Curlewis - Drysdale-Bellarine	29.6	13	35	6.4
4	Portarlington –St Leonards - Indented Head	30.2	31	48	4.8
5	Leopold	31.6	21	41	6.4

Rural & Peri-Urban Communities:

- Great to see these communities being recognised as a priority group.
- The description on page 11 is only a short summary with limited information. There is no additional information in appendix 3 such as what is included for other priority groups.
- Reflection Questions:
    - What pockets across the CoGG would classify as Rural and/or Peri Urban?
    - Would this include the Bellarine Peninsula?
    - Could this more clearly be articulated? Eg: image with rural/peri urban communities.
    - It would be useful to continue to see how these communities will be prioritised in the longer term.

Point 2: More detail around operationalising the framework and 'next steps':

In terms of next steps and the implementation of the framework (page 15), it is quite short and high level. More detail would be useful around how CoGG will strive to embed the framework into their practices. (Note: We acknowledge that this is a new way of working for Council and it still may not be entirely clear).

- Is there still discussion around a broader 'equality/equity strategy'? Could this be referenced here?
- Will the Advisory Committees/Councils be a platform for communication moving forward or for the development of action plans? Could they be referenced here?
- Re: Action Plans? Will this be based on priority group, or will there be a broader 'social equity' action plan?

Re: Social Equity Action Plan 2022-2024 (Mentioned in Appendix 1: Priority Actions)
This is interesting to see included and provides a little bit more context to operationalising the framework.

Besides being listed as an appendix, this isn't cross referenced anywhere above in the framework.

- Could this be introduced and referenced under next steps?
- Could there be a useful 'planning resource' or checklist to support the consideration of priority groups moving forward? (refer to page 26 – mention of an 'equity impact assessment tool developed by Darebin City Council)

The HCCT would be pleased to be involved in future conversations with CoGG around how we can continue to work in partnership and promote health equity across the Bellarine Peninsula.

The HCCT look forward to seeing the final Social Equity Framework and seeing the evolution of this work throughout Council. Great work and all the best with finalising and adopting this document.

Appendix 1: Bellarine Peninsula – Additional Data

Suburb/ Township	Population 2021	Population 2041	Population change (%)	SEIFA 2016
		2041 predicted population	*% Population change in 2041 from 2021*	*Socio-economic advantage and disadvantage*
City of Greater Geelong	268984	393216	46.2	994
Bellarine Peninsula	64675	92300	43	**1030**
Barwon Heads - Connewarre - Breamlea	5074	6029	18.8	1091
Clifton Springs	8226	10246	24.6	997
Curlewis	3699	8669	134.3	1036
Drysdale - Bellarine	5708	7989	40.00	1022
Leopold	13455	18263	35.7	1019
Ocean Grove	16633	21316	28.2	1060
Point Lonsdale - Queenscliff	3008*	3061	44.0	1075
Portarlington	4141	5853	41.4	962
Rural Bellarine Peninsula (Swan Bay, Mannerism, Marcus Hill, Mannerim, Wallington)	3645	4752	30.4	1072
St Leonards – Indented Head	4094	6122	49.5	962

[i] .id informed decisions. (2021). Population forecast.

2.2. 26 January - Community Engagement

Source: **Community Life**
Director: **Robyn Stevens**

Purpose

1. To endorse community engagement with First Nations People and the broader Greater Geelong community regarding acknowledgement of 26 January.

Background

2. Greater Geelong has the largest First Nations community of the 79 local governments in Victoria. The City respectfully recognises the Wadawurrung people as the traditional owners and first inhabitants of the Geelong region.

3. In 1994, 26 January became a national public holiday celebrated by all states and territories.

4. The City provides support, sponsorship and funding for community projects and events that take place on 26 January. Councillors participate in and officiate at a range of events on the day including a Citizenship Ceremony as required by the Australian Government.

5. For some people in the Greater Geelong community, 26 January is national day to celebrate, for others it represents a day of mourning and sorrow.

6. Greater Geelong's Traditional Owner group, the Wadawarrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WATOC), advised the City in 2019 that they will not perform Welcome to Country ceremonies on 26 January.

7. A number of other councils have embarked on this journey and some of the ways in which due acknowledgement has been implemented include:

    7.1. City of Ballarat hold a Survival Day Dawn Ceremony each year on 26 January;

    7.2. Borough of Queenscliffe has renamed their Australia Day Awards which are now awarded during volunteers' week;

    7.3. Surf Coast Shire no longer participates in celebratory events on 26 January each year and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island flags fly at half-mast;

    7.4. City of Yarra promote and hold a small-scale event on 26 January that acknowledges the loss of culture, language and identity felt by the Aboriginal community; and

    7.5. City of Moreland supports the #change the date campaign.

Key Matters

8. The Australian Government has gazetted 26 January as national holiday and the engagement does not propose to change the date.

9. Holding Citizenship ceremonies on Australia Day is a requirement of the Federal Government.

10. The Kilangitj Aboriginal Advisory Committee provides advice to Council on First Nations matters and has requested that Council consider engaging with First Nations People and the broader community about 26 January.

11. Advice from the Kilangitj Aboriginal Advisory Committee and First Nations communities recommend at least a six-month engagement plan to allow for robust consultation across Greater Geelong.

12. Recommendations from the engagement would be presented back to Council and the community to guide the City's future approach to activities and commemorations held on 26 January.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.2

Cr Mason moved, Cr Mansfield seconded -

That Council endorse community engagement with First Nations People and the broader Greater Geelong community regarding acknowledgement of 26 January for at least six months.

Carried

Financial Sustainability

13. The community engagement costs are within current budget.

Community Engagement

14. In developing the engagement approach the City has sought advice from the Kilangitj Aboriginal Advisory Committee, Wadawurrung Traditional Owners, the Wathaurong Aboriginal Corporation, Elders, community members and Victorian key stakeholders: First Peoples Assembly, Office of the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council and the Municipal Association of Victoria.

15. First Nations community engagement will include:

    15.1. Wadawurrung Traditional Owners forum (ideally in face-to-face format);

    15.2. Wathaurong Board consultation;

    15.3. Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Corporation consultation;

    15.4. three First Nations workshops;

    15.5. Victorian and federal government stakeholder forum;

    15.6. online survey using the City's Have Your Say portal; and

    15.7. establishment of a small working group led by First Nations leaders in our community supported by council officers.

16. The engagement would seek to understand the diversity of views on Australia's national day and is an opportunity to listen, have respectful conversations, build trust and understanding and promote reconciliation across the Greater Geelong community.

17. The engagement would begin with face-to-face and online forums with First Nations People. Engagement with the broader community is proposed to begin later this year and would include an online survey, the opportunity to provide a written submission, feedback via social media and interactive community forums.

Social Equity and Sustainability

18. The principles of social equity are underpinned in this proposed engagement. This includes future planning that will be informed by effective, focussed partnerships and engagement with the First Nations People and broader Greater Geelong community to fully understand and advise the City's future approach to 26 January.

19. The resulting recommendations will respect and recognise the impacts on First Nations People as well as provide a sustainable approach into the future.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

20. This engagement will be advised by and consider state and federal legislative frameworks and policy contexts impacting on 26 January and First Nations People including:

    20.1. *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006;*

    20.2. *Victorian Aboriginal Local Government Action Plan 2021;*

    20.3. *Advancing Treaty Process – Aboriginal Victorian Act 2018;*

    20.4. *Kareenga Aboriginal Action Plan 2014-17;*

20.5. *REFLECT – Reconciliation Action Plan;* and

20.6. Reconciliation Australia, National Australia Day Committee.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

21. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
Healthy, caring and inclusive community.

22. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
A destination that attracts local and international visitors.
An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.
Creative and diverse culture.

Conflict of Interest

23. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

24. This is a complex and potentially emotive engagement. As such it is important to allow adequate time to inform, discuss and engage people.

Environmental Sustainability

25. There are no environmental implications arising from the subject of this report.

Attachments

Nil

2.3. Blue Waters Lake Reserve Master Plan Draft

Source: **City Services**
Director: **Guy Wilson-Browne**

Purpose

1. For Council to endorse the Draft Blue Waters Lake Reserve Master Plan

2. (**Attachment 1**) for public exhibition and community feedback for a period of 30 days.

Background

3. Blue Waters Lake Reserve, Ocean Grove, is a 7-hectare reserve featuring a natural lake, native vegetation and is the home of rare and threatened waterbirds.

4. There is a narrow strip of open space surrounding the lake with the path being popular with walkers and bird watchers, and the grassy areas for family picnics.

5. Blue Waters Lake Reserve is surrounded by over 100 private properties and many of the property owners are very passionate about the reserve.

6. Blue Waters Lake Reserve performs an important role in the Ocean Grove drainage network, filtering stormwater before it makes its way into the lower Barwon River, which is part of a Ramsar Wetland, listed under the Federal *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Key Matters

7. In recent years, flooding events and wet weather have damaged the path in many locations, at times limiting access for maintenance and hindering people walking within the reserve. Upgrading the path is one way to help address this issue.

8. Declining health of aging Willow, Ash and other non-indigenous trees require a staged removal. Replacing these with indigenous species will maximise wildlife habitat.

9. The water quality in the lake is poor at times. To address this issue an ephemeral wetland zone is proposed to treat inflowing stormwater.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.3

Cr Mason moved, Cr Sullivan seconded -

That Council endorse the Draft Blue Waters Lake Reserve Master Plan (Attachment 1) for public exhibition and community feedback for a period of 60 days.

Carried

Financial Sustainability

10. The cost estimates to implement the master plan will be finalised when the final draft is presented to Council.

11. The final plan will provide project priorities and future staging of works.

12. The final plan will inform the City's long-term investment priorities and guide the future funding for the reserve.

Community Engagement

13. Community engagement for the draft plan commenced on 1 September 2020.

14. The Have Your Say page was open from 1 September 2020 to 20 September 2020. During that time the page received 1680 views,178 contributions and 159 contributors. Due to COVID-19 restrictions the project was then delayed.

Social Equity and Sustainability

15. The delivery of actions within the draft plan will support:

    15.1. All weather and ability walking path access; and

    15.2. Increased number and upgrade to existing seating and picnic facilities.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

16. The steep slopes of the north-eastern embankment contain an area of endangered Grassy Woodland (EVC 175), including a stand of rare Bellarine Yellow Gums listed as endangered under the Victorian *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act).

17. Yarra Pygmy Perch, a rare native fish, has been recorded in the lake and local catchment and is listed as vulnerable under the EPBC Act and threatened under the FFG Act.

18. Significant populations of Freckled Ducks, listed as Endangered under the FFG Act, as well as small groups of Latham's Snipe, listed as Vulnerable under the FFG Act, have been found seasonally at the lake.

19. Urban stormwater flows through this reserve on its way to the Barwon River which forms part of the Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar site which is listed under the EPBC Act.

20. The reserve is an area of cultural heritage sensitivity and projects that require soil disturbance may be required to undertake a Cultural Heritage Management Plan under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and the *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018*.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

21. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
    Healthy, caring and inclusive community.
    Sustainable growth and environment.

22. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:

A destination that attracts local and international visitors.

An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.

Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

23. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

24. There are no high or extreme risks associated with releasing the draft plan for stakeholder and community engagement.

Environmental Sustainability

25. The draft plan outlines the objectives and priority actions to improve and protect the ecological and amenity values of the Blue Waters Lake Reserve.

26. Actions identified in the plan will have no negative impacts to biodiversity or the adjoining wetlands of international importance.

27. It is anticipated the plan will:

    27.1. result in beneficial outcomes for social well-being by improving community access to nature;

    27.2. improve water quality in the lake;

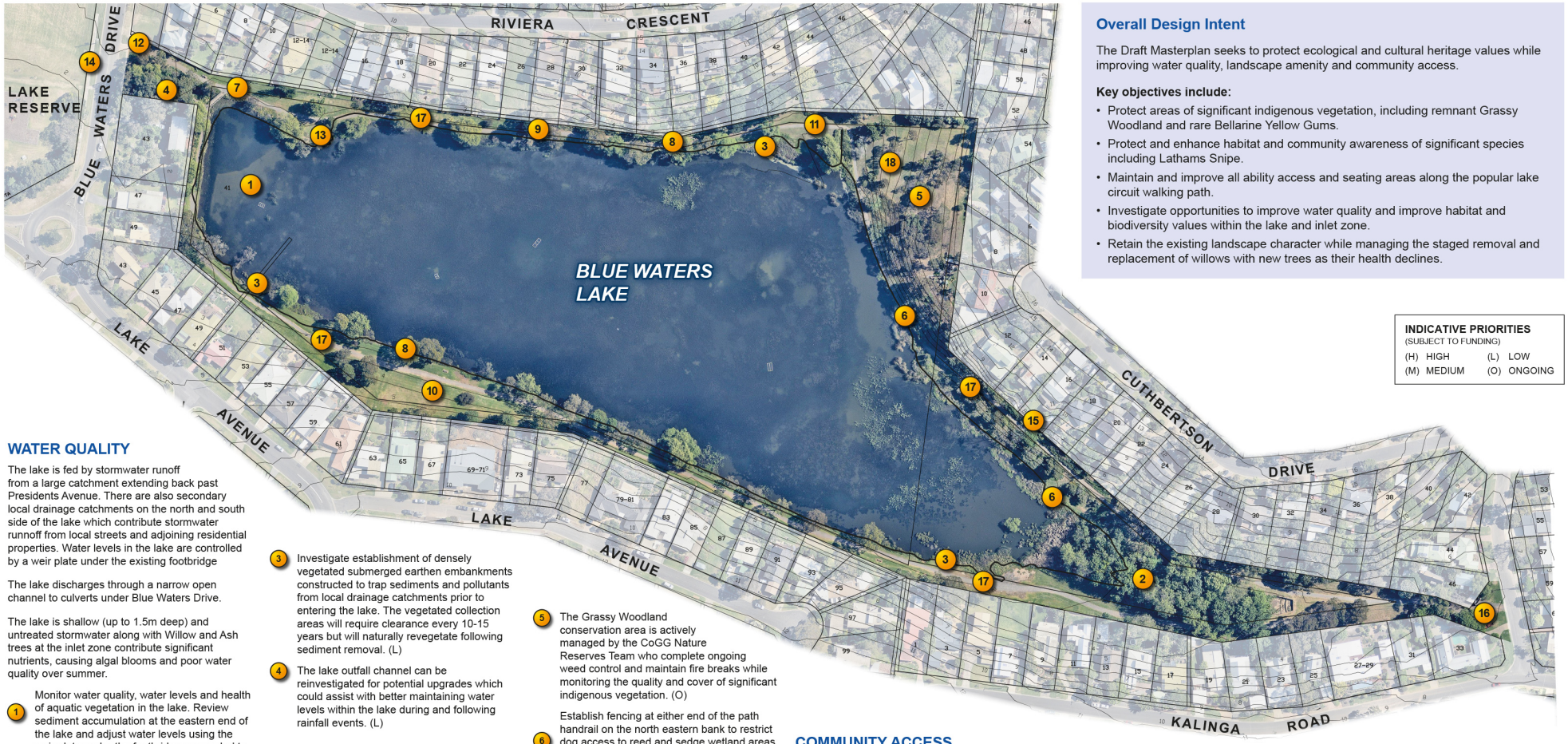
    27.3. increase the area revegetated with local indigenous species;

    27.4. reduce woody and other high threat weeds; and

    27.5. increase opportunities for sustainable water management.

Attachments

1. Blue Waters Lake Master Plan Draft - April 2022 [**2.3.1** - 1 page]



Overall Design Intent

The Draft Masterplan seeks to protect ecological and cultural heritage values while improving water quality, landscape amenity and community access.

Key objectives include:

- Protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation, including remnant Grassy Woodland and rare Bellarine Yellow Gums.
- Protect and enhance habitat and community awareness of significant species including Lathams Snipe.
- Maintain and improve all ability access and seating areas along the popular lake circuit walking path.
- Investigate opportunities to improve water quality and improve habitat and biodiversity values within the lake and inlet zone.
- Retain the existing landscape character while managing the staged removal and replacement of willows with new trees as their health declines.

INDICATIVE PRIORITIES
(SUBJECT TO FUNDING)

(H) HIGH	(L) LOW
(M) MEDIUM	(O) ONGOING

WATER QUALITY

The lake is fed by stormwater runoff from a large catchment extending back past Presidents Avenue. There are also secondary local drainage catchments on the north and south side of the lake which contribute stormwater runnoff from local streets and adjoining residential properties. Water levels in the lake are controlled by a weir plate under the existing footbridge

The lake discharges through a narrow open channel to culverts under Blue Waters Drive.

The lake is shallow (up to 1.5m deep) and untreated stormwater along with Willow and Ash trees at the inlet zone contribute significant nutrients, causing algal blooms and poor water quality over summer.

1. Monitor water quality, water levels and health of aquatic vegetation in the lake. Review sediment accumulation at the eastern end of the lake and adjust water levels using the weir plate under the footbridge as needed to optimise water quality and bird habitat values. (H)
2. Investigate establishment of a sediment pond and ephemeral wetland downstream of the existing concrete inlet structure. The sediment pond will enable ongoing removal of coarse sediment. A densely planted shallow ephemeral wetland will remove nutrients and other pollutants before water enters the lake. Several large Willow trees can be retained to the edge of the new wetland in the short term to maintain landscape amenity while new indigenous planting becomes established. (M)
3. Investigate establishment of densely vegetated submerged earthen embankments constructed to trap sediments and pollutants from local drainage catchments prior to entering the lake. The vegetated collection areas will require clearance every 10-15 years but will naturally revegetate following sediment removal. (L)
4. The lake outfall channel can be reinvestigated for potential upgrades which could assist with better maintaining water levels within the lake during and following rainfall events. (L)

ENVIRONMENT

The steep slopes of the north eastern embankment contains remnant Grassy Woodland vegetation including a stand of rare Bellarine Yellow Gums. Other native species include Lightwood, Golden Wattle, Coast Beard-heath and occasional Moonah with an understorey of Kangaroos Grass, Wallaby Grass, Bower Spinach, Seaberry Saltbush and Kidney Weed.

Areas of Tall Marsh, dominated by Common Reed and Cumbungi, occur at the eastern end of the lake provide habitat for rare and threatened bird life.

The scattered planted mature trees around the lake include Red Gums and Swamp Gums providing habitat for possums and many birds while the Willow and Ash trees contribute to the overall landscape amenity. Nankeen Night Herons have been seen nesting in one of the large Willows for many years.

5. The Grassy Woodland conservation area is actively managed by the CoGG Nature Reserves Team who complete ongoing weed control and maintain fire breaks while monitoring the quality and cover of significant indigenous vegetation. (O)
6. Establish fencing at either end of the path handrail on the north eastern bank to restrict dog access to reed and sedge wetland areas which provide important habitat for waterbirds. Prioritise removal of woody weeds such as Ash and Willow trees in this area out of season. (H)
7. Relocate/replace the existing community noticeboard closer to the footbridge and establish interpretive signage to improve community awareness of environmental cultural heritage values, and dog on lead requirements at the lake. (M)
8. Re establish indigenous vegetation along the edge of the lake and inlet zone. As plants grow and provide habitat, remove willows. The aim will be to retain and actively manage remaining willows until their health declines. Suckers and dead wood will be removed and new Red Gums will be planted to maintain canopy cover for when these trees eventually require removal. Placement of new trees will carefully consider views from adjoining properties. (M)

COMMUNITY ACCESS

The popular 1.6 km unsealed compacted granitic gravel circuit pedestrian walking path provides all ability access around the lake for both pedestrians and maintenance vehicles.

9. Retain maintenance vehicle access along the existing lake circuit path to Barwon Water sewer mains. (H)
10. Retain mown grass along the south bank and establish a small local picnic area with two timber picnic tables near the existing timber platform. (H)
11. Establish a bench seat and interpretive signage providing information regarding the significant Bellarine Yellow Gum stand and ongoing protection of bird habitat values in this section of the lake. (M)
12. Investigate options to improve on street car parking at the Bluewaters Drive entry. (M)
13. Establish a new seating area on the exposed promontory while retaining maintenance vehicle access to the gross pollutant trap (GPT). (M)
14. Investigate options to improve pedestrian links and safety at Blue Waters Drive crossing to across Lake Reserve. (M)
15. Monitor the existing timber handrail and retaining wall which are now over 20 years old and will need significant repair/ replacement within the next 10 years to maintain public access around the lake. (O)
16. Retain only local access via Cuthbertson Drive due to the lack of car parking. (O)
17. Improve/Upgrade path to allow all-ability all season access. (O)

CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Ocean Grove township is located along the Barwon River estuary and the natural wetlands at what is now Blue Waters Lake would have been an ideal location for Aboriginal people to obtain food and water and although there has been significant modification the area is of cultural sensitivity as defined in the *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018*.

18. Engage and involve the *Wadawarrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation* in building appreciation and understanding of the cultural values of the site through development of a Cultural Values Plan. (H)

DRAFT
MARCH 2022
DWG No. BLMP-01
SCALE 1:2000 @ A3
0 10 20 30 50m

THOMPSON BERRILL LANDSCAPE DESIGN P/L

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

BLUE WATERS LAKE OCEAN GROVE MASTERPLAN

2.4. Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan (Draft)

Source: **Community Life**
Director: **Robyn Stevens**

Purpose

1. For Council to endorse the release of the Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan (Draft Plan) for public consultation for a period of six weeks.

Background

2. In 2019, the City commissioned a review and update of the 2010 Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan. A Project Reference Group (PRG) of key stakeholders and user groups was established and has provided input into the development of the Draft Plan.
3. The Draft Plan responds to significant population and female participation demands, strategies and policies such as the Social Infrastructure Plan – Generation one 2020-2023.
4. The Draft Plan considers six reserves, these being Arthur Powell Reserve, Collendina Reserve, Devlins Road Reserve, Memorial Reserve, Shell Road Reserve and Wallington Reserve, as well as the sporting and recreation activities conducted at them.

Key Matters

5. A range of strategies and deliverables are identified within the Draft Plan including:
    5.1. relocating the Surfside Waves Soccer Club to Devlins Road Reserve;
    5.2. converting the existing soccer pitches at Shell Road Reserve to a second oval suitable for football and cricket; and
    5.3. upgrading the Memorial Reserve hall and enhancing the Reserve as a more attractive informal open space, while retaining the capacity of the Reserve to accommodate junior football and cricket matches.
6. Other key strategies developed within the Draft Plan are outlined within the Social Equity and Sustainability section of this report.
7. Public release of the Draft Plan for six weeks will inform the development of the Final Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan (Final Plan), to be presented for adoption later in 2022.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.4

Cr Mason moved, Cr Sullivan seconded -

That Council endorse the release of the draft Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan for a public consultation period of six weeks.

Carried

Financial Sustainability

8. Cost estimates for all projects listed in the Draft Plan will be developed by a quantity surveyor following the consultation period.

9. The Final Plan will also consider project priorities and future staging of works.

10. The Final Plan will inform the City's long-term investment priorities and guide future funding across all reserves.

Community Engagement

11. The project is governed by a Project Control Group (PCG), Project Working Group (PWG) and a PRG.

12. The PRG exists of all current tenants of the reserves included in this study and several other stakeholders, including:

    12.1. Ocean Grove Tennis Club;
    12.2. Ocean Grove Football Netball Club;
    12.3. Ocean Grove Cobras Junior Football Club;
    12.4. Surfside Waves Soccer Club;
    12.5. Ocean Grove Cricket Club;
    12.6. Shell Road Reserve Committee of Management;
    12.7. Collendina Cricket Club;
    12.8. Bellarine Bears Baseball Club;
    12.9. Wallington Cricket Club;
    12.10. Bellarine Pigeon Club;
    12.11. Memorial Hall Committee of Management;
    12.12. Ocean Grove Badminton Club;
    12.13. Bellarine Table Tennis Club, Soft Tennis, Ocean Grove Pickleball Club;
    12.14. Ocean Grove Calisthenics College;
    12.15. 1st & 2nd Ocean Grove Scout Group;
    12.16. Ocean Grove Community Association;
    12.17. Surfside Primary School; and
    12.18. Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School.

13. The Draft Plan has been developed in response to stakeholder feedback from the PRG.

14. The Draft Master Plans for Shell Road Reserve, Collendina Reserve and Wallington Reserve (as attached) have received in-principle support from tenant clubs. The concept pavilion/change rooms upgrade plans for Shell Road Reserve, Memorial Reserve and Wallington Reserve have also been approved by clubs.

15. Subject to the resolution of Council, it is proposed that the Draft Plan be made available for a six-week period of community engagement (May – July 2022).

16. This will provide an opportunity for the community to provide feedback through a variety of engagement tools, including online engagement via the City's Have Your Say webpage and in-person drop-in sessions.

Social Equity and Sustainability

17. The Draft Plan supports the following key strategies:

    17.1. relocating the Surfside Waves Soccer Club from Shell Road Reserve to Devlins Road (Kingston) Reserve;

    17.2. converting existing soccer pitches at Shell Road Reserve to a second oval to create the Reserve as the home for football, netball and cricket in Ocean Grove;

    17.3. upgrading the hall at Memorial Reserve, enhancing the Reserve for more informal use, and maintaining the ability to host junior sport (football and cricket); and

    17.4. developing Draft Master Plans for Shell Road Reserve, Collendina Reserve and Wallington Reserve.

18. Other key facility developments include (amongst others):

    18.1. developing a fit-for-purpose pavilion and gender-neutral change rooms at Wallington Reserve;

    18.2. developing fit-for-purpose and gender-neutral change rooms as part of the integrated hall upgrade at Memorial Reserve; and

    18.3. reconstructing the two public tennis courts into compliant courts at Arthur Powell Reserve.

19. The proposed facility developments and usage recommendations will assist in delivering sustainable growth operations and improved opportunities for female sports participation. Other benefits include improved access to facilities and open space for the community.

20. The Draft Plan ensures equity of investment across all sporting infrastructure. Future population size and expected participation numbers have been considered to ensure adequate service levels to the community.

21. The Draft Plan aligns with adopted sporting association guidelines and standards to ensure any investments are in accordance with provisions and service levels are realistic and within resource constraints.

22. The Draft Plan ensures all upgraded and new facilities are universally designed for use by people of all ages, gender, abilities, and cultural backgrounds. Benefits extend to community programs and informal recreation across all reserves as part of this study.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

23. There are no other known legal, statutory or policy implications associated with the Draft recommendations.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

24. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
Healthy, caring and inclusive community.
Sustainable growth and environment.

25. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.
Development and implementation of sustainable solutions.

Conflict of Interest

26. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

27. The release of the Draft Plan for further consultation will provide greater insights to the needs and expectations of the whole community. The feedback received will be used to develop the Final Plan.

Environmental Sustainability

28. Trees will need to be removed to allow for the development of a compliant baseball diamond at Wallington Reserve, however additional tree plantings and required offsets have been identified.

29. The Draft Plan aligns with a key direction of the City’s Sustainability Policy to enhance, protect and restore our biodiversity and natural environments, including plants and animals that inhabit them.

30. All facility developments will consider environmentally sustainable design principles in line with Council’s Sustainable Building Policy.

Attachments

1. Final Draft Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan [**2.4.1** - 64 pages]
2. Final Draft Shell Road Reserve Master Plan [**2.4.2** - 1 page]
3. Final Draft Collendina Reserve Master Plan [**2.4.3** - 1 page]
4. Final Draft Wallington Recreation Reserve Master Plan [**2.4.4** - 1 page]



THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

OCEAN GROVE SPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

DRAFT – APRIL 2022

CITY OF GREATER
GEELONG

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Acknowledgements

We would like to thank and acknowledge the support and assistance provided by the various sporting and recreation groups and other stakeholders involved in the development of this plan:

Ocean Grove Tennis Club, Ocean Grove Football Netball Club, Ocean Grove Cobras Junior Football Club, Surfside Waves Soccer Club, Ocean Grove Cricket Club, Shell Road Reserve Committee of Management, Collendina Cricket Club, Bellarine Bears Baseball Club, Wallington Cricket Club, Bellarine Pigeon Club, Memorial Hall Committee of Management, Ocean Grove Badminton Club, Bellarine Table Tennis Club, Soft Tennis, Ocean Grove Pickleball Club, Ocean Grove Calisthenics College, 1st & 2nd Ocean Grove Scout Group, Ocean Grove Community Association, Surfside Primary School and Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We Acknowledge the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.

We Acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.

1. Executive summary

The *Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan 2010* (the 'OGSIP 2010') has guided a range of new and upgraded sports facility projects throughout Ocean Grove during the past 12 years, including the development of Shell Road Reserve into Ocean Grove's premier sports venue.

Since 2010, when the plan was adopted, the town's population has increased by more than 5,000 people, and there has also been an exponential increase in female sports participation. As a result, the City of Greater Geelong commissioned a review and update of the plan in 2019.

This revised plan is intended to respond to changes and increases in sports participation, as well as emerging constraints related to current supply of sporting facilities and increased demand for facilities. While the new plan has a focus on the future provision of sporting facilities, it also considers other active and passive recreational uses of reserves.

The *Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan 2022* (the 'OGSIP 2022') is informed by a number of background and planning considerations, including the OGSIP 2010, the *Ocean Grove Structure Plan* (2016) and the *Greater Geelong Social Infrastructure Plan – Generation One 2020–2023*.

In 2021, Ocean Grove and Wallington had a combined estimated population of 17,500 people, a 40 per cent increase since 2010, and the projected population to 2041 is 23,650, or an additional 6,150 people (a 35 per cent increase).

Sport is an important part of the lifestyle of Ocean Grove and Wallington residents. Of the six sports included in this plan, the local participation rate in netball is the only example that doesn't exceed the corresponding statewide participation rate.

Since 2010, there are 40 additional teams now fielded by Ocean Grove and Wallington sporting clubs, including 10 new girls and womens teams. This increase in female participation in sport has highlighted shortcomings in existing sporting facilities, particularly in relation to change rooms and associated amenities.

STUDY SCOPE

The primary scope and key consideration of the OGSIP 2022 study was the following sporting reserves, and the sporting and recreation activities conducted at them:

- Shell Road Reserve
- Collendina Reserve
- Memorial Reserve
- Arthur Powell Reserve
- Devlins Road Reserve
- Wallington Recreation Reserve.

SPORTS FACILITY ANALYSIS

When applying sports facility provision ratios adopted by the City of Greater Geelong as part of its *Social Infrastructure Plan – Generation One 2020–2023,* the adequacy of current facilities against future projected demand can be assessed.

Table 1: Current and predicted need for sports facilities

Sport	Existing Provision	Facilities Required in 2021 (Population: 17,500)	Difference + = surplus - = shortfall	Facilities Required in 2041 (Population: 23,650)	Difference + = surplus - = shortfall
Baseball Diamonds (Ratio: 40,000)	1 diamond	1 diamond	0 diamonds	1 diamond	0 diamonds
Cricket Ovals * (Ratio: 4,000)	6 ovals	4 ovals	+2 ovals	6 ovals	0 ovals
Football Ovals (Ratio: 5,000)	4 ovals	4 ovals	0 ovals	5 ovals	-1 oval
Netball Courts (outdoor) (Ratio: 7,070)	5 courts	3 courts	+2 courts	4 courts	+1 court
Soccer Pitches (Ratio: 5,000)	2 pitches	3 pitches	-1 pitch	5 pitches	-3 pitches
Tennis Courts (Ratio: 3,000)	17 courts	6 courts	+11 courts	8 courts	+9 courts

* Bellarine Secondary College oval has been counted as cricket only

Table 1 (above) shows that:

- The current supply of sporting facilities for baseball, cricket, netball and tennis is sufficient to meet the projected demand to 2041.
- The current supply of sporting facilities for football and soccer is insufficient to meet the projected demand to 2041.

As well as the above benchmarking data, site reviews, facility compliance assessments and meetings with sports clubs contributed to the sports facility demand analysis. Key findings included:

- The current baseball diamond at Wallington Recreation Reserve is non-compliant and the player/umpire change rooms and amenities are not compliant, or female-friendly.
- The Ocean Grove Football Netball Club and the Ocean Grove Cricket Club currently use the single ovals at Shell Road Reserve and Memorial Reserve. However, sustainable sports planning principles support two ovals at the same location to enable optimal management of the playing surfaces, to minimise volunteer workloads, and to maximise the social benefits and sport pathways for players.
- The off-court facilities for netball at Shell Road Reserve do not comply with standards adopted by Netball Victoria.
- The Ocean Grove Cobras Junior Football Club currently uses the single ovals at Collendina Reserve and Memorial Reserve, however the player/umpire change rooms and amenities at both reserves are not compliant, nor are they female-friendly.
- The Surfside Waves Soccer Club has grown so much that the two soccer pitches at Shell Road Reserve are getting close to capacity. Additionally, the long-term co-location of the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club and the Surfside Waves Soccer Club at Shell Road Reserve is not sustainable under the current usage and management arrangements.
- The Ocean Grove Tennis Club currently uses the five club courts and the 2 publicly accessible courts at Arthur Powell Reserve. However, the 2 public courts have non-compliant run-offs, a poor surface, and are not floodlit.

Future strategic provision of sporting facilities

The key strategic directions of OGSIP 2022 are:

1. To relocate the Surfside Waves Soccer Club to Devlins Road Reserve.
2. To convert the existing soccer pitches at Shell Road Reserve to a second oval suitable for football and cricket.
3. To upgrade the Memorial Reserve Hall, and enhance the reserve as a more attractive informal open space, while retaining the capacity of the reserve to accommodate junior football and cricket matches.

If the OGSIP 2022 is fully implemented, the following sporting facilities will be available at the six reserves by 2041:

Table 2: Difference between existing and desired facilities (2021-2041)

Sport	Existing Provision	Facilities Achieved by 2041	Difference
Baseball	1 diamond	2 diamonds	+1 diamond
Cricket	6 ovals	7 ovals	+1 oval
Football	4 ovals	5 ovals	+1 oval
Netball (outdoor)	5 courts	6 courts	+1 court
Soccer	2 pitches	4 pitches	+2 pitches
Tennis	17 courts	17 courts	0 courts

The following recommendations for new and upgraded sporting facilities can accommodate the constraints and issues identified during the study, as well as capitalising on opportunities for developing sport facilities in a sustainable way.

Devlins Road Reserve

- Develop soccer pitches and a pavilion in the southern section of the reserve, and relocate the Surfside Waves Soccer Club to the reserve.
- Seasonally allocate the northern oval to the Surfside Waves Soccer Club for junior soccer as the priority winter sport, and to the Cobras Junior Football Club for overflow junior football, as may be required and can be scheduled around soccer use.
- Seasonally allocate the northern oval to the Wallington Cricket Club as its overflow oval.

Shell Road Reserve

- Construct a second oval on the site of the two soccer pitches, and upgrade other infrastructure, as required, including modifications to the pavilion's western change rooms, amenities and canteen, to better service the second oval user groups.
- Following the construction of a second oval, integrate some of the Cobras Junior Football Club training and match day needs on the oval, and facilitate increased use of the pavilion social room by the club, particularly for social functions and events that exceed the capacity of the Collendina Reserve pavilion.
- Upgrade and expand the cricket practice facilities (one additional lane), and provide an adjacent cricket store.
- Construct one additional netball court (as a show court), and provide fit-for-purpose, off-court netball facilities.
- Retain and upgrade the public tennis courts and, when demand arises, overlay line marking for pickleball on two courts.

Memorial Reserve

- Enhance the reserve as a more attractive informal open space, whilst retaining the capability of the reserve to accommodate junior football and cricket matches for the Cobras Junior Football Club and Ocean Grove Cricket Club.

	• Remove surplus sporting infrastructure and contain vehicle car parking and access to the southern-end to primarily service the Hall and the 1st and 2nd Ocean Grove Scouts. • Provide fit-for-purpose and gender-neutral player and umpire change rooms as part of an integrated upgrade of the Memorial Reserve Hall and social rooms. • Upgrade the Memorial Reserve Hall to better provide for the user groups and create additional storage space.
Collendina Reserve	• Continue to use the reserve for cricket (Collendina Cricket Club) and for junior football (Cobras Junior Football Club). • Upgrade the pavilion to provide compliant and gender-neutral player and umpire change rooms, and improved social and kitchen facilities. • Construct new internal roads and car parking to improve user safety, and introduce a new path network and other landscape embellishments to encourage increased community recreational use.
Arthur Powell Reserve	• Reconstruct the two public tennis courts into two new and compliant acrylic courts with floodlights. • Allocate the new courts to the Ocean Grove Tennis Club for a total of seven onsite courts, making sure they remain accessible to the public via a book-a-court system when not required by the club (in accordance with the City of Greater Geelong's *Fair Play Strategy 2017*).
Wallington Recreation Reserve	• Continue to use the reserve for cricket (Wallington Cricket Club) and for baseball (Bellarine Bears Baseball Club). • Construct a compliant senior baseball diamond, and master plan for a future second diamond. • Upgrade the pavilion to provide fit-for-purpose and gender-neutral player and umpire change rooms, and improved social and kitchen facilities. • Retain the tennis and netball courts as publicly accessible facilities.

2. Introduction

The City of Greater Geelong commissioned a review and update of the *Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan 2010* (the 'OGSIP 2010') in 2019. The 2010 plan has guided a range of new and upgraded sports facility projects throughout Ocean Grove during the past 12 years, including the development of Shell Road Reserve into Ocean Grove's premier sports venue.

However, since the OGSIP 2010 was adopted the town's population has increased significantly from an estimated 12,000 people to more than 17,000 in 2021, and there has been increased female participation in sport. The revised plan responds to changes and increases in sports participation and the resultant emerging constraints with the current supply of sporting facilities. While the *Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan 2022* (the 'OGSIP 2022') has a focus on the future provision of sporting facilities, it also considers other active and passive recreational uses of reserves, and their character: district sporting reserves; overflow sporting reserves; and bushland reserves.

A number of other plans and strategies at state, regional and local government levels have been developed since 2010, and provided guidance and direction to the OGSIP 2022. The most significant is the City's *Social Infrastructure Plan – Generation One 2020–2023*, which sets out a strategic direction for council for future investment in facilities that is fair, equitable and sustainable.

The OGSIP 2022 includes Wallington and surrounds, which were not part of the scope of the 2010 plan. The plan considers the Ocean Grove and Wallington network as whole, which has enabled council to review the current and future needs of this network to ensure the development of a variety of sports into the future. The primary scope and key consideration of the OGSIP 2022 study is the following six sporting reserves, and the sporting and recreation activities conducted at them.

- Shell Road Reserve
- Collendina Reserve
- Memorial Reserve
- Arthur Powell Reserve
- Devlins Road Reserve
- Wallington Recreation Reserve.

The OGSIP 2022 advocates for a significant number of sporting and recreation facility improvement projects that when implemented will cater for the current and likely future needs of the Ocean Grove and Wallington communities. To help illustrate the planning directions and recommendations, three reserve master plans have been prepared and three pavilion concept plans, with all projects to be costed and prioritised.

2.2 STUDY AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The study had an overall aim to review and update the *Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan 2010*, with the following objectives underpinning the study process.

4. To assess the adequacy of existing sporting facilities to meet needs.
5. To understand the current population projections and implications on future sports participation and facility needs.
6. To review existing sporting facilities against preferred standards and guidelines developed by relevant state sporting associations, and which are incorporated in the *City of Greater Geelong Social Infrastructure Plan – Generation One 2020–2023*.
7. To consider trends in sports participation, both state trends and local trends.
8. To identify which existing sport reserves and other planned active open space could be further developed to accommodate future needs.
9. To update reserve master plans developed for OGSIP 2010, and prepare master plans for new active open spaces, if required.

10. To prepare a new prioritised implementation framework with estimated costs for improvement projects.

2.3 STUDY PROCESS

A range of research and consultative processes informed the development of the OGSIP 2022.

- Review of relevant planning and background reports.
- Review and assessment of existing sporting facilities, including pavilions, to meet compliance, standards and guidelines.
- Engagement with the sports clubs, council representatives, and other relevant stakeholders.
- Analysis of issues and opportunities for the future provision of sporting facilities.
- Formulate future directions and seek feedback from stakeholders.
- Preparation of reserve master plans and pavilion upgrade plans for selected sites and facilities.
- Development of prioritised and costed project implementation plan.

It is important to note that considerable research and scenario analysis occurred during the period from mid-2020 to mid-2021 to assess the viability and impact of a proposed second oval at Shell Road Reserve. This period also included extensive consultation with representatives from the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club, the Ocean Grove Cobras Junior Football Club, the Ocean Grove Cricket Club and the Surfside Waves Soccer Club that was predominately facilitated by council staff.

3. Background and context

The OGSIP 2022 was informed by a number of study background and planning considerations, and these are summarised in this section.

3.1 OCEAN GROVE SPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN 2010

The *Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan 2010* was prepared to guide the future development of the then three main active recreation reserves in Ocean Grove – Shell Road Reserve, Collendina Reserve and Ocean Grove Memorial Reserve. The plan had a focus on the development of Shell Road Reserve to better provide for the needs of the Surfside Waves Soccer Club, and to enable the transition of the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club and the Ocean Grove Cricket Club to the reserve from Memorial Reserve.

Key projects implemented from this plan included:

Shell Road Reserve:

- New pavilion
- Upgrade of the main oval playing surface and associated infrastructure
- Upgrade of surfaces of the two soccer pitches and associated infrastructure
- Four new acrylic surface netball courts and associated infrastructure
- New cricket practice nets
- New sealed car parking and internal road network within the reserve
- Landscape embellishments, including pedestrian paths and tree planting

Memorial Reserve

- Decommissioning of the former netball courts
- Removal of the reserve perimeter chain-mesh fence

Collendina Reserve

- New public toilet
- New reserve access road and playground relocation
- Upgraded oval floodlighting

Other projects recommended, but not yet actioned, were reviewed as part of this study.

3.2 OCEAN GROVE AND WALLINGTON DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

A review was undertaken of the population profile and projected growth of Ocean Grove and Wallington to assess future needs for sporting facilities. The review identified the following relevant demographic characteristics[1]:

- The combined estimated population of Ocean Grove and Wallington in 2021 was 17,500 people. This is an increase of approximately 5,000 people since 2010, or 40 per cent.
- Ocean Grove and Wallington have a higher proportion of people aged up to 17 years (23.9 per cent) compared to all of Greater Geelong (21.7 per cent).
- For the 18–34 years cohort, there is a significantly lower proportion of people (15.1 per cent) compared to all of Greater Geelong (21.9 per cent).
- Ocean Grove and Wallington have a higher proportion of older adults (60+ years) compared to all of Greater Geelong (26.8 per cent to 24.7 per cent).

[1] City of Greater Geelong Community Profile, id consulting 2021

- Ocean Grove and Wallington have a higher proportion of people who are Australian-born (82.9 per cent) compared to all of Greater Geelong (77.1 per cent), and a significantly higher proportion compared to all of Victoria (64.9 per cent).

A comparison of the age group data for Ocean Grove between the 2011 and 2016 data indicates that the overall population profile is ageing. However, the 2021 Census data may show a trend towards a younger profile given the new housing development in Oakdene/Kingston, and the impact of population shifts initiated by the COVID pandemic.

3.2.1 Projected population growth

The projected population for Ocean Grove and Wallington shows that by 2041 the area will have an estimated additional 6,150 people – a total projected population of 23,650.

3.2.2 Active age cohort

The age cohort of 5–39 years is important for sports facility planning, as a high proportion of people who participate in organised sport fall within this age cohort[2]. The trend of growth or decline in this age cohort can indicate whether the overall demand for specific sporting facilities is likely to increase, be stable, or decrease during the forecast period.

Figure 1 shows that the proportion of people aged 5–39 years in Ocean Grove decreased between 2001 and 2016, and is projected to decline further to 2041.

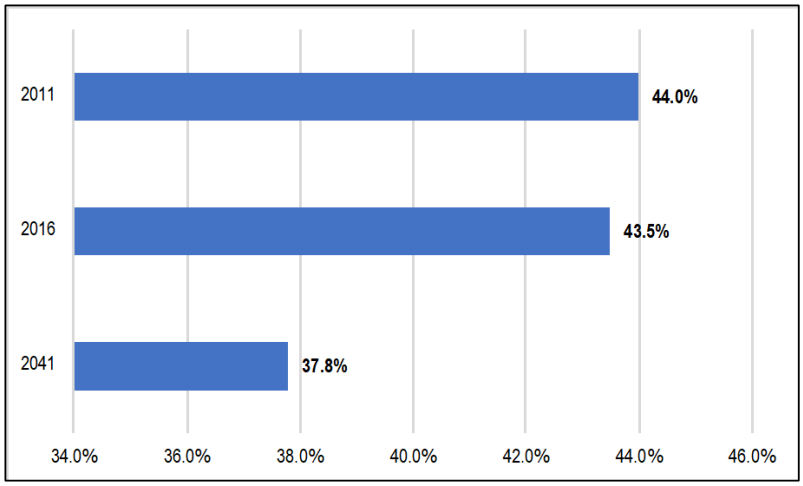


Figure 1: Proportion of Ocean Grove Residents in the Active Age Cohort (2011, 2016, 2041)

3.2.3 Implications for sports facility planning

The projected net increase of population for Ocean Grove and Wallington to 2041 will result in a corresponding increase in demand for access to sporting facilities. However, the projected overall decrease in the proportion of the population in the active age cohort is likely to soften the overall demand. The high proportion of Australian-born residents suggests that football, soccer, cricket and tennis will remain popular outdoor sports for the community.

3.3 OCEAN GROVE STRUCTURE PLAN (AMENDED 2016)

The Ocean Grove Structure Plan is a strategic framework tool used by the City of Greater Geelong to guide the future use and development of Ocean Grove in a co-ordinated and orderly manner. The plan was originally developed in 2007, and updated in 2016. It determines local planning policy, planning zones and overlays in a manner designed to manage growth and protect and maintain the much-valued coastal setting of Ocean Grove.

The plan notes that Ocean Grove is a district town and will provide for significant population growth until 2030 (total projected population of 21,000 people). The north-east growth area will accommodate the majority of the growing

[2] AusPlay 2019 (AusPlay is the sport and physical activity participation tracking tool funded and coordinated by Sport Australia)

population. The plan specifically identifies community and social infrastructure – including both informal and formal open space – as needing to accommodate forecast population growth, particularly within the north-east growth area. It also identifies a need to maintain non-urban breaks between Wallington and Point Lonsdale.

The following points were noted in the plan, and were considered during the study period:

- Support the establishment of a regional public open space (8.0 ha) in the north-east growth area, including two multi-use ovals, netball courts, sports pavilion and other informal park facilities, and using developer contributions. *[partly actioned]*
- Encourage the use of open spaces, such as Ocean Grove Park, Kingston Park and The Parade/Tuckfield Reserve, etc., for markets, summer open air cinema/plays and other community events.
- Develop Shell Road Reserve, including a $6 million sports pavilion. The pavilion to be shared by the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club, the Surfside Waves Soccer Club, and the Ocean Grove Cricket Club. [*actioned*]

3.4 OTHER BACKGROUND REPORTS

The following other reports and strategies provided important context, background and direction for the OGSIP 2022 study:

- *Our Community Plan 2021–25* (the City's council plan)
- *Social Infrastructure Plan – Generation One 2020–2023*
- *Fair Play Strategy (2017)*
- Ocean Grove Principal Pedestrian Network: Consultation Findings (2016)
- *G21 and Cricket Victoria Barwon Regional Strategy* (May 2019)
- *G21 and AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy* (2020)
- *G21 Regional Tennis Strategy 2015–2025*
- various state sporting association facility standards and guidelines reports.

Other council plans and strategies complementary to the OGSIP 2022 study were reviewed, as well as facility standards and guidelines endorsed by the State Sporting Associations for football, baseball, cricket, netball, soccer and tennis, which informed the compliance assessment of facilities and reserve improvement projects.

4. Existing sporting facilities and use

This section provides a description of the six sporting reserves that are the key focus of the Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan 2022, and their use.

The sporting reserves are Shell Road Reserve, Memorial Reserve, Collendina Reserve, Arthur Powell Reserve, Wallington Recreation Reserve and Devlins Road Reserve (see Figure 2).

The key issues and opportunities for each reserve are discussed in Section 8.



Figure 2: Locations of Sports Reserves in Ocean Grove and Wallington

4.1 ACTIVE CLUB MEMBERSHIP

In 2019, an estimated 2,400 Ocean Grove and Wallington residents were club-based participants in sports and activities

This represents 13.7 per cent of the catchment population, however, it is important to note that not all sports available in Ocean Grove have been included within the scope of this study. Additionally, some people will be counted more than once as they will be participants in more than one sport.

Table 3 shows the breakdown of active membership for the sporting and recreation groups based at Ocean Grove and Wallington sporting reserves.

Table 3: Active Membership of Sporting and Recreation Groups (2019)

Outdoor Sports Clubs	Active Membership (2019)	Indoor Sports and Recreation Groups (Memorial Reserve Hall)	Active Membership (2019)
Bellarine Bears Baseball Club	100	Ocean Grove Badminton Club	58
Ocean Grove Cricket Club	191	Bellarine Table Tennis Club	56
Collendina Cricket Club	170	Ocean Grove Calisthenics College	76
Wallington Cricket Club	80	Soft Tennis	25
Ocean Grove FNC (Football Section)	301	Ocean Grove Pickleball	20
Ocean Grove Cobras Junior Football Club	400	1st & 2nd Ocean Grove Scout Group	46
Ocean Grove FNC (Netball Section)	176		281
Surfside Waves Soccer Club	280		
Ocean Grove Tennis Club	420*		
Sub-Total	2,118		2,118
TOTAL			2,399

* 2017 membership used, as membership in 2019 was impacted by the tennis clubroom redevelopment in 2018 & 2019

4.2 SHELL ROAD RESERVE

Shell Road Reserve is centrally located in Ocean Grove on the corner of Shell Road and Tuckfield Street. It is a sub-regional venue on the Bellarine Peninsula, and is the key sporting, recreation and community precinct in Ocean Grove (see Figure 3). The reserve has undergone significant development since the adoption of the OGSIP 2010. Key facilities considered during this study are:

- Ray Menzies Oval (football & cricket)
- two soccer pitches
- cricket practice nets (three lanes)
- four netball courts
- five tennis courts (publicly accessible) and clubroom
- main pavilion
- car parking and pedestrian paths.

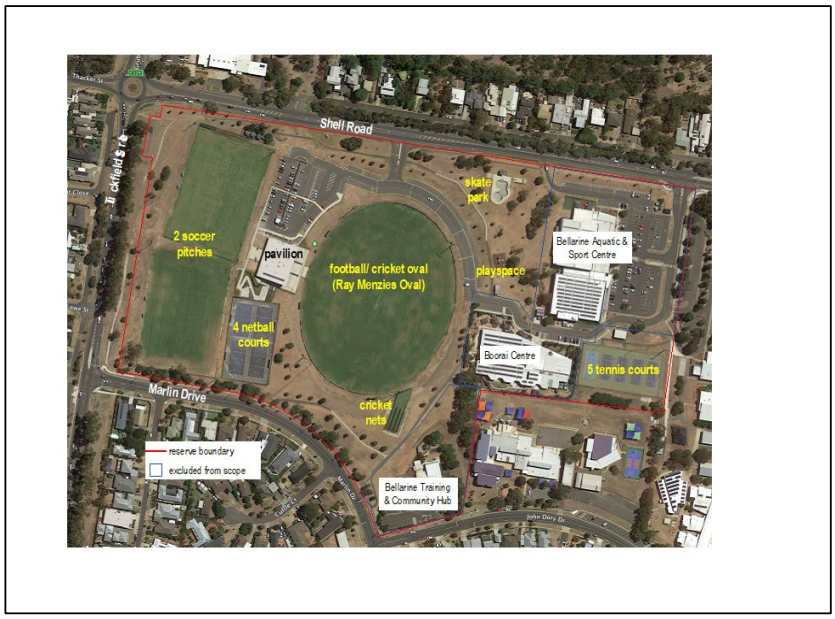


Figure 3: Shell Road Reserve

The following sporting clubs and groups are based at Shell Road Reserve, and their typical in-season usage is shown in Figure 4:

- Ocean Grove Football Netball Club
- Ocean Grove Cricket Club
- Surfside Waves Soccer Club.

Other groups that have semi-regular use of facilities at the reserve are the Shell Road Pavilion Board of Management, the Ocean Grove Tennis Club (tennis courts), AFL Barwon (netball courts on Tuesday evening), and the Cobras Junior Football Club (occasional use of Ray Menzies Oval).

WINTER SEASON	Oval	Cricket Nets	Soccer 1	Soccer 2	Netball Courts	Tennis Courts
Monday						
Tuesday						
Wednesday						
Thursday						
Friday						
Saturday						
Sunday						

SUMMER SEASON	Oval	Cricket Nets	Soccer 1	Soccer 2	Netball Courts	Tennis Courts
Monday						
Tuesday						
Wednesday						
Thursday			Women	Women		
Friday			Blasters	Blasters		
Saturday						
Sunday						

Ocean Grove Football Netball Club
Surfside Waves Soccer Club
Ocean Grove Cricket Club
Ocean Grove Tennis Club
AFL Barwon

Figure 4: In-season usage of Shell Road Reserve by clubs

4.2.1 Ocean Grove Football Netball Club

When the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club first relocated to Shell Road Reserve from Memorial Reserve in 2016, the reserve was able to accommodate all of its football training and match-day needs on the single oval. However, with the growth in the number of youth teams (U15, U17), plus the growing popularity of football for women, the club now requires the use of Memorial Reserve for some training, and for a majority of the senior women's matches.

Sustainable sports planning principles for mixed-gender football clubs that cater to both seniors and juniors support access to two ovals. Ideally, the ovals should be at the same location to optimally manage playing surfaces on the main oval, minimise volunteer workload, and maximise the social benefits and sport pathways for players.

The four existing netball courts have compliant dimensions and run-offs, player shelters and floodlighting to match standard. While the courts are in good condition, there is a general lack of seating and shelter for spectators who attend matches (although planning for new seating and shelter has commenced).

The total court usage is estimated to be at 60 per cent of capacity, which means there is capacity for additional training use. While the four existing netball courts should be adequate for the future netball training and competition needs of the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club, the Shell Road Reserve netball complex currently hosts an AFL Barwon netball competition and has potential to host other tournaments.

4.2.2 Surfside Waves Soccer Club

The Surfside Waves Soccer Club has grown to the point that the two soccer pitches at Shell Road Reserve are getting close to capacity (in 2019 one pitch was being used at 70 per cent capacity and the second pitch at 60 per cent of capacity). Compounding the emerging pitch capacity issue are constraints identified by the club with the design, access, and management of the pavilion. When the club's senior mens teams transferred from the local Geelong Region Soccer League to the higher-standard Football Victoria State League 5, teams were required to transfer their matches from

Friday evenings to Saturday afternoons. This may result in match-day clashes with the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club in the future.

The long-term co-location of the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club and Surfside Waves Soccer Club at Shell Road Reserve is not sustainable under the current usage and management arrangements. This is from the perspective of the continued growth and development of both clubs, as well as the ongoing financial sustainability of the Surfside Waves Soccer Club.

4.2.3 Ocean Grove Cricket Club

The Ocean Grove Cricket Club currently utilises Shell Road Reserve for senior and junior matches and for training. Due to the expansion of the club, it also utilises the oval and practice nets at Memorial Reserve. Similar to the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club, the ideal scenario for the Ocean Grove Cricket Club would be to have access to two ovals at the same location. This will enable most matches, currently scheduled at Memorial Reserve, to be scheduled at Shell Road Reserve.

The cricket practice nets generally comply with the preferred dimensions for enclosed practice pitches. The western pitch is tapered, so has an average length of 34 m (pitch, plus bowlers run-up) which is less than the preferred standard of 36 m. While the condition of the synthetic surface and fencing is good, the surface of the bowlers run-up area is uneven. There has also been ongoing issues for the Ocean Grove Cricket Club in that the practice nets are located away from the pavilion away from storage areas. This means all training equipment (including a bowling machine) must be transported from the pavilion store for every session. Currently, the club has to divide training between the practice nets at Shell Road Reserve and the nets at Memorial Reserve. An additional 1–2 practice net lanes at Shell Road Reserve would enable the club to consolidate all of its training at the reserve.

4.2.4 Reserve pavilion

The Shell Road Reserve pavilion was opened in 2016 and generally meets the preferred standards of the relevant sports peak bodies, with the exception of the netball accommodation on the lower level at the southern end of the pavilion. This has insufficient amenities and no umpire change rooms, or duty room. There are change rooms, amenities, canteens and storerooms on each level of the two-storey pavilion, which separately service the users of Ray Menzies Oval (lower level) and the soccer pitches (upper level). A large community social space on the upper level has views to both sports fields.

The Surfside Waves Soccer Club has identified that the canteen and referees' rooms are too small, and the club's access to the community social space is limited due to the high needs of the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club. The current pavilion management arrangements also prevent the Surfside Waves Soccer Club from receiving any revenue from bar sales at club functions. Combined, these issues have the potential to adversely impact the sustainability of the Surfside Waves Soccer Club in the longer term.

4.3 MEMORIAL RESERVE

Memorial Reserve was the main sporting reserve in Ocean Grove before Shell Road Reserve was developed, and is the former home of the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club and Ocean Grove Cricket Club (both clubs relocated to Shell Road Reserve in 2016). The reserve is located in the south-west of the town, between Draper Street and The Avenue (see Figure 5).

The Memorial Reserve Hall, a multipurpose community facility, is situated on the reserve as well as the 1st & 2nd Ocean Grove Scout Hall (the study did not include the detailed usage of the Scout group). Key facilities considered as part of this study include:

- the oval (football and cricket)
- cricket practice nets (three lanes)
- Memorial Reserve Hall
- social room
- car parking and pedestrian paths
- Scout Hall.



Figure 5: Birds-eye view of Memorial Reserve

The following sporting clubs use the oval at Memorial Reserve, and their typical in-season usage is shown in Figure 6:

- Ocean Grove Football Netball Club
- Ocean Grove Cobras Junior Football Club
- Ocean Grove Cricket Club

SUMMER SEASON	Oval	Cricket Nets	WINTER SEASON	Oval		Cricket Nets
Monday			Monday			
Tuesday			Tuesday			
Wednesday			Wednesday			
Thursday			Thursday			
Friday			Friday			
Saturday			Saturday			
Sunday			Sunday			

Ocean Grove Football Netball Club
Ocean Grove Cobras Junior Football Club
Ocean Grove Cricket Club

Figure 6: Seasonal use of Memorial Reserve

The following sporting clubs and recreation groups use the hall all year round, and their usage is shown in Figure 7. The Memorial Reserve Hall Committee of Management leases the hall from the City of Greater Geelong and manage its use on behalf of the user groups:

- Ocean Grove Badminton Club
- Bellarine Table Tennis Club
- Ocean Grove Calisthenics College
- Soft Tennis
- Ocean Grove Pickleball Club
- Matafit Bellarine.

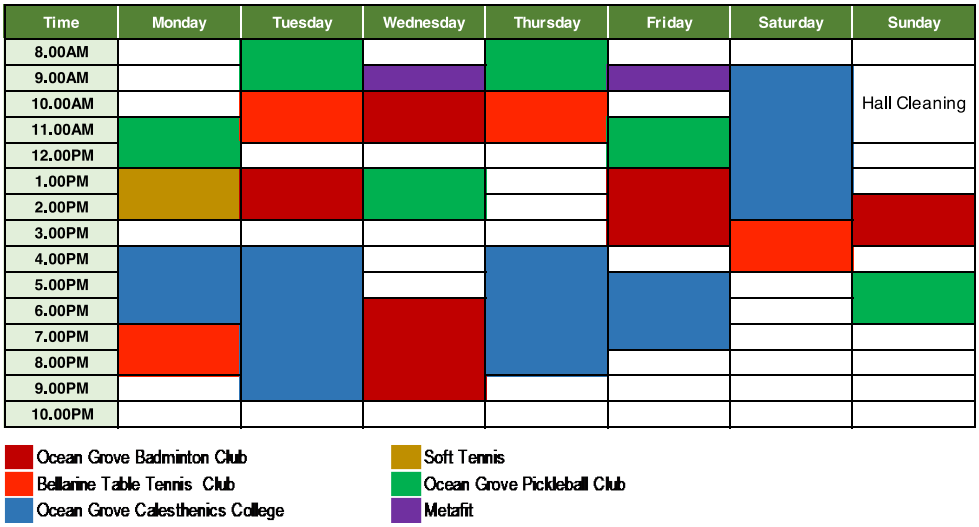


Figure 7: Use of the Memorial Reserve Hall

The 1st and 2nd Ocean Grove Scouts host over 50 participants and group leaders, offering four of the five available scouting sections: Joeys, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers. The Scout Hall is used Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week for its programs.

4.3.1 Football and cricket

The oval dimensions are 151 m x 103 m. It is fully fenced, has non-compliant floodlighting for football training, and the condition of the playing surface and synthetic cricket pitch are good. Whilst the oval width does not meet the AFL Victoria minimum standard of 110 m, it is suitable for junior football. With a 50 m radius, the dimensions also meet the Cricket Australia minimum size for open-aged community cricket. In winter, the estimated total weekly usage of the oval is 19 hours (80 per cent capacity).

The cricket practice nets comply with preferred dimensions. However, while the general condition of the fencing and the synthetic surfaces is good, the nets present poorly due to the untidy presentation of the rubber and hessian coverings that hang on the lower sections of the nets.

4.3.2 Memorial Reserve Hall and other associated infrastructure

The change rooms, the hall and the social room are separate spaces within the one building footprint. The two change rooms are in poor condition and, at 30 sqm each, are below the AFL Victoria preferred size of 45 sqm. Despite this, they are still adequate for junior football and senior cricket.

The amenity areas do not meet the minimum standards for any level due to the number of toilets and showers, as well as the open configuration of the showers (see right). The umpires room is also a single compartment with a shower only, and is not conducive to mixed-gender use.

The Memorial Reserve Hall is an important community sporting facility. While the hall and adjoining kitchenette are functional, it needs additional storage and seating/meeting space. The Ocean Grove Calisthenics College also requires access to safe and secure change rooms and toilet facilities. While there is currently dedicated storage bays at the western end of the hall (under the stage), additional storage space is a high priority and will likely require a building extension.

The social room is large for a local-level facility (approximately 150 sqm) and has an adjoining kitchen and bar that are all well-maintained and

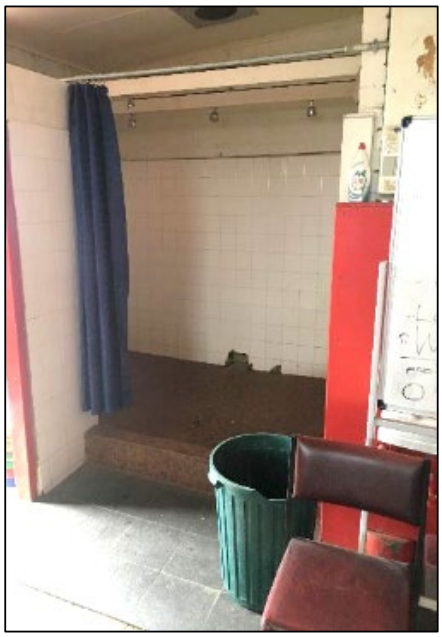


Photo: The Memorial Reserve Hall change facilities

functional. While the social room does not have any permanent user groups, it is currently available for groups to hire through the City's Property and Leasing Unit. Other than the Ocean Grove Calisthenics College, who could use the space for meetings and parents to sew costumes, no other potential use or group was identified during the study period. Having said that, this may change once the City's completes its *Bellarine Peninsula Seniors Activity Hub Feasibility Study* and if the City's Leasing Team decides to seek expressions of interest for future uses.

All Memorial Reserve Hall user groups, sports participants and spectators currently share a central public toilet block, which is functional and compliant. For the detailed condition and compliance audit report for Memorial Reserve refer to the Built Facilities Condition and Compliance Report.

The City has identified Memorial Reserve Hall as a potential satellite facility for additional indoor physical activity opportunities, including the Bellarine Keenagers – a recreational table tennis group for men and women of all skill levels and ages. The group would complement the existing clubs and support use of the hall as a 'seniors hub'.

The Ocean Grove Pickleball Club commenced use of the Memorial Reserve Hall in 2019, and since then both membership and usage of the hall have increased. Pickleball is a paddleball sport that combines elements of badminton, table tennis and tennis. A pickleball court has the dimensions and layout of a badminton court and a net and rules similar to tennis. It can be played indoors and outdoors. As the anticipated future demand for courts is not expected to be accommodated by existing indoor courts, the club suggested that outdoor courts be considered as part of the OGSIP 2022 study.

The 1st and 2nd Ocean Grove Scout Group is relatively self-sufficient within both the Scout Hall and large storage shed in the car park behind. The group has experienced growth, appears to be a stable and well-managed and has aspirations to increase its participant base in the next few years. While the Scout Hall requires some relatively minor upgrades, an additional unisex toilet and a kitchen upgrade would make the facility more welcoming and functional.

4.4 COLLENDINA RESERVE

Collendina Reserve is located in southeast Ocean Grove between Minerva Close and Bonnyvale Road, with entry via Minerva Close (see Figure 8). Key facilities considered during this study included:

- the oval (football and cricket)
- pavilion
- play space
- cricket practice nets (three lanes) and
- car parking and pedestrian paths.



Figure 8: A bird's-eye view of Collendina Reserve

The Collendina Cricket Club and the Cobras Junior Football Club are based at Collendina Reserve, and their typical in-season usage is shown in Figure 9. A local arts group and a fishing club also have regular use of the pavilion at the reserve. These two groups were not included in the consultation undertaking during this study, as these activities are outside of the study scope.

SUMMER SEASON	Oval	Cricket Nets
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday		

WINTER SEASON	Oval	Cricket Nets
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday		

Ocean Grove Cobras Junior Football Club
Collendina Cricket Club

Figure 9: In-season usage of Collendina Reserve

4.4.1 Football and cricket

The Collendina Reserve oval is 153 m x 110 m, is fully fenced and has new floodlighting to competition standard (100 lux). Both the playing surface and synthetic cricket pitch conditions are good, and are compliant for junior football and cricket. While the estimated total weekly usage of the oval in winter is 19 hours (80 per cent capacity), the young age of the footballers within the Cobras Junior Football Club (under 13 years) mean it is unrealistic for additional training to occur after 7.00pm. The oval is therefore functionally at capacity.

The Cobras Junior Football Club doubled team numbers 2010 and 2019 (now 16 teams). It has therefore had to utilise Memorial Reserve in recent seasons as an overflow venue for some training and matches.

The cricket practice nets comply with Cricket Australia's preferred dimensions. While the fencing condition is good, the synthetic surface in each net is of average condition, with tears and worn areas evident. If the number of teams increase, an additional lane may be required.

4.4.2 Reserve pavilion

The pavilion is setback from the oval and separated by the internal access road, which is not ideal. It comprises a social room with adjoining kitchen and combined canteen/bar, two change rooms with a shared amenity area, and a separate umpires change room with amenities. The social room, measuring 65 sqm, is small for a local-level reserve, and the Cobras Junior Football Club has identified that the clubroom is inadequate to accommodate club social functions and events.

The change rooms, measuring 30 sqm and 27 sqm, are below the AFL Victoria preferred size of 45 sqm, but are adequate for junior football. They also meet Cricket Australia's preferred standards for community club cricket. An amenities area shared between both change rooms does not meet the minimum standard for AFL Victoria and Cricket Australia for any level, and future upgrades need to support gender-neutral use.

The umpire's room is a single compartment and, while the toilet and shower are enclosed, the space is not conducive to mixed-gender use. For the detailed condition and compliance pavilion audit refer to the report undertaken by JMA Architects.

The reserve and its facilities generally work well for the Collendina Cricket Club. The pavilion non-compliances and declining condition of the cricket practice nets are the main issues for the club.



Photo: Collendina Reserve changeroom

4.5 ARTHUR POWELL RESERVE

Arthur Powell Reserve is located just north of Memorial Reserve, in Asbury Street East (see Figure 10). Key facilities considered during this study were:

- club tennis courts (western bank of five)
- publicly accessible tennis courts (eastern bank of two)
- car parking.



Figure 10: Arthur Powell Reserve

The Ocean Grove Tennis Club is the only user group at Arthur Powell Reserve. It has exclusive access to the five club courts all year, and utilises the 2 public courts for coaching and for Saturday junior competition, as shown in Figure 11.

ANNUAL	Club Courts	Public Courts
Monday	■	
Tuesday	■	■
Wednesday	■	■
Thursday	■	
Friday		
Saturday	■	■
Sunday		

■ Ocean Grove Tennis Club

Figure 11: Annual usage of the Arthur Powell Reserve courts



Photo: The two public courts at Arthur Powell Reserve

The club courts are in good condition, and are floodlit. The two public courts are not floodlit and are non-compliant, and the surface condition is poor. The clubroom is new and was opened in 2020.

The future growth and development of the Ocean Grove Tennis Club would be supported by upgrading and securing club access to the two public courts to help meet growing demand, as well as improving car parking.

The main issues with the public courts are as follows:

- The tennis court back run-offs are not compliant at the northern end of both courts and the south-east corner of the eastern court (needs to be a minimum of 5.48 m).
- Access to the courts is currently not Disability Discrimination Act compliant.
- The courts lack floodlights.
- The surface condition is poor (cracks) and is a non-cushioned hard court on an old asphalt base.

The non-compliant back run-offs are the result of constructing the courts up to the edge of the Asbury Street East road reserve in the south-east corner of the tennis compound (see Figure 12). The existing tennis compound is of sufficient area to accommodate two compliant tennis courts. However, the City does not support the expansion of the south-east corner into the road reserve to 'square-up' the tennis compound because of sub-surface infrastructure running along the road.



Figure 12: Public court approximate dimensions

4.6 WALLINGTON RECREATION RESERVE

Wallington Recreation Reserve is the only sports and active recreation open space in Wallington. It is a bushland reserve with significant vegetation within, and immediately outside, the reserve. It is located on Wallington Road, approximately 6 km from Ocean Grove town centre, and approximately 5.5 kms from Kingston Village in north Ocean Grove (See Figure 13). Key facilities considered during this study included:

- the oval (baseball and cricket)
- the pavilion
- cricket and baseball practice facilities
- the pigeon clubroom
- car parking and pedestrian paths
- five tennis/netball courts (publicly accessible)



Figure 13: Wallington Recreation Reserve

The Bellarine Bears Baseball Club and the Wallington Cricket Club are based at Wallington Recreation Reserve, and their typical in-season usage is shown in Figure 14. The Bellarine Pigeon Club has exclusive all-year access to its clubroom, located east of the tennis courts.

SUMMER SEASON	Oval/ Baseball Diamond	Cricket Nets	WINTER SEASON	Oval/ Baseball Diamond	Cricket Nets
Monday			Monday		
Tuesday			Tuesday		
Wednesday			Wednesday		
Thursday			Thursday		
Friday			Friday		
Saturday			Saturday		
Sunday			Sunday		

Bellarine Bears Baseball Club
Wallington Cricket Club

Figure 14: In-season usage of Wallington Recreation Reserve

4.6.1 Bellarine Bears Baseball Club

The Bellarine Bears Baseball Club serves a catchment area well beyond Wallington and Ocean Grove. While the club has grown slowly, but consistently, since 2010, it only has access to a single baseball diamond that has non-compliant facility infrastructure and inadequate sports lighting for training and matches (required, as it is a winter sport). The club is the only one in the Geelong Baseball Association with a women's team, and is pro-active in its programming and club development in that it has developed a two-lane indoor baseball training facility.

An important project for the ongoing development and growth of the club is to construct a compliant baseball diamond. A new and compliant baseball facility will enhance the overall standing and reputation of the club and, importantly, will also improve the safety of spectators and playground users from errant baseballs, while better protecting the pavilion.



Photo: Wallington Recreation Reserve

4.6.2 Wallington Cricket Club

The Wallington Cricket Club was established in 1948 and is a founding member of the Bellarine Peninsula Cricket Association. The club has experienced growth across its junior and senior membership base and has also established its first female senior women's team.

The pavilion redevelopment at Wallington Reserve, including female-friendly change rooms will be key to further support the club in providing compliant and welcoming facilities.

To assist the club with its growing membership base, it now also has access to Devlins Road Reserve as an overflow ground with the construction of synthetic wicket and the the provision of portable amenities in the last year.

4.6.3 Reserve pavilion

The pavilion is the former Wallington Public Hall, so the space and layout of the building were not initially designed for regular use by sporting clubs. The building is in good structural condition. The social room, which measures approximately 155 sqm, exceeds Cricket Australia and Baseball Victoria facility guidelines, and has an adjoining kitchen and combined bar/canteen. There is a large internal store, which has no direct external access.

The home change room and amenities area is approximately 25 sqm, and the away change and amenities area is approximately 18 sqm. These spaces are also being used as the male and female toilets, servicing the social room. The change rooms and amenities are below preferred standards for the respective sports associations. There are currently no umpire change rooms or first aid room, and the existing accessible toilet is not compliant. For the detailed condition and compliance audit report for the Wallington Recreation Reserve pavilion refer to the Built Facilities Condition and Compliance Report.

4.6.4 Bellarine Pigeon Club Building

The Bellarine Pigeon Club uses a shed located on what was previously a tennis court. It is used infrequently – mainly for registering birds prior to and following pigeon racing events – from June to October each year. The shed does not have connected water, and members and visitors have to use the old public toilet block located approximately 50 m away (between the shed and the pavilion).



Photo: Bellarine Pigeon Club Shed

4.6.5 Other reserve facilities

The reserve contains four asphalt tennis courts and one multipurpose court that is dual-lined for tennis and netball. No club or group is currently using the courts on a regular basis, and they are currently available and open to the public for recreational use.

The indoor/outdoor baseball training facilities, and the cricket practice nets, are in good condition and generally meet preferred standards.

4.7 DEVLINS ROAD RESERVE

Devlins Road Reserve is a new, partly constructed reserve. It is located in the northern growth corridor of Ocean Grove, off Gambier Street, and forms part of the new open space provided by the developers of the Kingston and Oakdene residential estates.

A senior football oval with synthetic cricket pitch has been constructed in the northern half of the reserve alongside a chain of wetlands and pedestrian paths. The southern section of the reserve has been set aside for additional sports fields and an associated pavilion, a play space, pedestrian paths and other landscape embellishments (see Figure 15).

The oval is not currently being used by a regular/permanent sports club. Instead, it is allocated by the City on an 'as needs' basis for various uses.

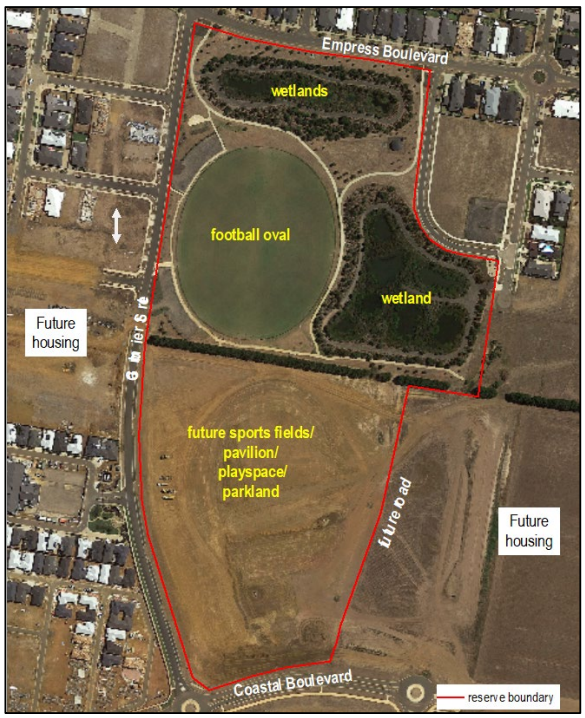


Figure 15: Devlins Road Reserve

5. Sports facility demand assessment

The following data sources and research information were used to assess the current and likely future demand for sporting facilities in Ocean Grove and Wallington to 2041.

5.1 POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS AND GROWTH

As reported in Section 3.2, there are a couple of indicators in demographic data that should be considered when planning sports facilities:

- The population of Ocean Grove and Wallington is projected to increase by 6,150 people to 2041.
- While it is projected that there will be an overall decrease in the proportion of the population in the active age cohort (5–39 years old), there will be an actual estimated increase of 2,200 in the number of people in this cohort by 2041.
- The high proportion of Australian-born residents suggests that football, soccer, cricket and tennis will remain popular outdoor sports for the community.

5.2 SPORTS FACILITY PROVISION RATIOS

One method for assessing the adequacy of sporting facilities within a defined area is sports facility provision ratios. This can also help predict the number of sporting facilities required to service new and emerging communities.

Provision ratios differ for each sport and work by calculating the population size required to sustain one sports field, one court, one pitch and so on. The provision ratios used in the OGSIP 2010 were the same benchmarks used in planning the Armstrong Creek Growth Corridor.

The provision ratios applied to this study are the same as those adopted by the City of Greater Geelong in the organisation's *Social Infrastructure Plan – Generation One 2020–2023.* These reflect more contemporary trends of participation for some sports, and are consistent with benchmarks endorsed by the respective state sporting associations for the planning of new facilities.

Table 4 identifies the sport provision ratios used in this study, and also include the ratios used in OGSIP 2010.

Sport Facility	Provision Ratio OGSIP 2022	Provision Ratio OGSIP 2010
Baseball diamond	1: 40,000	NA
Cricket oval	1: 4,000	1: 3,000
Football oval	1: 5,000	1: 4,500
Netball court (outdoor)	1: 7,070	1: 3,000
Soccer pitch	1: 5,000	1: 3,000
Tennis court	1: 3,000	NA

Table 4: Sport Provision Ratios

Applying the benchmarks to current sports facilities in Ocean Grove and Wallington led to the following findings:

- Baseball Diamond – the current baseball diamond is sufficient to meet current demand, and will continue to meet the projected demand up until 2041.
- Cricket Ovals* – there is a current surplus of two cricket ovals to meet current demand. However, the current six ovals will meet projected demand up until 2041.

- Football Ovals – the current four football ovals are sufficient to meet current demand. However, there will be a shortfall of one oval to meet projected demand up until 2041.
- Netball Courts – there is a current surplus of two netball courts to meet current demand, and this surplus will reduce to one court to meet projected demand up until 2041.
- Soccer Pitches – there is a shortfall of one soccer pitch to meet current demand. By 2041, the shortfall will increase to three soccer pitches.
- Tennis Courts – there is a current surplus of 11 tennis courts to meet current demand. The surplus of tennis courts will reduce to nine courts to meet the projected demand up until 2041.

* Note: For the purposes of the benchmarking process, the Bellarine Secondary College Oval was included as a community cricket oval, despite it not being a City-owned or managed sporting facility.

5.3 SPORTS PARTICIPATION TRENDS

The following participation trends in sport and physical activity – both broadly, and in Ocean Grove and Wallington – are important in giving context to demand for sporting facilities.

5.3.1 General participation trends – Victoria

AusPlay survey results for the period July 2018 to June 2019 (pre-COVID) highlighted the following relevant data for Victoria:

- Three of every four adults (15+ years) (75.5 per cent) participate in sport and physical activity 2+ times per week, whilst nearly two thirds (64.6 per cent) participate 3+ times per week.
- For adults, 18.7 per cent participated in sport-related activities only[3], 32.2 per cent in non-sport related activities[4] only, while 40.2 per cent participated in both sport and non-sport related activities.
- Figure 16 shows that, while sport remains an important form of activity throughout life, non-sport related physical activity becomes more important as we age.

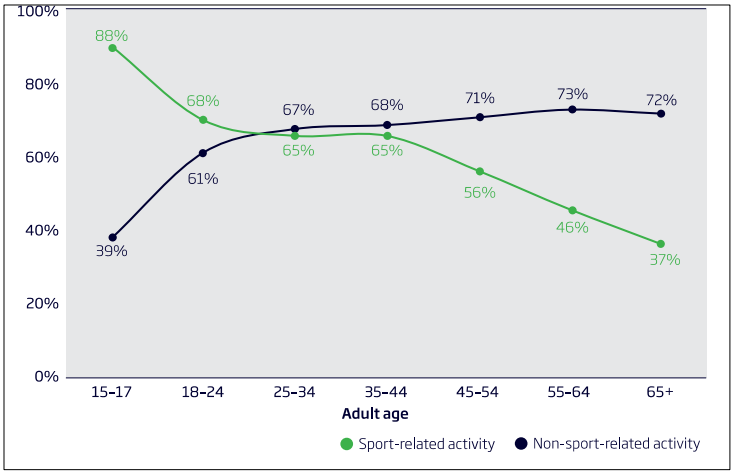


Figure 16: Adult Participation in Sport and Non-Sport Related Activity (AusPlay)

- There was a significant difference between adult male and female participation with sporting clubs/associations (see Table 5 below), which highlights the current preference females have for non-sport activities.

[3] These are typically activities related to National Sporting Organisations, although the participant may or may not play the activity through an affiliation with the NSO, ie. participated with a club/group or centre, such as the AFL
[4] These are typically activities such as walking, gym/fitness activities, bushwalking, etc.

- 62.7 per cent of children (0–14 years) participate in sport and recreation at least once per week, 37.2 per cent 2+ times per week, and less than a quarter (22.8 per cent) 3+ times per week.
- Table 6 shows swimming has the highest participation by children.
- Sports clubs are the primary avenue for children to be active, however, boys (50 per cent) are more likely to be active through a club than girls (33 per cent).

Table 5: Participation in recreation activities by gender

Gender	Sport	Fitness Club/Gym
Male	31.0%	33.2%
Female	16.7%	38.5%

Table 6: Most Popular Sports Boys & Girls 2019 (AusPlay)

BOYS		GIRLS	
Activity	Participation Rate	Activity	Participation Rate
Swimming	38.9%	Swimming	45.4%
Football	26.3%	Dancing	21.1%
Basketball	14.5%	Gymnastics	16.1%
Soccer	14.5%	Netball	12.1%
Cricket	11.2%	Basketball	8.8%
Tennis	9.6%	Soccer	7.4%

5.3.2 Sports participation trends for females

Giving girls and women adequate access to sporting facilities is a major step that will support increased female participation

Women and girls make up just over half the Victorian population. However, the male rate of participation in sport is double that of females. The issues affecting female participation are not new and certainly not unique to Victoria. Many are the result of deeply entrenched practices, cultural norms and stereotypes that are common and reinforced in broader society.

Historically, sporting facilities have been designed primarily to meet the needs of male participants. Today, many community sport and recreation facilities are still outdated, and in a broad range of venues they do not provide the range of amenities that attract and sustain participation by women and girls. However, research data recently published[5] provides evidence that the gap in participation in sport between Victorian males and females is closing, and may in part be explained by the increasing availability of female-friendly change rooms at sporting reserves. The study, which compared the number of all sports participants registered with 10 State Sporting Associations in 2015 and 2019, found that there had been an increase of 119,229 participants (or 0.8 per cent) over the five years – from 749,037 in 2015 to 868,266 in 2019. Female participation rose for all age ranges during the period 2015 to 2019 by a range of 3.9 per cent to 4.7 per cent, while for males it decreased by a range of 1.3 per cent to 3.8 per cent.

The City of Greater Geelong is committed to providing facilities that will support the participation of women and girls in active recreation. In the past few years, it has delivered a range of capital improvement projects throughout the municipality to build new female-friendly change rooms at sporting reserves, and to upgrade existing change rooms to be female-friendly.

[5] Five-Year Changes in Community-Level Sport Participation, and the Role of Gender Strategies, Federation University, October 2021

5.3.3 Impact of the COVID pandemic

The COVID pandemic has impacted rates of participation in all sports since the onset of restrictions from March 2020. Research data compiled by AusPlay in June 2021[6] found 80 per cent of adults and children who played organised sport before COVID-19 had returned to at least one of their sports by March 2021. However, restrictions on junior sport have resulted in a drop in the percentage of children who play organised sport outside of school hours at least once a week – from 55 per cent in 2019, to 43 per cent in 2020.

While there has been a dip in participation for some sports, there has been a rise in others. Males drove increases in golf, tennis, and mountain biking, while females contributed to increases in walking, running, bush walking, swimming and yoga participation. An estimated 253,000 more Australian adults participated in golf in 2020 compared with 2019, while 185,000 more participants played tennis.

While the current trends and data suggest that there may be fewer children returning/participating in organised sport compared to pre-pandemic levels for a few years, adult and older adult levels are expected to return to pre-pandemic levels in the next couple of years, assuming a return to some normality. Current trends suggest women and older Australians have been inclined to be more active during the pandemic, although not necessarily in traditional sporting environments[7]. The informal and social elements appear to be key drivers in this trend, suggesting opportunities for organised sport to consider.

Young Australians have been significantly impacted by the pandemic across many areas of social importance, and the concern for their levels of physical activity is further exacerbated by the concerns over their mental health. Sports clubs and associations should focus on fostering positive experiences to retain existing and returning players and volunteers. Social and inclusive environments are most likely to be attractive to a broad range of cohorts who have been particularly impacted by the pandemic and/or traditionally less engaged with sport.

For the purposes of facility planning for the OGSIP, it has been assumed that the overall demand for sporting facilities in Ocean Grove and Wallington won't be impacted in the long-term by the COVID pandemic in 2020 and 2021. Rather, it is likely that impacts will mainly be felt in the way that sporting clubs and other stakeholders engage with their participants/members, and deliver their activities.

5.3.4 Victorian participation trends for selected sports

Baseball

- Between 2010–11 and 2018–19, the number of club baseballers in Victoria decreased by 289 from 9,019 baseballers to 8,730 (⬇ 3.2 per cent). However, consecutive annual declines since 2010–11 were reversed between 2017–18 and 2018–19, when there was an increase of 421 baseballers (or spike of 5 per cent).
- In 2018–19, the ratio of female baseballers to male baseballers was 12:88 (a decrease share of one per cent from 2017–18), and the ratio of juniors to seniors was 41:59 (an increase share of three per cent from 2017–18).
- The average Victorian participation rate for 'club' baseball is 0.14 per cent for adults and children.

Cricket

- Between 2010 and 2013, the total number of club cricketers in Victoria decreased from 112,000 players to just less than 100,000. There was a decrease of 709 club teams (536 junior teams and 173 senior teams) in the corresponding period.
- However, between 2015 and 2019 there was a 17.5 per cent increase in club cricketers in Victoria – from 124,000 in 2015, to 145,692 in 2019. This included an increase of 414 senior and junior teams between 2018–19 and 2019–20 seasons.
- In 2019–20, the ratio of female cricketers to male cricketers was 9:91 – an increase share of one per cent compared to 2018–19. Between 2017 (9,433) and 2019 (13,193), there were an additional 3,760 female club cricketers – a 40 per cent increase.

[6] Ongoing Impact of COVID-19 on Sport and Physical Activity Participation, AusPlay, June 2021
[7] Emerging Trends in Sport Participation, Clearing House for Sport, November 2021

- The average Victorian participation rate for ‘club’ cricket is 2.3 per cent for adults and children (this includes entry level programs).

Football

- Between 2014 and 2018, the number of club footballers in Victoria increased from 145,000 players to more than 172,000 – a total increase of 27,000 players (⬆ 18.6 per cent).
- Much of this increase in participation is attributable to female football: between 2016 and 2018, the number of female teams increased from 355 teams to 997 teams (⬆ 180 per cent).
- Auskick participation plateaued in the three years to 2018, when there were 42,366 participants.
- The average Victorian participation rate for ’club’ football is 3.37 per cent for adults and children (includes Auskick).

Netball

- Since 2016, when the number of registered netballers peaked at 114,681, there has been a net decline of 2,859 players to 111,822 in 2019 (⬇ 2.5 per cent).
- There had been eight consecutive years of netball growth from 2009 to 2016 and it is not clear whether the increase in participation in football (triggered by the AFLW commencing in 2017) has contributed to this subsequent decline.
- The introductory NetSetGo! Program also peaked at 15,346 participants in 2016, and declined to 12,305 participants in 2019 (3,041 or ⬇ 19.8 per cent).
- The average Victorian participation rate for ‘club’ netball is 1.76 per cent for adults and children.
- Netball Victoria and AusPlay data does not differentiate between indoor and outdoor netball participation, nor is there any specific database tracking netball participation in football-netball leagues. In the past 10 years, there has been a large increase in the number of football leagues that have introduced netball – including leagues throughout the AFL Barwon Region. This has resulted in a large increase in the number of netballers participating in football netball leagues, however the membership split between football and netball cannot currently be quantified.

Soccer

- Between 2015 and 2019, the number of club-based soccer players in Victoria increased by 14,000 – from 62,000 players to 76,000 (⬆ 22.6 per cent).
- In 2019, the ratio of female players to male players was 21:79 (an increase share of one per cent from 2018), and the ratio of juniors to seniors was 78:22 (also an increase share of one per cent).
- Just on 12,100 females played soccer in 2016, increasing to 15,691 by 2019 (⬆ 29.7 per cent) – a higher rate of growth compared to the overall growth in participation over the same period.
- The average Victorian participation rate for ’club’ soccer is 1.20 per cent for adults and children (includes MiniRoos).

Tennis

- Between 2015 and 2019, the number of registered tennis players in Victoria increased from 108,331 players to 147,680 (⬆ 36.3 per cent).
- The number of book-a-court participants (recorded casual hire) in 2019 was 9,004 people.
- In 2019, there were 808 clubs throughout Victoria (a decrease of three clubs since 2015).
- Participation in the Hot Shots introductory program has increased significantly since 2016 – from 87,200 children registered, to 286,476 in 2019 (⬆ 230 per cent).
- The average Victorian participation rate in ‘organised’ tennis is 2.33 per cent for adults and children (excludes tennis coaching).

5.4 LOCAL RATES OF PARTICIPATION IN SPORT

Table 4 shows the aggregate of the active club membership in 2019 for each sport, and compares this with state participation averages for organised sport. The comparative data shows:

- Football had the highest club-based participation of all sports at 701 people, followed by cricket (441) and tennis (420).
- Of the six sports, the netball participation rate is the only one that does not exceed the corresponding statewide participation rate.

Club	Active Club Membership (2019)	Total Sport Participation (2019)	Participation Rate (Pop'n 17,500)	Victorian Sport Participation Rate (2019)	OG & Wallington vs Victoria
Bellarine Bears Baseball Club	100	100	0.57	0.14	
Ocean Grove Cricket Club	191	441	2.52	2.30	
Collendina Cricket Club	170				
Wallington Cricket Club	80				
Ocean Grove FNC (Football Section)	301	701	4.00	3.37	
Ocean Grove Cobras Junior Football Club	400				
Ocean Grove FNC (Netball Section)	176	176	1.00	1.76	
Surfside Waves Soccer Club	280	280	1.60	1.20	
Ocean Grove Tennis Club	420*	420	2.40	2.33	
TOTAL	2,118				

Participation below the State average
Participation above the State average

* 2017 membership used, as membership in 2019 was impacted by the tennis clubroom redevelopment in 2018 & 2019

Table 7: Comparison of Sports Club Membership to State Averages (2019)

Table 7 shows that there has been significant growth in the size of the team-based sporting clubs since the OGSIP 2010. This growth has created a corresponding increase in demand for access to facilities for training and competition.

Club	No. of Junior Teams		No. of Senior Teams	
	2010	2019	2010	2019
Bellarine Bears Baseball Club	1	2	3	5
Ocean Grove Cricket Club	6	11	4	5
Collendina Cricket Club	4	8	4	4
Wallington Cricket Club	1	0	2	3
Ocean Grove FNC (Football Section)	2	8	3	4
Ocean Grove Cobras Junior FC	8	16		
Ocean Grove FNC (Netball Section)	11	17	4	5
Surfside Waves Soccer Club	12	19	4	2
TOTAL	45	81	24	28

Table 8: Comparison of Team Numbers of Clubs Between 2010 and 2019

Between 2010 and 2019, there was a 60 per cent increase in the total number of teams across all sports, or a 36 per cent increase in the number of junior teams, and a 17 per cent increase in the number of senior teams.

6. Stakeholder engagement

A combination of meetings, interviews, and site inspections were carried out with stakeholders during the study, which included sports clubs and recreation groups.

Some of the consultation was undertaken during the research phase of the study, whilst other meetings and interviews were convened to receive feedback on preliminary study directions, and feedback on draft reserve master plans and pavilion concept floor plans.

The information collected from and contributed by stakeholders informed the development of the OGSIP 2022. Below is a high-level chronological summary of the stakeholder engagement carried out throughout the study.

Date	Method of Consultation	Group/Stakeholder
October 2019	Project Start-Up Meeting	Project Working Group
November 2019	Club questionnaire	All sporting clubs
Nov/Dec 2019	First round meetings	All sporting clubs Shell Road Reserve Pavilion Board of Management Memorial Reserve Hall user groups, 1st & 2nd Ocean Grove Scout Group, Bellarine Pigeon Club, Ocean Grove Community Association, Surfside Primary School, Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School
January 2020	Project Meeting #2	Project Working Group
May 2020	Project Meeting #3	Project Working Group
	Telephone meetings facilitated by the Project Manager	All sporting clubs
July 2020	Online workshop	Ocean Grove Football Netball Club, Cobras Junior Football Club, Surfside Waves Soccer Club, Ocean Grove Cricket Club, Collendina Cricket Club
August 2020	Project Meeting #4	Project Working Group
Aug to Dec 2020	Various telephone and online meetings facilitated by the Project Manager	Ocean Grove Football Netball Club Cobras Junior Football Club
November 2020	Workshop to review 'Shell Road Reserve Oval 2 Viability Assessment Report'	Project Manager
April to July 2021	Various online meetings during the preparation of preliminary reserve	Project Manager

Date	Method of Consultation	Group/Stakeholder
	master plans and pavilion concept floor plans	
Aug/Sept 2021	Online Workshops Review reserve master plans	Ocean Grove Football Netball Club, Cobras Junior Football Club, Surfside Waves Soccer Club, Ocean Grove Cricket Club, Collendina Cricket Club, Memorial Reserve Hall Committee of Management, Bellarine Bears BC, Wallington Cricket Club
November 2021	Meetings facilitated by the Project Manager for final review of draft master plans and pavilion concept floor plans	Ocean Grove Football Netball Club, Cobras Junior Football Club, Surfside Waves Soccer Club, Ocean Grove Cricket Club, Collendina Cricket Club, Memorial Reserve Hall user groups, Bellarine Bears BC, Wallington Cricket Club, Bellarine Pigeon Club
TBA	Public Exhibition of the draft Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan	Stakeholders, residents

Table 9: Stakeholder engagement timetable

The first round of meetings with sports clubs and recreation groups were informed by a club/group questionnaire, which was distributed prior to the meetings. Key outcomes from the first round of meetings was used during the facilities demand assessment process, and the formulation of directions for new/upgraded facilities.

The major issues and opportunities identified by clubs and groups have been reported below, grouped according to reserve.

The City's project manager facilitated consultation with key stakeholders about preliminary study directions.

6.1 SHELL ROAD RESERVE USER GROUPS

6.1.1 Ocean Grove Football Netball Club (football section)

- Two ovals are considered adequate for the future needs of the club, However, the club would prefer the two ovals be at the same reserve.
- The club identified a need for the following upgrades: elevated coaches boxes, floodlights on the Ray Menzies Oval to be increased to 150 lux, and the installation of back netting behind the southern goals.
- There's support for the conversion of the soccer pitches to a second reserve oval, and the conversion of the 'soccer' change rooms to a gymnasium/women's changeroom.
- Memorial Reserve change rooms were described as being not appropriate for females.

6.1.2 Ocean Grove Football Netball Club (netball section)

- The club currently uses the four netball courts at Shell Road Reserve, which are considered adequate for future needs.
- Not enough toilets in the netball change rooms.
- Need additional seating and shelters for netball spectators.
- Little opportunity for the netballers to use their gym equipment.

6.1.3 Ocean Grove Cricket Club

- The club currently use the ovals at Shell Road Reserve and Memorial Reserve and, while two ovals are considered adequate for future needs, the club would prefer that access to be at the same reserve.
- The club currently use the three lane cricket practice nets at Shell Road Reserve and the three lane practice nets at Memorial Reserve.

- Shell Road Reserve cricket practice nets require upgrade and expansion by two lanes to enable all club training to be consolidated at Shell Road Reserve.
- If the practice nets remain in their current location, they require car parking in the vicinity and a storage shed (club currently stores the bowling machine in the pavilion and has to drive it to the nets each session). Another option would be to move the practice nets closer to the pavilion.
- Any additional storage near the nets could be a shared space by cricket and football.
- Cricket teams do not use the Memorial Reserve social room, as the rental fee is too high. Instead, teams use the change rooms for the afternoon tea break.

6.1.4 Surfside Waves Soccer Club

- The club currently use the two pitches at Shell Road Reserve, however representatives believe that three pitches are required to meet current and future needs.
- The club is experiencing constraints in terms of access and use of the Shell Road Reserve pavilion, which is impacting upon the club's future sustainability.

6.2 MEMORIAL RESERVE HALL USER GROUPS

6.2.1 Memorial Reserve Hall Committee of Management

- The hall has a high occupancy rate.
- Most user groups have inadequate storage.

6.2.2 Ocean Grove Badminton Club

- The club needs additional storage for net posts, which are currently stacked in the hall entrance passage.

6.2.3 Bellarine Table Tennis Club

- The club sets up six tables in the hall and accommodates social play only. It does not enter teams in competitions.
- Additional space is needed for table storage, as the current area is only just big enough to store the 12 half tables.

6.2.4 Soft Tennis

- Facility and storage are adequate for the group's needs.

6.2.5 Ocean Grove Pickleball Club

- The club commenced use of the hall in November 2019 and uses the three badminton courts and nets.
- The club needs secure storage for its equipment.
- There is potential demand for up to six courts, but only three courts are able to be set up in the hall. Outdoor pickleball courts are an option at Memorial Reserve, Shell Road Reserve, and also at Wallington Recreation Reserve.

6.2.6 Ocean Grove Calisthenics College

- Occasionally the college will hire the adjoining Scout Hall when it has a large group to accommodate. All competitions are held at other venues (July to October).
- Equipment storage is the main issue. Many areas within and around the hall are used, and offsite storage for props is costing in excess of $2,000 per annum. The college would prefer one central storage solution at the hall.
- There is a lack of change rooms suitable for children who come straight from school. The college has never had access to the football and cricket change rooms. Even if they did, the current condition of the change rooms would not be suitable.
- Children are not permitted to go to the internal toilets on their own, as the public have 24-hour access to the front section of the toilets.

6.3 COLLENDINA RESERVE USER GROUPS

6.3.1 Ocean Grove Cobras Junior Football Club

- The club currently use the ovals at Collendina Reserve and Memorial Reserve, and occasionally use Shell Road Reserve.
- The club considers two ovals adequate for its current needs, with an additional oval potentially required within five years.
- The current change rooms/amenities are not female-friendly and there is no disabled access/facilities.
- The small pavilion social room results in the club having to hold social functions and large club events offsite.
- There is currently no safe vehicle and pedestrian access around the pavilion and to the oval, and the location of the playground in relation to the reserve access road creates a safety issue.
- The is a lack of off-road car parking on the main days – Friday night, Saturday and Sunday.
- The club currently only uses the change rooms and one of the internal stores at Memorial Reserve for game day. The change rooms require an upgrade.
- Upgraded floodlighting at Memorial Reserve would provide more opportunities for training and potentially night games.

6.3.2 Collendina Cricket Club

- The club uses the ovals at Collendina Reserve and the Bellarine Secondary College oval, which are considered adequate for future needs.
- The cricket practice nets are in poor condition and a fourth lane is required to better meet current and future needs.

6.4 ARTHUR POWELL RESERVE (OCEAN GROVE TENNIS CLUB)

- The club considers that the seven courts at Arthur Powell Reserve are required to meet current and future club member needs, with access to the five public courts at Shell Road Reserve also required to continue as overflow courts.
- The five club courts at Arthur Powell Reserve are at capacity for juniors.
- The two public courts at Arthur Powell Reserve and the five courts at Shell Road Reserve are often vandalised.
- The club would like to re-surface the two public courts at Arthur Powell Reserve and install floodlights.
- The club would like to provide for disabled tennis on the two hard courts, however they need to be squared off in the southeast corner to achieve compliance.
- Improved car parking is required, and there is no compliant disabled car parking.

6.5 WALLINGTON RECREATION RESERVE USER GROUPS

6.5.1 Bellarine Bears Baseball Club

- The club currently use one non-compliant baseball diamond at Wallington Recreation Reserve, although floodlights are required to allow outdoor training times to be extended.
- The club require a second diamond (which could have a shorter outfield), as scheduling will become difficult for additional teams at the reserve with only one diamond.
- Left foul fence needs to be extended to regulation height, as foul balls are hit into the playground.
- Improved change room and amenities are required, especially for females.

6.5.2 Wallington Cricket Club

- The club currently use the oval at Wallington Recreation Reserve and Ervin Reserve (Newcomb) as overflow ovals.
- While two ovals are considered adequate for future needs, the club would prefer that the second oval be at a venue within the Ocean Grove/Wallington district.
- The club believe a third lane at the cricket practice nets will be required if there is additional growth in teams.
- More and better toilets are needed to service the change rooms and the social room, and the size and condition of the change rooms is not adequate.

6.5.3 Bellarine Pigeon Club

- The club utilises a shed adjacent to the tennis courts, which contains equipment and a small social area.
- Members are required to use the outdoor toilet block, which is in poor condition and approximately 50 metres from the shed.

6.6 OTHER GROUPS

6.6.1 Ocean Grove Community Association

- Shell Road Reserve has paths within it, but the connecting paths to the reserve – from the aquatics centre and from Shell Road – are very poor.
- For Memorial Reserve, the group suggested the installing an outdoor fitness trail.
- The group suggested that a croquet club would be a good addition for Ocean Grove.

6.6.2 Surfside Primary School

- The school oval and two netball courts are in poor condition, but could be made available for community use if they were in better condition.

6.6.3 Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School

- The school use the Shell Road Reserve oval and the cricket practice wickets at recess and lunchtimes, and occasionally for Physical Education classes.

7. Anticipated future supply needs

The research and stakeholder consultation conducted during the OGSIP 2022 study support the future supply of sports facilities for Ocean Grove and Wallington as shown in Table 10.

This section summarises the key planning inputs informing the need for the above facilities by 2041.

Sport	Required by 2041
Baseball	2 diamonds
Cricket	7 ovals
Football	5 ovals
Netball (outdoor)	6 courts
Soccer	4 pitches
Tennis	17 courts

Table 10: Required future sporting facilities for Ocean Grove and Wallington

7.1 CONSTRAINTS AND ISSUES

The following key constraints and issues were identified during the study:

1. Football and cricket ovals are currently provided at single oval venues, which makes club logistics, operations and team culture more difficult.
2. There is no capacity for senior, womens and youth/junior football and cricket participation to grow on the single oval at Shell Road Reserve. As such, the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club teams and Ocean Grove Cricket Club teams have had to disperse across two reserves.
3. There is no capacity for soccer participation to grow on the two pitches at Shell Road Reserve, and the Surfside Waves Soccer Club is experiencing constrained access and use of the Shell Road Reserve pavilion, which is impacting on the club's future sustainability.
4. The netball courts and pavilion at Shell Road Reserve are not meeting current needs for netball.
5. The Memorial Reserve and Collendina Reserve pavilions are not fit-for-purpose for cricket and football, particularly for female participants.
6. The two public tennis courts at Arthur Powell Reserve are not compliant and are in poor condition. If upgraded to community club standard, it would resolve current and longer-term constraints expected to impact the Ocean Grove Tennis Club.
7. The baseball diamond at Wallington Recreation Reserve does not comply with Baseball Victoria preferred facility standards.
8. The Wallington Recreation Reserve pavilion is not fit-for-purpose for cricket and baseball, particularly for female participants.

7.2 TRENDS AND DRIVERS OF CHANGE

The following trends and drivers of change are impacting upon the adequacy of current sporting facilities, and the likely future demand for facilities.

1. Population growth is creating a shortage of grounds and associated sporting facilities. The population of Ocean Grove and Wallington has increased by more than 5,000 since 2010, and is projected to increase by an additional 6,150 people to 2041.
2. Increased female participation in sport has highlighted that some facilities are not adequate or compliant for female use, particularly change rooms and associated amenities. Since 2010, the following female teams have been formed:
   - one senior womens football team
   - two youth girls football teams
   - one junior girls football team
   - one senior womens cricket team
   - two junior girls cricket teams
   - two junior girls soccer teams
   - one senior womens baseball team.
3. The sport participation rates of Ocean Grove and Wallington residents exceed average Victorian participation rates for most sports.
4. The national and state sporting bodies for football, cricket, soccer, netball, tennis and baseball have developed facility standards and guidelines to inform what is acceptable and compliant in relation to fields of play and off-field infrastructure. When existing facilities in Ocean Grove and Wallington are assessed against these standards, some are shown to be non-compliant or not fit-for-purpose due to their age and condition, or lack of female-friendly facilities.
5. Sports planning principles for sustainable senior/junior pathways, and mixed gender sporting clubs, support all teams being based at the same location where possible to maximise the social benefits and sport pathways for players and officials, and to reduce the workload on volunteers. Consolidation of teams at one location also optimises financial benefits for clubs.
6. To be cost-effective and minimise unnecessary duplication of facilities, sporting facilities should be co-located and support shared use through multipurpose/flexible facilities.

7.3 OCEAN GROVE SPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

The key strategic directions of OGSIP 2022 are:

1. To relocate the Surfside Waves Soccer Club to Devlins Road Reserve.
2. To convert the existing soccer pitches at Shell Road Reserve to a second oval suitable for football and cricket.
3. To upgrade the hall at Memorial Reserve and enhance the reserve to make it a more attractive informal open space, while retaining the capability of the reserve to accommodate junior football and cricket matches.

The following recommendations for new and upgraded sporting facilities respond to the constraints and issues identified, and perceived opportunities for development of sustainable sport facilities.

Devlins Road Reserve	• Develop soccer pitches and a pavilion in the southern section of the reserve and relocate the Surfside Waves Soccer Club to the reserve. • Seasonally allocate the northern oval to the Surfside Waves Soccer Club for junior soccer as the priority winter sport, and to the Cobras Junior Football Club for overflow junior football, as may be required and can be scheduled around soccer use. • Seasonally allocate the northern oval to the Wallington Cricket Club as its overflow oval.
Shell Road Reserve	• Construct a second oval on the site of the two soccer pitches and upgrade other infrastructure, as required, including modifications to the pavilion's western change rooms, amenities and canteen, to better service the second oval user groups.

	• Following the construction of a second oval, integrate some of the Cobras Junior Football Club training and match day needs on the oval, and facilitate increased use of the pavilion social room by the club, particularly for social functions and events that exceed the capacity of the Collendina Reserve pavilion. • Upgrade and expand the cricket practice facilities (one additional lane), and provide an adjacent cricket store. • Construct one additional netball court (as a show court), and provide fit-for-purpose off-court netball facilities. • Retain and upgrade the public tennis courts and, when demand arises, overlay line marking for pickleball on to two courts.
Memorial Reserve	• Enhance the reserve as a more attractive informal open space, while retaining the capability of the reserve to accommodate junior football and cricket matches for the Cobras Junior Football Club and Ocean Grove Cricket Club. • Remove surplus sporting infrastructure and contain vehicle car parking and access to the southern end to primarily service the hall and the 1st and 2nd Ocean Grove Scouts. • Provide fit-for-purpose and gender-neutral player and umpire change rooms as part of an integrated upgrade of the Memorial Reserve Hall and social rooms. • Upgrade Memorial Reserve Hall to better provide for the user groups and create additional storage space.
Collendina Reserve	• Continue to use the reserve for cricket (Collendina Cricket Club) and for junior football (Cobras Junior Football Club). • Upgrade the pavilion to provide compliant and gender-neutral player and umpire change rooms, and improved social and kitchen facilities. • Construct new internal roads and car parking to improve user safety, and introduce a new path network and other landscape embellishments to encourage increased community recreational use.
Arthur Powell Reserve	• Reconstruct the two public tennis courts into two new compliant acrylic courts with floodlights. • Allocate the new courts to the Ocean Grove Tennis Club for a total of seven onsite courts, making sure they remain accessible to the public via a book-a-court system when not required by the club (in accordance with the City of Greater Geelong's *Fair Play Strategy 2017*).
Wallington Recreation Reserve	• Continue to use the reserve for cricket (Wallington Cricket Club) and for baseball (Bellarine Bears Baseball Club). • Construct a compliant senior baseball diamond, and master plan for a future second diamond. • Upgrade the pavilion to provide fit-for-purpose and gender-neutral player and umpire change rooms, and improved social and kitchen facilities. • Retain the tennis and netball courts as publicly accessible facilities.

7.4 OUTCOMES

The above new and upgraded facility developments, and usage recommendations, will result in the following outcomes for club sport in the Ocean Grove and Wallington district:

1. The anticipated future growth of soccer, and sustainable club operations for the Surfside Waves Soccer Club, will be catered for at the Devlins Road Reserve.
2. A new second oval at Shell Road Reserve will help cater to the demand identified in the demand analysis for football, which confirmed a long-term need for access to four ovals in Ocean Grove (refer to the Shell Road Reserve Oval 2 Viability Assessment Report in Appendix 3).
3. A new second oval and netball show court at Shell Road Reserve will help to consolidate the reserve as a district-level facility, with some sub-regional components.
4. A new second oval at Shell Road Reserve will help further integrate the junior, senior and female football pathways in Ocean Grove, and will enable increased use of the pavilion social room by the Cobras Junior Football Club for large functions and events.
5. The improved pavilion facilities for both the Cobras Junior Football Club and the Collendina Cricket Club, including gender-neutral change rooms, will better accommodate female participation opportunities for both clubs, and improved traffic and pedestrian networks throughout the reserve.
6. The scale and scope of change room and amenity upgrades at Memorial Reserve can be contained to facilities required for junior football and cricket matches, providing opportunities to upgrade the Memorial Reserve Hall to better cater for the needs of its user groups, and enables some of the open space areas within the reserve to be developed for improved recreational and amenity outcomes for local residents. Infrastructure improvements are pending further detailed design and full safety and services assessments.
7. The anticipated future growth of tennis, and sustainable club operations for the Ocean Grove Tennis Club, will be catered for at the Arthur Powell Reserve. The upgrade of the two public courts will also result in better quality and floodlit courts available for public hire.
8. The anticipated future growth of baseball, and sustainable club operations for the Bellarine Bears Baseball Club, will be catered for at Wallington Recreation Reserve – particularly by providing compliant baseball playing facilities, as well as gender-neutral player and umpire change rooms.
9. The new cricket pitch on the northern oval at Devlins Road Reserve, installed in 2021, will improve recruiting and match-day opportunities for the Wallington Cricket Club.

Table 11 shows that the OGSIP sports facility recommendations will only leave soccer potentially under-provided for by 2041, based on industry benchmarks. However, the future development of the southern portion of Devlins Road Reserve, combined with the northern oval, have the potential to provide up to five pitches, given that competition requires a mix of senior and junior-sized pitches. A major soccer facility with five pitches is being developed in Drysdale, which will also help cater to any future shortfalls in Ocean Grove.

Sport	Current Provision	Facilities Required in 2041 (Population: 23,650)	Provision inclusive of OGSIP Recommendations	Difference + = surplus - = shortfall
Baseball Diamonds (Provision Ratio: 40,000)	1 diamond	1 diamond	2 diamonds	+1 diamond
Cricket Ovals * (Provision Ratio: 4,000)	6 ovals	6 ovals	7 ovals	+1 oval
Football Ovals (Provision Ratio: 5,000)	4 ovals	5 ovals	5 ovals	0 ovals
Netball Courts (outdoor) (Provision Ratio: 7,070)	5 courts	4 courts	6 courts	+2 courts
Soccer Pitches (Provision Ratio: 5,000)	2 pitches	5 pitches	4 pitches	-1 pitch
Tennis Courts (Provision Ratio: 3,000)	17 courts	8 courts	17 courts	+9 courts

* Bellarine Secondary College oval has been counted as cricket only

Table 11: Comparison between sports facility benchmarks vs facility recommendations

8. Reserve planning and directions

This section contains a summary of the issues and opportunities considered for each reserve.

For three reserves – Shell Road Reserve, Collendina Reserve and Wallington Recreation Reserve – a reserve master plan has been prepared. A pavilion concept plan has been prepared for Shell Road Reserve, Wallington Recreation Reserve and Memorial Reserve. The key directions for these plans are discussed below.

8.1 DEVLINS ROAD RESERVE

Devlins Road Reserve is a new public open space designed to service the sporting and recreational needs of the new community of Ocean Grove in the north-east growth area. The land developer is responsible for delivering those components of the reserve outlined in the Section 173 Agreement. The overall development of the reserve will be a combination of works carried out by the developer, as well as additional works delivered by the City of Greater Geelong.

8.1.1 Sports analysis and future directions

The northern oval has been constructed in accordance with the master plan that forms part of the Section 173 Agreement, and which is currently being reviewed. The northern and southern areas of the reserve are likely to include sports fields, a multipurpose pavilion, a playground and other park equipment. In 2021, a synthetic surface cricket pitch was installed on the northern oval. Whilst the proposed reserve pavilion has not yet been constructed, the City has made portable change rooms available onsite. Currently, no sporting clubs are permanently or seasonally allocated to the oval. Instead, the City allocates it on a casual basis for pre-season football training and other informal uses.

The southern area of the reserve has not been constructed and could be developed as a new home for soccer in Ocean Grove. The available area is sufficient for two senior soccer pitches (105 m x 68 m) in the preferred north-south orientation. It is also possible for a third soccer pitch to fit within the land available, south of the above two pitches, in an east-west orientation. Two junior soccer pitches (90 m x 50 m), or one senior pitch, can fit in a north-south orientation on the northern oval.

If developed in this way, Devlins Road Reserve could increase the total available pitches to three senior pitches and two junior pitches, thereby significantly increasing the Surfside Waves Soccer Club's capacity to absorb future growth in soccer participation. The relocation of the club to Devlins Road Reserve would also give the club seasonal access to a pavilion for social functions, allowing it to benefit directly from bar and canteen sales.

The recently installed cricket pitch on the northern oval will provide an overflow cricket ground for the Wallington Cricket Club in summer. This will enable the club's 3rd XI cricket team to play locally, but more importantly will give the club direct access to the growth area community as a new recruiting zone, allowing it to use the reserve as a venue for cricket introductory programs and for future junior training and matches.

8.2 SHELL ROAD RESERVE

Shell Road Reserve is the premier sporting, recreation and community precinct in Ocean Grove. The reserve has undergone significant development in the past 10 years and currently accommodates the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club, the Surfside Waves Soccer Club and the Ocean Grove Cricket Club. A range of other sporting, recreational and educational groups also utilise facilities in the eastern section of the reserve. However, these are outside the scope of this study.

8.2.1 Sports analysis and future directions

Football

During the OGSIP 2022 study, a detailed viability assessment of the three ovals was undertaken to assess whether they would be adequate to cater for the future football needs of the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club and the Cobras Junior Football Club (refer to the Shell Road Reserve Oval 2 Viability Assessment Report).

The three ovals assessed were the existing Ray Menzies Oval and proposed second oval at Shell Road Reserve, and the oval at Collendina Reserve. Some of the key findings of the viability assessment were:

- Ray Menzies Oval is at 100 per cent usage capacity.
- Based on pre-COVID football participation levels (2019), it is projected that 2041 player numbers will increase by 110 male players and 184 female players.
- Converted to teams, the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club will likely grow by one additional senior mens team, two senior womens teams, two youth boys teams and two youth girls teams, with the Cobras Junior Football Club projected to grow by two boys teams and five girls teams.
- The anticipated total number of teams in 2041 (42) will require up to 21 matches to be completed across all three ovals on any given weekend during the football season – an average of seven games per oval, or 3–4 per weekend day. Whilst this usage per oval is comparable to many ovals in metro Melbourne and regional Victoria, particularly at reserves with single ovals that accommodate senior and junior football clubs, the current fixturing of junior football only allows three matches to be completed on Saturday and Sunday mornings (on average). Based on this finding, Memorial Reserve will be required to accommodate some junior football matches each weekend.

Extensive site planning and scenario analysis has taken place to determine the optimal location and size of a second oval at Shell Road Reserve. Key considerations during the planning were:

- The footprint of the new oval and associated infrastructure needs to be located within the boundary of the reserve (owned by the City of Greater Geelong).
- The new oval ideally should be sized to accommodate compliant playing surfaces for senior football and cricket (including run-offs).

The maximum oval dimensions possible are 141 m long x 106 m wide for football (includes 4 m boundaries). For cricket, an oval of minimum 53 m radius is possible (includes 3 m boundaries).

The re-purposing of the two soccer pitches into a second oval also creates opportunities for a multipurpose active recreation space at the southern end of the site. This would be suitable for under-age football training and match day warm-ups.

Netball

The re-purposing of the two soccer pitches into a second oval would open an opportunity to construct a 5th netball court that can be developed as a show court. This would complement and support the facility's use as an AFL Barwon netball competition venue, giving it the potential to host other netball tournaments.

Cricket

Similar to the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club, the ideal scenario for the Ocean Grove Cricket Club would be to have access to two ovals at the same location to enable most senior and junior matches to be scheduled at Shell Road Reserve. This would increase support for the lower-level senior and junior matches that are currently scheduled at Memorial Reserve, and increase the sense of club belonging.

The extension of the cricket practice nets by an additional 1–2 lanes would enable the club to consolidate all of its training at Shell Road Reserve. Onsite storage at the nets would also resolve the challenges created by needing to transport training equipment from the pavilion store for each session.

8.2.2 Reserve master plan and pavilion upgrade plan

See Figure 17 for the Shell Road Reserve Master Plan, which shows the following key improvement projects that will create more sustainable football, cricket and netball participation opportunities. The plan also supports a range of other reserve infrastructure enhancements to improve visitor experiences for non-sporting users of the reserve.

1. Construction of a second football/cricket oval with floodlighting and player shelters.
2. New multipurpose active recreation space.
3. New acrylic netball court (show court), courtside storage and netball umpire duty room.
4. New terraced spectator seating along the netball courts, as part of the project to connect the existing courts and the proposed show court.
5. Upgrade and expansion of the cricket practice nets to four lanes, and installation of an adjacent cricket store.
6. Resurface the public tennis courts and upgrade the floodlighting, plus overlay line marking for eight pickleball courts on two tennis courts (refer Section 4.3.2 for more information concerning pickleball).
7. Upgrade and extension of the pedestrian path network.
8. Construction of additional off-road car parking.
9. Upgrade to the play space.
10. Increase tree planting throughout the reserve.

With the proposed second oval being developed for football and cricket use, it is necessary to re-purpose the existing soccer change rooms, on the western side of the pavilion, to provide two football/cricket change rooms and associated amenities, and a football store.

Figure 18 is a pavilion upgrade plan that shows the above works, and also an expansion of the canteen to service the second oval, and the reconfiguration of the existing netball spaces to provide two change rooms and associated amenities, and a club administration room. Figure 19 shows the proposed floor plan once completed.

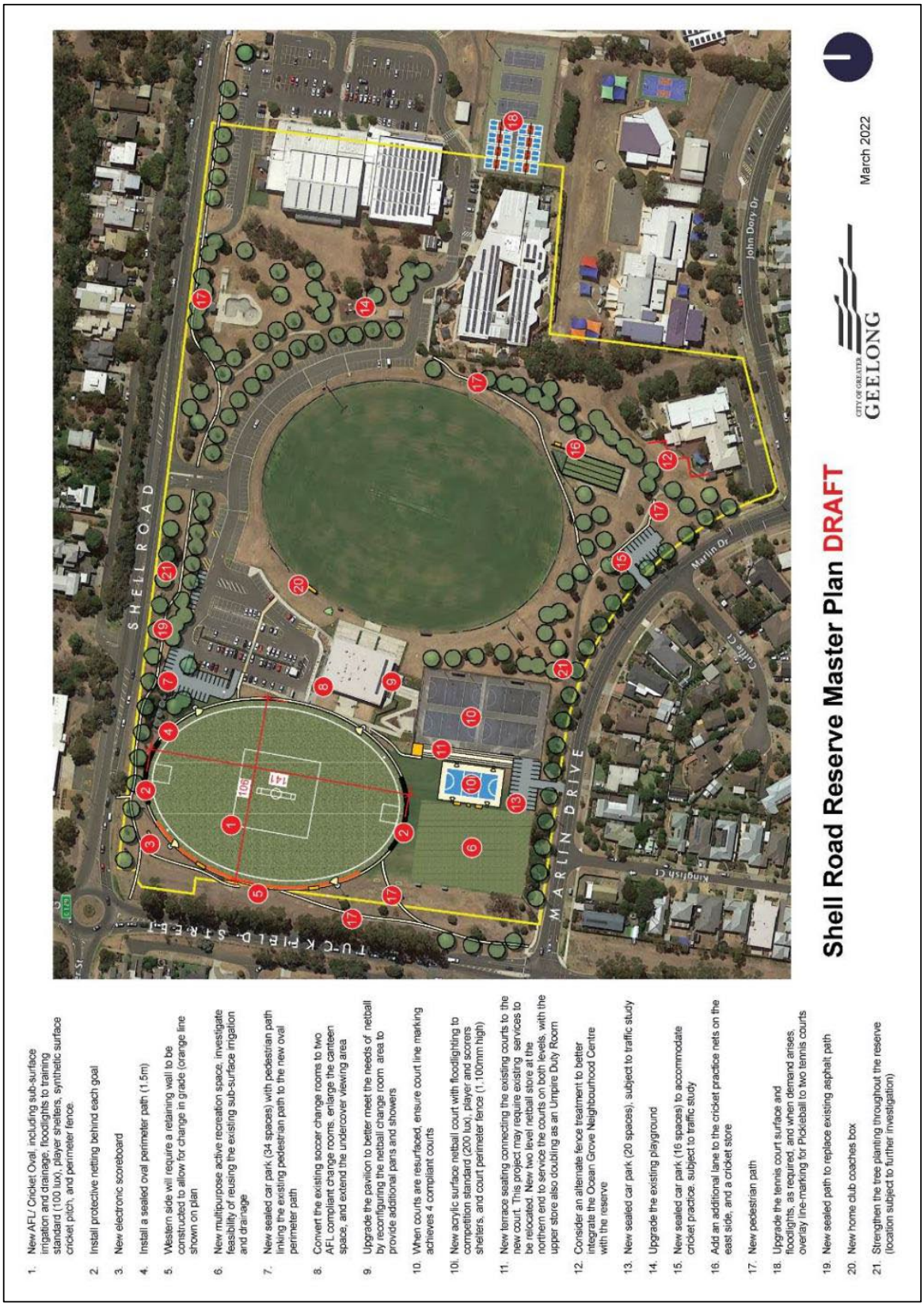


Figure 17: Shell Road Reserve Master Plan

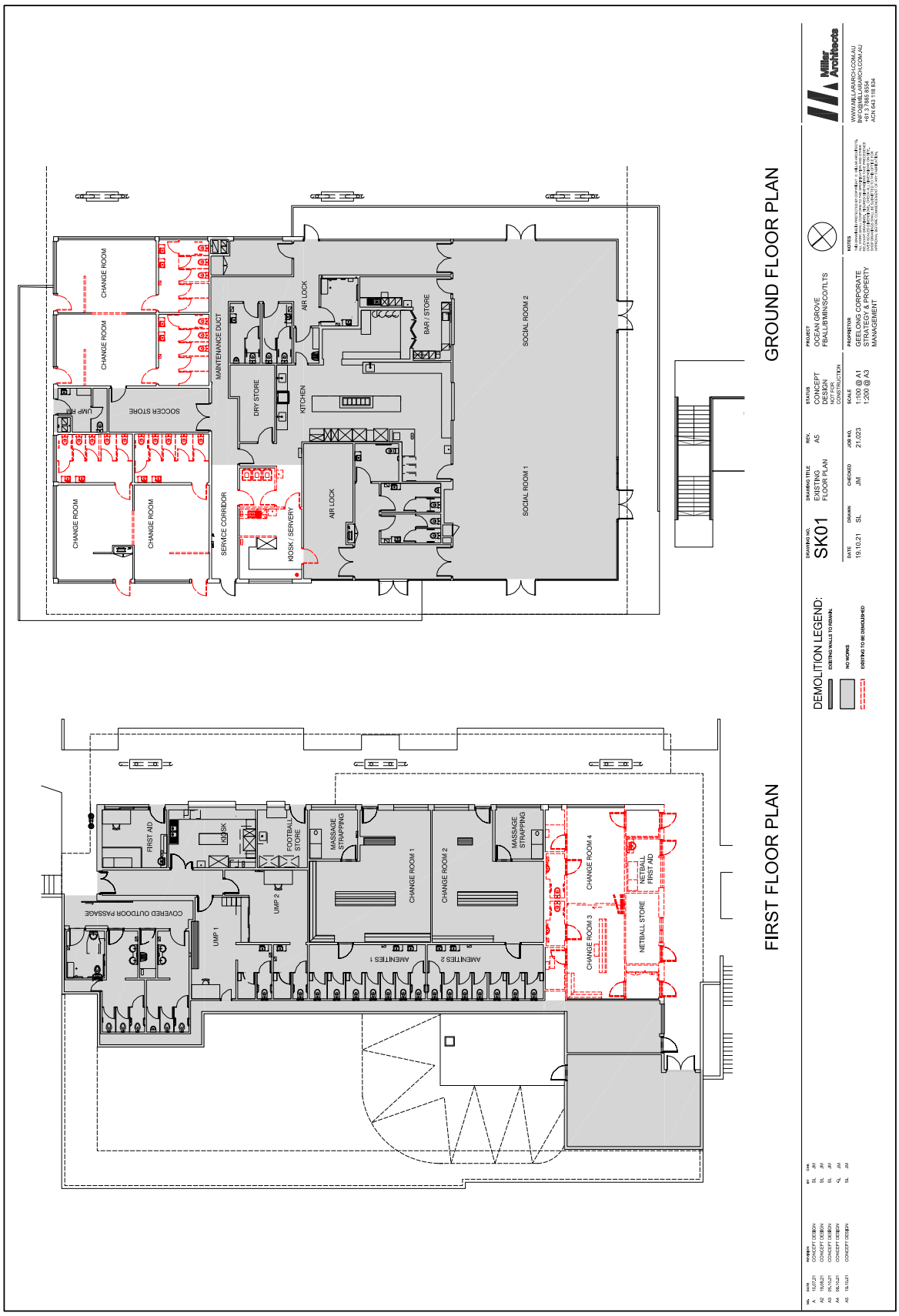


Figure 18: Shell Road Reserve Pavilion Upgrade Plan (existing floor plan and demolition plan)

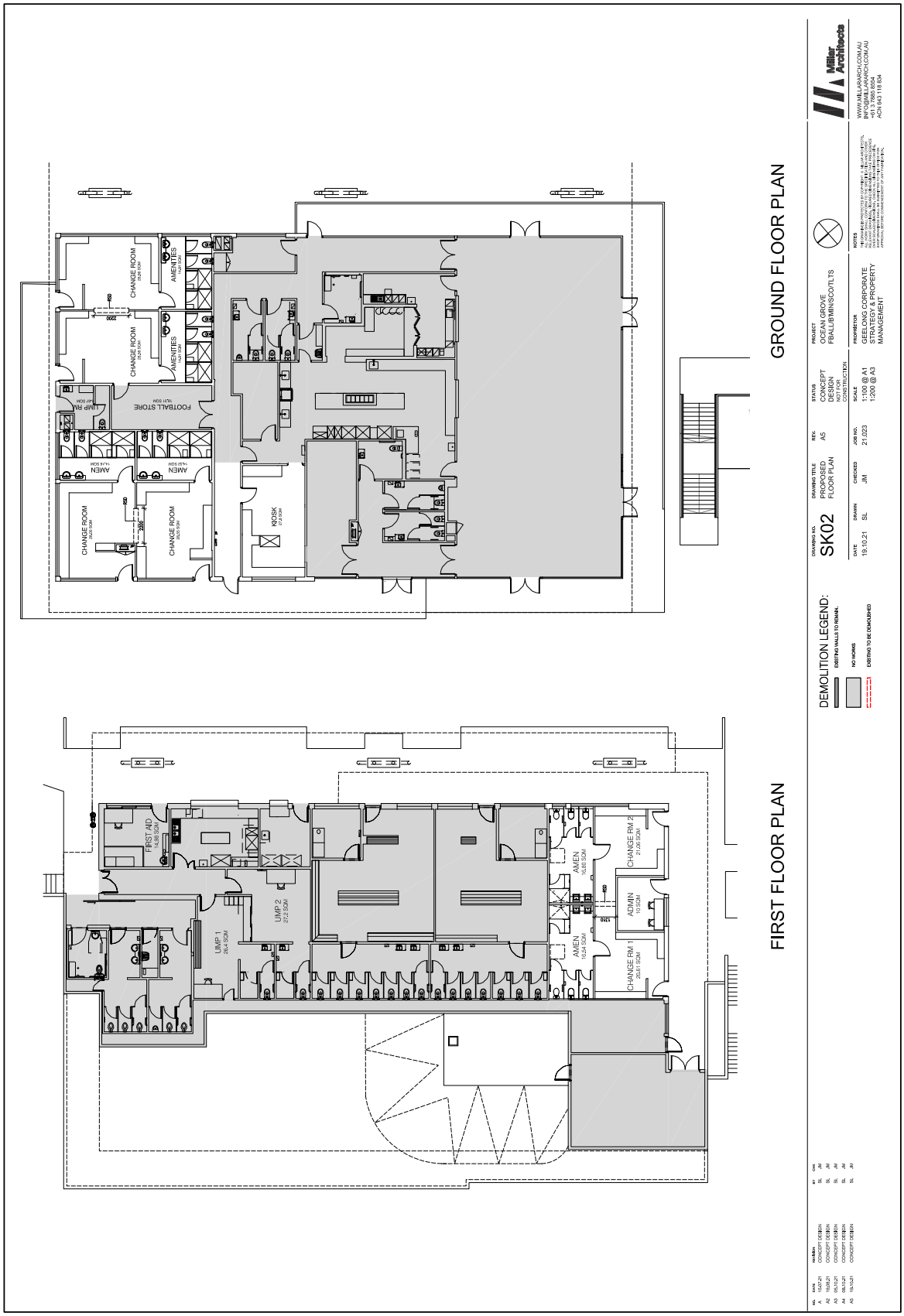


Figure 19: Shell Road Pavilion (Proposed New Floor Plan)

8.3 COLLENDINA RESERVE

Collendina Reserve is an important and well-used open space servicing the southern area of Ocean Grove. The reserve is the current 'home' venue for the Collendina Cricket Club and the Cobras Junior Football Club, and had new floodlights installed in 2020.

8.3.1 Sports analysis and future directions

Football and cricket

The Collendina Reserve oval is at full capacity for the training and match-day needs of the Collendina Cricket Club and the Cobras Junior Football Club.

The cricket practice nets generally comply with the preferred dimensions for enclosed practice pitches. An additional lane may be required if the club increases the number of teams.

Pavilion

The pavilion social room is small for a local-level reserve (currently 65 sqm), and the Cobras Junior Football Club has identified that the clubroom is inadequate to accommodate club social functions and events. The change rooms (30 sqm and 27 sqm) are below the preferred size for football (45 sqm), but are adequate for community club cricket. The shared amenities for both change rooms do not meet minimum standards, and future upgrades need to ensure they can support gender-neutral use.

With the proposed relocation of the Surfside Waves Soccer Club from Shell Road Reserve to Devlins Road Reserve, there's an opportunity for the Cobras Junior Football Club to direct some training and matches to the Shell Road Reserve, and to use the pavilion social room for those functions and events that are currently beyond the capacity of the pavilion at Collendina Reserve. This will help establish Shell Road Reserve as the football hub for the Ocean Grove and Wallington district, and would complement the recent work by the committees of the Cobras Junior Football Club and the Ocean Grove Football Netball Club to forge closer ties.

8.3.2 Reserve master plan

See Figure 20 for the Collendina Reserve Master Plan, which shows the following key improvement projects that will create more sustainable cricket and junior football participation opportunities, and other reserve infrastructure enhancements to improve visitor experiences for non-sporting users of the reserve:

1. Reconfigure the reserve entry, play space and internal road to improve player and visitor safety.
2. Formalise the off-road car parking off Minerva Close.
3. Upgrade and extend the pavilion to include a larger social room, accessible toilets, a relocated and extended kitchen, and female-friendly change rooms.
4. Upgrade and expand the cricket practice nets to four lanes when need arises.
5. Upgrade and extend the pedestrian path network.
6. Relocate and upgrade the play space to the west of its current location to open-up views to the oval from the pavilion.
7. Increase tree planting throughout the reserve.

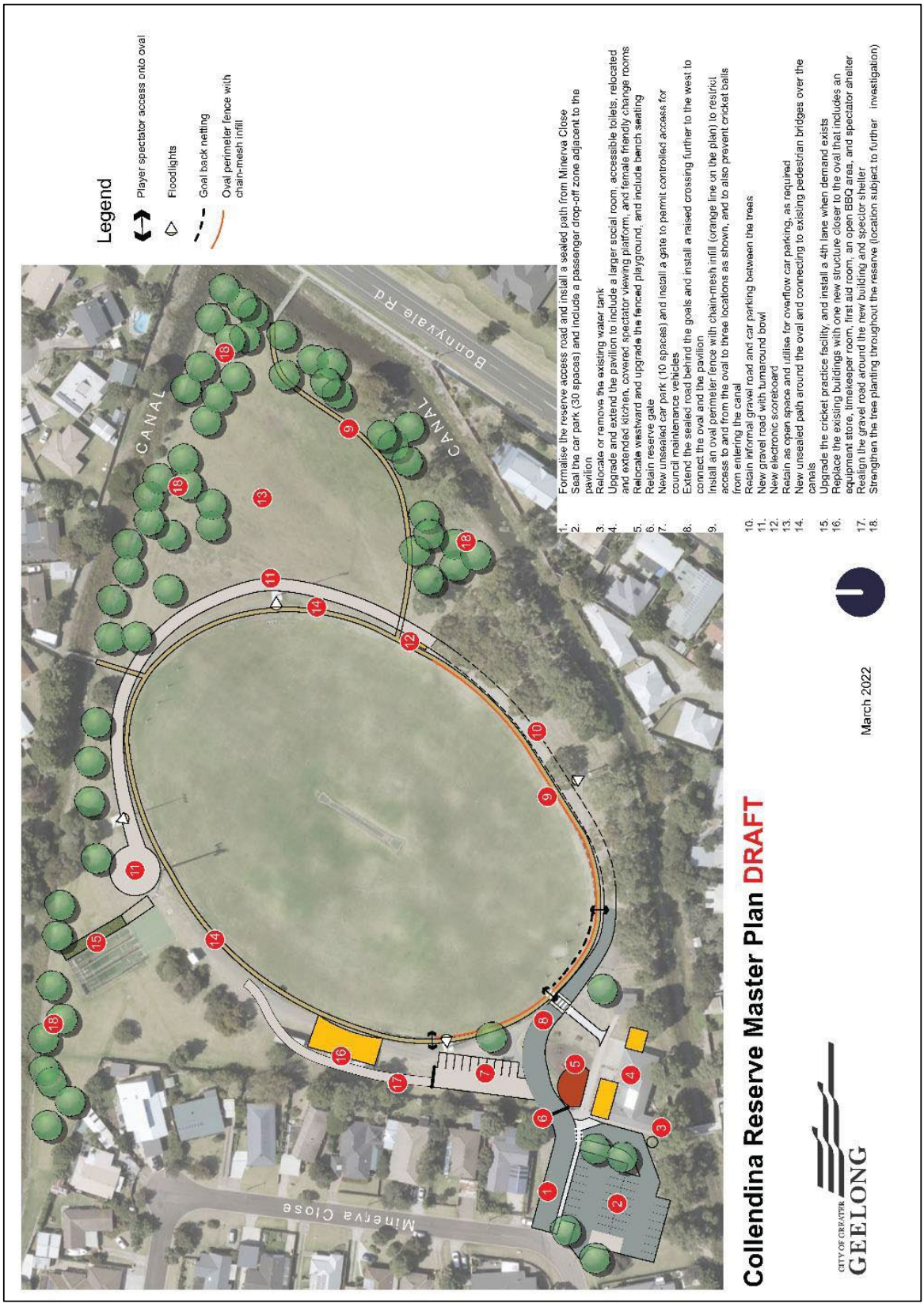


Figure 20: Collendina Recreation Reserve Master Plan

8.4 MEMORIAL RESERVE

While Memorial Reserve was the main sporting reserve in Ocean Grove before Shell Road Reserve was developed in 2015–16, it is no longer a home venue for any football or cricket club. The proposed second oval at Shell Road Reserve create an opportunity to scale-back the use of the Memorial Reserve oval for club football and cricket.

The Memorial Reserve Hall is well used by a range of sporting clubs and community groups.

8.4.1 Sports analysis and future directions

Football and cricket

The oval size is suitable for cricket matches and for junior football training and matches. However, the floodlighting does not meet the minimum standard for training (50 lux). While the cricket practice nets are in good condition, they will no longer be required to accommodate club training if an additional lane is added to the Shell Road Reserve cricket practice nets.

Memorial Reserve Hall and other associated infrastructure

The two change rooms are in poor condition and the amenities do not meet the minimum standard for any level of facility, nor are they female-friendly. The umpires room is a single compartment with a shower only, and is not conducive to mixed-gender use.

There is a lack of storage for most user groups in the hall and additional storage space is a high priority, which will likely require a building extension. As noted in Section 7, Memorial Reserve oval will still likely be required for some junior football matches and cricket matches, but in an overflow capacity only. For this use, the off-field facilities can be contained to improved player and umpire change rooms and amenities, and provide adequate onsite storage for the football and cricket clubs.

The Ocean Grove Pickleball Club has grown since it formed in 2019, and the expected future demand for courts will likely exceed the indoor multipurpose courts in the hall. To this end, it's recommended that markings for eight pickleball courts be overlaid onto two of the outdoor public tennis courts at Shell Road Reserve (see Section 8.2.2 for the master plan), and onto two courts at Wallington Recreation Reserve (see Section 8.6.2 for the master plan). The pickleball line marking will not prevent the courts from being used as tennis courts.

During the OGSIP 2022 study, the City identified the Memorial Reserve Hall as a potential satellite facility for additional indoor physical activity opportunities, including the Bellarine Keenagers – a recreational table tennis group for men and women of all skill levels and ages. As the hall is already close to capacity with currently weekly programming, more indoor space would be required to make this change. While the western wall could be extended out into the rear car park to create this space, the feasibility of such a project is beyond the scope of this study. Extending the hall would require the relocation southwards of the scout group's external storage shed, and the Ocean Grove Calisthenics College's external storage shed would also need to be replaced with a new internal store.

Reduced use of Memorial Reserve for football and cricket creates an opportunity to enhance the parkland setting and perhaps create a 'village green' environment, or feel. Some of the physical changes to the reserve that could be explored in collaboration with the community might include:

1. Remove or downgrade the internal road, including the permanent closure of the northern vehicle entry, and remove sections of bitumen around the oval's north-east and in front of the social room and central building area.
2. Remove both cricket practice areas at the northern and southern ends of the eastern side of the reserve.
3. Remove the old scoreboard and time keeper's structure.
4. Consolidate all off-street car parking within the southern area of the reserve.
5. Upgrade the play space and include new BBQ picnic facilities, and associated landscaping.
6. Consider installing active recreation equipment, such as a half-court basketball pad and a pod of outdoor gym equipment suitable for older adults.
7. Increase tree planting throughout the reserve, and other landscape embellishments, such as pedestrian paths, as required.

8.4.2 Building upgrade plan

Figures 21 and 22 show a potential plan for the upgrade and expansion of the Memorial Reserve Hall, the change rooms, and the social room. Building plans will be subject to further review and development when design development is funded. The current building concept plan features the following key improvement projects:

1. Relocate the Hall entry to a more central location and with compliant DDA access.
2. Build additional storage for hall user groups and sports clubs.
3. Build new terraced bench seating in the hall to replace the stage.
4. Build new player and umpire change rooms and associated amenities.
5. Create an internal link from the hall to the umpire's change rooms to provide safe and secure change room access for the Ocean Grove Calisthenics College.
6. Construct new public toilets, including an accessible toilet.
7. Potentially extend the hall to accommodate the Bellarine Keenagers.



Photo: Memorial Reserve Hall, with change rooms in foreground

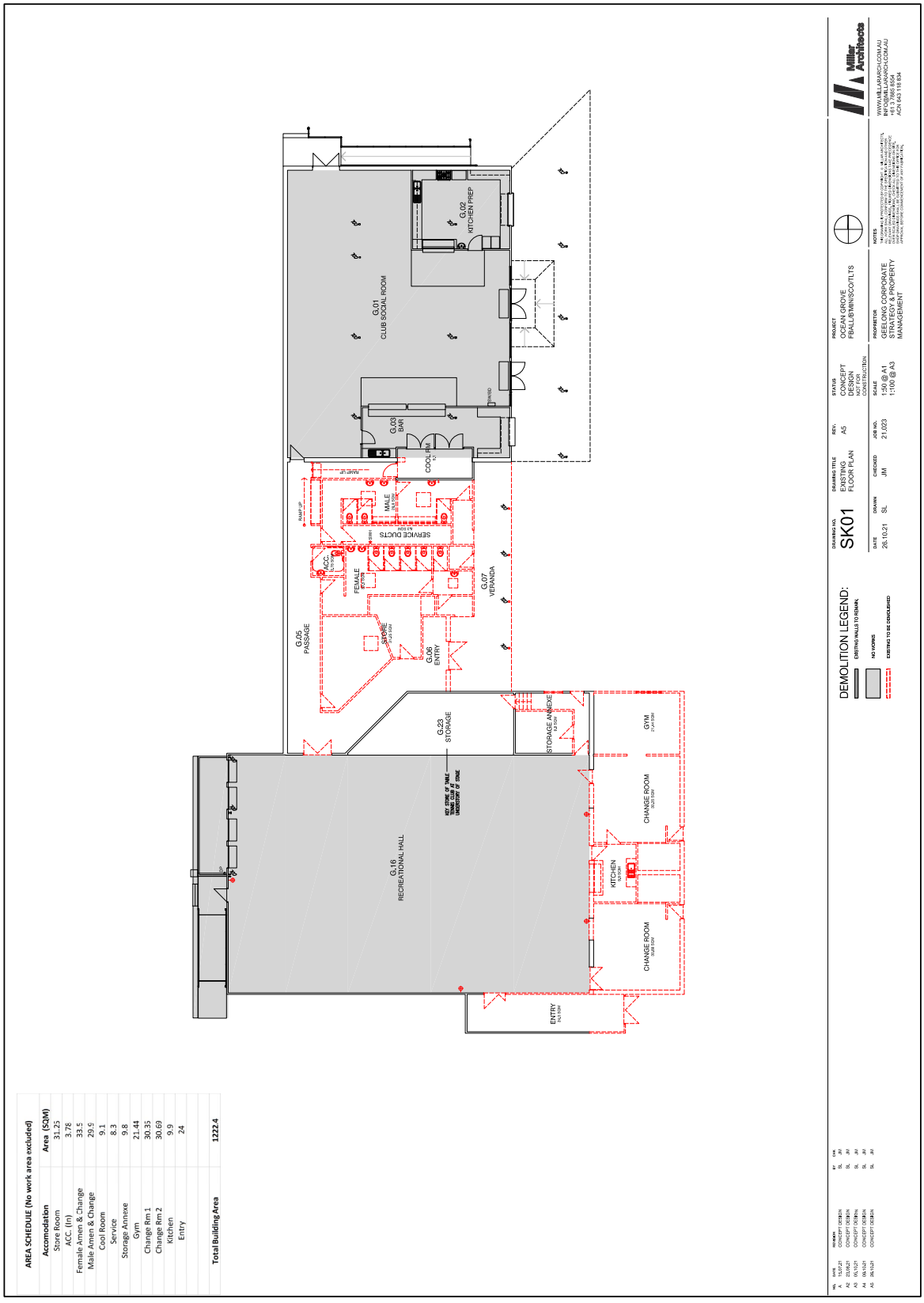


Figure 21: Memorial Reserve building upgrade plan (existing floor plan and demolition plan)

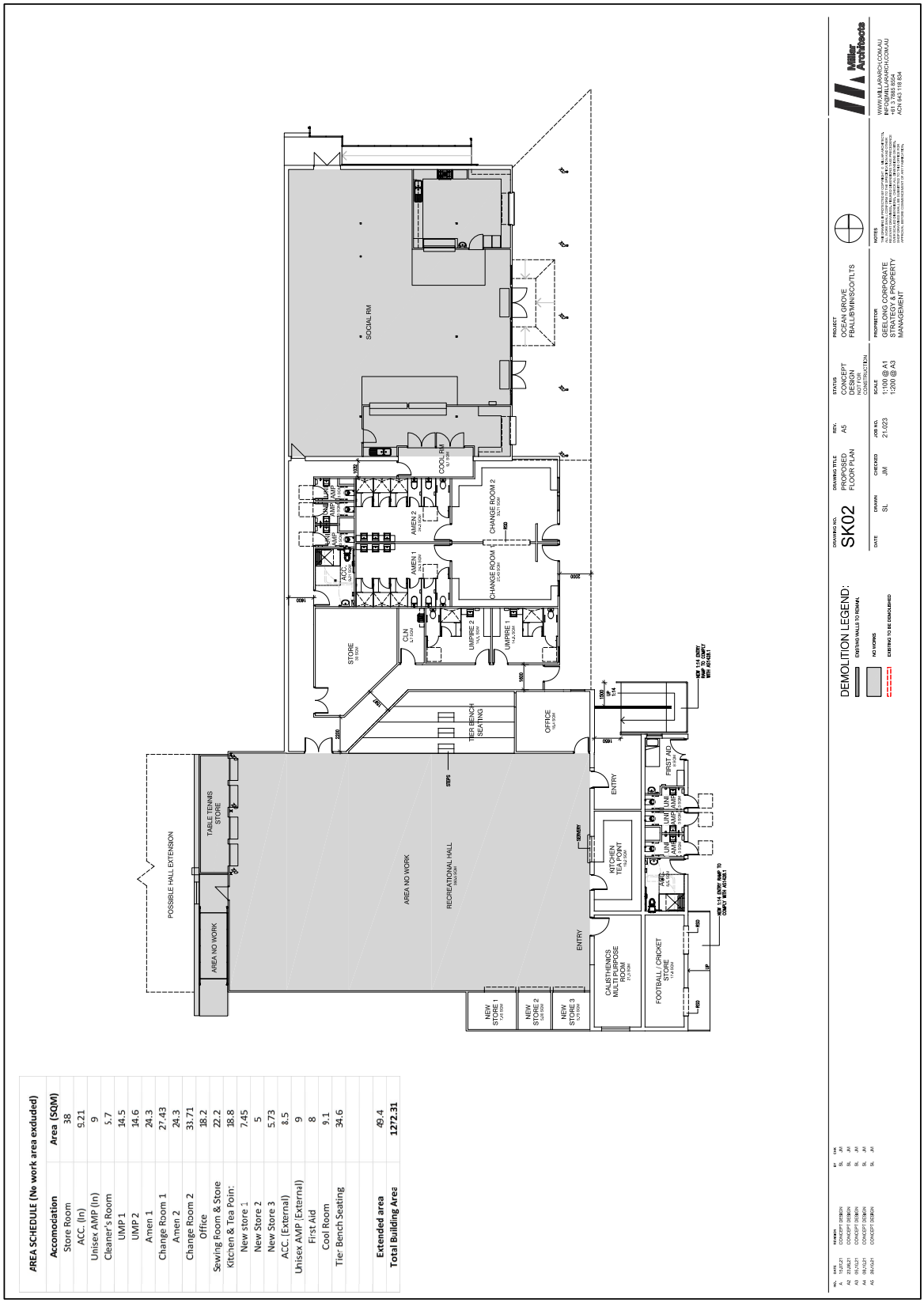


Figure 22: Memorial Reserve building upgrade plan (proposed floor plan)

8.5 ARTHUR POWELL RESERVE

Arthur Powell Reserve is the location of the Ocean Grove Tennis Club.

8.5.1 Sports analysis and future directions

The future growth and development of the Ocean Grove Tennis Club will be impacted by upgrading and securing club access to two public courts, and improving car parking. These issues directly impact on the functionality of the club, and its ability to meet demand from a growing club membership.

The existing public tennis court compound is of sufficient area to accommodate two compliant tennis courts, and the OGSIP 2022 supports the reconstruction of the two public courts to create two new floodlit courts with a cushioned hard surface, such as a plexi-cushion surface. However, this proposal requires further design investigation and feasibility around services, safety and incursion into the road reserve. It is also recommended that the courts be included with the five courts currently leased to the club, but that they still be accessible to the public via the book-a-court system, in accordance the City's *Fair Play Strategy (2017)*. This will enable the club to expand its offering to members onsite, and to initiate new community tennis programming, such as wheelchair tennis. When the courts are being utilised by the club and not available for public use, the five public courts at Shell Road Reserve can still be accessed (1.5 kms away).

There are two options available for developing compliant courts, and neither will require the sub-surface infrastructure within the Asbury Street East road reserve to be disturbed.

1. Install a concrete slab over the existing courts and raise the surface level of the courts above ground level to avoid encroachment into the sub-surface in the south-east corner.
2. Rebuild the courts approximately 1.5 m north of their current location, with the existing south-east corner of the tennis compound being the point from which the new compound will be fixed.

To increase the availability of on-street car parking, angled parking along the northern boundary of the five club tennis courts on Madeley Street could be investigated.

8.6 WALLINGTON RECREATION RESERVE

Wallington Recreation Reserve is the only sport and active recreation open space in Wallington. The Bellarine Bears Baseball Club and Wallington Cricket Club have been long-term tenants at the reserve, whilst the Bellarine Pigeon Club relocated to the reserve in 2007.

8.6.1 Sports analysis and future directions

Baseball field

An important project for the ongoing development and growth of the Bellarine Bears Baseball Club is to construct a compliant baseball diamond, which will require the removal of the existing stand of cypress pines north of the current diamond. A new and compliant baseball facility would improve the safety of spectators and playground users from errant baseballs, and better protect the pavilion. While the removal of the pines would trigger the need for offset planting, most of this would likely be possible within the reserve. All of the pines west of the proposed site of the new diamond would need to be removed, as they will cause afternoon shadowing across the baseball infield area, which is not conducive to safe batting conditions.

The club has also indicated a second diamond suitable for juniors and women will be required when the club increases its number of teams.

Pavilion

A shared issue for the Bellarine Bears Baseball Club and the Wallington Cricket Club is the reserve pavilion and its inadequacies:

- The player change rooms and associated amenities are too small, and the change rooms are also used as the social room, and male and female toilets.
- The existing accessible toilet is not compliant.

- There are no umpire change rooms or first aid room.
- The size of the social room exceeds guidelines and the internal store has no direct external access.

Other reserve facilities

The Bellarine Pigeon Club uses a shed located on a former tennis court. The shed does not have water connected, and members and visitors have to use the old public toilet block located approximately 50 m away. The OGSIP 2022 supports the connection of water to the shed, and access to improved toilet facilities.

No club or group is currently using the publicly accessible tennis and netball courts and, if demand arises in Wallington, 1–2 courts could be dual-lined for pickleball and tennis. Preliminary discussions with the Ocean Grove Pickleball Club suggest that the Shell Road Reserve courts would be the preferred courts, as they would be more central, they have floodlights, and a small pavilion is available courtside.

The Wallington Cricket Club noted that, if the club was to increase its number of teams, a third lane in the cricket practice nets may be required. If and when this need arises, it can only be added by reconstructing the whole cricket practice facility, as there is insufficient space to install a third lane between the existing cricket nets and the indoor baseball shed.

8.6.2 Reserve master plan and pavilion upgrade plan

See Figure 23 for the Wallington Recreation Reserve Master Plan, which shows the following key improvement projects to create more sustainable baseball and cricket participation, and a range of other reserve infrastructure enhancements to improve visitor experiences for non-sporting users of the reserve:

1. Install a new and compliant senior baseball diamond with floodlighting.
2. Install a new second baseball diamond when demand arises.
3. Connect potable water to the Bellarine PC building.
4. Upgrade the pavilion (see below), including provision for a new externally accessed Accessible WC that the Bellarine PC and other reserve visitors can utilise, and remove the existing public toilet block.
5. Continue to maintain the tennis/netball court area as publicly accessible recreational courts.
6. Formalise the traffic management into and within the reserve (road network and car parking).
7. Increase tree planting throughout the reserve.

Figure 24 and 25 show pavilion upgrade plans that include:

1. Two new player change rooms and associated amenities.
2. New umpire change rooms.
3. New first aid room.
4. Upgraded internal public toilets.
5. New internal store.
6. A reconfigured kitchen/canteen and bar areas.

1. Remove the required number of Cypress pines to enable a new compliant Senior baseball field to be constructed. Works include re-alignment of the baseball field, new back net, dug-outs, scorers box, and gates
2. New Womens/ Junior baseball field back net and in-field to be constructed
3. Existing cricket store
4. Existing outdoor baseball training facility unchanged and install new cricket practice facility (three lanes)
5. Existing indoor baseball training facility
6. Formalise the reserve road and car parking (30 spaces). Ensure clear sight lines at Reserve entry, and in the future consider the need for slip lanes

6a Improve reserve notification signage along Wallington Road

7. Install baseball floodlights
8. Remove the public toilet block
9. Upgrade and extend the pavilion to provide two compliant baseball/cricket change rooms, a shared kitchen/ canteen, bar, social space and internal toilets, and storage. Allow for external sensory lights to light the car park
10. Resolve poor drainage issue
11. Existing playground
12. Bellarine Pigeon Club pavilion, connect water supply
13. New sealed path to connect to the Pigeon Club with new accessible external toilet included in the redevelopment of the pavilion
14. Divert the unsealed road around the baseball backnet
15. Retain as open space
16. Consider future potential to upgrade the tennis courts and netball court, and add pickleball courts when local demand arises
17. Strengthen the tree planting throughout the reserve
18. New unsealed path
19. New electronic scoreboard

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Wallington Recreation Reserve Master Plan DRAFT

March 2022

Figure 23: Wallington Recreation Reserve Master Plan

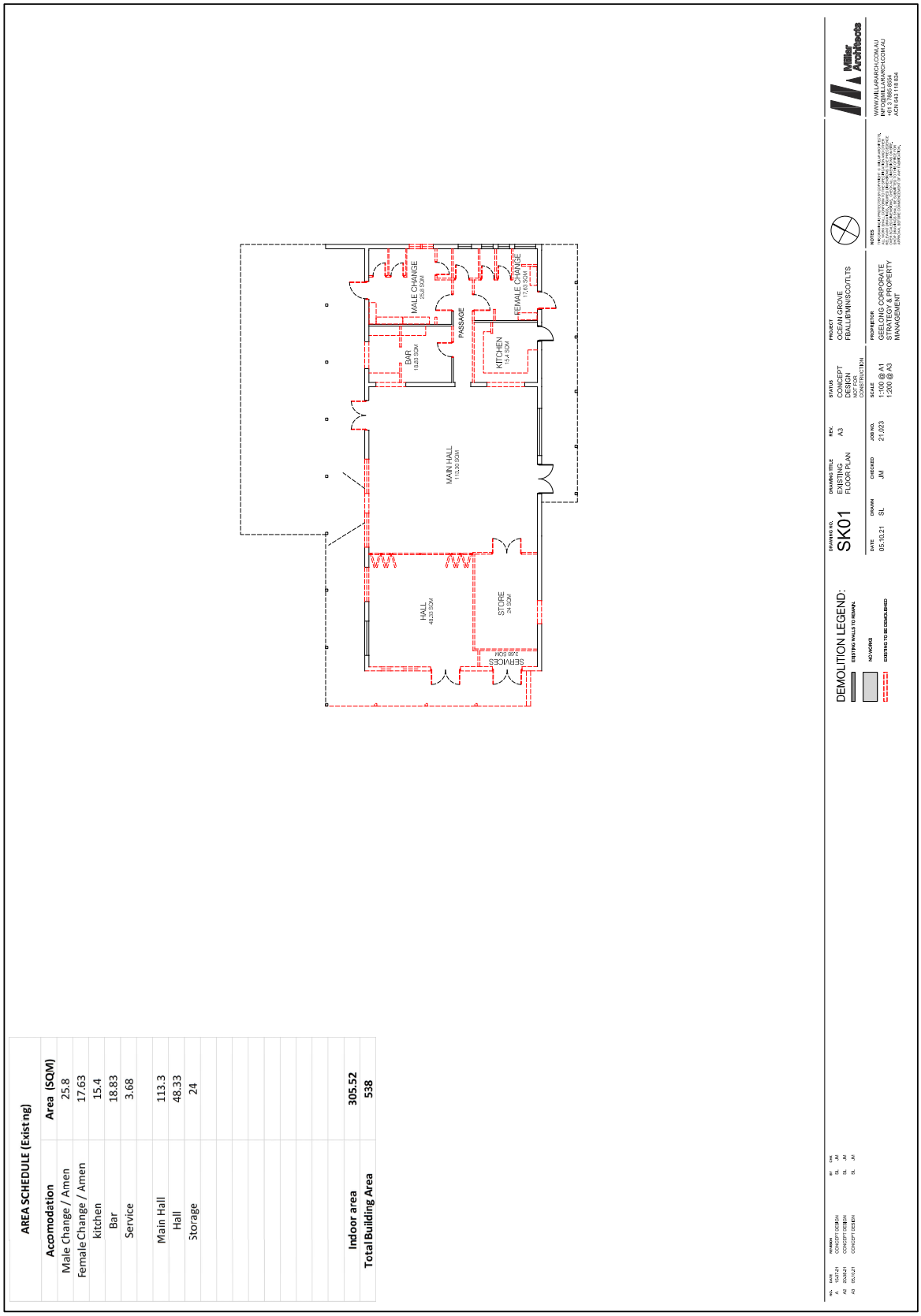


Figure 24: Wallington Recreation Reserve pavilion upgrade plan (existing floor plan and demolition plan)

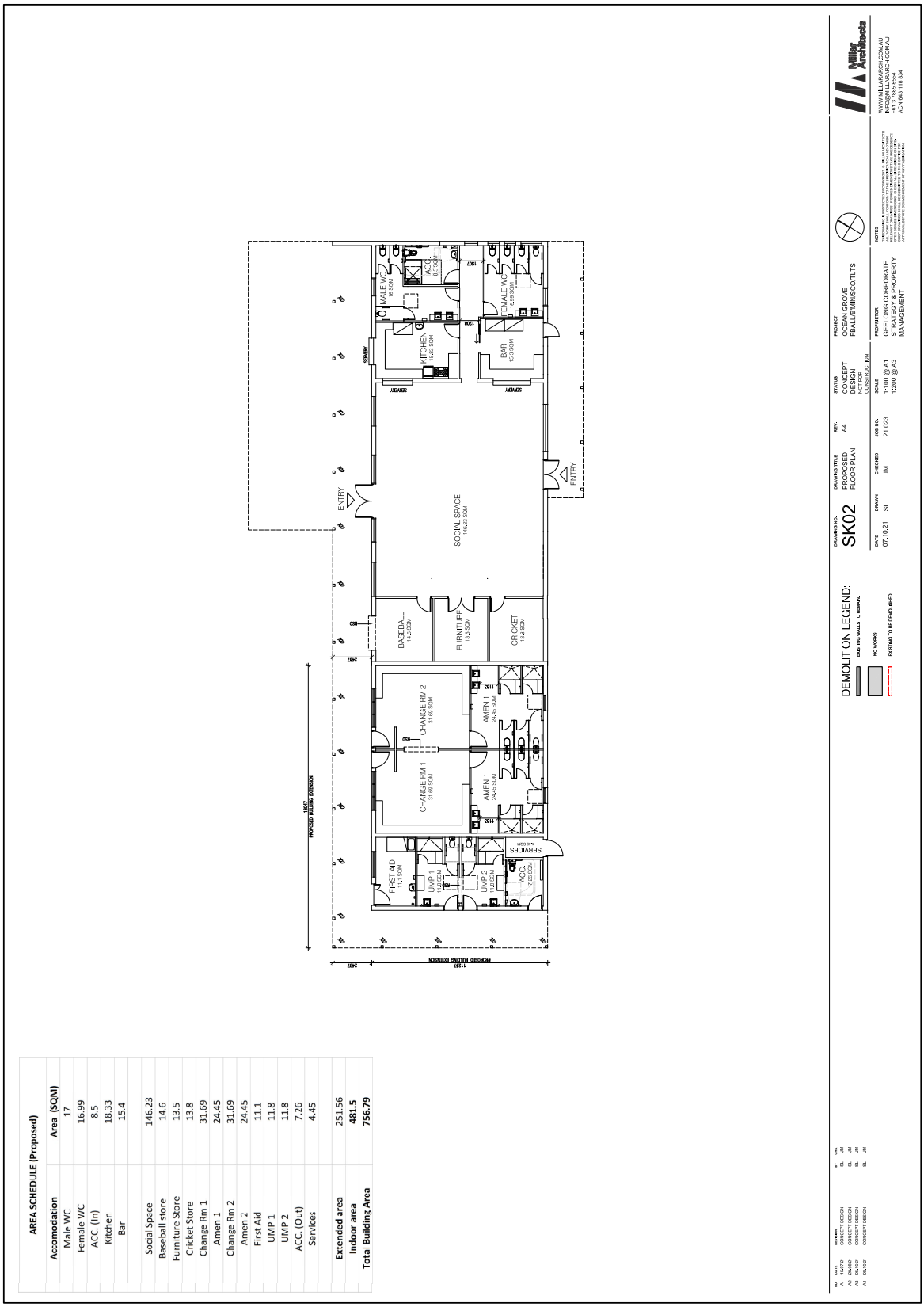


Figure 25: Wallington Recreation Reserve pavilion upgrade plan (proposed new floor plan)

9. Implementing study recommendations

This section collates all proposed improvement projects, allocates an estimated project cost, prioritises project implementation, and assigns responsibility for project delivery.

9.1 PROJECT COSTS

The directions contained within the reserve master plans and building upgrade plans do not commit the City of Greater Geelong, the relevant sporting clubs and community groups, or any other organisation to funding the projects. However, the following table will show the total estimated cost for full implementation of the recommended projects at each reserve once the public exhibition period for the OGSIP 2022 is complete.

The table will exclude the Devlins Road Reserve as the specific scope of works is still to be confirmed, and the land developers are responsible for delivering most of the sporting facilities and landscape embellishments.

Reserve	Cost
Shell Road Reserve	TBC
Collendina Reserve	TBC
Memorial Reserve	TBC
Arthur Powell Reserve	TBC
Wallington Recreation Reserve	TBC
TOTAL ESTIMATED MASTER PLAN COSTS (ex GST)	TBC

Table 12: Estimated costs for full project implementation (will be updated once plan consultation is complete)

9.2 PROJECT PRIORITISATION

Tables 13–17 contain draft implementation plans for each reserve. Some of the details associated with these plans, including estimated costs, will be updated once the public consultation period for the OGSIP 2022 is complete.

The item number assigned to each project is the same as the numbered symbols on the reserve master plan. The assignment ‘high’, ‘medium’ and ‘low’ labels to each project are an indication of the relative importance of a project compared to other projects identified in the reserve master plan. These labels should not be interpreted or aligned to any specific timeframe for implementation.

The practicality and order of implementation of all projects is likely to be subject to a number of factors and criteria. These include:

- availability of funding.
- further investigation, research and club/community consultation
- current and future priorities of the City of Greater Geelong, the relevant sporting clubs and community groups, and other stakeholders.

9.2.1 Shell Road Reserve implementation plan

Item No. on Plan	Projects	Cost	Priority	Predecessor Item No.	Responsibility
1	New football/ cricket oval, including sub-surface irrigation and drainage, floodlights to training standard (100 lux), player shelters, synthetic cricket pitch, and oval perimeter fence	TBC	High	5	CoGG
2	Install protective netting behind each goal	TBC	High	1	CoGG
3	New electronic scoreboard	TBC	High	1	OGFNC Cobras JFC
4	Install a sealed oval perimeter path (1.5m)	TBC	High	1	CoGG
5	Construct a retaining wall	TBC	High		CoGG
6	New multipurpose active recreation space, including sub-surface irrigation and drainage	TBC	Medium	1	CoGG
7	New sealed car park (34 spaces) with pedestrian path linking the existing pedestrian path to the new oval perimeter path	TBC	High	1	CoGG
8	Convert the existing soccer change rooms to two AFL compliant change rooms, enlarge the canteen space, and extend the undercover viewing area	TBC	High	1	CoGG
9	Upgrade the pavilion by reconfiguring the netball change room area to provide additional pans and public toilets	TBC	High	-	CoGG
10	Resurface courts and ensure court line markings achieve 4 compliant courts	TBC	Medium	-	CoGG
10i	New acrylic surface netball court with floodlighting to competition standard (200 lux), player and scorers shelters, and court perimeter fence (1,100mm high)	TBC	Low	1,6	CoGG
11	New terrace seating connecting the existing courts to the new court, and a two level netball store at the northern end to service the courts on both levels. This project may require existing services to be relocated	TBC	Low	10i	CoGG
12	Consider an alternate fence treatment to better integrate the Ocean Grove Neighbourhood Centre with the reserve	TBC	Low	-	CoGG
13	New sealed car park (20 spaces)	TBC	Low	1,10i	CoGG
14	Upgrade the existing playground	TBC	Low	-	CoGG
15	New sealed car park (16 spaces) to accommodate cricket practice	TBC	Medium	-	CoGG
16	Add an additional lane to the cricket practice nets on the east side, and a cricket store	TBC	Medium	-	CoGG, OGCC
17	New pedestrian path	TBC	Medium	-	CoGG
18	Upgrade the tennis court surface and floodlights, as required, and when demand arises, overlay line-marking for Pickleball to two tennis courts	TBC	Low	-	CoGG
19	New sealed path to replace existing asphalt path	TBC	High	-	CoGG
20	New home club coaches box	TBC	Medium	-	OGFNC
21	Strengthen the tree planting throughout the reserve (120 trees)	TBC	Low	17	CoGG

Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	TBC
TOTAL ESTIMATED MASTER PLAN COSTS (ex GST)	**TBC**

Table 13: Project list and associated variables for Shell Road Reserve

9.2.2 Collendina Reserve implementation plan

Item No. on Plan	Projects	Cost	Priority	Predecessor Item No.	Responsibility
1	Formalise the reserve access road and install a sealed path from Minerva Close	TBC	High	-	CoGG
2	Seal the car park (30 spaces) and include a passenger drop-off zone adjacent to the pavilion	TBC	High	3	CoGG
3	Relocate or remove the existing water tank	TBC	High	-	CoGG
4	Upgrade and extend the pavilion to include a larger social room, accessible toilets, relocated and extended kitchen, covered spectator viewing platform, and female friendly change rooms	TBC	High	-	CoGG
5	Relocate westward and upgrade the fenced playground, and include bench seating	TBC	Medium	1,8	CoGG
6	Retain reserve gate	-			
7	New unsealed car park (10 spaces) and install a gate to permit controlled access for council maintenance vehicles	TBC	Low	1,8	CoGG
8	Extend the sealed road behind the goals and install a raised crossing further to the west to connect the oval and the pavilion	TBC	Medium	1	CoGG
9	Install an oval perimeter fence with chain-mesh infill (orange line on the plan) to restrict access to and from the oval to three locations as shown, and to also prevent cricket balls from entering the canal	TBC	High	-	CoGG
10	Retain informal gravel road and car parking between the trees	-			
11	New gravel road with turnaround bowl	TBC	Low	-	CoGG
12	New electronic scoreboard	TBC	Medium	-	Cobras JFC CCC
13	Retain as open space and utilise for overflow car parking, as required	-			
14	New unsealed path around the oval and connecting to existing pedestrian bridges over the canals	TBC	Low	-	CoGG
15	Upgrade the cricket practice facility, and install a 4th lane when demand exists	TBC	Low	-	CoGG, CCC
16	Replace the existing buildings with one new structure closer to the oval that includes an equipment store, time keeper room, first aid room, an open BBQ area, and spectator shelter	TBC	Medium	-	CoGG
17	Realign the gravel road around the new building and spectator shelter	TBC	Medium	16	CoGG
18	Strengthen the tree planting throughout the reserve (65 trees)	TBC	Medium	-	CoGG

Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	TBC
TOTAL ESTIMATED MASTER PLAN COSTS (ex GST)	**TBC**

Table 14: Project list and associated variables for Collendina Reserve

9.2.3 Memorial Reserve implementation plan

Item No.	Projects	Cost	Priority	Predecessor Item No.	Responsibility
1	Memorial Hall upgrades for internal user groups, including additional storage, new calisthenics college multipurpose room, toilets, and tiered seating to replace the stage. (Excludes any allowance for the extension of the Hall to the rear)	TBC	High	-	CoGG
2	Memorial Hall upgrades for sporting groups, including new player and umpire change rooms, externally accessed equipment store, public toilets, first aid room and other internal upgrades.	TBC	Medium		
3	Remove part of the internal road and sections of the bitumen in front of the social room and building, and return to grass	TBC	Medium	-	CoGG
4	Remove both cricket practice facilities	TBC	Medium	-	CoGG
5	Remove the existing scoreboard	TBC	High	-	CoGG
6	Formalise sealed car parking in the southern area of the reserve	TBC	Medium	1,2	CoGG
7	Potential for an upgraded playground, new BBQ & picnic facilities and associated landscaping	TBC	High	-	CoGG
8	Potential for supply and installation of some active recreation infrastructure	TBC	Medium	2	CoGG
9	Allowance for a new 1.5m wide unsealed oval perimeter path, and connections to adjoining streets (approx. 700m)	TBC	Medium	2	CoGG
10	New chain-mesh fence and gate for the rear car park	TBC	High	-	CoGG
11	Allowance for Scout Hall upgrades	TBC	High	-	Scouts Vic
12	Strengthen the tree planting throughout the reserve (20 trees)	TBC	Medium	2	CoGG

Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	TBC
TOTAL ESTIMATED MASTER PLAN COSTS (ex GST)	**TBC**

Table 15: Project list and associated variables for Memorial Reserve

9.2.4 Arthur Powell Reserve implementation plan

Item No.	Projects	Cost	Priority	Predecessor Item No.	Responsibility
1	Rebuild the 2 public tennis courts: new substrate, acrylic surface, perimeter fence, and floodlights, and sealed access to the courts	TBC	High	-	CoGG, OGTC
2	New sealed angled car parking along the northern boundary of the Club courts on Madeley Street	TBC	Medium	-	CoGG

Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	TBC
TOTAL ESTIMATED MASTER PLAN COSTS (ex GST)	**TBC**

Table 16: Project list and associated variables for Arthur Powell Reserve

9.2.5 Wallington Recreation Reserve implementation plan

Item No. on Plan	Projects	Cost	Priority	Predecessor Item No.	Responsibility
1	Remove the Cypress pines to enable a new compliant Senior baseball field to be constructed. Works include re-alignment of the baseball field, new back net and dug-outs, scorers box and gates	TBC	High	-	CoGG
2	New Womens/ Junior baseball field back net and in-field to be constructed	TBC	Low	10	CoGG, BBC
3	Existing cricket store	-			
4	Rebuild the cricket practice facility as a 3 lane facility	TBC	Low	-	CoGG, WCC
5	Existing indoor baseball training facility	-			
6	Formalise the reserve road and car parking (30 spaces). Ensure clear sight lines at Reserve entry, and in the future consider the need for slip lanes	TBC	Medium	-	CoGG
6a	Improve reserve notification signage along Wallington Road	TBC	Low	-	CoGG
7	Install baseball floodlights	TBC	High	1	CoGG, BBBC
8	Remove the public toilet block	TBC	High	9	CoGG
9	Upgrade and extend the pavilion to provide two compliant baseball/ cricket change rooms, a shared kitchen/ canteen/ bar, social space and internal toilets, and storage. Allow for external sensory lights to light the car park	TBC	High	-	CoGG
10	Resolve poor drainage issue	TBC	Medium	-	CoGG
11	Existing playground	-			
12	Connect water supply to the Bellarine Pigeon Club pavilion	TBC	High	9	CoGG
13	New sealed path to connect the Pigeon Club pavilion with new accessible external toilet included in the redevelopment of the pavilion	TBC	High	9	CoGG
14	Divert the unsealed road around the baseball backnet	TBC	High	1	CoGG
15	Retain as open space	-			
16	Consider future potential to upgrade the tennis courts and netball court, and add pickleball courts when demand arises (allowance for asphalt resurfacing and line marking)	TBC	Low	-	CoGG
17	Strengthen the tree planting throughout the reserve (50 trees)	TBC	Medium	1,6,18	CoGG
18	New unsealed path	TBC	Medium	-	CoGG
19	New electronic scoreboard	TBC	Medium	-	WCC

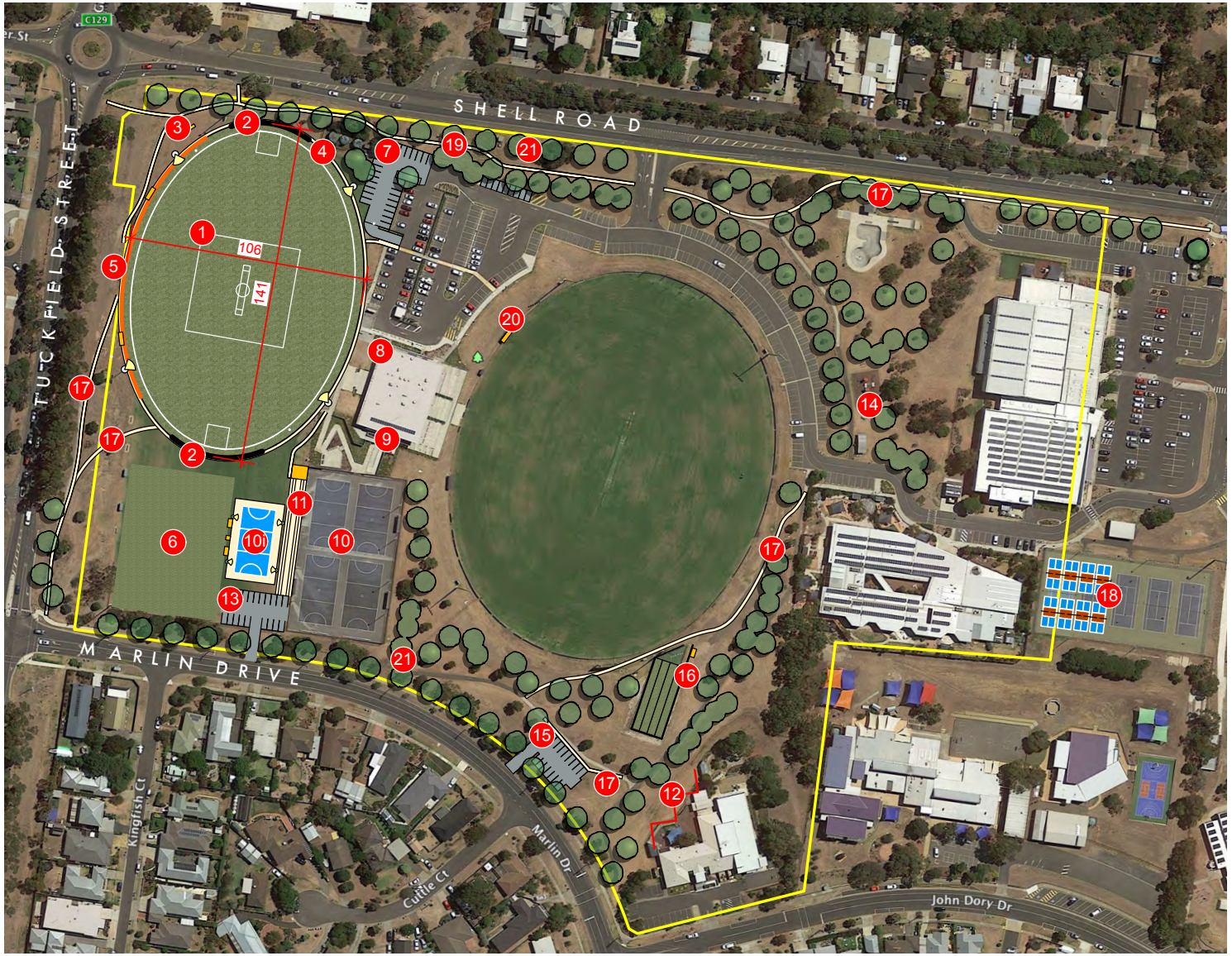
Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	TBC
TOTAL ESTIMATED MASTER PLAN COSTS (ex GST)	**TBC**

Table 17: Project list and associated variables for Wallington Recreation Reserve

1. New AFL/ Cricket Oval, including sub-surface irrigation and drainage, floodlights to training standard (100 lux), player shelters, synthetic surface cricket pitch, and perimeter fence.
2. Install protective netting behind each goal
3. New electronic scoreboard
4. Install a sealed oval perimeter path (1.5m)
5. Western side will require a retaining wall to be constructed to allow for change in grade (orange line shown on plan
6. New multipurpose active recreation space, investigate feasibility of reusing the existing sub-surface irrigation and drainage
7. New sealed car park (34 spaces) with pedestrian path linking the existing pedestrian path to the new oval perimeter path
8. Convert the existing soccer change rooms to two AFL compliant change rooms, enlarge the canteen space, and extend the undercover viewing area
9. Upgrade the pavilion to better meet the needs of netball by reconfiguring the netball change room area to provide additional pans and showers
10. When courts are resurfaced, ensure court line marking achieves 4 compliant courts

10i. New acrylic surface netball court with floodlighting to competition standard (200 lux), player and scorers shelters, and court perimeter fence (1,100mm high)

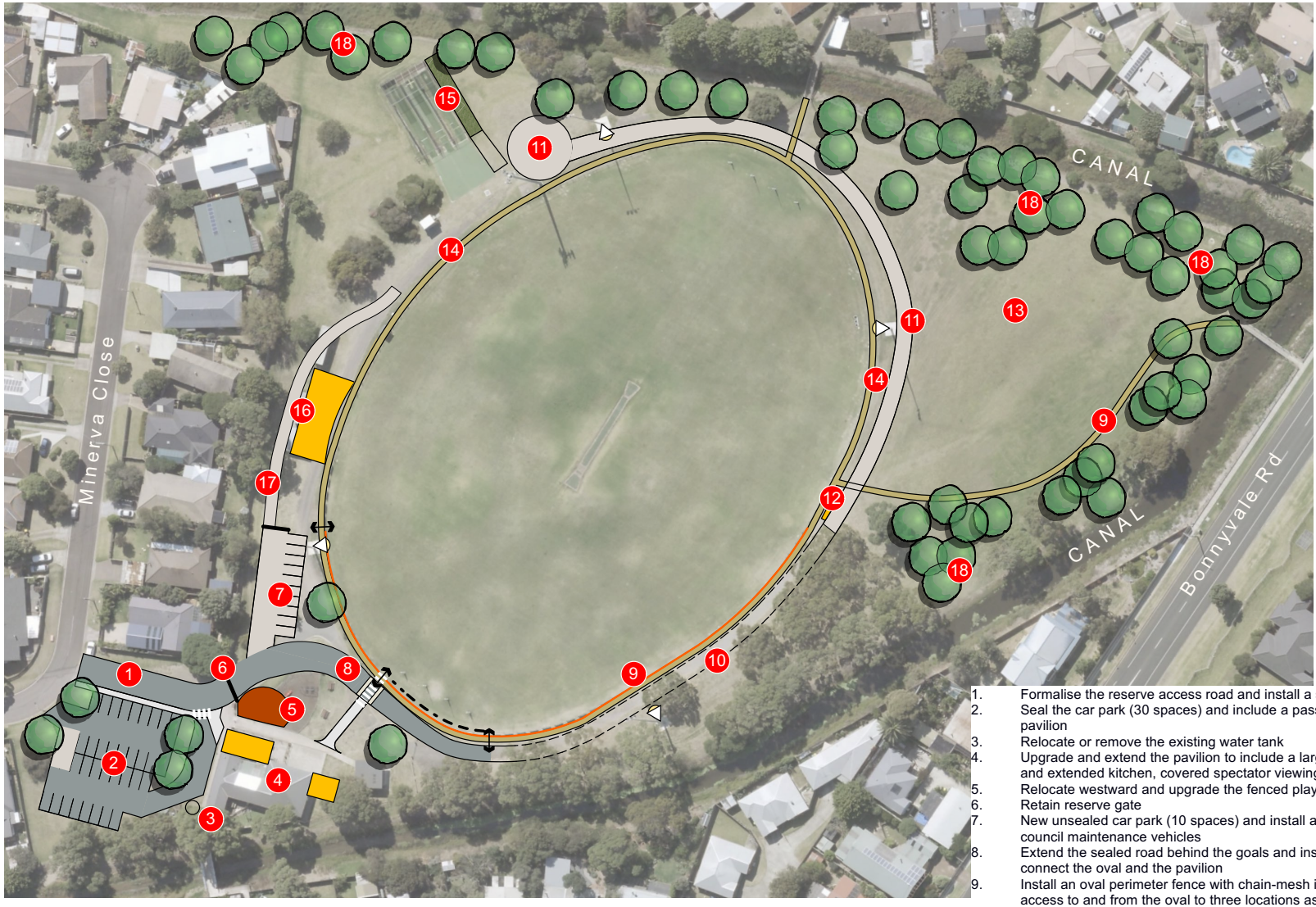
11. New terrace seating connecting the existing courts to the new court. This project may require existing services to be relocated. New two level netball store at the northern end to service the courts on both levels, with the upper store also doubling as an Umpire Duty Room
12. Consider an alternate fence treatment to better integrate the Ocean Grove Neighbourhood Centre with the reserve
13. New sealed car park (20 spaces), subject to traffic study
14. Upgrade the existing playground
15. New sealed car park (16 spaces) to accommodate cricket practice, subject to traffic study
16. Add an additional lane to the cricket practice nets on the east side, and a cricket store
17. New pedestrian path
18. Upgrade the tennis court surface and floodlights, as required, and when demand arises, overlay line-marking for Pickleball to two tennis courts
19. New sealed path to replace existing asphalt path
20. New home club coaches box
21. Strengthen the tree planting throughout the reserve (location subject to further investigation)



Shell Road Reserve Master Plan DRAFT

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

March 2022



Legend

- Player spectator access onto oval
- Floodlights
- Goal back netting
- Oval perimeter fence with chain-mesh infill

1. Formalise the reserve access road and install a sealed path from Minerva Close
2. Seal the car park (30 spaces) and include a passenger drop-off zone adjacent to the pavilion
3. Relocate or remove the existing water tank
4. Upgrade and extend the pavilion to include a larger social room, accessible toilets, relocated and extended kitchen, covered spectator viewing platform, and female friendly change rooms
5. Relocate westward and upgrade the fenced playground, and include bench seating
6. Retain reserve gate
7. New unsealed car park (10 spaces) and install a gate to permit controlled access for council maintenance vehicles
8. Extend the sealed road behind the goals and install a raised crossing further to the west to connect the oval and the pavilion
9. Install an oval perimeter fence with chain-mesh infill (orange line on the plan) to restrict access to and from the oval to three locations as shown, and to also prevent cricket balls from entering the canal
10. Retain informal gravel road and car parking between the trees
11. New gravel road with turnaround bowl
12. New electronic scoreboard
13. Retain as open space and utilise for overflow car parking, as required
14. New unsealed path around the oval and connecting to existing pedestrian bridges over the canals
15. Upgrade the cricket practice facility, and install a 4th lane when demand exists
16. Replace the existing buildings with one new structure closer to the oval that includes an equipment store, timekeeper room, first aid room, an open BBQ area, and spectator shelter
17. Realign the gravel road around the new building and spector shelter
18. Strengthen the tree planting throughout the reserve (location subject to further investigation)

Collendina Reserve Master Plan DRAFT

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

March 2022

1. Remove the required number of Cypress pines to enable a new compliant Senior baseball field to be constructed. Works include re-alignment of the baseball field, new back net, dug-outs, scorers box, and gates
2. New Womens/ Junior baseball field back net and in-field to be constructed
3. Existing cricket store
4. Existing outdoor baseball training facility unchanged and install new cricket practice facility (three lanes)
5. Existing indoor baseball training facility
6. Formalise the reserve road and car parking (30 spaces). Ensure clear sight lines at Reserve entry, and in the future consider the need for slip lanes

6a Improve reserve notification signage along Wallington Road

7. Install baseball floodlights
8. Remove the public toilet block
9. Upgrade and extend the pavilion to provide two compliant baseball/cricket change rooms, a shared kitchen/ canteen, bar, social space and internal toilets, and storage. Allow for external sensory lights to light the car park
10. Resolve poor drainage issue
11. Existing playground
12. Bellarine Pigeon Club pavilion, connect water supply
13. New sealed path to connect to the Pigeon Club with new accessible external toilet included in the redevelopment of the pavilion
14. Divert the unsealed road around the baseball backnet
15. Retain as open space
16. Consider future potential to upgrade the tennis courts and netball court, and add pickleball courts when local demand arises
17. Strengthen the tree planting throughout the reserve
18. New unsealed path
19. New electronic scoreboard



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Wallington Recreation Reserve Master Plan DRAFT

March 2022

2.5. Indented Head Woodland Nature Reserve Master Plan Draft

Source: **City Services**
Director: **Guy Wilson-Browne**

Purpose

1. For Council to endorse the Draft Indented Head Woodland Nature Reserve Master Plan (**Attachment 1**) for stakeholder and community engagement for a period of 30 days.

Background

2. The Indented Head Woodland Nature Reserve was declared a nature reserve on 11 June 2019. This followed a land exchange between the City and a housing developer. The land exchange was strongly supported by the community.

3. At the time of the land exchange, the City agreed to prepare a master plan for the reserve in partnership with the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners and the community.

4. The site is characterised by open, cleared areas of exotic grassland to the north and west, interspersed by a wetland/woodland mosaic, containing large old trees, and a small creek. There are no paths or formal access.

5. Although the site has been modified from previous agricultural activities, land clearing and weed invasion, it retains significant environmental values.

Key Matters

6. The draft plan has been developed in collaboration with the Indented Head Community Association, Friends of Indented Head Woodland, the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners and the broader Indented Head community.

7. The draft plan provides a vision for the reserve and outlines the desired outcomes. It recommends priority actions to be implemented to protect and enhance the natural values of the reserve and provide recreational activities.

8. The draft plan merges the existing and new stormwater treatment areas into the reserve boundary to provide further opportunities to enhance and engage with nature.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.5

Cr Mason moved, Cr Sullivan seconded -

That Council endorse the Draft Indented Head Woodland Nature Reserve Master Plan (Attachment 1) for public exhibition and community feedback for a period of 30 days.

Carried

Financial Sustainability

9. The cost estimates to implement the master plan will be included when the final draft plan is presented to Council.

10. The final plan will also consider project priorities and future staging of works.

Community Engagement

11. The development of the draft plan was informed by engagement with stakeholders including Indented Head Community Association, Wadawurrung Traditional Owners, Friends of Indented Head Woodland, the Bellarine Catchment Network (BCN), Geelong Field Naturalists Club and the broader Indented Head community.

12. As part of the process of developing the draft plan, time was spent on Country with the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners. Following this a request was made by the City to the Wadawurrung Langauage Committee to use Wadawurrung language to name the reserve. Two alternate names Wirrngwirrnga = Place of listening and Budjelnga Ngubitj = Very old waters (preferred) have been proposed by the Committee. These names will be considered as part of the next stage of community consultation.

13. Over 250 project postcards were distributed to Indented Head residents and made available at the Indented Head shop, directing those interested to contribute on the Have Your Say page.

14. The project was presented at the Indented Head Community Association Annual General Meeting in January 2022. Four media articles promoted the engagement opportunity, and three signs were placed in the reserve.

15. The initial consultation process showed the project is well supported. Preservation of native environment/bushland was a major topic as was access for the community. Walking paths were important, as well as education and protecting and enhancing ecological and Indigenous cultural values.

Social Equity and Sustainability

16. The delivery of actions within the draft plan will support:

    16.1. All ability walking access into the reserve, and

    16.2. The provision of seating and other facilities.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

17. The reserve provides habitat for the vulnerable Latham's Snipe, an international migratory bird, recognised under the *Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Japan for the Protection of Migratory Birds in Danger of Extinction and their Environment*.

18. Most of the reserve is an area of cultural heritage sensitivity and projects that require soil disturbance may be required to undertake a Cultural Heritage Management Plan under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and the *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018*.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

19. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
    Healthy, caring and inclusive community.
    Sustainable growth and environment.

20. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
    A destination that attracts local and international visitors.
    An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.
    Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

21. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

22. There are no high or extreme risks associated with releasing the draft plan for stakeholder and community engagement.

Environmental Sustainability

23. The draft Plan outlines the objectives and priority actions that will protect and enhance the environmental values of the reserve.

24. Actions identified in the draft Plan will have no negative impacts to biodiversity.

25. It is anticipated the Plan will enable the:

    25.1. protection and enhancement of biodiversity values;

    25.2. protection and enhancement of threatened ecological communities;

    25.3. increase in area of protected natural habitat;

    25.4. increase in number and diversity of woodland and wetland birds, including migratory species which are protected under international agreements;

    25.5. eradication of woody weeds from the site and a reduction of high threat herbaceous weeds;

    25.6. reduction in threats from pest animals including rabbits and foxes; and

    25.7. beneficial outcomes on social well-being by improving community access to nature.

Attachments

1. Indented Head Woodland Reserve Master Plan Draft - April 2022 [**2.5.1** - 1 page]

9 CoGG are proposing to alter the management arrangements so that the Retention Basin will form part of the broader management of the reserve.

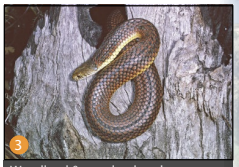
10 COGG will consider the future inclusion of this area of mature trees, located to the south east of the Sea Breeze Estate storm water ponds and north of the retention basin, into the management of the reserve.



1 Plains freshwater sedge wetland providing critical habitat for the vulnerable Latham's Snipe & frogs.



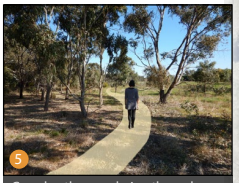
2 Bird hide to provide secluded views to Plains Freshwater Sedge Wetland & mature redgum habitat.



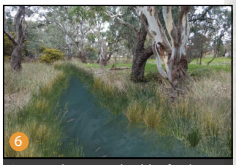
3 Woodland & grassland ecology provides habitat for snakes & reptiles.



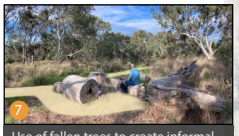
4 Grassy open space for informal recreation.



5 Gravel path meandering through reserve providing nature trail.



6 Improve long term health of redgums by enhancing waterflow into creek.



7 Use of fallen trees to create informal seating.



8 Ongoing protection & enhancement of remnant microlaena grassland habitat.



INDENTED HEAD NATURE RESERVE

VALUES

- Significant conservation reserve for CoGG.
- Demonstration site for indigenous regeneration techniques.
- Ecological focus for visitor experiences.
- Massive remnant redgum trees.
- Vibrant native wildlife habitat.
- Important habitat for bird species.
- Contrasts of bushland and rural land.
- Creek and redgum ecology.
- Significant Freshwater Sedge Wetland.

EXPERIENCES

- Engender conservation values for the new residents with ecological education for young and old residents.
- Contemplation of the natural environment.
- Sense of remoteness and tranquility.
- Sounds, colours, and aromas of the bush.

GOALS

- Protect and enhance biodiversity.
- Ensure environmental resilience in a changing climate.
- Collaborate with the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners to connect culture and biodiversity.
- Build community awareness and understanding of the importance of protecting remaining natural areas on the Bellarine Penisnsula.
- Create opportunities for improved social well being, through connection to nature and open space.

11 Creation of short loop walking track around retention basin wetland.



12 Boardwalk design & seating installation providing tranquil views to wetland.

13 CoGG will maintain the existing access gate opposite of Martin Street for Emergency Service vehicles to provide management vehicles access to the reserve.

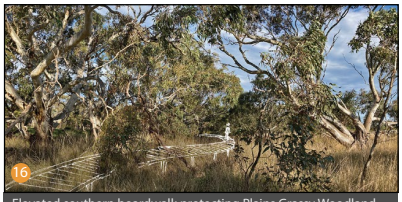


14 Entry point into Indented Head Nature Reserve with seating and signage.



15 Sheltered sunny picnic area for community use close to main entrance.

17 CoGG will create and maintain a continuous fence to the reserve boundary for management purposes.



16 Elevated southern boardwalk protecting Plains Grassy Woodland from uncontrolled pedestrian access.

DRAWING KEY

- Waterway & Retarding Basin
- Plains Freshwater Sedge Wetland (PFSW) area
- Microlaena native grasses
- Restored Microlaena native grasses
- Plains Grassy Woodland
- Extended Plains Grassy Woodland
- Significant Trees
- Significant Trees with Bird Habitat
- Nature Strip Trail Alignment
- Internal Trail Alignment
- Informal Picnic Areas
- Dog Proof Gate
- Storm Water Drainage Flows
- IHNR Boundary
- Approx. Alignment of Elevated Boardwalk

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

MASTER PLAN

INDENTED HEAD NATURE RESERVE

MAR 2022
DWG_IH_MP_1
SCALE 1:2,500 @ A3
1:1,250 @ A1
0 20 60 80 100m

2.6. Amendment C387ggee Proposed Rezoning - Jetty Road Urban Growth Area Stage 2, Curlewis

Source: **City Planning & Economy**
Director: **Gareth Smith**

Purpose

1. To seek a Council resolution to prepare and exhibit Planning Scheme Amendment C387ggee.

Background

2. In 2020/21 consultants acting for several Curlewis landowners lodged planning scheme amendment applications to rezone Rural Living Zone and Farming Zone land to the General Residential Zone.

3. The land to be rezoned is generally referred to as 'Jetty Road Urban Growth Area Stage 2' in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. This area is shown in **Attachment 1** maps and contains 20 individual land titles spread over 149.45 hectares.

4. Stage 2 of the growth area follows the near total build-out of Jetty Road Stage 1 which delivered over 1700 house lots and associated infrastructure, the Bayview Central Shopping Centre and new Griggs Creek and foreshore public open space. Stage 1 was rezoned in December 2009 by Amendment C152 and a Development Contributions Plan Overlay was applied later by Amendment C230.

Key Matters

5. The Jetty Road Stage 2 land is within the Drysdale Clifton Springs settlement boundary and designated in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme for rezoning to facilitate conventional and medium density residential use. Stage 2 makes up 50 per cent of the total growth area and will yield a similar or greater number of dwellings as Stage 1.

6. The land is also identified in the State Government Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Draft Bellarine Peninsula Statement of Planning Policy as 'growth areas'.

7. Because the land is in fragmented ownership, the rezoning is supported by planning controls to require the form of future use and development to be shown on a plan, and for the levying of developer contributions to deliver shared infrastructure.

8. The planning controls will be structured to require early developer delivery of Tivoli Drive and Greenvale Drive north of the Bellarine Rail Trail as one single construction project.

9. The amendment proposes to: rezone the land to the General Residential Zone Schedule 1; apply a new Development Plan Overlay Schedule; and apply a new Development Contributions Plan Overlay Schedule.

10. It is recommended that the amendment be finalised and then exhibited in the second half of 2022 inviting submissions (subject to the Minister's authorisation).

RESOLUTION - Item 2.6

Cr Mason moved, Cr Grzybek seconded -

That Council:

1. **Support the preparation and exhibition of Amendment C387ggee to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme to:**

   1.1 Rezone the land bounded by Port Phillip Bay to the north, Portarlington Road to the south, existing housing estates, Jetty Road and Hackwill Place to the east, and McDermott Road and the Curlewis Golf Course to the west, from Rural Living Zone and Farming Zone to General Residential Zone Schedule 1 (as shown in Attachment 1);

   1.2 Apply the Development Plan Overlay to the land being rezoned;

   1.3 Apply the Development Contributions Plan Overlay to the land being rezoned; and

   1.4 Incorporate the Jetty Road Urban Growth Area Stage 2 Development Contributions Plan.

2. **Request the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation and exhibition of Amendment C387ggee.**

Carried

Financial Sustainability

11. It is proposed to apply a Development Contributions Plan (DCP) to the land being rezoned. The Jetty Road Urban Growth Area Stage 2 DCP is currently under preparation.

12. A Stage 1 DCP applied to the Stage 1 land only, identifying the infrastructure items that Stage 1 landowners were to contribute to. Applicable Stage 1 items have now been delivered. However, some of the infrastructure items identified in the Stage 1 DCP are to be funded by both Stage 1 and Stage 2 landowners.

13. It is critically important that Amendment C387ggee include a Stage 2 DCP. The map below sourced from the Stage 1 DCP shows where the DCPs are to be applied:



14. The Stage 1 DCP identified the infrastructure items to be partly funded by Stage 2 landowners infrastructure contributions as follows:

    14.1. Intersection North South Collector Road Part A and Portarlington Road (completed);

    14.2. Intersection North South Collector Road Part B and East West Collector Road (not completed);

    14.3. Pedestrian crossing over Griggs Creek to Clifton Springs Primary School (completed);

    14.4. Pedestrian crossing over Griggs Creek to Jetty Road Reserve (completed);

    14.5. Pedestrian crossing at Bellarine Rail Trail and North South Collector Road (completed, however under review due to Tivoli Drive duplication);

    14.6. Griggs Creek - Rehabilitation and revegetation (completed);

    14.7. Griggs Creek - Landscaping and improvements (completed);

14.8. Sub-Regional Park - Improvements (not completed);

14.9. Foreshore Reserve - Improvements (Stage 1 completed Stage 2 not completed);

14.10. Community Hub - Land acquisition (completed); and

14.11. Community Hub - Construction (not completed).

15. Items identified above that have not been completed are being rescoped and quantity surveyed to ensure the Stage 2 DCP applies current standards, and updated delivery timelines, avoiding shortfall costs that would ultimately fall on the City.

16. Costs to prepare the Stage 2 DCP will be the responsibility of the developer group.

17. The City, in consultation with the developer group, is also investigating whether any new shared infrastructure not identified in the Stage 1 DCP should be included in the Stage 2 DCP. For instance, a proposed Tivoli Drive/Greenvale Drive duplication delivery strategy will be tied to the DCP providing Council the ability to step in and construct the road as a last resort, in the knowledge that costs can be recovered via the DCP over time.

18. The Stage 2 DCP will become an incorporated document in the planning scheme which would legally bind Council to the provisions of the plan. Contributions towards the Drysdale Regional Community and Learning Hub in the town centre will also apply in the form of a per dwelling levy consistent with Section 46L of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

19. The DCP will enable the collection of levies to ensure the identified shared infrastructure is funded to enable the City and developers to provide the infrastructure. The City will act as the collecting agency and may deliver infrastructure or enter into agreements with developers to provide land and works in-kind.

Community Engagement

20. In reaching this report's position to recommend preparation and exhibition of Amendment C387ggee, the City has directly engaged with the landowners whose land is proposed to be rezoned.

21. Council officers have now written to all the affected landowners informing them of this report being listed on the agenda for the 24 May 2022 Council Meeting.

22. More generally, it would be fair to acknowledge that recent events, such as the State Government Distinctive Areas and Landscapes project, Council's settlement strategy Amendment C395ggee and the Central Road Drysdale rezoning amendment, have heightened community awareness of urban growth planned for the town. Residents of Jetty Road Urban Growth Area Stage 1 would also be expected to have bought into the estate knowing that the farming land to the immediate west (i.e., Stage 2) would one day be rezoned and developed for housing.

23. There has also been separate recent community engagement by Council's Engineering Services division about traffic issues on Tivoli Drive and Greenvale Drive. The report of the 24 August 2021 Council Meeting included discussion on planning for Jetty Road Urban Growth Area Stage 2.

24. The report was followed by further assessments and the establishment of a '*Have Your Say'* Geelong Australia webpage. The most recent community update provided a

summary of the key issues and said *'Tivoli and Greenvale Drive is planned to be duplicated to a boulevard style road during Stage 2 of the JRUGP (Jetty Road Urban Growth Plan). This is expected to occur in 2025/26'*.

25. Community engagement was also undertaken in 2020 to understand community sentiment on a potential relocation of the community hub to the Clifton Springs Primary School. Sixty-nine per cent of respondents expressed support for the relocation to the school, 8 per cent did not have a preference either way and 23 per cent of respondents thought the community hub should not be relocated, with accessibility being one of the key reasons.

26. If Council resolves to support the recommendation, the public exhibition process will involve a mail out to all directly affected and nearby landowners, notices in local newspapers, and notice on the City's website and the Victoria Government Gazette as required by the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Exhibition, subject to ministerial authorisation, is planned for the second half of 2022.

27. Interested parties will be able to make written submissions which are intended to be considered under Council delegation.

28. It is more than likely that all submissions will be referred to an independent panel appointed by the Minister for Planning. Submitters then have the opportunity to appear and present their case at the hearing. It is noted that all submissions referred to a panel are considered by the panel, irrespective of whether a submitter appears or not.

Social Equity and Sustainability

29. The amendment has appropriately considered social equity principles. The City has engaged with landowners about the proposed rezoning and supporting planning controls. Further engagement will occur as part of exhibiting the amendment.

30. The amendment will provide social benefits by facilitating residential development conveniently located to a broad range of services. The additional land supply will also provide opportunity for new residents to settle in the area and help ease housing affordability pressures.

31. Recent strategic planning undertaken has identified that the community hub should be delivered at a later stage than the trigger identified in the Stage 1 DCP. The Kindergarten Infrastructure and Services Plan (2021) and analysis prepared by Urban Enterprise (2022) forecasts early years capacity deficits for 2029 (KISP) and 2031 (UE) - well after the Stage 1 DCP trigger for delivery of the community hub (2022-2023 or 1800 lots). Advice of the Department of Education and Training (DET) has indicated that any funding support for the delivery of early years infrastructure is to align with KISP priorities.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

32. There is strong support for the amendment in the Planning Scheme's Municipal Strategic Statement. Most notably, at Clause 21.14 *Bellarine Peninsula*, the subject land is identified for conventional and medium density residential. This area is located within the Drysdale Clifton Springs settlement boundary and has long been designated for urban growth.

33. Council's 2020 Settlement Strategy recognises Drysdale Clifton Springs (which includes part of Curlewis) as a district town on the Bellarine Peninsula capable of

accommodating population growth. The settlement strategy directs that district town boundaries will be based generally on existing urban areas and areas already identified in the policy.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

34. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
Sustainable growth and environment.

35. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

36. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

37. Deferral or delay in proceeding to exhibition is likely to cause confusion and uncertainty for directly affected landowners, developers, and the local community. This is particularly so given the clear policy direction in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.

38. Not proceeding with the amendment would also expose Council to legal and financial repercussions associated with its Development Contributions Plan obligations.

39. Tivoli Drive, Greenvale Drive and other nearby residents are also keenly waiting for the development of Jetty Road Stage 2 and the construction of the duplicated road as planned.

Environmental Sustainability

40. The amendment will be supported by technical assessments and planning controls to provide for sustainable subdivision design, stormwater management, native vegetation retention and the public realm. This information will inform the future development plan which is discussed in **Attachment 2**.

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Maps - Amendment C387ggee land, property addresses and current zoning.

Attachment 2 - Discussion - Amendment C387ggee

Attachment 1

Maps - Amendment C387ggee land, property addresses and current zoning







Property Identifier	Address
1	1421-1423 Portarlington Rd, Curlewis
2	1421-1423 Portarlington Rd, Curlewis
3	1421-1423 Portarlington Rd, Curlewis
4	1425-1429 Portarlington Rd, Curlewis
5	1431-1439 Portarlington Rd, Curlewis
6	1441-1449 Portarlington Rd, Curlewis
7	1451-1459 Portarlington Rd, Curlewis
8	1421-1423 Portarlington Rd, Curlewis
9	1471-1479 Portarlington Rd, Curlewis
10	1481-1489 Portarlington Rd, Curlewis
11	324-346 Jetty Rd, Curlewis
12	312-322 Jetty Rd, Curlewis
13	302-310 Jetty Rd, Curlewis
14	292-300 Jetty Rd, Curlewis
15	276-290 Jetty Rd, Curlewis


Clifton Springs
Curlewis
Drysdale
Portarlington
Drysdale Bypass
Jetty Road
Thomas Street
Wyndham Street
Stanley Avenue
Bellarine Rail Trail
Station Street
Reserve Road
McKiernan Street
Hill Street
Shore Avenue
Creekside Drive
Baybrook Avenue
Amstead Avenue
Applecross Boulevard
Greenvale Drive
Northern Road
Newcombe Road
Corduroy Road
Mudermill Road
Coppers Road
Adda Street
Yarramundi Drive
Clapstar Crescent
Pelican Drive
Kerrie Drive
Kanpie Drive
Kawarra Drive
Yarra Range Avenue
Mirrabooka Drive
Bay
FZ
GRZ1
PPRZ
RLZ
SUZ3
TRZ2
C123
Road

Attachment 2

Discussion - Amendment C387ggee

Background to the Amendment

1. Amendment C387ggee is a developer driven (referred to as the 'developer group' in this report) Planning Scheme Amendment seeking to rezone 149.45 hectares of Farming Zone and Rural Living Zone land to the General Residential Zone. The area is shown in **Attachment 1** and is generally known in planning terms as 'Jetty Road Stage 2'.

2. Because the Amendment has been initiated by developers, Council is relying on the group to prepare the necessary technical reports and be responsible for costs and fees associated with the Amendment process. The City is working closely with the developer group to complete the required documentation for exhibition planned in the second half of this year.

3. In September 2020 CardnoTGM acting for the landowners in the Rural Living Zone precinct south of the Bellarine Rail Trail lodged an Amendment application to rezone the land. Council officers accepted the application however noted progression of the application was dependent on joint consideration of the Farming Zone precinct north of the Rail Trail up to Port Phillip Bay that also forms part of Jetty Road Stage 2.

4. Asset 1 (91-125 Coriyule Road) and the Moss Family (32-70 McDermott Road) located within the Farming Zone precinct, then, in June 2021, lodged a rezoning application via CardnoTGM. The application applied to all the Farming Zone land north of the Rail Trail and originally sought concurrent multi-lot subdivision permits, which have since been removed. It is noted that CardnoTGM, Asset 1 and the Moss Family had commenced discussions with Council officers in 2018.

5. It was also in 2018 that Council officers first engaged the two northernmost Farming Zone precinct landowners at 72-100 McDermott Road and 102-170 McDermott Road. These landowners are not party to the Farming Zone precinct application however their properties form a critical component of the growth area and therefore must be included in the Amendment.

6. Since the applications were received, there has been some changes in land ownership. The majority landowner in the rural living precinct at 1421-1423 Portarlington Road is now APD Projects. 32-70 McDermott Road is currently being acquired by a developer. Together with Asset 1, these three developers are effectively the 'developer group'.

7. Council acceptance of this report will provide the developer group with confidence and certainty to continue with preparation of the Amendment.

Strategic basis for the Amendment

8. There is a long established history and planning context to the Jetty Road Urban Growth Area. As far back as 1983, the area was identified for long term future growth in the Drysdale/Clifton Springs Structure Plan prepared by the Geelong Regional Commission.

9. The next iteration of the Drysdale/Clifton Springs Structure Plan was in 1992 and the land north of the Rail Trail between Jetty Road and McDermott Road was designated for residential rezoning. The area south of the Rail Trail was designated for Rural Residential zoning. The rural residential designation was identified for consolidation in the City of Greater Geelong Urban Growth Strategy 1996.

10. Commencing in 2006, the City of Greater Geelong initiated planning of the growth area. The Jetty Road Urban Growth Plan, September 2008 (preface i) says:

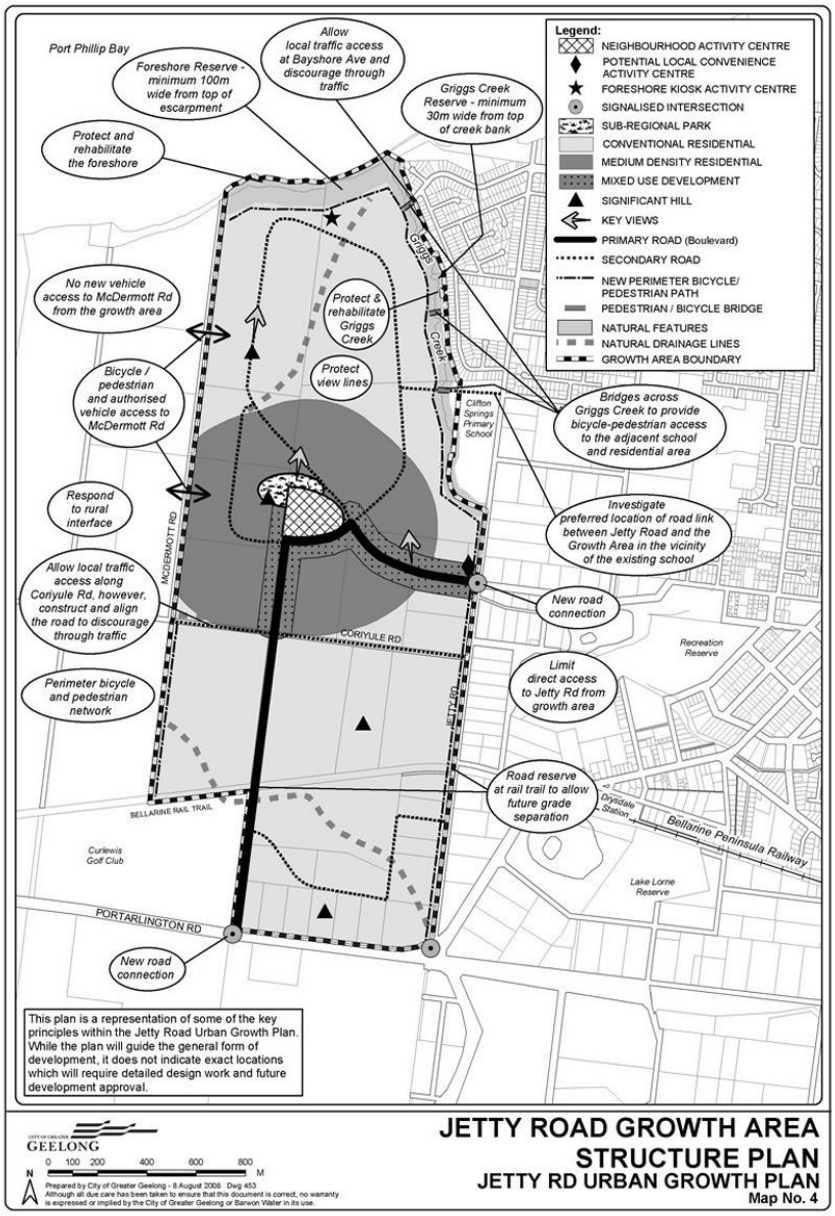
The Jetty Road Urban Growth Plan (UGP) sets the strategic direction for the development of land in the Jetty Road growth area. The UGP sets out the key planning responses that will be pursued at each stage of the planning process for the growth area. The UGP will ensure that the growth area develops in an orderly and sustainable fashion, and that areas of high ecological, cultural or aesthetic value are protected.

11. The UGP was developed in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, including state government agencies, statutory bodies, utility companies, community groups, developers and landowners. Public consultation was conducted in October and November 2006. The UGP was adopted by the City of Greater Geelong at the Council meeting on 26 June 2007 and amended on 23 September 2008, following Council adoption of Amendment C129.

12. The Jetty Road Urban Growth Plan map appears at Clause 21.14 *Bellarine Peninsula* of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme as shown below:

21.14-12 Jetty Road Urban Growth Plan map

31/01/2019
C376pt1ggee



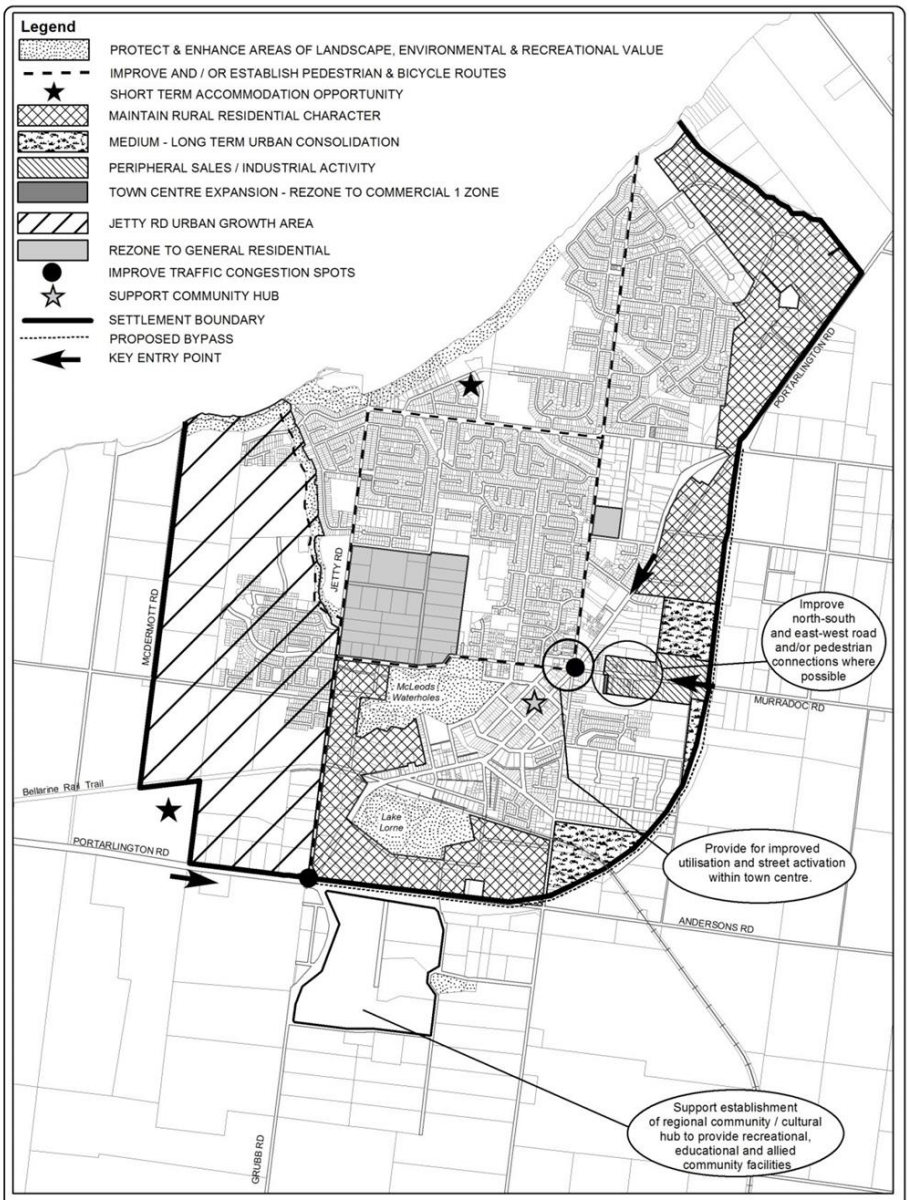
13. Preparation of Amendment C387ggee has been guided by the principles and objectives contained in the Jetty Road Urban Growth Plan. While these principles and objectives continue to apply, the plan is 14 years old and a range of new planning polices and requirements will form part of the proposed planning controls.

14. With the construction of Jetty Road Stage 1 there are also lessons learnt, such as improving housing diversity, management of stormwater drainage and outfall, and the efficient delivery of Tivoli Drive and Greenvale Drive.

15. Since the adoption of the Jetty Road Urban Growth Plan, subsequent Council and State Government strategic planning policies have re-affirmed the designation of Stage 2 for residential rezoning. The 2010 Drysdale Clifton Springs Structure Plan map (located below) identifies the Jetty Road Urban Growth Area within the town settlement boundary.

21.14-11 **Drysdale Clifton Springs Structure Plan map**

31/01/2019
C376pt1ggee



16. The other strategies, which are also embedded in the planning scheme, are:

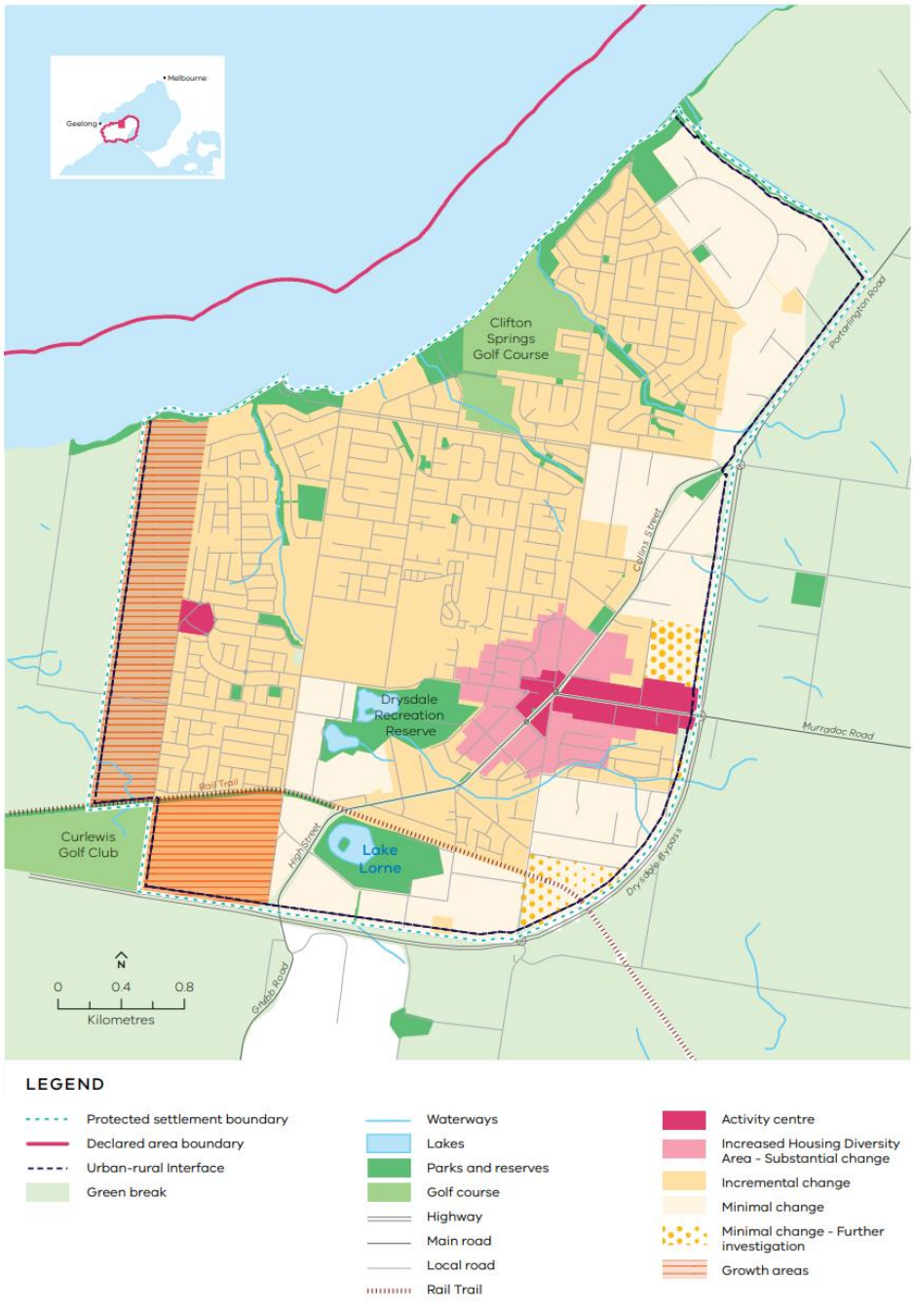
    16.1 *G21 Regional Growth Plan 2013* at State clause 11.01-1S.

    16.2 *Bellarine Localised Planning Statement 2015* at State clause 11.03-5S.

    16.3 *City of Greater Geelong Settlement Strategy 2020* at Local clause 21.06.

17. On 29 October 2019 the Bellarine Peninsula was declared a Distinctive Area and Landscape (DAL) under the *Planning and Environment Act*. The declaration triggered the requirement to prepare a Statement of Planning Policy – and a draft dated June 2021 was prepared and exhibited by DELWP. Below is the Drysdale Clifton Springs map.

Map 9: Proposed Drysdale–Clifton Springs protected settlement boundary



18. The draft Bellarine Peninsula Statement of Planning Policy (SPP) designates the Jetty Road Stage 2 land as 'growth areas' consistent with previous strategies. The land is positioned inside the proposed protected settlement boundary, this boundary being the same as the settlement boundary location in the Drysdale Clifton Springs Structure Plan.

19. The draft Bellarine Peninsula SPP has not yet been given effect in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. The Minster for Planning has decided to refer all submissions about the location of the protected settlement boundary (for all Bellarine towns) to the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Standing Advisory Committee. A public hearing commenced in late April 2022.

20. In outlining the strategic basis for Amendment C387ggee, it is clear that the draft Bellarine Peninsula SPP continues to designate the land for urban development.

Site context and development opportunities

21. The Jetty Road Stage 2 area contains 20 individual land titles spread over 149 hectares. The area can logically be categorised into two distinct precincts – a Rural Living Zone precinct south of the Bellarine Rail Trail and a Farming Zone precinct north of the Bellarine Rail Trail.

22. Maps of the two precincts showing property addresses and zoning can be found in **Attachment 1**.

Farming Precinct

23. The farming precinct consists of 5 titles and four landowners and has a total area of 96.7 hectares. The precinct extends north to Port Phillip Bay, south to the Bellarine Rail Trail and Curlewis Golf Course and west to McDermott Road which marks the western extent of the Drysdale/Clifton Springs settlement boundary. Land located further west is described as cleared farming zone land. The land parcels are as follows:

24. 102-170 McDermott Road: 32.9ha in area with a variety of uses including cropping, vineyard and use as a function centre. The property contains a substantial dwelling and extensive ornate landscaping and planted native tree rows, near where the vineyard and reception building are located. The balance area located to the north is cleared farmland with remnant vegetation patches which extends to the Port Phillip Bay shore.

25. 72-100 McDermott Road: this property is a small farming lot of 11.81ha in area and is used for grazing and cropping and also contains a small vineyard. The land contains a house and sheds and is bound by windrows on each boundary.

26. 32-70 McDermott Road: 26.10 ha in area and made up of two individual lots (Lots 9 and 10 on LP10309), located to the north of Coriyule Road and east of McDermott Road. The land is described as predominantly vacant farmland with a shed located along the southern boundary. The land is cropped, undulating and naturally drains to the south-west and north-west. The high point is at the north-east corner where the planned sub-regional park will be located and the heritage listed "Coriyule" Homestead is located opposite at 1-69 McDermott Road.

27. 91-125 Coriyule Road: this property is 25.89 ha in area of cleared farmland used for cropping and grazing. The land contains a single storey house surrounded by planted vegetation and planted windrows. A dam is located along the western boundary and some scattered native vegetation (river redgums) are located along the north-eastern boundary. A single river redgum is also located at the south-eastern boundary of the land. The subject land is predominantly flat to the northern boundary and undulating to the south which forms the designated waterway through the land. The subject land adjoins Coriyule Road to the north which provides the primary access to the land.

Rural Living Precinct

28. The rural living precinct is irregular in shape with an overall area of 52.745 hectares. It is bounded by the Bellarine Rail Trail to the north, Portarlington Road to the south, Jetty Road and Hackwill Place to the east and Curlewis Golf Course to the west.

29. The precinct is made up of fifteen individual allotments most of which are typical rural residential lots containing a mix of dwelling types, sheds and outbuildings and planted trees and landscaped garden areas. Each property has its own access to either Jetty Road and Hackwill Place or Portarlington Road. 276-290 Jetty Road contains the Drysdale Community Church.

30. There is a natural designated waterway located diagonally across the precinct from south-east to north-west. Two formed farm dams are present on the waterway with wetland native vegetation. There is also some scattered river gum, swamp gum and mana gum trees in the precinct.

Technical assessments

31. In preparing the Amendment application, the developer group commissioned technical assessments to inform the future development layout and infrastructure requirements.

32. Assessments were prepared for service infrastructure, flooding and stormwater drainage, public open space, traffic engineering, bushfire hazard, land contamination, native vegetation, planted trees, aboriginal cultural heritage and housing needs. The urban servicing investigations confirm that Jetty Road Stage 2 is able to efficiently connect to all necessary infrastructure (i.e., water, sewer, gas, electricity, drainage, roads and telecommunications).

33. Under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*, the Amendment land is found to be within an area of possible cultural heritage sensitivity. Cultural heritage assessments have confirmed that Cultural Heritage Management Plans (CHMP) will be required. While a request to rezone land does not trigger a requirement to prepare a CHMP, subdivision permits cannot be issued until the Responsible Authority receives an approved CHMP. Permits must also be consistent with any approved CHMP.

34. Referral comments from the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) request that the WTOAC be invited to be a co-design partner in public realm planning. In preparing future open space landscape plans, Council and developers will actively engage with the WTOAC in this process.

35. Some assessments are now being updated following Council and State Government agency and authority review, to a level that can appropriately inform the proposed Development Plan Overlay and Development Contributions Plan Overlay schedules.

Features of Jetty Road Stage 2

36. Based on this work, the Jetty Road Urban Growth Plan 2008 and current planning policy, Jetty Road Stage 2 is intended to include the following features:

    36.1 A mix of different forms of housing, including medium density product strategically located close to the Neighbourhood Activity Centre (Bayview Central), bus routes and public open space.

    36.2 Urban and sustainable subdivision design objectives and requirements to achieve best practice neighbourhood character and built form outcomes. This will include sensitive interface treatments to adjoining properties.

    36.3 Developer contributions to deliver on-site social and/or affordable housing.

    36.4 Continuation of the foreshore reserve established in Jetty Road Stage 1.

36.5 A two hectare sub-regional hilltop park located immediately west of the Neighbourhood Activity Centre, and other one hectare local parks to service walkable catchments.

36.6 Protection and restoration of the designated waterway that flows from the corner of Portarlington Road/High Street north-west through the rural living precinct and 91-125 Coriyule Road. The waterway will form part of a stormwater drainage waterway corridor reserve inclusive of revegetation and shared paths.

36.7 Protection of remnant vegetation and non-native vegetation in parks and road reserves that contribute to biodiversity, local character and sense of place.

36.8 Rural-urban transition landscape buffers on the western edge of the growth area and to the interfaces with the Bellarine Rail Trail and Portarlington Road.

36.9 A network of off-road shared paths to link key areas of open space and provide connectivity from the foreshore to the Bellarine Rail Trail and down to the schools, arts and sporting precinct south of the Drysdale Bypass.

36.10 The early duplication of Tivoli Drive and Greenvale Drive to a boulevard-style road that is bus capable. Coriyule Road will remain open but be redesigned with traffic calming measures to discourage use other than for Farming Zone residents to the west. The McDermott Road reserve shall be retained in its current rural form and not provide access to new housing estates. No new lot access will be permitted onto Portarlington Road.

36.11 New stormwater drainage retardation basins located on the western edge of the growth area at McDermott Road and at the north-west corner of the Rural Living Zone precinct.

36.12 Designation of the corner of Portarlington Road and Tivoli Drive as a possible location for non-residential uses allowed in the GRZ1 subject to permit.

Proposed planning controls

37. The subject land is currently zoned for rural living and farming. In order to permit conventional and medium density residential subdivision and development, it is proposed to rezone the land to the General Residential Zone Schedule 1 (GRZ1).

General Residential Zone

38. The GRZ1 is applied to the Jetty Road Stage 1 area except the Neighbourhood Activity Centre which is zoned commercial. The nearby Central Road Drysdale area was recently rezoned the GRZ1 (Amendment C363ggee approved by the Minister for Planning in July 2021). Most of the residential land in the town is zoned GRZ1, with the Residential Growth Zone applied to land around the Drysdale Town Centre.

39. The maximum residential building height allowed in the GRZ1 is 11 metres and must contain no more than 3 storeys. Conventional single and double storey dwellings are standard in Jetty Road Stage 1 with larger two storey dwellings located closer to the bay. The housing market and product continues to evolve and a greater variety of housing forms is supported in Jetty Road Stage 2.

40. The GRZ1 is considered to be the appropriate zone for Jetty Road Stage 2. It will allow for a diverse range of housing types and support higher densities around the Neighbourhood Activity Centre, bus routes and public open space as encouraged in policy. Some non-residential uses are also allowed subject to permit.

41. In December 2019 the State Government released new guidance about using and applying Victoria's suite of residential zones. This prompted a resolution at the 24 March 2020 Council Meeting to request the Minister for Planning implement zone changes in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. Some General Residential Zone areas have since been rezoned to the Neighbourhood Residential Zone.

42. The 24 March 2020 Council resolution contained part 8.5:

    Note the Bellarine Peninsula towns are not included in these zone changes. Building heights will be considered by the Bellarine Peninsula Distinctive Area and Landscapes project managed by DELWP.

43. The current status of the Bellarine DAL was discussed earlier in this report. The exhibited draft SPP Table 2 (p. 53) designates Drysdale-Clifton Springs-Curlewis, Leopold and Ocean Grove as: *'District town: a large town providing a diversity of housing, services and employment for a large, diverse population, which has a strong relationship with surrounding villages and rural areas'*.

44. The draft SPP is accompanied by background reports, one being a township character assessment which recommended the Neighbourhood Residential Zone be applied to Bellarine Townships. The draft SPP itself contains no mention or direction about rezoning. The final form of the policy is contested and the role and status of background reports remains unclear.

45. Most recently in December 2021 the Independent Panel that considered Amendment C391ggee Ash Road, Leopold (which is located in the Bellarine DAL declared area) said:

    'The Panel has reviewed the General Residential Zone and notes no party raised issues with its application to the site, nor its structure or format. The Panel agrees it is the appropriate zone for the land and will provide for the opportunity to deliver a new residential area that provides for a diverse housing offer' (p. 37).

46. Any residential rezoning consideration of Bellarine towns, including the Jetty Road Stage 2 area, should rest with the State Government.

47. It is proposed to apply a Development Plan Overlay and Development Contributions Plan Overlay to the land being rezoned.

Development Plan Overlay

48. The purpose of a Development Plan Overlay is to identify areas which require the form and conditions of future use and development to be shown on a development plan before a planning permit can be granted. There are 15 individual owners that make up Jetty Road Stage 2 which means it is essential for development to occur in a planned and coordinated manner.

49. Once the land is rezoned and a development plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, subsequent planning permit applications are exempt from the notice and review requirements of the Planning & Environment Act. Planning Practice Note 23 (p.3) states: *'Appropriate strategic planning and community consultation from the start also ensures that once the overlay is in place the council is able to make decisions on planning applications without the need to further consult'*.

50. It is expected that land owned by the developer group will be subdivided and developed first, and the proposed Development Plan Overlay Schedule will be structured to allow for this to occur. The Development Plan Overlay Schedule to be exhibited will include a concept plan that shows the location of key land uses, as well as urban design and development requirements (outlined in paragraph 35).

Development Contributions Plan

51. The purpose of a Development Contributions Plan Overlay is to identify areas which require the preparation of a Development Contributions Plan (DCP) for the purpose of levying contributions for the provision of works, services and facilities before development can commence.

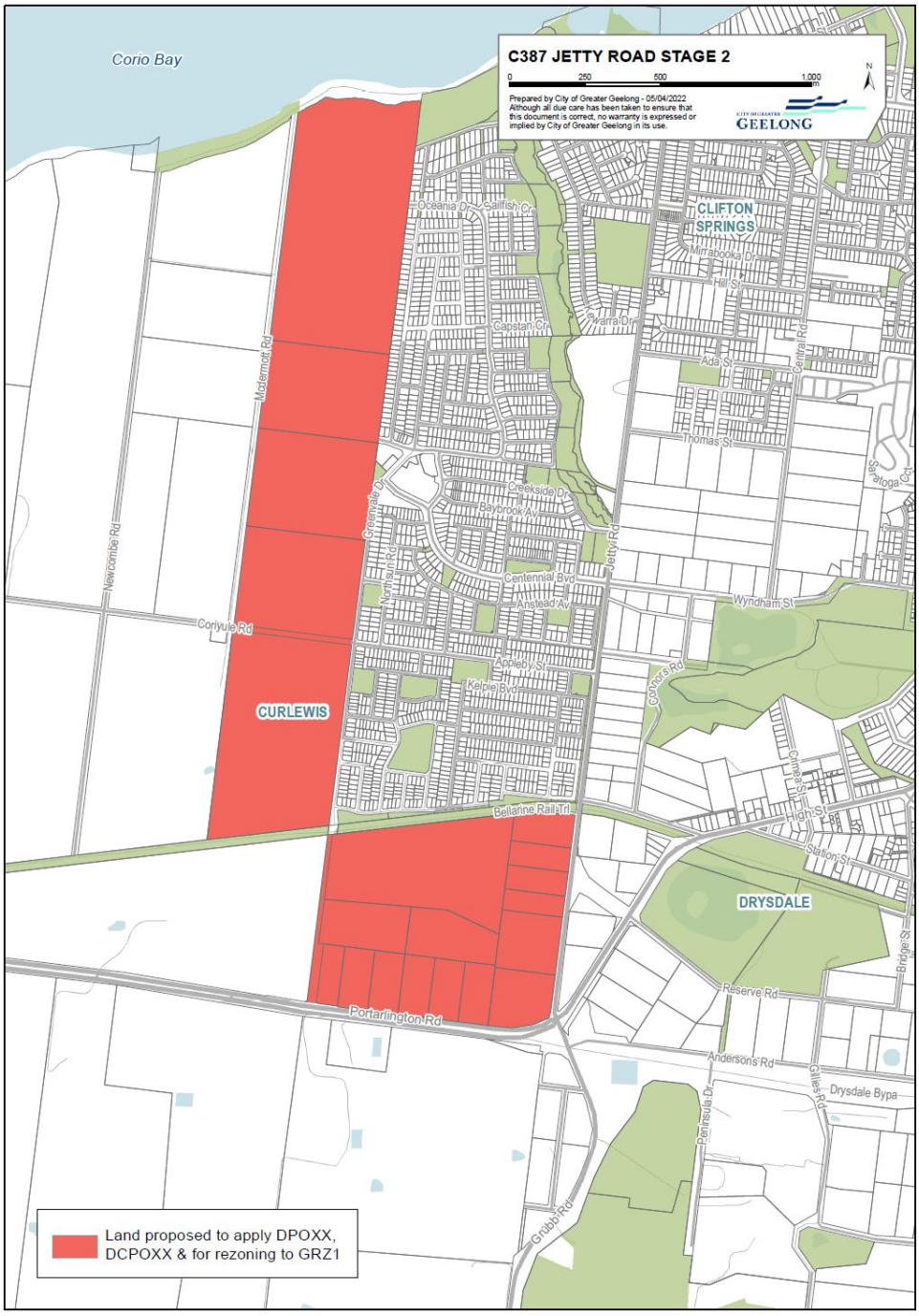
52. The proposed Development Contributions Plan Overlay shall be informed by the preparation of the draft Jetty Road Urban Growth Area Stage 2 DCP. The DCP will ultimately become an incorporated document in the planning scheme. The draft DCP

lists the infrastructure items required to service the future residents, states timing of delivery and calculates a development contribution rate. The draft DCP is supported by a land valuation report and costings for road, drainage, and open space infrastructure.

53. The specific details of the draft DCP are currently being resolved with the developer group. The timing of exhibition of Amendment C387ggee will be subject to finalising the draft document acceptable to Council officers.

54. All Amendment and supporting documentation will be exhibited and any affected or interested person may lodge a submission about the Amendment.

55. The map below shows the land subject to Amendment C387ggee planning controls.



Impacts on landowners and adjoining landowners

56. **Attachment 1** includes maps showing individual properties located in the Jetty Road Stage 2 area. Eleven of the 20 parcels are owned by the developer group or others for investment purposes.

57. Directly affected landowners who continue to live on their property while development takes place on neighbouring land are likely to be subject to construction amenity impacts. Any impacts would be mitigated by conditions on subdivision permits as would normally be expected in this situation. Landowners in the rural living precinct are most likely to be affected during the construction period.

58. It is important to note that should Amendment C387ggee be approved, there is no automatic requirement for landowners to deliver works or pay levies or develop (or sell) their land for housing. Owners can continue to reside on their property and undertake improvements or additions to their dwelling, outbuildings and gardens as they see fit. The overlays will only place statutory requirements when or if owners decide to seek permits for subdivision and or development for accommodation.

59. As noted earlier in the report, some parcels are presently used for purposes in addition to a dwelling, which can continue – including improvements (subject to permit). These are:

    59.1 102-170 McDermott Road: vineyard, function centre and cropping.

    59.2 72-100 McDermott Road: cropping, cattle grazing and small vineyard.

    59.3 276-290 Jetty Road: place of worship.

60. Owners who would seek to subdivide their property (for example, into two lots to retain an existing dwelling and sell a new lot) once the land is rezoned, can only apply after a development plan has been approved by the Responsible Authority.

61. Further fragmentation of the Amendment land will make coordinated development more difficult and would generally not be supported. It is likely that developers will acquire properties over time.

62. Given the location of Jetty Road Stage 2 on the western edge of the town, impacts to town residents are generally expected to be minimal. Residents of Tivoli Drive north of the Bellarine Rail Trail and Greenvale Drive and other close by residents will be most affected, particularly in the early stages of development as the road duplication and new estates are constructed.

63. There are also dwellings in Jetty Road Stage 1 north of the Neighbourhood Activity Centre at Pierview Drive and Shoreline Drive that back on to what is currently rural land (72-100 McDermott Road and 102-170 McDermott Road). This rural land will eventually be developed for housing, noting the owners are not part of the developer group and existing uses are expected to continue for some time.

2.7. Northern Aquatic and Community Hub Gas to Electricity Conversion

Source: **City Services**
Director: **Guy Wilson-Browne**

Purpose

1. To seek Council approval for a variation to Contract C2100093 – Construction of Northern Aquatic & Community Hub facility (NACH) to enable electricity rather than gas to be the primary source of energy for heating and cooling.

Background

2. In December 2021 Council awarded the construction of the NACH project to Kane Constructions.
3. The full design of the facility commenced in 2018 when gas was the preferred energy source for heating the building and aquatic areas of the facility.
4. With the City recently switching to electricity sourced from emission free renewables i.e. wind farms it has since been established that electricity is a more sustainable energy source compared to gas, reducing carbon emissions and operating costs.
5. Work has subsequently been undertaken to explore the feasibility and impacts of converting the heating source for the NACH from gas to electricity. The preliminary cost of the conversion is estimated to be $2.5 million to $4 million.
6. As the project has now entered construction, it is imperative a decision is made on the conversion. Delaying the decision will increase the timing impact to the project.

Key Matters

7. The conversion from gas to electricity is expected to create a delay to the construction program. The extent of the delay will not be known until the change is accepted, planned and scoped into the project plan. The current completion timeline is late 2023.
8. The conversion from gas to electricity is estimated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 1,700 tonnes per annum.
9. Council approval is being sought as the value of this single variation is greater than the Chief Executive Officer delegation of $2 million.
10. The additional funding has been included in the draft budget for 2022/23. Any savings that can be generated through the management of this variation, will be captured, and returned to General Revenue.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.7

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Grzybek seconded -

That Council delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to vary Contract C2100093 – Construction of Northern Aquatic & Community Hub facility for the conversion from gas to electricity up to the value of $4 million.

Carried

Financial Sustainability

11. $4 million has been included in the draft 2022-23 budget for the NACH gas to electricity conversion.

12. A cost estimate has been prepared by the project's quantity surveyor. The conversion from gas to electricity is expected to add approximately $2.5 million to $4 million to the construction cost of the project. This figure will be finalised when a quotation is received from Powercor and formal variation received from the builder.

13. A cost estimate based on the gas transition study of a similar City facility indicates that the on-going operational costs of electric infrastructure would be less than half the cost of the equivalent gas infrastructure.

14. The exact operational cost savings of this conversion will be confirmed when the detailed design of the electrical infrastructure is finalised.

15. Depending on the scale of the required heating system the use of electricity compared to gas is expected to save approximately 1,700 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions and at least $150,000 in operating costs per annum.

16. The elimination of greenhouse gas emissions from the future operations of this facility will avoid financial costs associated with the purchase of carbon offsets needed to achieve the City's Climate Change Response Plan target to achieve net zero emissions for our operations by 2025.

17. Value management options to reduce project costs are being explored to help mitigate the additional $2.5 million to $4 million cost of the gas to electricity conversion.

Community Engagement

18. If the City proceeds with the conversion, community information will be provided to explain the sustainability benefits, decreased operational costs, as well as the construction delays and upfront cost increase.

Social Equity and Sustainability

19. The development of the NACH presents a significant opportunity to improve social equity through the establishment of significant recreational and other infrastructure.

20. The use of renewably sourced electricity to power the facility will ensure a sustainable community facility.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

21. The construction contractor can be directed under the contract to implement the gas to electricity conversion.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

22. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority: Sustainable Growth and Environment.

    Sustainable growth and environment.

23. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
    Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.
    Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

24. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

25. Timing is a significant risk for this conversion. It is currently estimated that converting from gas to electricity may add up to six months to the construction program. This is primarily due to the need for Powercor to energise the required indoor substation. Timing for this work is currently estimated at 18 – 24 months (adding six months onto the completion timeframe).

26. Cost is the other significant risk factor. The additional cost to convert from gas to electricity is expected to be $2.5 million to $4 million.

27. The installation of gas fuelled infrastructure in this facility would be a significant reputational risk as this would not support the achievement of the corporate and community emission reduction targets established in the City’s Climate Change Response Plan.

Environmental Sustainability

28. The conversion of this facility from gas to electric infrastructure will support the achievement of the City’s Climate Change Response Plan corporate and community emission reduction targets. It will also support our need to transition from gas to electricity.

29. The use of all electric infrastructure powered by the City’s renewable electricity Power Purchase Agreement will eliminate all energy related greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the future operation of this facility.

Attachments

Nil

2.8. 2022-2023 Grant Guidelines

Source: **Customer & Corporate Services**
Director: **Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. To seek Council's approval of the 2022-23 Grant Guidelines and advise Council of the key dates for the 2022-23 grants.

Background

2. The City offers a range of competitive grants to support projects, events, activities and capital works that benefit the community.

3. All grants operate under the Standard Guidelines which includes application and assessment processes, eligibility criteria and requirements for successful applicants. Each grant has its own objectives, priority areas and criteria which are detailed in their own set of guidelines.

Key Matters

4. The 2022-23 grants are scheduled to open in June 2022 and funding recommendations will be presented to Council for endorsement in November and December 2022.

5. Approved guidelines are required by May 2022 to open the grants to the public in June.

6. Changes to the guidelines are informed by feedback from the community, Councillors and Council officers.

7. The 2022-23 guidelines include the inaugural Climate Change Partnership Grants.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.8

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Harwood seconded -

That Council:

1. **Approve the changes to the 2022-23 Grant Guidelines listed in the table of Attachment 1 to this report; and**

   1.1 authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make administrative changes to the 2022-23 Grant Guidelines.

2. **Approve the 2022-23 Grant Guidelines attached to this report:**

   2.1 2022-23 Standard Guidelines;
   2.2 2022-23 Arts Projects Grants Guidelines;
   2.3 2022-23 Climate Change Partnership Grant Guidelines;
   2.4 2022-23 Community Events Grant Guidelines;
   2.5 2022-23 Community Infrastructure Grant Guidelines;
   2.6 2022-23 Environmental Sustainability Grant Guidelines;
   2.7 2022-23 First Nations Cultural Heritage Grant Guidelines;
   2.8 2022-23 Geelong Heritage Grant Guidelines;
   2.9 2022-23 Healthy Connected Communities Grant Guidelines.

3. **Note that the 2022-23 grants will open by June 2022; and**

4. **Note that funding recommendations will be presented to Council for endorsement in November and December 2022.**

Carried

Financial Sustainability

8. There are no financial implications for the City in changing the grant guidelines.

9. The 2022-23 grants budget will be adopted at the June 2022 Council meeting.

Community Engagement

10. The review of the grant guidelines has considered feedback from Councillors, applicants, assessors and officers.

11. Officers collect feedback during the year from the community by phone and email conversations. The SmartyGrants online application system provides applicants with the opportunity to provide feedback on how easy or hard the application process is, the time taken to complete the application and general feedback.

Social Equity and Sustainability

12. The grant guidelines prioritise community impact, access and participation.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

13. The grant guidelines respond to Council's Community Investment and Support Fund Policy.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

14. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
Healthy, caring and inclusive community.

15. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:
An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.
Creative and diverse culture.

Conflict of Interest

16. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

17. There are no high or extreme risks associated with implementing the recommendations contained in this report.

Environmental Sustainability

18. The grants include funding opportunities for environmental initiatives.

19. Each grant includes environmental impacts as an assessment criterion.

Attachments

1. 2022-23 Grants. Summary of changes to guidelines [**2.8.1** - 3 pages]
2. 2022 23 Grants List and Key Dates [**2.8.2** - 6 pages]
3. 2022-23 Standard Guidelines [**2.8.3** - 13 pages]
4. 2022-23 Arts Projects Grants Guidelines [**2.8.4** - 11 pages]
5. 2022-23 Climate Change Partnership Grants Guidelines [**2.8.5** - 12 pages]
6. 2022-23 Community Events Grant Guidelines [**2.8.6** - 12 pages]
7. 2022-23 Community Infrastructure Grant Guidelines [**2.8.7**]
8. 2022-23 Environmental Sustainability Grant Guidelines [**2.8.8** - 13 pages]
9. 2022-23 First Nations Cultural Heritage Grant Guidelines [**2.8.9** - 15 pages]
10. 2022-23 Geelong Heritage Grant Guidelines [**2.8.10** - 13 pages]
11. 2022-23 Healthy Connected Communities Grant Guidelines [**2.8.11** - 13 pages]

2022-23 Grants – Summary of changes to guidelines

COUNCIL MEETING 24 MAY 2022

REF	GRANT	PROPOSED CHANGE	COMMENT
1.	Standard Guidelines	Implementation of Council's Gambling Harm Minimisation Policy.	No change is proposed. Guidelines will be updated as necessary when Council policy changes.
2.	Arts Projects Grants	New guidelines.	The new guidelines respond to the priorities of the Arts and Cultural Strategy 2021-2031.
3.	Festival-Arts Grants	Festival-Arts Grants are no longer offered. The type of applicants that were funded by this grant can now apply for a Community Events or an Arts Projects grant.	This change is proposed to simplify the grants offered to the community by combining the Festival-Arts and Community Events grants. The two grants have similar purpose, demographics and stated outcomes. Many applicants applying for event funding also apply to the City for an event permit. Combining the grants means that event applications for both permits and funding will now be handled by the same business unit at the City, resulting in better informed decisions and flow of information.
4.	Climate Change Partnership Grants	This is a new grant. Its purpose is to support projects that assist the greater Geelong community to achieve net zero community emissions and increase resilience to climate change impacts. These grants are most suitable for groups with the experience and capacity to deliver larger-scale projects with a range of stakeholders, various income sources and longer time frames.	This grant is an action listed in the City's Climate Change Response Plan 2021-2030. Applicants must be willing to work in partnership with the City to develop their project scope and project plans and the City may request to be involved in the project steering committee.
5.	Community Infrastructure Grants	Lighting Projects only: Highly recommended that applications for lighting projects • have switchboard and existing power supply inspected • include $10-$15k for design • include contingency of 20%.	This change is proposed to ensure lighting projects are adequately costed. Applicants will be advised to include this information under the assessment criteria 'well-planned project'.

<table>
<tr><th>REF</th><th>GRANT</th><th>PROPOSED CHANGE</th><th>COMMENT</th></tr>
<tr><td>6.</td><td>Community Infrastructure Grants</td><td>All projects:
Mandatory that all projects include a minimum contingency of 10%.</td><td>This change is proposed to limit the potential for budget overruns due to rising prices and unforeseen circumstances.
The current guidelines suggest a contingency of 10-20%</td></tr>
<tr><td>7.</td><td>Environmental Sustainability Grants</td><td>Increase the weighting for environmental impact assessment criteria.<table><tr><th>Existing Weighting</th><th>Proposed Weighting</th></tr><tr><td>Environmental Impact 55%</td><td>Environmental Impact 60%</td></tr><tr><td>Community Impact 20%</td><td>Community Impact 15%</td></tr><tr><td>Well-planned 25%</td><td>Well planned 25%</td></tr></table></td><td>This change is proposed to emphasis the environment as the core driver for applicants for these grants.</td></tr>
<tr><td>8.</td><td>Geelong Heritage Grants</td><td>Reduce the number of categories by combining the Strategic Projects and General Projects categories.<table><tr><th>Existing Categories</th><th>Proposed Categories</th></tr><tr><td>Strategic Projects – funding up to 70% of eligible costs to maximum of $70,000.</td><td rowspan="2">Conservation Works – funding up to 70% of eligible costs to a maximum of $50,000.</td></tr><tr><td>General Projects – funding up to 50% of eligible projects to a maximum of $30,000.</td></tr><tr><td>Planning – funding up to 100% of eligible project costs to a maximum of $10,000.</td><td>No change</td></tr></table></td><td>This change is proposed to simplify the application process.
The existing categories reflect the purpose of the grant when it only supported projects in Central Geelong. The proposed category reflects the change to the grant guidelines to allow application for projects across the municipality.
Reducing the maximum grant amount to $50,000 allows for a greater number of applicants to be funded.</td></tr>
</table>

REF	GRANT	PROPOSED CHANGE	COMMENT
9.	Healthy & Connected Communities	Simplify assessment criteria for the equipment category.	This change is proposed to make it easier for community groups to apply for equipment funding. The revised criteria are fit-for-purpose for the small size of these grants (maximum $2000) and relatively straightforward nature of equipment purchases.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

2022-23 COMMUNITY GRANTS LIST AND KEY DATES

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

2022-23 Grants

The following tables list the grants that will be offered in 2022-23 and includes information on eligibility and funding available.

Grants are listed in alphabetical order.

TABLE 1: COUNCIL ENDORSED GRANTS

Grant Name	What will be funded	Who Can Apply?	Grant Budget	Maximum funding per applicant?	When*
Arts Projects	The cost of delivering creative projects including items such as artist fees, studio hire, publicity and promotion, documentation and materials. Available to those working in all art forms, including but not limited to, music, dance, visual arts, fashion, interpretation, writing/literature, performing arts, design, film/video and digital media.	Not for profit community organisations Arts businesses Individual/Sole traders (entity type with Australian Taxation Office)	$220,000	$10,000	Once per financial year
Climate Change Partnership Grants	**One-off projects** Funding for projects and activities that will be carried out over a period of one to two financial years. **Multi-year funding** Annual project funding for two years (e.g. $20,000 per year for two years being a total of $40,000).	Not for profit community organisations	$100,000	$50,000	Once per financial year
Community Events	Operating expense to run safe, moderate sized, public events that provide economic and community benefits the greater Geelong region. Multi-year funding may be offered for a maximum of 3 years	Not for profit community organisations Commercial entities Individual/Sole Traders (entity type with Australian Taxation Office)	$200,000	$10,000	Once per financial year

Grant Name	What will be funded	Who Can Apply?	Grant Budget	Maximum funding per applicant?	When*
Community Infrastructure	**Planning for Capital Works** Costs associated with facility development planning, concept designs and feasibility studies for future infrastructure projects that demonstrate strong community benefit and align with key priority areas of this program.	Not for profit community organisations: -who operate on public land managed or owned by Council, or Crown land where the management of the facility is community based and there is access for the broader community (PUBLIC) -NOT located on Council owned or managed land; or managed or maintained by Council which provide access for the broader community (PRIVATE)	$3,000,000	$50,000	Once per financial year
	Capital Works To assist with cost of ready to go community infrastructure projects. Infrastructure projects must be openly accessible to and have strong community benefits and align with the key priority areas of this program. Not applicable for the purchase of land.			$350,000	
Environmental Sustainability	**Capital Works** Small environmental capital works (e.g. water tanks, solar)	Not for profit community organisations	$150,000	$10,000	Once per financial year
	Projects For the delivery of responsive environmental sustainability projects, programs and community activities			$10,000	
	Equipment To assist with the cost of small equipment purchases that help community groups to deliver services and programs			$2,000	
First Nations Cultural Heritage	Projects that recognise, restore, protect and preserve, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.	Not for profit community organisations Commercial entities Schools	$100,000	Funding requests cannot exceed the total grant budget available of $100,000.	Once per financial year

Grant Name	What will be funded	Who Can Apply?	Grant Budget	Maximum funding per applicant?	When*
Geelong Heritage	**Conservation Works** Building or streetscape projects that are visible to the public and focus on presentation to a street or public space and have an identified historic value.	Not for profit community organisations Commercial entities Owners and/or occupiers of properties	$100,000	Up to 70% of eligible project costs with a maximum of $50,000	Once per financial year
	Planning Feasibility and investigation projects to provide technical, planning, project scoping advice for future restoration projects			Up to 100% of eligible project costs with a maximum of $10,000	
Healthy & Connected Communities	**Projects** For projects, programs, activities, forums or events, and equipment necessary to deliver the activities (up to $2,000) that improve health and wellbeing, build community capacity and benefit the broader community.	Not for profit community organisations	$263,000	$10,000	Once per financial year
	Equipment To assist with the cost of small equipment purchases that help community groups: deliver services and programs; improve health and safety outcomes; or improve resources that support volunteer groups.			$2,000	

WHEN

*If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we advise them to review their application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria.

TABLE 2: EXECUTIVE ENDORSED GRANTS

Grant Name	What will be funded?	Who Can Apply?	Grant Budget	Maximum funding per applicant	When?
Arts-Professional Development	Support selected professional and skill development for artists.	Individual Artists	TBC	$1,000	Opens after Arts Projects Grants are announced.
Arts- Quick Response Grants for out-of-round applications.	Support urgent arts, culture and heritage projects whose timelines prevent the applicant from applying within the major Creative Communities Arts and Festivals Grants Program application period	Not for profit community organisations Art businesses Individual/Sole traders	TBC	$1,500	Opens after Arts Projects Grants are announced.
Community Events - Quick Response Grants for out-of-round applications	Support for moderate sized events which bring economic benefits to the City with timelines that prevent the applicant from applying to the Community Events main round.	Not for profit community organisations Commercial enterprises Individual/Sole traders	TBC	$10,000	Opens after Community Events Grants round closes.
Geelong Children's Week	Small grants to facilitate events held during Children's Week – This is an international event designated by the United Nations and celebrated annually in the fourth week of October.	Not for profit community organisations	$5,000	$400	Once per financial year
Positive Ageing	Small grants to support a community hosted events and experiences such as workshops, dances, concerts, sporting activities and tours that celebrate our ageing community. This grant replaces the Geelong Seniors Festival Grants.	Not for profit community organisations	$24,000	$450	Once per financial year
Neighbourhood Houses	Partnership with Neighbourhood Houses for operating costs and community development projects.	Neighbourhood Houses	$182,500	$12,500	Once per financial year
Christmas in the Community – Neighbourhood Houses	Small grants to provide greater equity and inclusion for festive celebrations across the municipality, with a focus on the Northern and Eastern Suburbs	Neighbourhood Houses	$40,000	$5000	Once per financial year

2022-23 Key Dates

COUNCIL ENDORSED GRANTS

Applications will be accepted until 5.00 p.m. on the application closing date. Late submissions will not be accepted.

GRANT	GRANT APPLICATION DATES	FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS ENDORSED	NOTIFICATION TO APPLICANTS
Arts Projects Community Events Environmental Sustainability Healthy & Connected Communities	4 June 2022 – 25 July 2022	22 November 2022	25 November 2022
Climate Change	4 June 2022 – 8 August 2022	22 November 2022	25 November 2022
Community Infrastructure First Nations Cultural Heritage Geelong Heritage	4 June 2022 – 22 August 2022	13 December 2022	16 December 2022

EXECUTIVE ENDORSED GRANTS

Applications will be accepted until 5.00 p.m. on the application closing date. Late submissions will not be accepted.

GRANT	GRANT APPLICATION DATES	FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS ENDORSED
Christmas in the Community (NHH) Geelong Children's week Neighbourhood Houses (NHH) Positive Ageing	Open 4 June 2022	Within four to eight weeks of receiving the application
Arts Professional Development Arts Projects –Quick Response Community Events – Quick Response	Open after the Arts Project funding recommendations are endorsed by Council.	Within four to six weeks of receiving the application

THE CITY OF
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2022-23 COMMUNITY GRANTS

STANDARD GUIDELINES

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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Executive Summary

The City offers a range of competitive grants for groups and organisations to undertake projects that benefit the local community. The grants are governed by the Community Investment Support Fund (CISF) Policy endorsed by Council and operate under these Standard Guidelines.

The Standard Guidelines include information and requirements that are common to all the City's grants. They outline the application and assessment process, eligibility criteria, decision making process and requirements for successful applicants.

The Standard Guidelines set out the standards and expectations of how the City will administer grants.

The Standard Guidelines are the key resource for officers and Councillors to guide decision making when implementing the grants programs.

Relevant information for applicants from the standard guidelines is included in each individual set of guidelines. If there is an inconsistency between the Standard Guidelines and individual Grant Guidelines, the provisions of the individual guidelines will take precedence.

The Standard Guidelines are endorsed by Council on an annual basis.

REFERENCES

Community Investment Support Fund - Policy

Application Framework

Assessment Framework

Applying for a grant

WHAT GRANTS ARE AVAILABLE

The City offers a range of competitive grants for groups and organisations to undertake projects that benefit the local community. Each grant has its own objectives, priority areas and criteria.

Grants information and guidelines are available on www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications for all grants must be made via the City's SmartyGrants online system.

There are two ways applicants can access the online application form:

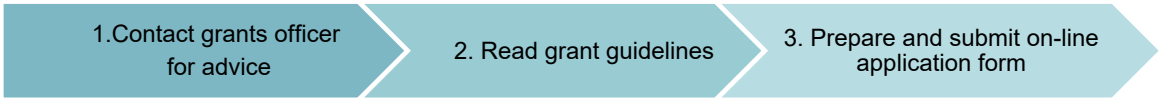
1. Visit the Community Grants page at the Geelong Australia website, select the grant program they wish to apply for from the list, click the 'Apply online' button that appears on the page, log-in or create an account
2. Visit https://geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, select 'current rounds' at the top right of the page, select the grant they wish to apply, log-in or create an account then complete and submit the form.

Applications will be accepted until 5.00pm on the closing date.

Late submission of applications will not be accepted unless authorised by the Community Grants and Partnerships - Project Manager.

Applications cannot be made on paper forms or submitted by email/post/hand delivery.

Applicants will be advised to complete the following steps



KEY DATES

Each grant will include the dates of when the grant opens and closes, and when funding decisions will be made/announced.

Dates will be published in the grant guidelines and on the Geelong Australia website.

The length of time a grant is open should be adequate to allow applicants to prepare a quality submission and will reflect the nature of the grant. In general, a grant should be open for a minimum of three to four weeks.

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Proposed projects may require permits or approvals.

These processes are separate to the grant application process and require additional time and budget in the project plan.

Applicants do not need to secure permits or approvals before applying, but if their funding application is successful, securing them is a condition of the grant. The City may choose not make any grant payments until the relevant permits and approvals are secured and submitted with the funding agreement.

Applicants may be required to demonstrate that they are aware of the necessary permits and approvals in their application.

APPLICATION SUPPORT AND HELP

It is important to the City that applicants can submit a well thought through and well-developed application that answers all eligibility questions, addresses all the criteria and provides the documentary evidence and support documents required.

To enable potential applicants to provide quality applications we will provide:

- **Information Sessions:** These sessions will provide detailed information and advice about the grants, including the online application process.
- **Grant Writing Workshops:** These sessions will provide information on how to plan and write a grant application.
- **Contact staff:** who can assist with the SmartyGrants applications process**.**
- **Contact staff:** who can provide additional information about the grants and discuss project ideas.

BUDGET

It is important to the City that applications are well-planned to deliver a successful outcome. The budget is an indicator of how well an applicant has developed their project, the level of risk of the proposal and how much support they have from the community.

All applications must include a budget to substantiate the request for funding. This is to ensure that the grants operate according to the financial management principles of the Local Government Act 2020; that project costs are accurate; that funding requests represent value for public money.

Guidelines and application forms will:

- include clear instructions, examples and a sample template for budgets.
- include a list of what will not be funded.
- include information on how GST applies to grant funding.

Budgets must

- be balanced i.e. total income must equal total expenses.
- show specifically what grant funds will be spent on.
- show the Applicant contribution to the project cost.
- show all sources of funding.
- list all project costs.
- clearly state the amount of funding requested.
- include quotes from suppliers/contractors where applicable.
- provide details of the in-kind contributions for example donated equipment; assistance from volunteers estimated at $20 per hour.

OTHER CITY OF GREATER GEELONG FUNDING OPTIONS

Grant guidelines will include information on other funding opportunities to ensure applicants apply for the grant best suited to their proposal.

PRIVACY INFORMATION

Grant guidelines will comply with the City's Privacy and Health Records Council Policy for the management and handling of personal information.

When collecting personal or health information, the City will take reasonable steps to advise the individual of what information is being sought, for what purpose, whether any law requires the collection of the information and the main consequences, if any, of not providing the information. The notice will be provided in a form similar to below:

The personal information requested in this application form is being collected by City of Greater Geelong for the purpose of this grants program or any other directly related purpose. If the personal information is not collected, we may not be able to contact you for further questions or solutions. Your personal information will only be disclosed

for the assessment of this application or as required to do so by law. Our privacy policy is available on our website. If you wish to alter any of the personal information you have supplied to City of Greater Geelong, please contact us by sending an email to privacy@geelongcity.vic.gov.au.

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications as required and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION FOR ALL GRANTS

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through the grants.

Table 1: Eligibility to apply for all grants.

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Schools and Learning Institutions		X
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses		X
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required – this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year - in the same grant (note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)		X

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO INDIVIDUAL GRANTS

Table 2: Eligibility to apply for **Community Events** Grants

	YES	NO
as per table 1 plus		
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	
Individuals/Sole Traders (entity type with the Australian Taxation Office)	✓	

Table 3: Eligibility to apply for **Arts Projects** Grants

	YES	NO
as per table 1 plus		
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	
Individuals/Sole Traders (entity type with the Australian Taxation Office)	✓	

Table 4: Eligibility to apply for **Healthy and Connected Communities** Grants

	YES	NO
as per table 1 plus		
Schools and Learning institutions – only for activities that are not curriculum based and the primary benefit is for the wider community	✓	

Table 5: Eligibility to apply for **Community Infrastructure** Grants

as per table 1, plus		
Not for Profit, incorporated bodies or registered under company law who operate on public land managed or owned by Council, or Crown land where the management of the facility is community based and there is access for the broader community (herein referred to as **"PUBLIC")**	✓	
Not for Profit, incorporated bodies or registered under company law who operate in facilities NOT located on Council owned or managed land; or managed or maintained by Council (herein referred to as **"PRIVATE")** which provide access for the broader community	✓	
Tenant clubs/organisations that have **not** resolved a breach of the Victorian Code for Community Sport		**X**

Table 6: Eligibility to apply for **Geelong Heritage** Grants

as per table 1, plus
Property owners and occupiers

AUSPICE INFORMATION

If a group is a not-for-profit organisation but is not incorporated or is not one of the other types of legal entities as listed in the individual grant guidelines under "Who can apply?" they will need to find another organisation that meets the eligibility status to act as an 'Auspice' for the grant applications.

If the application is successful, grant funds will be paid to the Auspice organisation for distribution to the Applicant.

The Applicant must obtain advance approval from the organisation before listing them as Auspice. The Applicant must keep the Auspice fully informed of the details of the application and all project aspects and progress.

Some Auspice organisations may charge an Auspice fee, at their discretion.

Individuals applying with an Auspice remain ineligible applicant types for the City's grants.

What will and won't be funded

WHAT WILL BE FUNDED

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

Each individual grant has its own set of objectives, priority areas and criteria and applicants are required to address the respective grant program's specific guidelines requirements when applying.

WHAT WON'T BE FUNDED

The following will not be funded through the City's grants.

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to submission of application.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects or activities that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program and part in another.

We generally only fund projects once. Applicants cannot rely on the City's grants for ongoing or recurrent funding. However, we will consider funding a project again if there are compelling reasons, in line with the objectives of individual grants. Any decision to award further funding will be based on the merit of the application.

Priority will be given to applicant organisations that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants Unit for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the categories as detailed in each individual grant guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible.

In some cases, applicants may be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

How are applications assessed

All applications received will go through either a Council Endorsed or an Executive Endorsed assessment process.

ASSESSMENT - COUNCIL ENDORSED GRANTS



The Council endorsed assessment process is suitable for the City's competitive grants that are open to the general community. Applications received will go through the following steps:

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria of who can apply and what will and won't be funded to determine their eligibility.
- Officer panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria and priority areas as detailed in the respective grant guidelines.
- Independent (community) assessment – the panel reviews the internal officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT – EXECUTIVE ENDORSED GRANTS



The Executive endorsed assessment process is suitable for smaller grant budgets or when a quick response is required which justifies the time saved by removing assessment by the Independent Panel and endorsement by Council. Applications received will go through the following assessment process:

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria of who can apply and what will and won't be funded to determine their eligibility.
- Officer panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria and priority areas as detailed in the respective grant guidelines.
- Executive will review the panel's recommendations and determine the outcome.
- Funding recommendations are reported to Council.

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise:

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year.
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines.

What happens after assessment

NOTIFICATION

Notification of successful and unsuccessful applications will take place within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed. The City will publish a list of all successful grant recipients on the Geelong Australia website.

Successful applicants will be informed in the following manner:

- Email regarding outcome.
- Inclusion in public media release.

Unsuccessful applicant will be informed in the following manner:

- Email regarding unsuccessful application, offer of feedback and contact details of person to provide feedback.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into Funding Agreement that will establish the terms and conditions of funding and set out the activity details, the deliverables and schedule of payments.

General information

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge the City of Greater Geelong as a funding source.

This can be done by using the City's logo in marketing and publicity materials, acknowledgement at launches and/or invitations for Councillors or City representatives to attend events.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice must include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. The Grants Unit will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a "Statement by a Supplier" form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City may withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date of the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the grant Application Form and Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City may withdraw funding and seek repayment of funds if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

ARTS PROJECTS GRANTS

2022-23 GUIDELINES

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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About these grants

The purpose of the Arts Projects Grants is to cultivate the strength, diversity and vitality of our City's arts and cultural ecosystem; engage the whole community in our City's cultural life; and celebrate our City's distinct, diverse and evolving culture.

These grants deliver on the City's Arts and Cultural Strategy 2021-2031 to deliver a competitive grants program in support of arts and cultural projects, enhancing funding for contemporary arts practice.

The objectives of these grants are to:

- build awareness and knowledge of First Nations People's culture and engage First Nations artists to lead project development or consultation.
- encourage cross artform and industry collaboration and partnerships for a vibrant arts and cultural ecosystem which supports local and municipal-wide creative endeavour.
- increase opportunities for community participation and diverse engagement through inclusive and accessible arts and cultural programs.
- celebrate our local heritage and stories across the municipality through high quality contemporary practice.
- provide arts and cultural activities in diverse and non-traditional indoor and outdoor locations across the municipality.
- enhance Geelong's brand as a creative City.

There is a total grant pool of $220,000 to fund the three Creative Communities grants offered by the City (Arts Projects, Arts Quick Response and Arts Workers Professional Development) with individual grants being offered of up to $10,000 per application.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

GRANT	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
Arts Projects	The cost of delivering creative projects including items such as artist fees, studio hire, publicity and promotion, documentation and materials. Available to those working in all art forms, including but not limited to, music, dance, visual arts, fashion, interpretation, writing/literature, performing arts, design, film/video and digital media.	$10,000

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this grant must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

There are two ways you can access the online application form:

1. Visit the Community Grants page at the Geelong Australia website, select the grant program you wish to apply for from the list, click the 'Apply online' button that appears on the page, log-in or create an account.
2. Visit https://geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, select 'current rounds' at the top right of the page, select the grant you wish to apply for, log-in or create an account then complete and submit the form.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00 pm on the closing date. Late submissions of applications will not be accepted.

Applications open:	4 June 2022
Applications close:	5:00pm 25 July 2022
Notification to applicants:	25 November 2022

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Proposed projects or events may require permits or approvals.

These processes are separate to the grant application process and may require additional time and budget in your project plan.

You do not need to secure permits or approvals before applying, but if your funding application is successful, securing them is a condition of the grant. The City may choose not to make any grant payments until the relevant permits and approvals are secured and submitted with the funding agreement.

You must demonstrate that you are aware of the necessary permits and approvals in your application. Please refer to the assessment criteria under 'well planned projects' on page 8.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5560.

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications as required and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Individuals/Sole Traders (entity type with Australian Taxation Office)	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	
Schools and Learning institutions		X
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant (note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above.

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass them on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application.
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

The following is a list of ideas and examples that will be considered for funding. It is guide only and the list should not be considered exhaustive.

- Immersive temporary public art installations (note: permanent public art such as murals and sculpture are not eligible).
- Cross artform/industry artistic projects that include collaboration and partnerships.
- Experimental, contemporary and innovative new work delivered in unique spaces.
- Seed funding for creative developments.
- Arts and cultural programs that invite diverse community participation.

The following is a list of examples of expenditure that grant funds may be used for. It is guide only and the list should not be considered exhaustive.

- artist fees (artists should be appropriately paid)
- materials
- venue hire
- equipment hire
- insurance
- project administrative costs
- disability access costs

What won't be funded?

ARTS PROJECTS GRANTS

The following items, activities or projects will not be funded by Arts Projects Grants

- permanent public art such as murals and sculptures.
- projects/campaigns of a political or religious nature.
- projects that commence prior to notification of funding outcome (November 2022).
- catering.
- capital works – including building, renovations, refurbishments to the inside of outside of a building or to any outdoor spaces such as playgrounds, sporting groups, parks or reserves etc.
- purchase (not hire) of equipment for ongoing use including tools, pre-made costumes.
- professional development training for artists and volunteers (may be eligible under the Creative Communities Professional Development Grants).
- activities that may be covered by Federal or State Education Training funding – e.g., school fete activities based on school grounds.
- staff wages or salaries to existing employed ensemble members/artists, unless for duties outside their usual role.

CITY'S COMMUNITY GRANTS

In general, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by any of the City's Community Grants.

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria on pages 5 and 7 to determine their eligibility.
- Officer panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria and priority areas (see tables below).
- Independent (community) panel assessment – the panel reviews the officer panel assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

CATEGORY	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing a project grant application**
Community and Cultural Benefit– 35%	That the application demonstrates: • community participation opportunities • public presentation of project • involvement of the community in the design of project
Project Rationale –35%	That the application demonstrates: • clear explanation of the idea and artistic approach taken to address project need • identified need (e.g. the community need for this project/why you need to do this) • creative expression and innovation
Well Planned Project – 30%	That the application include: • detailed project plan • confirmation of artists/collaborators/partners • reasonable Artist Fees/Paying Artists • includes a clear, balanced budget that shows total income equals total expenditure. Budgets must describe and show the total cost of the project including contingency and list any other additional sources of funds that will contribute to the total project income.
TOTAL 100%	

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year.
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines.

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

We generally only fund projects once. Applicants cannot rely on this grant for ongoing or recurrent funding. However, we will consider funding a project again if there are compelling reasons, in line with the objectives of this grant. Any decision to award further funding will be based on the merit of the application**.**

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge the City of Greater Geelong as a funding source.

This can be done by using the City's logo in marketing and publicity materials, acknowledgement at launches and/or invitations for Councillors or City representatives to attend events.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. the Grants Unit will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

CLIMATE CHANGE PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

2022-23 GUIDELINES

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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About these grants

The purpose of the Climate Change Partnership Grants is for the greater Geelong community to achieve net zero community emissions and increase resilience to climate change impacts through a coordinated and collective response.

This partnership grant is an action listed in the City's Climate Change Response Plan and is a new approach to an urgent issue. Our goal is to become a zero-emissions, climate-ready city and region.

The City will use the principles of co-design to implement the grants, by working in partnership with the community to address the urgency of climate change.

The grants will support existing work by our community groups and create new opportunities. It will fund new and innovative activities and projects, as well as the tried and true.

The grants will support new players and those already working to address climate change and who may have struggled to gain financial support from the City in the past.

These are competitive grants open to all eligible applicants and they aim to encourage a wide variety of grass roots community groups to apply.

The objectives of these grants are to support community led projects and activities that support community efforts to:

- transition to a net zero emissions environment by 2035
- increase energy efficiency and renewable energy production
- switch to sustainable transport and cleaner fuels
- increase carbon storage
- increase awareness and understanding of climate change impacts
- increase collaboration.

There is a total grant pool of $100,000 with individual grants being offered of up to $50,000 per application. We expect to fund up to 3 to 5 applications per year at an average of $20,000 to $30,000 each.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

CATEGORY	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
One-off projects	Funding for projects and activities that will be carried out over a period of one to two financial years.	$50,000
Multi-year funding	Annual project funding for two years (e.g. $20,000 per year for two years being a total of $40,000).	$50,000 per year for two years.

HOW TO APPLY

This is a competitive grant open to the public for applications and has a two-step application process.

Expression of Interest

Potential applicants must first discuss their project with the Senior Sustainability Officer from the City's Sustainability & Environmental Planning Unit.

The officer and applicant will co-design the project scope, budget parameters, project milestones and outcomes as an Expression of Interest.

An independent subject matter expert will review the Expression of Interest to ensure it meets the objectives of this grant to address climate change and recommend if the applicant can proceed to submit a funding application, or not.

If approved, the applicant can proceed to apply for funding. Applicants are advised that approval for an Expression of Interest does not guarantee funding.

If not approved, the applicant cannot submit a funding application.

Funding application

Applications for funding must be made online via SmartyGrants, the web-based grants management program used by the City to administer all its grants programs.

Applications cannot be made on paper forms or submitted by email, post or hand delivery.

Applications containing all relevant information and documents must be submitted by the closing date. Late applications will not be accepted.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00 pm on the closing date. Late submissions of applications will not be accepted.

Expression of Interest opens	4 June 2022
Expression of Interest closes	5:00pm 11 July 2022
Funding Applications open	18 July 2022
Funding Applications close	5:00pm 8 August 2022
Notification to applicants	25 November 2022

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Proposed projects or events may require permits or approvals.

These processes are separate to the grant application process and require additional time and budget in the project plan.

You do not need to secure permits or approvals before applying, but if your funding application is successful, securing them is a condition of the grant. The City may choose not to make any grant payments until the relevant permits and approvals are secured and submitted with the funding agreement.

You must demonstrate that you are aware of the necessary permits and approvals in your application.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5560.

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available including the Environmental Sustainability Grants, These are more suitable for groups with smaller, discrete projects with a wider remit of environmental outcomes (e.g. waste, biodiversity, land care) and are delivered independently of the City.

Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

These grants are most suitable for groups with the experience and capacity to deliver larger-scale projects with a range of stakeholders, various income sources and longer time frames. Applicants must be willing to work in partnership with the City to develop their project scope and project plans (i.e. budgets, schedule of works). The City may request to be involved in the project steering committee.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications as required and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Schools and Learning institutions		X
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses		X
Other Government Departments (e.g. Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning)		X
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant (note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above.

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass them on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

The following is a list of ideas and examples that will be considered for funding. It is guide only and the list should not be considered exhaustive.

- Emissions reduction activities.
- Community awareness, education and training, mentoring, master classes, communication resources, workshops.
- Energy audits, energy efficiency upgrades, solar feasibility assessments, advice and information on energy efficient homes and businesses.
- Community-owned renewable energy projects.
- Renewable energy bulk buy programs or power purchase agreements.
- Transition to electric homes and businesses and increased access to renewables.
- Climate safer places and energy efficiency upgrades to support community members most vulnerable to climate change impacts.

What won't be funded?

COMMUNITY CLIMATE CHANGE GRANTS

The following items, activities or projects will not be funded by the Climate Change Partnership Grants

- Projects that do not respond to climate change.
- Projects more suitable to the Environmental Sustainability Grants.

CITY'S COMMUNITY GRANTS

In general, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by any of the City's Community Grants.

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to submission of application.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process:

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria in the guidelines to determine their eligibility.
- Expert assessment - An independent subject matter expert assesses the Expression of Interest and recommends if the project can proceed to a funding application.
- Officer panel assessment – eligible funding applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria (see tables below).
- Independent (community) panel assessment – the panel reviews the officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

CATEGORY	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing a project grant application**
Climate Change Benefits – 40%	The application must demonstrate: • a community or environmental need for the activity or works proposed. • the long-term social, environmental and/or economic benefits of the proposed activity. • the extent that the project contributes towards a zero-emission climate-ready City and region.
Community Engagement – 20%	Applications must demonstrate the extent of active community engagement in climate change initiatives.
Well Planned Project – 40%	The application must demonstrate that projects are well planned and ready to proceed by including: • a clear description of what is included in the project (i.e. scope). • relevant documentation including plans (e.g., site plans, communication plans etc.) and photographs. • permits as required (e.g., event, planning, environmental approvals etc.). • specialist environmental advice if relevant. • evidence that the applicant has the necessary expertise to support delivery of the proposed activity. • a clear, balanced budget that shows total income equals total expenditure. The budget must describe and show the total cost of the activity including contingency and list any other sources of funds that will contribute to the total project income. • evidence of other project income is an advantage including the level of in-kind support for the project. • written quotes that accurately reflect the complete scope of proposed works as follows: – project cost up to $25k = one written comprehensive quote – project cost $25k-$50k = three current written comprehensive quotes.

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines.

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

We generally only fund projects once. Applicants cannot rely on this grant for ongoing or recurrent funding. However, we will consider funding a project again if there are compelling reasons, in line with the objectives of this grant. Any decision to award further funding will be based on the merit of the application**.**

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge the City of Greater Geelong as a funding source.

This can be done by using the City's logo in marketing and publicity materials, acknowledgement at launches and/or invitations for Councillors or City representatives to attend events.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. the Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification, unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

COMMUNITY EVENTS GRANTS

2022-23 GUIDELINES

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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About these grants

The purpose of the Community Events Grants is to support moderate sized events which bring economic benefits to the City of Greater Geelong, will strengthen and enrich community, celebrate common interests, showcase local competitive advantages and provide opportunities for local participation.

The objectives of these grants are:

- to support a diverse and inclusive annual calendar of events
- generate economic and social benefits for the Geelong community
- support event growth and long-term sustainability.

There is a total grant pool of $200,000 with individual grants being offered of up to $10,000 per application.

All events must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria
- www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/public-events-information-for-organisers

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY EVENT?

For the purposes of this grant, a community event is defined as a temporary organised activity, open to the general public, where people gather with a common purpose that aims to enhance community life. The activity is held in open spaces, facilities or venues where there will be more people or a different use of the asset, than usually found at that location.

CATEGORY	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
Annual Funding	Operating expense to run safe, moderate sized, public events that provide economic and community benefits the greater Geelong region.	up to $10,000
Multi Year Funding	Multi-year funding for operating expenses may be offered for a maximum of 3 years.	up to $10,000 per annum

HOW TO APPLY

You are strongly encouraged to discuss your application with the City's Events Services Team on 5272 4139. Please enquire soon after grants open to allow adequate time for the discussion prior to submitting your application.

Applications for this grant must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

There are two ways to access the online application form.

1. Visit the Community Grants page at the Geelong Australia website, select the grant program you wish to apply for from the list, click the 'Apply online' button that appears on the page, log-in or create an account.
2. Visit https://geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, select 'current rounds' at the top right of the page, select the grant you wish to apply for, log-in or create an account then complete and submit the form.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00pm on the closing date. Late submissions of applications will not be accepted.

Applications open:	4 June 2022
Applications close:	5:00pm 25 July 2022
Notification to applicants:	25 November 2022

QUICK RESPONSE GRANTS

If your event meets the eligibility criteria for a Community Events Grant, however the timelines prevent you from applying within the stated application period, you may be eligible to apply for Quick Response funding. This program is very limited and requires exceptional circumstances. To discuss Quick Response funding, please contact our Event Services Team on 5272 4139.

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Proposed projects or events may require permits or approvals.

These processes are separate to the grant application process and require additional time and budget in the project plan.

You do not need to secure permits or approvals before applying, but if your funding application is successful, securing them is a condition of the grant. The City may choose not to make any grant payments until the relevant permits and approvals are secured and submitted with the funding agreement.

You must demonstrate that you are aware of the necessary permits and approvals in your application. Please refer to the assessment criteria under ‘well planned projects’ on page 8.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5560.

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

Please note: the organisation applying for funding must be the same entity that applies for any event permits or approvals.

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	
Individuals/Sole Traders (entity type with Australian Taxation Office)	✓	
Schools and Learning Institutions		X
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant (note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated; or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above.

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass it on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application.
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

These grants are open to applications for events that will be staged from **1 January 2023**.

Applicants must offer an event within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria
- www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/public-events-information-for-organisers

The following is a list of ideas and examples that will be considered for funding. It is guide only and the list should not be considered exhaustive. We are looking to support events that:

- are promoted to the general public and may include free components
- contribute to economic growth for the region
- include a State or National title activity
- celebrate diversity and inclusivity
- celebrate common interests
- showcase local competitive advantage
- will strengthen and enrich community
- are complementary to our existing calendar of events in Geelong
- have the potential to attract visitation from other areas outside of Geelong
- promote healthy and sustainable practices
- provide legacy for the local community

Examples include

- conferences, trade shows
- food and wine festivals
- multicultural and community festivals, Christmas carols
- State or National sporting events

WASTE WISE AND SUSTAINABLE EVENTS

As part of our community-led vision, Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future, the City is committed to reducing the environmental impacts of waste, including from events we run, support or grant permits to.

We highly encourage and prefer events that show consideration for avoiding or reducing waste – especially from single-use plastics – and maximising recycling outcomes in their event plans.

Waste Wise events follow these broad principles:

- organisers commit to purposefully avoid and minimise waste wherever possible, and manage what is unavoidable responsibly.
- participants and attendees are encouraged to reduce their own waste through education before the event, and with clear signage and bin facilities at the event.
- re-usable, recyclable, compostable or already-recycled products are used wherever possible.

Learn more about making your event waste wise by visiting the City's Waste Management Planning webpage.

What won't be funded?

COMMUNITY EVENTS GRANTS

The following will not be funded by Community Events Grants

- fundraising events where the main aim is to directly fundraise for a charity.
- events that are ongoing, regular activities of a venue e.g. monthly markets, seasonal sporting events approved under a licence/tenancy agreement.
- events, that due to their nature, are unlikely to be supported by relevant stakeholders.
- events that are held prior to the 1st of January 2023.

CITY'S COMMUNITY GRANTS

In general, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by any of the City's Community Grants.

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to submission of application.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process

- pre-eligibility checks – applications are checked against the criteria on pages 5 and 7 to determine their eligibility.
- officer panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria (see tables below).
- independent (Community) panel assessment – the panel reviews the officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

CATEGORY	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing a project grant application**
Well Planned Project – 40%	That the application can demonstrate **The event rational** • the reasons for staging/developing the event including details on the target audience, participants and spectators. **A well scoped project and sound budget** • expertise and experience of the team responsible for planning and delivering the event. • an event plan (site plan, schedule, marketing, logistics, etc.). • a risk assessment to ensure the safety of the public, participants, staff and volunteers. • a clear budget that details all project costs including contingency and all income sources relevant to the project as it is unlikely the City will fund 100% of your event costs. • that the funding request is realistic for the expected attendance and economic return. • an understanding of the permits and approvals that will be required for the event to proceed, including evidence that the venue or location is booked.
Community Impact – 30%	**The application demonstrates how the event:** • will deliver a social benefit for the region. • is inclusive and accessible. • aligns with the City's principles of Waste Wise and Sustainable Events (refer to the City's Events Planning guide) and minimises the impact on the environment. • is promoted to the general public and may include free components.
Strategic Impact – 30%	**The application demonstrates:** How the event aligns with the aims of the Community Events Grants to: • contribution to a diverse and balanced (seasonal and geographical) calendar of events. • deliver economic benefits for the Geelong community. • showcase local competitive advantage.
TOTAL 100%	

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise

- applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year
- applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines.

As this is a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding.

Factors that determine the final grant amount offered include:

- time of year with a preference for off-peak
- multiple day events
- attendance numbers
- number of applications in the grant round
- that the applicant is not relying solely on the City's funding to run the event.

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

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The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

We generally only fund projects once. Applicants cannot rely on this grant for ongoing or recurrent funding. However, we will consider funding a project again if there are compelling reasons, in line with the objectives of this grant. Any decision to award further funding will be based on the merit of the application**.**

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the specific grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As it is a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge the City of Greater Geelong as a funding source.

This can be done by using the City's logo in marketing and publicity materials, acknowledgement at launches and/or invitations for Councillors or City representatives to attend events.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

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Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. The Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY GRANTS

2022-23 GUIDELINES

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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About these grants

The purpose of the Environmental Sustainability Grants is to support the initiation, development and delivery of projects that enhance our natural environment and drive environmental sustainability actions across the Geelong region.

We look for projects that assist the City to improve the health of our local environment, reduce our environmental footprint and protect the lifestyle our community enjoys. The grants help to raise the profile of the Geelong municipality as a leader in addressing climate change and environmental challenges and opportunities.

The grants respond directly to the goals of the City's Environment Strategy 2020-2030 to:

- Goal 1: Become a zero-emission, climate-ready city region
- Goal 2: Create greener community spaces
- Goal 3: Contribute to a circular economy by reducing waste
- Goal 4: Protect, enhance and restore our region's biodiversity
- Goal 5: Achieve better integrated water management through planning and design

The grants are available to support a wide range of community groups for a variety of projects.

There is a total grant pool of $150,000 with individual grants being offered of up to $10,000 for small environmental capital works, up to $10,000 per application for projects and up to $2,000 for small equipment purchases.

The grant is divided into three categories (see table below) and our aim is to help community groups deliver environmental outcomes that benefit the region.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

CATEGORY	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
Capital Works	Small environmental capital works (e.g. water tanks, solar)	$10,000*
Projects	For the delivery of responsive environmental sustainability projects, programs and community activities	$10,000
Equipment	To assist with the cost of small equipment purchases that help community groups to deliver services and programs	$2,000

*For capital works above $10,000, applicants are advised to apply for a Community Infrastructure Grant.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this grant must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

There are two ways applicants can access the online application form:

1. Visit the Community Grants page at the Geelong Australia website, select the grant program you wish to apply for from the list, click the 'Apply online' button that appears on the page, log-in or create an account.

2. Visit https://geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, select ‘current rounds’ at the top right of the page, select the grant you wish to apply for, log-in or create an account then complete and submit the form.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00pm on the closing date. Late submissions of applications will not be accepted.

Applications open:	4 June 2022
Applications close:	5:00pm 25 July 2022
Notification to applicants:	25 November 2022

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Proposed projects or events may require permits or approvals.

These processes are separate to the grant application process and require additional time and budget in the project plan.

You do not need to secure permits or approvals before applying, but if your funding application is successful, securing them is a condition of the grant. The City may choose not to make any grant payments until the relevant permits and approvals are secured and submitted with the funding agreement.

You must demonstrate that you are aware of the necessary permits and approvals in your application. Please refer to the assessment criteria under ‘well planned projects’ on page 8.

If you are unsure about permits, please contact the Grants Unit to discuss your project.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5560

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications as required and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Schools and Learning institutions – only for activities that are not curriculum based and the primary benefit is for the wider community	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses		X
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant. *(note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)*		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated; or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above.

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass them on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

CATEGORY - CAPITAL WORKS

In this category we are seeking proposals to support the sustainable and efficient use of natural resources, including energy, water and materials. Suggested ideas that are suitable for applications include

- Solar installations
- Water tanks
- High efficiency water irrigation

CATEGORY - PROJECTS

In this category, we are seeking proposals that improve the health of our local environment, reduce our environmental footprint and protect the lifestyle our community enjoys. Suggested ideas that are suitable for applications include:

Protect our Natural Environment

- Re-vegetation with indigenous (locally native) plants
- Purchase of re-vegetation materials and equipment
- Pest plant and/or animal control measures
- Creating healthy waterways

Environmental Sustainability

- Sustainable transport e.g. reducing fossil fuels associated with transport, bicycle skills training, end-of-trip facilities, carpooling initiatives.
- Reducing waste e.g. reducing waste going to landfill, recycling systems, composting systems.
- Greening urban spaces e.g. urban/rooftop gardens, sustainable food production, community gardens, local food events, connecting people to nature, reducing urban heat.

Community Engagement

- Community events that engage on environmental or sustainability themes
- Development of educational or capacity building materials and resources
- Development of a strategic or business plan, or land management plans for a community group
- Initiatives that build capacity and promote best practice in the natural environment or environmental sustainability e.g. workshops, networking events, training and skill development.

CATEGORY - EQUIPMENT

Note: Equipment must remain the property of the applicant organisation and be located within the City of Greater Geelong.

In this category we provide support for small equipment purchases that help community groups deliver services and programs and directly contribute to positive environmental benefits or outcomes. Suggested ideas that are suitable for applications include:

- tools for tree planting and weed removal.
- tree guards to reduce damage to newly planted trees.

What won't be funded?

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY GRANTS

The following will not be funded by Environmental Sustainability Grants

- removal of native vegetation or other environmental assets
- re-vegetation with non-indigenous plants
- works or equipment for landscaping without positive biodiversity benefits or outcomes
- upgrading facilities where the sustainability outcomes or credentials are minimal or incidental
- events or initiatives that do not have a clear focus on environment or sustainability outcomes
- catering costs

CITY'S COMMUNITY GRANTS

In general, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by any of the City's Community Grants.

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to submission of application.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process:

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria on pages 5 and 7 to determine their eligibility.
- Internal panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria (see tables below).
- Independent (External) panel assessment – the panel reviews the officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

CATEGORY - CAPITAL WORKS AND PROJECTS	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing a project grant application**
Well Planned Project **25%**	**Project Rationale** • Considers the need and reasons for doing it. Includes estimated number and age of those participating in the project. **Well Scoped Project and Sound Budget** • Demonstration that the project is well planned and scoped. Where relevant project plans, required permits and approvals should be provided • Demonstrates collaborative partnerships with shared goals and visions • Provision of a clear, balanced budget that details total project costs and all income sources relevant to the project • Demonstrated capacity of the applicant organisation to support delivery of the project • One current and comprehensive written quote, for goods, services or works that are part of project, sourced within the last six months.
Environmental Impact **60%**	**Considers how the project delivers one or more of the City's Environment Strategy 2020-30 goals:** • Reduction of carbon emissions • The addition of energy efficiency measures or renewable power • Build community resilience to the impacts of climate change • Increase the quantity and quality of our protected natural environment • Lead and support our community to adopt sustainable practices to move toward zero-waste • Manage our water efficiently using best practice standards • Greening our urban spaces - support partnerships and programs that engage our community in environmental restoration projects.
Community Impact **15%**	**Considers how the project will achieve at least one of the following:** • Lead and support education and/or capacity building for business and community to encourage sustainable practice • Encourage and support local, sustainable food production • Work with others to achieve better health outcomes for our community

CATEGORY - CAPITAL WORKS AND PROJECTS	
	• Harness community knowledge to drive sustainable change • Improve access to programs for people with all abilities • Have a direct or indirect impact on local economic growth, business and/or organisational capacity.
TOTAL 100%	

CATEGORY - EQUIPMENT	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing an equipment grant application**
Well-planned project **25%**	The application must demonstrate: • Clear reasons why the equipment is needed, and how it will be used • Where it will be located and who will have access to it • A clear, well-balanced budget that shows: – the total cost of the equipment – additional funding sources that will contribute to total equipment costs, or an explanation of why additional funding isn't possible. • One current and comprehensive written quote, sourced within the last six months
Community impact **60%**	Demonstrate how purchasing the equipment will have a positive impact on your club, group or the community.
Environmental impact **15%**	That you have minimised the environmental impact of the purchase by considering factors such as disposal of packaging, choice of supplier and opportunity to recycle redundant equipment. That you have chosen equipment with warranties for repairs and maintenance and longer life (if this is an option).
TOTAL 100%	

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise:

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

We generally only fund projects once. Applicants cannot rely on this grant for ongoing or recurrent funding. However, we will consider funding a project again if there are compelling reasons, in line with the objectives of this grant. Any decision to award further funding will be based on the merit of the application**.**

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge the City of Greater Geelong as a funding source.

This can be done by using the City's logo in marketing and publicity materials, acknowledgement at launches and/or invitations for Councillors or City representatives to attend events.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. the Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification, unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

FIRST NATIONS CULTURAL HERITAGE GRANTS

2022-23 GUIDELINES

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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Acknowledgement for Country

We Acknowledge the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.

We Acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.

About these grants

The purpose of the First Nations Cultural Heritage Grants is to protect Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, promote a greater appreciation and awareness of our Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in Geelong and improve the skills and expertise of heritage professionals

This grant was established in collaboration with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) and is guided by the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006. The objectives of the grant are:

- to protect Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in the greater Geelong area
- to conserve and protect items of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage that are included on the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR)
- to improve knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage particularly as it relates to Traditional Owners as protectors of their Cultural Heritage
- to increase understanding, respect and celebration of and cultural participation in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage; and
- to support connection to Country and self-determination.

There is a total grant pool of $100,000 with no limit on individual grant amounts.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

GRANT	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
First Nations Cultural Heritage	Projects that recognise, restore, protect and preserve, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.	Applicants may request the suitable amount of funding that is required for their project. Funding requests cannot exceed the total grant budget available of $100,000.

LEGISLATION

This grant has been developed in accordance with the Aboriginal Heritage Act (the Act) 2006 and Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018 (the Regulations).

The Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 provides for the protection of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in Victoria.

The Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018 gives effect to the Act.

DEFINITIONS

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Under Section 4 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage means Aboriginal places, objects and Aboriginal Ancestral remains. An Aboriginal place is defined as an area in Victoria or the coastal waters of Victoria that is of Cultural Heritage significance to Aboriginal people generally or of a particular community or group of Aboriginal people in Victoria.

Aboriginal Intangible Heritage

Section 79B of the Act, defines Aboriginal Intangible Heritage as any knowledge of or expression of Aboriginal tradition, other than Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, and includes oral traditions, performing arts, stories, rituals,

festivals, social practices, craft, visual arts, and environmental and ecological knowledge, but does not include anything that is widely known to the public.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this grant must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

There are two ways you can access the online application form:

1. Visit the Community Grants page at the Geelong Australia website, select the grant program you wish to apply for from the list, click the 'Apply online' button that appears on the page, log-in or create an account.
2. Visit https://geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, select 'current rounds' at the top right of the page, select the grant you wish to apply for, log-in or create an account then complete and submit the form.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00 pm on the closing date. Late submissions of applications will not be accepted.

Applications open:	4 June 2022
Applications close:	5:00pm 19 August 2022
Notification to applicants:	16 December 2022

CULTURAL SUPPORT

Applicants must provide written support from Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) for their proposal.

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Proposed projects may require permits or approvals.

Applicants must consider whether the proposed works will require approval under the State Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 *and Regulations 2018* and/or Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. This may include a permit to undertake works and/or action or requirement to prepare a Cultural Heritage Management Permit (CHMP).

These processes are separate to the grant application process and require additional time and budget in the project plan. Approval under these Acts requires formal consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Party, WTOAC, and applicants may start the permits and approvals process prior to applying for grant funding.

For Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, the City encourages all work to avoid impacts to Aboriginal sites. Where avoidance is not feasible, then the scale of impact is to be minimised or mitigated.

Note: You do not need to secure permits or approvals before applying, but if your funding application is successful, securing them is a condition of the grant. The City may choose not to make any grant payments until the relevant permits and approvals are secured and submitted with the funding agreement.

You must demonstrate that you are aware of the necessary permits and approvals in your application. Please refer to the assessment criteria under 'well-planned project' on page 11.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process and SmartyGrants, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5560.

You are encouraged to also discuss your application with the City's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Senior Policy Officer.

To discuss your project with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation please call 5222 5889.

RESOURCES

It is important to the City that applicants can submit a well thought through and well-developed application that answers all eligibility questions, addresses all the criteria and provides the evidence and support documents required. To assist applicants, we have compiled a list of useful website links as follows:

- Aboriginal Heritage Legislation www.aboriginalvictoria.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-heritage-legislation
- Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register – refer to Aboriginal Victoria staff for assistance www.aboriginalvictoria.vic.gov.au/victorian-aboriginal-heritage-register
- Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation www.aboriginalheritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/wadawurrung-traditional-owners-aboriginal-corporation
- Greater Geelong Planning Scheme – refer to Statutory Planning staff for assistance https://planning-schemes.api.delwp.vic.gov.au/schemes/greatergeelong
- Find out more about Victoria's Aboriginal places and objects www.aboriginalvictoria.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-places-and-objects

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

The following table describes who is (and isn't) eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	
Schools and Learning institutions – only for activities that are not curriculum based and the primary benefit is for the wider community	✓	
Organisations with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy (and individuals is applicable)		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant.		X
Government Departments and Agencies		X
Organisations that have breached their Reconciliation Action Plan as determined by Reconciliation Australia		X
Organisations in breach of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 and/or the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated; or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above.

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass them on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application
- keep the auspice fully informed of the details of the application and all project aspects and progress

Your auspice may also provide public liability insurance for your project. If this is your intention, you must obtain a Public Liability Insurance Certificate of Currency from the auspice and include it with this application. Please note that a policy statement or receipt is not acceptable.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

Grants are available for Tangible Cultural Heritage and Intangible Cultural Heritage projects. These terms are explained on page 5 of these guidelines. The following is a list of ideas and examples that will be considered for funding. It is guide only and the list should not be considered exhaustive.

Tangible Cultural Heritage projects

- Land Use projects that demonstrate the Cultural Narrative and/or significance of an area of Land.
- Water Use projects including Traditional Aquacultural - fishing farming systems (rock pools), water-craft - transport – travel.
- Ancestral Remains Repatriation Projects – bringing them home projects to rest the remains of Ancestors on Country as per the legislation.
- Cultural Heritage Restoration Projects that demonstrate living Cultural practices, such as repatriation or restoration of tangible objects, such as axe heads, flints, water-crafts or dwellings and other projects of tangible Cultural Heritage significance.

Intangible Cultural Heritage projects

- Languages and Knowledge Systems Projects - place naming projects – Language revival projects that demonstrate the Language connection to land and water.
- Ancestral and oral traditions – social practices – kinship systems.
- Environmental and Ecological systems – Fire Season Calendar, food production systems, Traditional healing and medicines.
- Living Cultural Practices and Customs – includes law/lore, birthing ceremony, possum skin ceremony, Traditional women's and men's ceremony as living Cultural rites and customs.
- Arts – includes dance, song, and artwork that strongly demonstrates living Cultural practices and customs.

Other projects:

- Academic and/or Community Intangible Cultural Heritage restorative-based research projects, such as Language, and Traditional healing/medicines.
- Community Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage practices and customs restorative projects – such as, Traditional stone ceremony practices, possum skin ceremony, and Traditional canoe/watercraft making and ceremony in Language.

Critical Information for applicants

The current views on Arts as it pertains to Traditional Owners is that

- Victoria is not a dot painting state
- Victorian First Nations visual arts is more aligned to linework, as a design state in terms of artist expression of Cultural Heritage
- Music – most Victorian Traditional Owners do not endorse didgeridoo music

What won't be funded?

FIRST NATIONS CULTURAL HERITAGE GRANTS

The following items, activities or projects will not be funded by the First Nations Cultural Heritage Grants:

- Heritage management documents required for statutory or legal purposes, for example fees required to be submitted to the Registered Aboriginal Party, except for the development of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan.
- Major capital works.

CITY'S COMMUNITY GRANTS

In general, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by any of the City's Community Grants.

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to announcement of funding outcome.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process:

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria on pages 6 and 9 to determine their eligibility.
- Assessment by Wadawurrung Traditional Owners – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria of *Cultural Heritage Benefits* and *Community Engagement.*
- Wadawurrung Traditional Owners recommend applications are either supported or not supported.
- City assessment of supported applications – applications supported by the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners will be assessed according to the assessment criteria of *Well Planned Project.*
- Assessment outcomes will be reviewed jointly by Wadawurrung Traditional Owners and the City to make recommendations to Council.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

Key criteria – weighting	What we look for when assessing a project grant application
Cultural Heritage Benefits – 40%	That the application must demonstrate: • the long-term Cultural Heritage benefits of the activity • the level of risk to the Cultural Heritage significance of the item or Cultural Knowledge (with priority to items with more immediate urgent need) • the extent that the project links to an item of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage significance that is included on the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register AND/OR an approved Cultural Heritage Management Plan or Cultural Heritage Permit.
Community Engagement - 20%	That the application must demonstrate: • the extent of active and continuous community engagement in understanding, celebrating and participating in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.
Well Planned Project - 40%	That the application must demonstrate: • a clear description of what is included in the project (i.e. scope) • letter of support from the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation • relevant documentation including plans (e.g. architectural, engineering, building) and photographs • permits as required (e.g. cultural management, planning, building) • specialist heritage advice if relevant • evidence that the applicant has the necessary expertise to support delivery of the activity • a clear, balanced budget that shows total income equals total expenditure. The budget must describe and show the total cost of the activity including contingency and list any other sources of funds that will contribute to the total project income. • written quotes that accurately reflect the complete scope of proposed works as follows: – project cost up to $25K = one written quote – project cost $25K-$100K = three current written quotes.

Key criteria – weighting	What we look for when assessing a project grant application
Total 100%	

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise

- applications relating to items with immediate or urgent need
- applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year
- applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au.

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

We generally only fund projects once. Applicants cannot rely on this grant for ongoing or recurrent funding. However, we will consider funding a project again if there are compelling reasons, in line with the objectives of this grant. Any decision to award further funding will be based on the merit of the application.

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge the City of Greater Geelong as a funding source.

This can be done by using the City's logo in marketing and publicity materials, acknowledgement at launches and/or invitations for Councillors or City representatives to attend events.

Any acknowledgement, promotion and/or marketing must have written approval from Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation before any publication and/or distribution.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice, must include a PLI certificate of Currency from the Auspice in their application.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant organisation.

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. the Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

GEELONG HERITAGE GRANTS

2022-23 GUIDELINES

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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About these grants

The purpose of these grants is to assist owners in conserving heritage buildings within the Greater Geelong region that contribute to the visual character of the city's streetscapes and public space and/or provide community amenity.

The objectives of these grants are:

- to enhance the appearance and grandeur of heritage buildings through appropriate restoration and reconstruction of exterior heritage features to a significant period of the building's history.
- to enhance the visual quality of the city's streetscapes and public spaces.
- support property owners in delivering conservation work beyond routine maintenance.
- encourage heritage restoration projects which have been identified through heritage studies and/or other evidence as beneficial to the city's streetscapes and public space.
- celebrate and raise the awareness and appreciation of our heritage.

Our priority is to support

- major conservation works or repairs to key facades or street frontages of the building.
- removal of streetfront additions or alterations that are unsympathetic to the historical character or style of the building.
- reinstatement of streetfront heritage features that have been altered or removed over time, including verandahs and balconies, parapet details, shopfronts, windows and entranceways, historic signage, etc.

There is a total grant pool of $100,000

The grant is divided into two categories (see table below) and our aim is to help property owners and occupiers with the cost of conserving heritage buildings that benefit the greater Geelong community.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus.
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria.

CATEGORY	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
Conservation works	Building or streetscape projects that are visible to the public and focus on presentation to a street or public space and have an identified historic value.	Up to 70% of eligible project costs with a maximum of $50,000
Planning	Feasibility and investigation projects to provide technical, planning, project scoping advice for future restoration projects.	Up to 100% of eligible project costs with a maximum of $10,000

DEFINITIONS

Heritage Projects

For the purposes of this grant, heritage projects:

- are subject to a heritage overlay
- are within an identified heritage precinct
- have historic significance in a referenced study or strategic document in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme
- have historical significance that can be supported by early building plans, historical photographs, references in heritage studies or other strategic documents, drawings or evidence.

Applicants are encouraged to confirm eligibility of their heritage project with the City's Senior Heritage Planner before applying.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this grant must be made via our Smarty Grants online system.

There are two ways applicants can access the online application form:

1. Visit the Community Grants page at the Geelong Australia website, select the grant program you wish to apply for from the list, click the 'Apply online' button that appears on the page, log-in or create an account.
2. Visit https://geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, select 'current rounds' at the top right of the page, select the grant you wish to apply for, log-in or create an account then complete and submit the form.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00 pm on the closing date. Late submissions of applications will not be accepted.

Applications open:	4 June 2022
Applications close:	5:00pm 19 August 2022
Notification to applicants:	16 December 2022

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Proposed projects may require permits or approvals.

Applicants must consider whether the proposed works will require any permits or approvals for example, a building permit, planning permit or heritage assessment.

These processes are separate to the grant application process and may require additional time and expense. Applicants can start the permits and approvals process at any time including prior to applying for grant funding

You do not need to secure permits or approvals before applying, but if your funding application is successful, securing them is a condition of the grant. The City may choose not to make any grant payments until the relevant permits and approvals are secured and submitted with the funding agreement.

You must demonstrate that you are aware of the necessary permits and approvals in your application. Please refer to the assessment criteria under 'well-planned project' on page 8.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5560.

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications as required and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	
Owners and/or occupiers of properties	✓	
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy.		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant (note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)		X
Organisations who have undertaken works on the property without an appropriate permit or approval		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated; or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above.

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass them on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

Category 1 – Conservation Works

In this category we are seeking to support projects relating to a building or streetscape with identified historic value. Project ideas include:

- Rejuvenation of building facade
- Replacing not-heritage building elements with heritage building elements
- Reinstating verandahs and balconies
- Window repairs or replacement
- Reinstating heritage elements that have been removed
- Repairing finials, chimneys, gables, gargoyles or leadlight features

Eligible projects costs include:

- Heritage specialist trades
- General trades
- Materials
- Painting

Category 2 - Planning

Funding up to 100% of eligible projects costs to a maximum of $10,000.

In this category we are seeking to support project feasibility and investigation of works directly relevant to conserving the heritage significance of the building. Suggested ideas include:

- Technical investigations and design
- Planning
- Project scoping

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Information you need for your application

- a current copy of title for the land. This can be obtained online at www.landata.vic.gov.au or by visiting the Land Information Centre located at Level 10, 570 Bourke Street, Melbourne.
- applicants that are not property owners must provide signed support letter from the property owner indicating the owner is both fully informed and fully supportive of the proposal.
- a copy of any live planning permit and endorsed plans related to the property, inclusive of conservation-related or general development works.
- a statement or outline of the heritage skills of the consultants or tradespersons that will be engaged to undertake the works, and their abilities (including examples) to undertake traditional work and repairs associated with heritage buildings.

- confirmation whether the consultant or contractor being engaged is listed on the consultant's directory provided by Heritage Victoria at https://www.heritage.vic.gov.au/consultants-directory (for planning grants).

What won't be funded?

GEELONG HERITAGE GRANTS

The following items, activities or projects will not be funded by the Geelong Heritage Grants

- projects associated with works that do not seek to restore original historic fabric associated with the building (e.g. painting a building in a colour that historically never existed, installing a verandah on a building that historically did not have a verandah, installing metal windows on a building that historically had timber windows).
- interior works or works which are not easily visible to the public.
- works which have been required by a building or emergency order issued by the City of Greater Geelong.
- projects for properties where monies (including rates) are owing to the City of Greater Geelong.
- works that have been completed or have commenced at the time of submitting the application.
- works that would generally be considered routine maintenance on most buildings (heritage or otherwise). This exclusion may be waived at the discretion of Council, in exceptional circumstances such as:
  - where the cost or complexity of such work is far greater than the owner of an equivalent non-heritage property would face and/or
  - the nature of the building or organisation limits the capacity to provide money for essential maintenance works.

CITY'S COMMUNITY GRANTS

In general, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by any of the City's Community Grants.

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to submission of application.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process:

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria on pages 5 and 7 to determine their eligibility.
- Officer panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria (see tables below).
- Independent (Community) panel assessment – the panel reviews the internal officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

CATEGORY	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing a project grant application**
Heritage Benefit –30%	The application must demonstrate • That the project will result in a positive heritage conservation outcome such as: – deliver major conservation works to a façade/streetfront – remove unsympathetic alterations and additions from a façade – reinstate lost heritage features on a facade
Community Benefit – 30%	The application must demonstrate • that the project will deliver a visible enhancement to a streetscape or public space, through enhancing the presentation and condition of the heritage place. • there is a demonstrated public need for the project based on a net community benefit. • the project will act as a catalyst for change within a streetscape that provides significant opportunities for heritage restoration projects.
Well planned project – 40%	The application must: • demonstrate that the applicant (or a project manager, consultant or tradesperson engaged by the applicant) has the necessary expertise to support the delivery of the project, and have experience working on similar projects associated with heritage buildings. • include a clear, balanced budget that shows total income equals total expenditure. Budgets must describe and show the total cost of the project including contingency and list any other additional sources of funds that will contribute to the total project income. • demonstrate that the project is accurately costed and represents value for public money by providing written quotes. • include supporting documentation, including plans, photographs and other documents to clearly outline the intended works. • clearly describe what is included in the project (scope) and that the project is ready to proceed. • Where the applicant is proposing other works to the building such as addition of alterations to improve amenity - which are not conservation work – the works

CATEGORY	
	documentation and budget should clearly identify what is and what is not conservation work intended to be funded by the grant.
TOTAL 100%	

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines
- Applications that will deliver the greatest heritage and community benefit

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

Successful applicants must not commence their project until the funding agreement is finalised and signed.

Please note: It may take up to three months after notification of a successful grant for the City to finalise a funding agreement and make an initial payment. Applicants should factor this into their project timelines, expiry dates on quotes and project cashflow.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

We generally only fund projects once. Applicants cannot rely on this grant for ongoing or recurrent funding. However, we will consider funding a project again if there are compelling reasons, in line with the objectives of this grant. Any decision to award further funding will be based on the merit of the application.

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge the City of Greater Geelong as a funding source.

This can be done by using the City's logo in marketing and publicity materials, acknowledgement at launches and/or invitations for Councillors or City representatives to attend events.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. the Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

HEALTHY & CONNECTED COMMUNITIES GRANTS

2022-23 GUIDELINES

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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About these grants

The purpose of the Healthy & Connected Communities Grants is to support projects, activities, forums or events that respond to a community need and will improve the health, wellbeing and capacity of our community.

The grants respond to the City's Our Community Plan Strategic Direction 1: Healthy, caring and inclusive community that states a health community is one where everyone has the opportunity to experience their best possible health and wellbeing.

The objectives of these grants are to:

- Help our community, recreation groups and volunteers to prosper and grow.
- Deliver health and community initiatives that are culturally sensitive and accessible across all life stages.
- Foster and embrace community connectedness.
- Demonstrate and promote gender equity practices.
- Foster an inclusive community culture.

There is a total grant pool of $263,000 with individual grants being offered of up to $10,000 or $2,000 per application.

The grant is divided into two categories (see table below) and our aim is to support community groups to improve the health and wellbeing of our community. You can only apply for one category per funding round.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

CATEGORIES	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
Project grants	For projects, programs, activities, forums or events, and equipment necessary to deliver the activities (up to $2,000) that improve health and wellbeing, build community capacity and benefit the broader community.	$10,000
Equipment grants	To assist with the cost of small equipment purchases that help community groups deliver services and programs, improve health and safety outcomes or improve resources that support volunteer groups.	$2,000

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this grant must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

There are two ways to access the online application form.

1. Visit the Community Grants page at the Geelong Australia website, select the grant program you wish to apply for from the list, click the 'Apply online' button that appears on the page, log-in or create an account.

2. Visit https://geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, select ‘current rounds’ at the top right of the page, select the grant you wish to apply for, log-in or create an account then complete and submit the form.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00pm on the final day. Late submissions of applications will not be accepted.

Applications open:	4 June 2022
Applications close:	5:00pm 25 July 2022
Notification to applicants:	25 November 2022

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Proposed projects or events may require permits or approvals.

These processes are separate to the grant application process and require additional time and budget in the project plan.

You do not need to secure permits or approvals before applying, but if your funding application is successful, securing them is a condition of the grant. The City may choose not to make any grant payments until the relevant permits and approvals are secured and submitted with the funding agreement.

You must demonstrate that you are aware of the necessary permits and approvals in your application. Please refer to the assessment criteria under ‘well planned projects’ on page 8.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5560.

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to no-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Schools and Learning institutions – only for activities that are not curriculum based and the primary benefit is for the wider community	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses		X
Individuals/Sole Traders (entity type with Australian Taxation Office)		X
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant *(note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)*		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed in the individual grant guidelines (see Who can apply?)

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass it on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

PROJECT GRANTS

In this category we are seeking proposals that will benefit the community. Suggested ideas that are suitable for applications include:

- initiatives that promote healthy lifestyles, such as those that increase community participation in physical activities, recreational pursuits or promote and improve healthy eating.
- initiatives aimed at improving mental health and wellbeing outcomes in the community.
- community celebrations or events that mark a specific milestone, a significant anniversary or promote community inclusion and social connections.
- activities that strengthen community relationships and encourage active participation in community life.
- initiatives that complement or support existing programs, or strategies that aim to raise awareness or address complex social issues, such as discrimination, gender equality, family violence or community safety.
- initiatives that address specific needs of Aboriginal, multicultural and new arrival communities, LGBTQIA+ people, children, young people, seniors and people with disabilities.
- training opportunities for volunteers.
- establishment costs of setting up a new community group.
- development of strategic or business plans to facilitate and assist community groups to identify and achieve goals and objectives that are consistent with their charter.
- equipment directly related to project delivery. The total request for equipment purchases must not exceed $2,000 and must comply with the requirements for equipment grants.

Note: We generally only fund projects once. Applicants cannot rely on this grant for ongoing or recurrent funding. However, we will consider funding a project again if there are compelling reasons, in line with the objectives of this grant. Any decision to award further funding will be based on the merit of the application**.**

EQUIPMENT GRANTS

Note: Equipment must remain the property of the applicant organisation and be located within the City of Greater Geelong.

In this category we provide support for small equipment purchases that help community groups to deliver services and programs, improve health and safety outcomes and improve resources for volunteers. Suggested ideas that are suitable for applications include:

- sporting equipment, such as soccer nets and crash mats (excludes balls)
- office equipment, such as laptops and office furniture
- kitchenware, such as kettles, crockery and microwave ovens
- general equipment, such as tables, chairs and barbeques

- equipment costs of setting up a new community group

What won't be funded?

HEALTHY & CONNECTED COMMUNITIES GRANTS

The following items, activities or projects will not be funded by Healthy & Connected Communities Grants

- equipment requiring building permits or building owner permission for installation.
- fixed equipment that requires installation work such as plumbing, electrical or carpentry.
- consumable items such as stationery, replacement of toner cartridges.
- projects that duplicate or do not link with developed strategies of other local service responses (unless evidence of need, coordination and cooperation is demonstrated).
- club uniforms (unless there are compelling reasons, in line with the objectives of this grant).
- learning institutions seeking funding for programs or equipment that does not have a benefit for the wider community.
- budget items that have not been substantiated with suitable supporting evidence – for example, quotes or price estimates.

CITY'S COMMUNITY GRANTS

In general, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by any of the City's Community Grants.

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to submission of application.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits). Exceptions will be considered for Healthy & Connected Communities Grants if the project is to establish a new community group.
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria on pages 5 and 7 to determine their eligibility
- Officer panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria and priority areas (see tables below)
- Independent (Community) panel assessment – the panel reviews the officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

PROJECT GRANTS	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing a project grant application**
Well-planned project – 30%	The application must demonstrate: • a sound rationale for the project idea, clear aims and an explanation as to why the funding is needed and can't be sourced elsewhere. • a well-considered project plan, or a clear list of tasks and timelines. • that the organisation delivering the project has the capacity to do so –the people involved have the required skills and knowledge, and the timeframes are achievable. • an understanding of the permits and approvals that will be required for an event to proceed, including evidence that the venue or location is suitable and available e.g. copy of venue booking form. • a clear, balanced budget that shows total income equals total expenditure. The budget must describe and show the total cost of the project including contingency. It must list additional funding sources that will contribute to the total project income, or an explanation of why additional funding isn't possible. • that the project is accurately costed and represents value for public money by providing suitable supporting evidence – for example, quotes or price estimates. • the items or services that the grant will help fund.
Community impact – 65%	The application must demonstrate how it will assist in achieving one or more of the following outcomes: • support local Aboriginal people to achieve their priorities • promote gender equity and diversity • support older people, young people and children in our community • support multicultural communities and respect for cultural diversity • improve access to programs for people with all abilities • promote healthy eating • support active living • improve safety in our community
Environmental impact – 5%	The application must demonstrate

PROJECT GRANTS	
	• how the activity will have a positive impact on the environment (e.g. planting trees) or • the steps taken to minimise the environmental impact of the activity (e.g. minimise waste)
TOTAL 100%	

EQUIPMENT GRANTS	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing an equipment grant application**
Well-planned project – 15%	The application must demonstrate: • clear reasons why the equipment is needed, and how it will be used • where it will be located and who will have access to it • a clear, balanced budget that shows: – the total cost of the equipment – additional funding sources that will contribute to total equipment costs, or an explanation of why additional funding isn't possible. • that the project is accurately costed and represents value for public money by providing suitable supporting evidence – for example, quotes or price estimates sourced within the last six months. Applications without supporting evidence will not receive funding.
Community impact – 70%	Demonstrate how purchasing the equipment will positively impact your club, group or the community.
Environmental impact – 15%	That you have minimised the environmental impact of the purchase by considering factors such as disposal of packaging, choice of supplier and opportunity to recycle redundant equipment. That you have chosen equipment with warranties for repairs and maintenance and longer life (if this is an option).
TOTAL 100%	

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise:

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact economicdevelopment@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

We generally only fund projects once. Applicants cannot rely on this grant for ongoing or recurrent funding. However, we will consider funding a project again if there are compelling reasons, in line with the objectives of this grant. Any decision to award further funding will be based on the merit of the application**.**

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge the City of Greater Geelong as a funding source.

This can be done by using the City's logo in marketing and publicity materials, acknowledgement at launches and/or invitations for Councillors or City representatives to attend events.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. the Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification, unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

2.9. Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy Progress Report

Source: **City Services**
Director: **Guy Wilson-Browne**

Purpose

1. To provide an update on the progress of the implementation of the Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020-30 (**Attachment 1**).

Background

2. The Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020-30 was adopted by Council in April 2020. It sets a vision and goals to ensure that the City and our community manage waste and resources by transitioning to a circular economy and minimising impacts on the environment.
3. The Strategy is being implemented through the delivery of short, medium and long-term actions. There are 79 actions in total.

Key Matters

4. This is the first performance report since the Strategy was adopted. Reporting will be on an annual basis.
5. This report provides updated data for targets and commentary against each action.
6. Progress has been made against all the actions with highlights including:
   - 6.1. Implementation of a food waste trial and home composting program;
   - 6.2. Launch of a modern cloth nappies program;
   - 6.3. Working with developers to reduce building waste;
   - 6.4. Expansion of community waste education programs and subsequent reduction in contamination in household recycling and garden organic bins;
   - 6.5. Diverting materials from landfill for use in road construction projects; and
   - 6.6. Development of a post closure plan for the Drysdale Landfill to rehabilitate the site for community recreation use and environment restoration.
7. The City's waste programs were recognised at the 2021 Keep Victoria Beautiful Awards with the Recycled Roads program winning the Waste Award. This contributed to the City winning the overall 2021 Sustainable City award.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.9

Cr Harwood moved, Cr Moloney seconded -

That Council note the Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy progress report (Attachment 1).

Carried

Financial Sustainability

8. Implementation of the Strategy has been supported through the internal budget process and external funding as opportunities have become available through the Victorian Government.

Community Engagement

9. The Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy was informed by extensive community and stakeholder engagement between November 2018 and mid-2020.

Social Equity and Sustainability

10. The delivery of actions under the Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020-30 enables all residents and community members to manage their waste and resources and minimise impacts on the environment.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

11. The Australian and Victorian Governments have released new policies and guiding documents in the previous two years.

12. In addition to considering feedback from the community and stakeholders, the latest Australian and Victorian Governments' policies and documents have been reviewed and embedded in the Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020-30. These include the *Recycling Victoria: A new economy*, the *National Waste Policy Action Plan 2019*, and Infrastructure Victoria's final advice on recycling and resource recovery infrastructure in Victoria.

13. The Victorian Government will establish a waste authority under the new *Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021* to govern all aspects associated with waste and recycling services. The new waste authority, Recycling Victoria, is due to commence from 1 July 2022.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

14. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
Sustainable growth and environment.

15. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:
Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

16. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

17. The delivery of actions under the Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020-30 enables the City to support a national and regional circular economy, adjust to changes in the waste industry, and prepare for Geelong's population and economic growth. It will minimise and control the City's risks in waste and resource management.

18. Waste management is a complex and multifaceted system that requires all levels of government, businesses and communities to take responsibility and play their role.

The partnerships and advocacy actions in the Strategy will guide the City to advocate for, and influence, issues that are outside our control in order to reduce and manage our risks.

Environmental Sustainability

19. The Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020-30 sets a vision, goals and actions that provide leadership for the City and our community to manage waste and resource recovery and to minimise impacts on the environment.

Attachments

1. Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2022 Progress Report v 2 (D 22-179546) [**2.9.1** - 16 pages]



THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY STRATEGY 2020-30

2022 PROGRESS REPORT

MAY 2022

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Introduction

***The City of Greater Geelong Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020–30* contains a vision designed to help our community to manage waste and resource recovery and minimise impacts on the environment. It includes the goals, actions and targets we need to help us get there.**

The strategy aims to create a circular economy locally by leading and supporting the community to actively avoid waste, and increasing reuse and recycling of products and materials.

It explains how the City of Greater Geelong will reduce, reuse and recover waste in the region over the next 10 years and incorporates recent national and state policies, including the Victorian Government's Recycling Victoria – a new economy Policy.

The vision supports the strategic priority of sustainable growth and environment in the City's Our Community Plan 2021–25, demonstrating leadership to address waste, climate change and environmental challenges.

The strategy sets three overall goals, developed with the help of extensive community input:

- Avoid creating waste –reduce waste by actively avoiding it
- Recover more resources –value waste as a resource and recover more from it and
- Protect the environment –reduce the impact waste has on the environment.

This update provides an overview of our progress in the first two years of implementing the strategy.

STATUS UPDATE

The Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy was adopted by Council in April 2020. This coincided with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, which proved to be a very challenging time. Despite this, we still delivered on the 79 actions contained in the strategy, although some were impacted by restrictions.

Some highlights from this work include the implementation of the food waste collection trial, the launch of the modern cloth nappies program and the use of recycled content in our road construction projects, with the latter receiving the Waste Award at the 2021 Keep Victoria Beautiful Awards.

The construction and opening of Wurriki Nyal in 2022 will help us strengthen best recycling and waste practices for our employees. This will be supported by ongoing staff engagement and behaviour change programs.

We will continue to evaluate our projects and programs to make improvements to ensure we meet our targets. We will also continue to collaborate with key partners to improve regional waste infrastructure and divert materials from landfill.

Goal 1: Avoid creating waste

We place waste avoidance at the forefront of approaches for managing waste. Avoiding and reducing the generation of waste has the highest priority in the waste management hierarchy.

We recognise that reducing the amount of waste generated requires significant and sustained behaviour change by governments, businesses and households to achieve this goal. Waste avoidance relies on awareness and commitment by both individuals and organisations.

By reducing waste, we reduce our reliance on landfill and recycling infrastructure, reduce the impact of waste on the environment, and reduce the financial cost for disposal and waste services.

OUR AIM

To reduce waste by actively avoiding it.

OUR TARGETS

TARGETS	COMMENT
Divert 80 per cent of waste from landfill by 2030, and an interim target of 72 per cent by 2025.	53.9% (2020–21) and 55.7% (2019–20) In 2020–21, we diverted 6.42% more waste from landfill compared to the statewide average, but the diversion rate was down 1.8%. This was due to factors including rapid population growth, pandemic-related pressures (eg. greater use of single-use plastics) and changes in the streams of recycling.
15 per cent reduction in total waste generation per capita between 2020 and 2030.	4.8 tonnes per capita (2020-21) 5 tonnes per capita (2019-20) A reduction of approximately 4% has been achieved over the past two years.
City-run and public events requiring a permit to minimise waste and recover resources, as part of their waste management and recycling plan by 2022.	Complete
20 per cent reduction of waste produced from targeted City office buildings between 2020 and 2025.	We were unable to roll-out planned initiatives to reduce waste due to COVID-19 restrictions. The move to Wurriki Nyal mid-2022 will provide an opportunity to progress actions to meet this target.
Single-use plastics phased out of City buildings by 2022.	Our commitment to phase out single use plastics is set under the adopted *Prevention of Single Use Plastics Policy*. However, we were unable to roll-out planned initiatives due to COVID-19 restrictions, which have impacted this program. The move to Wurriki Nyal mid-2022 will provide an opportunity to develop and implement a program to phase out single use plastics that can be replicated at different sites.

PROGRESS OF SUPPORTING ACTIONS

On track | Needs improvement | Off track | Off track COVID-19 | Not yet available | ✓ Complete

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Services and infrastructure

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
1.1	Investigate services and infrastructure options that support and incentivise waste avoidance.	We have designed and constructed the new Civic Precinct, Wurriki Nyal, to achieve a 6-star Greenstar rating. When operational the building will perform to a NABERS 6-star waste rating. This is the highest rating that supports diverting 74% of waste from landfill.	

Management Practices

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
1.2	Develop a plastic wise program by 2020 that includes phasing out single use plastics across the organisation by 2022.	We developed the *Plastic Wise Program and Action Plan* in 2020. We were unable to roll-out planned initiatives due to COVID-19 restrictions, which have impacted this program. Despite this, our commitment is set under the adopted *Prevention of Single-Use Plastics Policy* to phase out single-use plastics.	✓
1.3	Strengthen the City's Procurement Policy to align with Australian Government's Sustainable Procurement Guide and put waste minimisation into procurement practice.	We updated the *Procurement Policy* in December 2021. It promotes economic, social and environmental sustainability, including mitigating and planning for climate change risks.	
1.4	Review council policies and procedures to identify opportunities that reduce waste and increase resource recovery in the workplace, and in the community.	We adopted the *Sustainability Policy* in December 2020. A key component of the policy is to 'support a circular economy which minimises waste creation and supports long-term waste solutions, within our organisation and in our services.'	
1.5	Review event planning processes and templates to reduce waste and improve how we manage recycling at all City-run events.	We updated event planning processes and templates to strengthen and improve how waste and recycling is managed at events.	✓
1.6	Review approvals required for event waste management and recycling plans and develop guidelines to support event organisers to reduce waste and increase resource recovery.	Our *Events Application Form* and *Events Planning Guide* has been updated to strengthen how waste and recycling management are planned and delivered at events. The use of reusable items (cutlery, plate, bowls, cups, etc) is strongly encouraged.	✓

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
1.7	Develop waste management guideline for planning permit applications, to guide applicants to prepare a plan to manage the waste and recycling needs of residential and commercial developments.	We introduced Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) into the *Geelong Planning Scheme* in 2020. It requires all planning permit applications to consider ESD. For medium (3-9 dwellings) and large (10 or more) developments, the application must address our 10 key sustainable building categories including ongoing waste management.	
1.8	Establish a community waste minimisation and innovation fund through the existing Environment and Sustainability Grants Program.	We increased the funding pool in the *Environmental and Sustainability Grants* program and incorporated waste minimisation fund into this. In the 2021/22 round of funding, we have supported three circular economy themed grants applications.	✓
1.9	Establish a baseline of waste generated by selected City buildings and operations.	We carried out waste audits at key City buildings in 2020; Corio Operations Depot, Corio St Office, 100 Brougham Street and City Hall. These audits provided baseline data.	✓

Education and Behaviour Change

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
1.10	Implement an education and behaviour change campaign for our employees focused on avoiding and reducing waste and increasing resource recovery in the workplace and at home	We will introduce a program aimed at employees when they are relocated to the new Wurriki Nyal building in 2022.	
1.11	Host regular community engagement open house sessions to improve communications and promote waste reduction.	We regularly engage with the community groups through face-to-face sessions and communicate information about topics including kerbside recycling, bin inspection programs, the hard waste program and alternative recycling options. COVID-19 impacted the regularity of these sessions between 2020 – 2022. At times when restrictions were lifted, we hosted information sessions in Lara to engage with the food waste collection trial residents, and presented to communities such as retirement villages, public housing tenants, and various community groups.	
1.12	Use communication and social media channels to promote ways of reducing waste, re-using and recycling.	We regularly use social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, subscriber email) to promote positive waste and recycling opportunities and stories. The Rethink Your Rubbish newsletter is issued monthly to promote stories and initiatives to the community.	
1.13	Implement ongoing education and behaviour change campaigns focused on avoiding and reducing waste and increasing resource recovery in local businesses and the community.	We have recently launched the Modern Cloth Nappies Program to help reduce waste going to landfill. This program involves community members attending an online introductory workshop and then receiving a nappy trial pack containing five unisex modern reusable nappies, plus a wet bag. The program has had a very successful start with positive community feedback and workshops selling out quickly.	

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
1.14	Promote programs and businesses that focus on avoiding waste and increasing resource recovery.	We support waste avoidance program such as the Lids 4 Kids, which turns bottle tops and bread tags into useful products. This program also received the Community Green Achiever Award as part of the World Environment Day celebrations and were finalists in the Keep Victoria Beautiful Sustainable Cities Awards. We have recently partnered with Wormlovers to provide our residents discounts on worm farm and composting products. This program will help divert food waste from going to landfill and compliments our food organics collection trial being run in Lara.	
1.15	Encourage and assist businesses to promote practices to their customers that help avoid waste and improve resource recovery.	Leveraging the programs and resources developed by the Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group, we promoted the Rethink Your Footprint waste assessment tool to support local businesses to reduce waste.	

Partnerships and Advocacy

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
1.16	Continue to partner and support government agencies, stakeholders and community groups to develop programs and initiatives that focus on avoiding waste and increasing resource recovery.	Our community grants program has supported a range of community-led initiatives that focus on avoiding waste and increasing resource recovery, including: • Repair Cafe Bellarine • Norlane Boomerang Bags – using reclaimed fabrics to make shopping and food produce bags • the Geelong Sustainability War on Waste – Green Cafes Project.	
1.17	Partner with other organisations to assist with waste sector research and development.	We have partnered with Barwon Water and five other local councils to transform organic waste into renewable energy and nutrient-rich products. We continue to explore research and development opportunities with other organisations.	
1.18	Investigate ways to help schools minimise their waste, such as the ResourceSmart school program	We supported schools to set up kitchen gardens and composting bins, and provided presentations and tours to local schools on waste and recycling topics. We work closely with the Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group, which supports the delivery of ResourceSmart Schools across our region.	
1.19	Advocate to state and federal governments for waste minimising design, manufacturing and packaging policy and legislation, and more product stewardship schemes.	We have advocated for, and support, the Victorian Government on the introduction of the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS), and offered to act as a CDS trial site. We provided submissions and feedback to the Victorian and Australian Governments to advocate for our community. This included a Parliamentary Inquiry into Recycling, Infrastructure Victoria reports, Waste Export Ban, new Waste Act and Waste Authority, and Waste-to-Energy Framework.	
1.20	Advocate for, promote and support a circular economy.	We actively support and advocate for a circular economy and have made submissions to the State Government on recent new waste legislation, most notably the *Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Bill* to come into effect in July 2022.	

Goal 2 – Recover more resources

Where avoiding waste generation is not possible, we support and make effort to recover more value and resources from waste by planning and providing enabling infrastructure and services.

Recovering more resources supports a circular economy that keeps materials in the productive economy and benefits the environment by reducing the need for virgin materials and waste disposal.

OUR AIM

To value waste as a resource and recover more from it.

OUR TARGETS

TARGETS	COMMENT
Halve the volume of organic materials going to landfill from residential waste bins between 2020 and 2030, with an interim target of 20 per cent reduction by 2025.	Data from the food waste collection trial is showing that from the participating households, an average of 4.5 kg is collected weekly, with a participation rate of 61%. Regional bin audit results from December 2021 show organic materials make up 39.41% of the waste bin.
Reduce contamination rates in residential recycling bins to less than 10 per cent by 2025, 7 per cent by 2030.	Regional bin audit results from December 2021 = 11.3% contamination rate
Reduce contamination rates in residential garden organic bins to less than 3 per cent by 2025, 1.5 per cent by 2030.	Regional audit results from December 2021 = 2.77% contamination rate
Increase the recycling rate in all City CBD offices by 10 per cent between 2020 and 2025.	We were unable to roll-out planned initiatives to reduce waste in City CBD offices due to COVID-19 restrictions. The move to Wurriki Nyal mid-2022 will provide an opportunity to progress actions to meet this target.
Increase food organics diverted from key City buildings by 50 per cent between 2020 and 2025.	Will introduce organics collection in the City's new office building Wurriki Nyal in mid-2022.
Increase visits to City's online recycling guide by 30 per cent, and subscriptions to waste education e-newsletter by 50 per cent, between 2020 and 2022.	The Rethink Your Rubbish e-newsletter increased subscriptions by approximately 20%. There is currently 5,216 subscribers. Visits to the recycling guide have increased by approximately 25%.
In addition to the existing garden organics collection service, households have access to a food organics recycling service or local composting by 2030.	We introduced a food organics collection trial in Lara in Nov 2021 with 1,500 households participating. Findings from the trial will be used to inform a broader roll out of the service by 2030.

PROGRESS OF SUPPORTING ACTIONS

On track | Needs improvement | Off track | Off track COVID-19 | Not yet available | ✓ Complete

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Services and Infrastructure

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
2.1	Identify options and incentives that increase resource recovery through kerbside waste collection, resource recovery centres and landfill.	We have introduced an on-demand hard waste and mattress collection service and both are very successful. The hard waste service currently makes 600 collections per week. We provide residents with a recycling drop-off service that covers a vast range of items at our resource recovery centres, including paint, e-waste, metal, paper/cardboard, glass, car batteries, machine and motor oil, tools and white goods.	
2.2	Investigate options to divert food organics from landfill, including implementing a trial food organics collection service.	We engaged a consultant to investigate options to divert food organics from landfill and introduced a food organics collection trial in Lara in November 2021. In total, 1,500 households are participating. Based on volumes collected, and feedback received, the trial has had a very successful start. We have recently partnered with Wormlovers to provide our residents discounts on worm farm and composting products to help divert food waste from landfill.	✓
2.3	Investigate options and prepare a business case for establishing a food organics processing facility.	Due to the lack of organics processing capacity in the Barwon South West region, we engaged a consultant to investigate food waste processing options. A partnership arrangement with Barwon Water and other G21 councils could be a promising future opportunity. We are also trialling in-vessel composting at our organics processing facility in Anakie to turn the food waste collected via the food organics trial into compost.	
2.4	Review the existing public place bin network and consider opportunities to improve and expand public place recycling.	We have improved and expanded our public place recycling by introducing new bin enclosures in Central Geelong and the Geelong Waterfront. Working closely with developers, we have also introduced recycling bins in our new open spaces in Fyansford, Armstrong Creek, Mount Duneed and the Bellarine. As a trial we have provided three sporting clubs with public place recycling bins to help capture more recyclable materials from reserves.	
2.5	Identify and implement new technologies to improve our waste services – for example, optimising waste collection runs and reducing collection vehicle emissions.	We ran an EOI process to explore smart waste collection methods suitable for food organics collection through market engagement. The market intelligence gained will allow us to specify and procure new technologies to improve our future waste services.	
2.6	Evaluate the hard waste collection trial service and recommend next steps.	Our trial hard waste collection was reviewed in 2021. The review demonstrated the benefits of the service and, due to its success, the service will now be offered permanently.	✓

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
2.7	Investigate and trial different resource recovery service options for residents, such as on-demand collection services.	An on-demand mattress collection service was introduced in December 2021 and complements the hard waste service we provide.	
2.8	Investigate alternative waste technology options for residual waste.	We will continue to investigate technology options for residual waste as the G21 Regional Waste and Recycling Hub project progresses.	
2.9	Prepare a business case for developing waste and resource recovery facility and services that fosters a circular economy with regional partners and local governments.	In 2021, we commissioned a feasibility study and concept design for the G21 Regional Waste and Recycling Hub. The proposed Hub would co-locate a regional materials recycling facility (MRF), a public resource recovery centre, and a bulk haulage transfer station. The site would also allow for co-location of other waste infrastructure and processing operations that support a circular economy – for example, glass and organics recovery, e-waste processing and so on.	✓
2.10	Aim for a 6-Star NABERS waste rating (or equivalent) on all new City owned buildings and select existing buildings to retrofit towards a similar rating.	We have endorsed a 6-Star NABERS waste rating for our new civic accommodation, Wurriki Nyal. The building will be opened in July 2022. Our Sustainable Buildings Policy, which applies to all City-owned buildings, is currently under review. When updated, it will support minimum waste performance ratings for new and existing buildings.	
2.11	Investigate better waste and recycling systems and services, and develop waste management planning guide for subdivision, multi-tenement and higher density developments.	As part of the Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) in the planning scheme implementation process, permit applicants are given resources to help guide the way large and medium developments approach waste management for: • construction & demolition waste • stormwater waste and • operational waste. We also promote and support developers to use resources developed by Sustainability Victoria, which focus on waste and recycling in multi-unit developments.	

Management Practices

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
2.12	Implement program to divert food organics in the Civic Precinct and other City buildings.	We will collect food waste as a separate waste stream in Wurriki Nyal. This organic material will be processed at our organics processing facility in Anakie.	
2.13	Provide infrastructure and services in City buildings that support increased recycling rates.	We are introducing a waste system in Wurriki Nyal that aims to increase recycling rates and reduce waste going to landfill. There will be dedicated recycling, food organics and general waste bins located throughout the building. A staff engagement program is being prepared to ensure the different waste streams are collected and recycled correctly.	

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
2.14	Maximise the recycling of plant and infrastructure at the time of asset replacement or disposal, which includes the reuse and recycling of construction and demolition waste.	Our new building, Wurriki Nyal, has been designed and built to a 6-star Green Star rating. To help achieve this rating, we have used approximately 50 per cent recycled concrete in all construction. We have also used green concrete, which includes waste materials, during the construction of new community facilities including: the Bella Wiyn Birralee Family Centre, Drysdale, and Korayn Birralee Family Centre, Corio.	
2.15	Provide opportunities and support for employees to upskill in workplace waste management and explore new waste technologies.	The pandemic has resulted in the majority of employees working from home since March 2020. While online webinars and limited site visits to waste facilities have been offered to upskill employees, we will pursue this further when employees return to the workplace on a more permanent basis.	
2.16	Identify new markets for recovered resources and waste currently going to landfill and support existing ones.	By working with Cleantech Innovations Geelong, we have demonstrated strong leadership in this space. We have supported Capricorn Power to establish a bio-energy power station in Geelong, which uses biochar as its fuel source. We have also supported a local business to investigate opportunities to process stockpiled landfill waste as part of a circular economy model for the landfill.	
2.17	Develop markets for products that adhere to circular economy principles.	Cleantech Innovations Geelong supports market development by providing grants to businesses and organisations that embrace clean technologies. Clean technologies are economically viable products, services and processes that harness renewable materials and energy sources, dramatically reducing the use of natural resources, and decreasing or eliminating emissions and wastes.	
2.18	Review and improve waste data capture and reporting processes for landfill, kerbside collection and resource recovery.	The EPA has updated some reporting requirements under the *Environment Protection Amendment Act 2018*. We have improved and upgraded our data capture systems accordingly. At the North Geelong Resource Recovery, industry-leading software was installed to capture data more effectively.	
2.19	Support and implement the Municipal Association of Victoria's *Rescue Our Recycling Action Plan.*	In March 2019, we joined the MAV Victoria's *Rescue Our Recycling Action Plan* campaign to support and implement the plan's actions.	
2.20	Establish a baseline of recycling rates across key City buildings.	In 2020, waste audits were undertaken at the Corio Operations Depot, Corio Street Office, 100 Brougham Street and City Hall. These audits provided baseline recycling rates.	✓

Education and Behaviour Change

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
2.21	Provide education and behaviour change programs that reduce bin contamination and increase resource recovery.	By using data collected through our bin audit program, we provide targeted education and behaviour change programs. Examples include: • the Modern Cloth Nappies Program • the 'Let's Get It Sorted' campaign • Plastic-free July.	
2.22	Provide information on waste management, recycling options and site contamination for the construction and demolition businesses.	Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) was introduced into the planning scheme in 2020. It requires all planning permit applications to consider ESD as part of the permit application process. For medium (3–9 dwellings) and large (10 or more) developments, the application must address our 10 key sustainable building categories, which include construction and building management.	

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
2.23	Develop and support a waste ambassador program for communities and workplaces and promote local waste and recycling stories.	When we launched the food organics collection trial, we worked closely with a local resident who shared her stories and agreed to promote the trial as a project champion. We will continue to work together with our community to promote local waste and recycling stories.	
2.24	Continue to monitor and reduce contamination rates in kerbside recycling and garden organics bins through the City's kerbside bin audit program and waste education.	We continue to monitor contamination rates in kerbside recycling and organics bins through our regular kerbside bin inspection program. Each week approximately 6,000 bins are inspected through our bin audit program. Bins containing non-recyclable materials have an education sticker placed on the bin. About 95 per cent of residents who receive an education sticker subsequently reduce contamination in their bins.	

Partnerships and Advocacy

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
2.25	Partner with the Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group to support schools, hospitals, catering and other businesses to improve their waste practices and reduce landfill waste.	We continue to work closely with the Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group and support all activities targeted at organisations that are designed to improve waste practices and reduce landfill waste.	
2.26	Collaborate with the Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group, local governments and the waste industry to develop and implement the Regional Recycling Action Plan for the Barwon South West region.	Through collaboration with the Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group and other Barwon South West councils, we developed the *Regional Recycling Action Plan*, which was released in April 2020. This partnership also resulted in the delivery of the Optimal Recycling Infrastructure Model (ORIM) project, which looked at infrastructure needs to increase the region's capacity to sort and process kerbside recyclables.	✓
2.27	Continue to collaborate with G21 councils on collaborative procurement and resource recovery initiatives.	We work closely with G21 councils on collaborative procurement and resource recovery initiatives. In 2021, we commissioned a feasibility study and concept design for the G21 Regional Recycling Hub on behalf of member councils.	
2.28	Partner with government agencies and local industries to bring new waste and resource efficient products to market by stimulating demand and providing grants.	Cleantech Innovations Geelong is an exciting partnership program between the City, the Geelong Manufacturing Council and the Victorian Government. Cleantech supports businesses to bring new products to market via a grants program.	
2.29	Use Procurement for Innovation principles to bring new products to market that adhere to circular economy principles.	Using Procurement for Innovation principles, we support businesses to bring new products to the market. The 'age-defying bridges' Procurement for Innovation project is an excellent example. We have recently installed two age-defying bridges at Cowies Creek in Seagull Paddock, North Geelong.	

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
2.30	Through Cleantech Innovations Geelong partnership program, invite proposals for circular economy and waste related demonstration projects.	Four organisations conducted clean technology demonstrations in Greater Geelong with grants and project management support from Cleantech Innovations Geelong. Capricorn Power, Deakin University, Focus Pty Ltd and Geelong Sustainability Group Inc. all completed clean technology and circular economy demonstration projects that address stockpiled landfill, household energy use, community solar production and renewable energy.	✓
2.31	Explore the creation of a clean technology precinct which will include and support resource efficient products and businesses.	In 2020, we road tested this vision and engaged with business leaders, investors and enablers to explore how we could make it happen. In addition, Deakin University students from three academic disciplines also assisted with the investigation: Interdisciplinary Planning and Design; Geo-planning and Design; and Urban Design Studio.	
2.32	Work with government agencies, local governments and organisations to increase the use of recycled materials in road, building and other infrastructure constructions.	We have worked closely with a range of stakeholders to trial recycled building materials in road construction projects across the municipality. A road construction project at Maple Place in Waurn Ponds trialled three recycled materials: • recycled fine crushed rock (FCR), • polyrok aggregate kerb mix and • crumbed rubber asphalt. These projects give us the opportunity to assess the benefits of new sustainable products and methods, with a view of potentially expanding their use.	
2.33	Partner with other local governments and waste regional groups to identify and develop waste management and infrastructure solutions.	We continue to work closely with the Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group and local governments to identify and develop waste management and infrastructure solutions.	
2.34	Partner with government agencies, local governments and organisations to explore opportunities on resource recovery and alternative waste technologies.	Sustainability Victoria funded us to lead the G21 Regional Waste and Recycling Hub feasibility study in 2021. As the Hub progresses, it will provide opportunities for neighbouring councils to participate in resource recovery and alternative waste projects.	
2.35	Advocate to the State Government for a Victorian container deposit scheme.	We welcome a container deposit scheme and have been involved in consultations with the Victorian Government. We have offered the City of Greater Geelong as a trial site.	✓

Goal 3 – Protect the environment

We know it is important that our waste and recycling systems are designed and operated to protect the environment from the negative impacts of waste. We are committed to managing waste responsibly and adopting best practice in our current waste and recycling facilities.

To plan for future population and economic growth in Greater Geelong, we are exploring future waste facilities that will help us manage waste effectively and protect our environment.

OUR AIM

To reduce the impact waste has on the environment.

OUR TARGETS

TARGETS	COMMENT
Utilise at least 95 per cent of landfill gas generated at the Drysdale Landfill for energy production by 2022.	We used all the landfill gas captured to generate electricity onsite by third party, LMS Energy. Annual electricity generation is enough to power approximately 1,500 homes.
Progressively rehabilitate the Drysdale Landfill to improve the local landscape.	The post-closure landscape plan for the Drysdale Landfill was adopted in February 2022. It focuses on environmental restoration objectives, with improved community access to the site.
Review and update council policies to support a circular economy by 2022.	Updated procurement policy.
Implement sustainable government procurement practices, including the use of sustainable and recycled materials.	Increased use of sustainable and recycled materials – for example, through road construction projects in Maple Place.

PROGRESS OF SUPPORTING ACTIONS

On track | Needs improvement | Off track | Off track COVID-19 | Not yet available | ✓ Complete

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Services and Infrastructure

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
3.1	Protect the environment from litter pollution in public and open spaces through enforcement, education and control measures.	After there was a spate of incidents involving large volumes of Styrofoam (waffle pods) that were impacting properties and waterways, the City increased its compliance monitoring of the building sector in December 2021 and ran a campaign focused on building site waste. Local Laws officers also issued multiple infringements, numerous warnings and written instructions regarding building site waste.	

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
3.2	Review and improve management processes and measures designed to address illegal dumping across the municipality.	We have a dedicated webpage that community members can use to report litter issues, such as illegally dumped rubbish. We have also recently purchased a dedicated truck that picks up illegally dumped items.	
3.3	Review and monitor litter reduction measures aimed at wetlands and waterways. Investigate opportunities to capture more litter from stormwater runoff through appropriate infrastructure and measures.	We continue to monitor litter reduction measures aimed at wetlands and waterways, and have a network of 52 Gross Pollutant Traps (GPTs) strategically located across the municipality. GPTs are installed to catch stormwater pollution, such as litter and coarse sediment, before it enters waterways.	
3.4	Prepare a business case to establish best environmental practice facility for bulk transport of residual waste.	We successfully received funding from Sustainability Victoria to prepare a business case for the G21 Regional Waste and Recycling Hub, which would include a bulk transport facility for residual waste.	✓
3.5	Continue to capture landfill gas and generate energy at the Drysdale Landfill.	Landfill gas is captured, and electricity is generated onsite by third party, LMS Energy. The annual electricity generation is enough to power approximately 1,500 homes.	
3.6	Develop and implement a progressive landfill landscape and rehabilitation plan for the Drysdale Landfill.	We developed a post-closure landscape plan, which included three options that were released for public comment in 2021. The final landscape plan was adopted in February 2022. It has been developed with features from each option and focuses on environmental restoration objectives, with improved community access to the site.	
3.7	Protect the environment using best practice and management of existing waste infrastructure, including landfills, recycling facilities and services.	We use best-practice management principles across our landfill and resource recovery facilities. The Drysdale landfill site is currently planning for its closure. The site will be rehabilitated to provide strong environmental outcomes and recreational spaces for the community to enjoy.	
3.8	Investigate opportunities to rehabilitate and develop recreational spaces at closed landfills.	The final landscape plan for the Drysdale Landfill demonstrates that closed landfills can be designed and rehabilitated to provide recreational spaces for the community to enjoy.	
3.9	Identify and support initiatives to reuse waste to protect our environment, such as using waste scallop shells to construct artificial reefs that reduce coastal erosion.	The artificial reef in Portarlington has been a showcase project that has won state and national awards. We continue to support initiatives that reuse waste to protect the environment. Through our community grants program, we have supported Boomerang Bags. As part of this project, volunteers turn textile waste into reusable shopping bags.	

Management Practices

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
3.10	Continue to implement sustainable procurement practices, including the use of sustainable and recycled materials to create end markets.	We continue to support and implement sustainable procurement practices. Recent road construction projects trialling recycled materials have been a great success.	

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
3.11	Review and update policy and procedures to reflect the changes in Environment Protection Amendment Act 2018 which takes effect from 1 July 2020.	We adhere to all our obligations under the EPA Act and have updated our procedures to respond to changes resulting from the amendments in the Act.	
3.12	Continue to implement environmental monitoring and operational plans for Drysdale Landfill. Conduct annual environment audit and implement recommendations.	We implemented environmental monitoring and operational plans for Drysdale Landfill, and implemented recommendations from environmental audits.	
3.13	Continue to comply with the Environmental Protection Authority Victoria requirements and guidelines at City's waste and resource recovery facilities.	We continue to comply with EPA requirements at our waste and resource recovery facilities.	
3.14	Identify opportunities to minimise the impact of waste on the environment for the Northern and Western Geelong Growth Areas.	We have identified opportunities to minimise the impact of waste on the environment. These are represented in the Northern and Western Geelong Growth Areas Framework Plan under Neighbourhood Sustainability.	

Education and Behaviour Change

	ACTION	PROGRESS COMMENT	STATUS
3.15	Expand community education program to highlight the impacts of waste on the environment.	We have recently launched the Food Organics Trial, Modern Cloth Nappies Program and Home Composting Program. These projects expand on existing education programs and highlight the impacts of waste on the environment.	
3.16	Deliver community engagement and education campaign to raise awareness of illegal dumping and its impacts.	We have developed an online web campaign that provides information on the environmental, social and economic impacts of illegal dumping, promoting alternatives to dumping, such as our hard waste program. We also use social media and our Rethink newsletter to raise awareness.	
3.17	Undertake community engagement on the future closure of Drysdale Landfill and explore possible uses for the site after it closes.	We developed a post-closure landscape plan, which included three options that were released for public comment in 2021. The final landscape plan was adopted in February 2022.	
3.18	Promote and celebrate success in protecting the environment through community education campaigns.	We regularly promote and celebrate our activities in our Rethink Your Rubbish newsletter, which has a strong subscriber list. Clean Up Australia Day, held in March this year, is an excellent example of celebrating success.	
3.19	Promote programs and businesses that take actions to reduce the impacts of waste on the environment.	We regularly promote and celebrate programs and actions taken by businesses in our Rethink Your Rubbish newsletter, which has a strong subscriber list.	

Partnerships and Advocacy

	Action	Progress comment	Status
3.20	Partner with government agencies, land managers, land owners and relevant stakeholders to reduce and prevent illegal dumping across the municipality.	We are working with relevant stakeholders to reduce and prevent illegal dumping at identified hot spots across the municipality. Portable CCTV cameras are being used to monitor the areas repeatedly targeted, while signage has been installed in key locations to help educate and warn potential dumpers.	
3.21	Partner with government agencies to reduce and prevent littering using community education and enforcement.	We work with and support campaigns developed and implemented by Sustainability Victoria and the EPA to reduce and prevent littering in our communities.	
3.22	Continue to partner with government agencies and stakeholders to secure funding for environmental protection works.	We will work with stakeholders to secure funding for environmental protection works.	
3.23	Collaborate with government agencies and stakeholders to develop programs and initiatives that focus on reducing the impacts of waste on the environment.	We work with relevant stakeholders to develop programs and initiatives that focus on reducing the impacts of waste on the environment. We are a proud funding partner of the Caring for Our Bays program, implemented by the Bellarine Catchment Network. The program aims to lift the profile and appreciation of Corio Bay and the Bellarine shoreline of Port Phillip Bay, raising awareness of litter and its impact, and reducing the amount of litter that enters the waterways.	
3.24	Advocate for increased enforcement, technical advice and support from the Environment Protection Authority Victoria.	We have requested Officers for the Protection of the Local Environment (OPLEs) from the EPA. OPELs are EPA-employed staff that are based in local councils. Their roles is to provide quick compliance and enforcement responses to smaller local pollution reports.	

2.10. Geelong Major Events Committee - 2022-2026 External Member Positions

Source: **City Planning & Economy**
Director: **Gareth Smith**

Purpose

1. To appoint three community members as external representatives of the Geelong Major Events Committee (GME) for the period June 2022 – May 2026.

Background

2. Council established GME in August 1998 as a Section 86 Committee under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*, to stimulate and encourage major events within the municipality. The Committee is now a Delegated Committee of Council pursuant to Section 63 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

3. GME consists of a maximum of 12 persons. External members may fill up to six positions, where suitable candidates offering considerable value are identified. External members serve four year terms and vacate the role at the end of each term, however, may reapply via the public recruitment process.

4. The term for GME external Committee members, Leigh McClusky, Robyn Birrell and Mathew Hood, will expire following the May 2022 GME meeting.

5. External representation on the GME Committee is essential as it enables the GME Committee to draw upon expertise and networks beyond Council, specifically experience relevant to the events, sports, arts or business communities.

Key Matters

6. In response to public advertising, 13 applications were received. Advertisements were placed in the Geelong Advertiser, the Geelong Times and the Geelong Independent newspapers during January and February 2022. The opportunity to join the GME Committee was also advertised online and promoted on the City's social media platforms.

7. A selection panel chaired by Cr Nelson (Chair GME) and including the Director City Planning & Economy, an incumbent GME external Committee member and the GME Executive Officer interviewed a shortlist of applicants.

8. The recommended applicants for appointment will bring to the Committee a wealth of experience and networks of cultural and sporting major events, which is considered integral to the strategic post-Covid rebuilding of the region's long-term major events opportunities. The focus of these appointments is to position GME to access new and expanded networks of major event rights holders.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.10

Cr Nelson moved, Cr Kontelj seconded -

That Council:

1. **Appoint Robyn Birrell, Shannan Gove and Kent Boorman as external representatives to the Geelong Major Events Committee for the four-year term June 2022 – May 2026; and**

2. **Thank the outgoing members of the Committee for their service and contribution.**

Carried

Financial Sustainability

9. There are no financial implications arising from this report, as no remuneration is paid to external representative positions on the GME Committee. All GME Committee positions are voluntary. Members can claim out of pocket expenses associated with participation on the Committee.

Community Engagement

10. The vacancies on the GME Committee were promoted and advertised publicly with applications invited from interested community members.

11. The appointment of three new external representatives to the GME Committee will be communicated to key stakeholders and the media.

12. The outgoing external Committee members will be thanked in writing for their contribution to the GME Committee.

13. The unsuccessful candidates will be notified in writing, thanking them for their application and interest in the GME Committee.

Social Equity and Sustainability

14. The inclusion of external representatives on the GME Committee supports the transparency of the Committee.

15. The recruitment process is open to anyone, whilst indicating a preference for experience relevant to the business, arts, events and sports sectors, as it applies to the subject matter of the Committee.

16. Shannan Gove is a leader in event and workforce management and technology, working alongside some of the largest events worldwide including Super Bowl, Commonwealth Games, FIFA World Cup and T20 World Cup. His company has also worked with some of Australia's most prominent events including the Grand Prix, Australian Open and the Melbourne Fashion Festival. The Geelong born local has global relationships with some of the world's largest events and decision makers.

17. Kent Boorman has over 20 years in relevant commercial development and event delivery within the sports, entertainment, government and not-for-profit sectors. His experience is across some of Australia's leading sports and entertainment properties with a particular passion for creating commercial solutions for clients and rights holders. He has worked with significant events and event owners, such as the Grand Prix, IMG, Australian Turf Club, Movember Foundation and Golf Australia.

18. Robyn Birrell has been on the GME Committee for one term and is recommended for re-appointment. Robyn has many years of experience working in the cultural sector at the Arts Centre Melbourne, Gasworks Arts Park, Glasshouse Arts Centre and the Geelong Performing Arts Centre. She also brings extensive experience in committee/board roles including Creative Victoria, Arts Industry Council, Victorian Association of Performing Arts Centres, and many more.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

19. There are no legal or statutory implications arising from this report. The appointment process is within the framework of the GME Terms of Reference, the Council Instrument of Delegation to GME and the *Local Government Act 2020.*

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

20. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
    Healthy, caring and inclusive community.
    Strong local economy.

21. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
    A destination that attracts local and international visitors.
    A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities.
    An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.
    Creative and diverse culture.

Conflict of Interest

22. The *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of any Council Committee to disclose conflicts of interest and not participate in a decision when they have a conflict of interest. All members are given a thorough induction and briefing on conflict of interest prior to attending their first meeting.

Risk Assessment

23. There are no known risks arising from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

24. There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

Attachments

Nil.

2.11. Community Engagement Impact Report 2022

Source: **Strategy, People & Performance**
Director: **Kaarina Phyland**

Purpose

1. To present the City's Community Engagement Impact Report 2022 for noting by Council. This report outlines the key achievements and statistics for community engagement as delivered under the City's Community Engagement Policy for the 12 months from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Background

2. The City of Greater Geelong Community Engagement Policy was adopted at Council's meeting in March 2021.

3. The Community Engagement Policy states the City commits to monitoring processes, information sharing and decision-making to understand the overall level of success in the policy's implementation, with evaluation to be presented to Council annually.

Key Matters

4. To encapsulate the community engagement activities of the twelve-month period from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022, an Impact Report has been developed including key highlights and statistics.

5. As this is the first report against the Policy, the figures included will represent a benchmark and will be used as the baseline for subsequent reporting.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.11

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Mason seconded -

That Council note the Community Engagement Impact Report 2022.

Carried

Financial Sustainability

6. There are no current or future budgetary implications resulting from this report.

Community Engagement

7. Community engagement was not required for the development of this report, but was critical to every aspect of the work being reported on.

Social Equity and Sustainability

8. This report considers the social equity issues faced in our community and notes the steps taken and improvements made in community engagement space that address social inequity, making engagements in general more accessible and inclusive.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

9. This report responds to the Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

10. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
    Healthy, caring and inclusive community.
    High-performing council and organisation.
    Strong local economy.
    Sustainable growth and environment.

11. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:
    A destination that attracts local and international visitors.
    A fast, reliable and connected transport network.
    A leader in developing and adopting technology.
    A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities.
    An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.
    Creative and diverse culture.
    Development and implementation of sustainable solutions.
    People feel safe wherever they are.
    Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

12. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

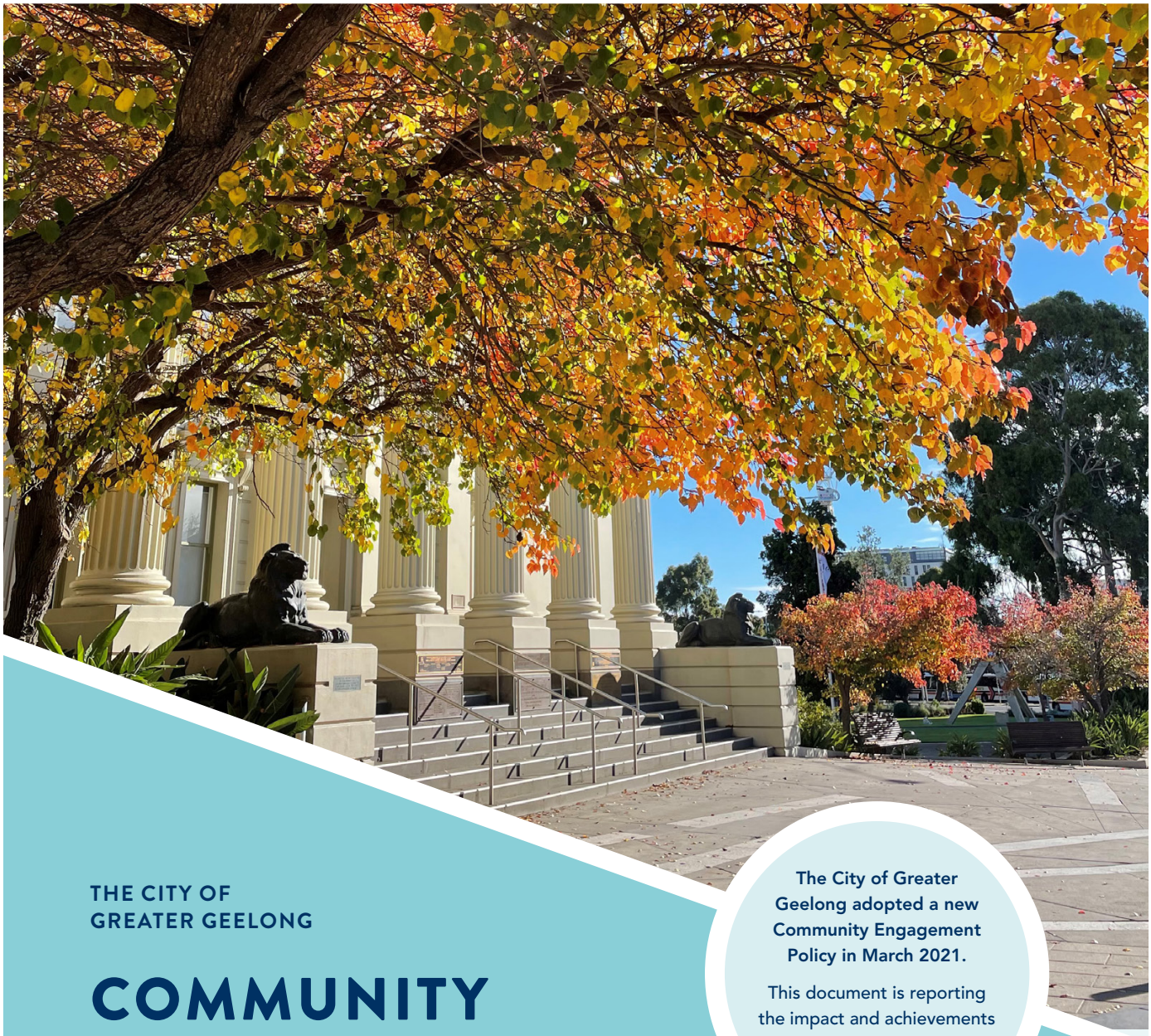
13. There are no risks associated with the recommendation in this report.

Environmental Sustainability

14. There are no sustainability or environmental impacts resulting from this report or its recommendations.

Attachments

1. Community Engagement Impact Report 2022 [**2.11.1** - 8 pages]



THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IMPACT REPORT

APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022

MAY 2022

The City of Greater Geelong adopted a new Community Engagement Policy in March 2021.

This document is reporting the impact and achievements delivered under the policy over the past 12 months.

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Under the guidance of the Local Government Act 2020 community engagement at the City of Greater Geelong saw some valuable advancements in the past 12 months. The City has:



Adopted the **Community Engagement Policy**



Improved the accessibility of our online Have Your Say platform



191,000 views of the Have Your Say platform



Over **8,500 submissions** via the Have Your Say platform



Conducted **more deliberative engagement projects** with our community



Improved community satisfaction with community consultation and engagement

ALIGNING TO OUR PRINCIPLES

Engaging with the community ensures that Council listens and makes decisions based on community lived experience and in line with community views and values.

We have delivered our engagement activities under our five engagement principles in the design, delivery and reporting of all engagement activities.



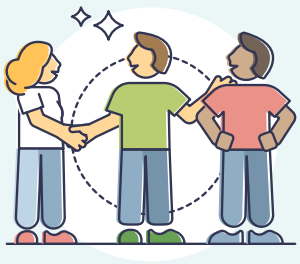
A community engagement process must have a **clearly defined** objective and scope.



Participants taking part in community engagement must have access to objective, **relevant and timely** information to inform their participation.



Participants taking part in community engagement must be **representative** of the persons and groups affected by the matter that is the subject of community engagement.



Participants taking part in community engagement are entitled to **reasonable support** to enable meaningful and informed engagement.



Participants taking part in community engagement are informed of the ways in which the community engagement process will **influence** Council decision making.

DELIVERING DELIBERATIVE ENGAGEMENT

Deliberative engagement is a tailored process that ensures a representation of participants that reflect our community are brought together into the engagement process and closer to the decision makers than other forms of engagement.

Deliberative practices, which may be co-designed, take place to allow for a representative group to deliberate on an issue in depth, over time, before coming to an informed consensus or decision.

Deliberative engagement methods this year have included advisory committees, workshops, community panels, reference groups and focus groups.

Examples include:

- All Advisory Committees provided input on a range of engagements in deliberative settings
- Our Community Plan & Community Vision Refresh
- Long Term Financial Plan
- Asset Management Plan
- Community Engagement Policy
- Social Infrastructure Plan
- Sustainability Framework
- Social Equity Framework
- Central Geelong Reference Group
- Portarlington Recreation Reserve Reference Group
- Climate Change Action Plan, and more



EMBEDDING IMPACT IN OUR PRACTICE

CONNECTION WITH COMMUNITY

78,863
People visited the Have Your Say platform

8,555
Contributions were received via the Have Your Say platform

195
Projects were shared on the Have Your Say platform

4,905
Downloads of engagement summary reports shared with community

MOST DOWNLOADED ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORTS

- Ocean Grove Principal Pedestrian Network
- Avalon Corridor Strategy
- Drysdale Regional Library & Community Hub
- Clifton Springs & Drysdale Flood Study

MAKING THE CITY MORE ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE

- Readspeaker (audio/listening tool) added to our Have Your Say platform.
- Delivery of hybrid engagements (online and face to face) providing greater choice & access.
- Offering more one-on-one phone conversations.
- Translation information on every Have Your Say project page.
- Increased use of Advisory Committee representative expertise.
- Development of a Reasonable Adjustment and Support resource.
- More deliberate and timely engagement with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, for example:
  - › Wurriki Nyal – new civic precinct for Geelong
  - › Social Equity Framework
  - › City of Greater Geelong Climate Change Response Plan
  - › Baba Nyayl.



Above: City of Greater Geelong Climate Change Response Plan engagement on the City's online Have Your Say platform

SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS

Almost two hundred projects delivered a range of improvements and deliverables positively influenced by the community feedback received. Some example engagement projects include:



WAURN PONDS SKATE PARK

Objective:

Create a design for the upgrade of the popular Waurn Ponds Skate Park in collaboration with local residents and users, ultimately producing an inclusive flagship youth space.

Positive outcome from engagement:

The overall response saw a diverse range of feedback with differences between the pre-design consultation and online surveys and reviews. The second round of consultation saw increased overall participation which unveiled different trends in the needs of the community, such as specific riding disciplines. The new concept plan now caters to a range of riding disciplines and skill levels as well as working to the project budget. It includes various elements, such as a new street drain area, a new snake run bowl, improved street plaza, a youth active recreation area with various activity options and an additional shade structure and seating areas.



BARWON HEADS VILLAGE PARK MASTER PLAN

Objective:

To develop a master plan, which will guide the future funding of the village park over the next decade.

Positive outcome from engagement:

An adopted Master Plan has been collaboratively developed which secures the character of the park into the future whilst also supporting much needed upgrades to key facilities and new opportunities for children and youth through the bike discovery area.

The success of the plan is due to the high level of community input sharing their aspirations for the park to ensure it meets their needs and is a place they will continue to love. A number of changes were identified by community which have been included in the master plan, such as an additional shade structure and new seating areas.



CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE PLAN

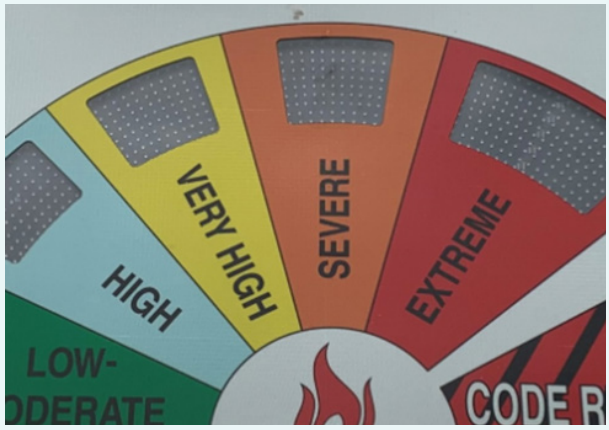
Objective:

To work with the Greater Geelong community to achieve net zero emissions and increase our regions resilience to climate change impacts through coordinated and collective actions.

Positive outcome from engagement:

Following extensive consultation with community groups, businesses, government agencies and nongovernment organisations we have developed a Climate Change Response Plan to guide how we can act as an organisation, and a community, to respond to our changing climate.

Community interest in tackling climate change is growing and strongly influenced the development and priorities that are now found in this holistic plan outlining how collectively we can rapidly reduce our emissions and reduce climate change impacts.



TWO WAY FIRE SAFETY

Objective:

The Two Way Fire Safety project is for the Anakie and Breamlea communities, due to the unique fire risk conditions identified in the two townships, to strengthen fire safety processes in these areas, by helping residents in Anakie and Breamlea become actively aware and engaged in their local fire safety plan.

Positive outcome from engagement:

The Two Way Fire Safety project has been extremely valuable in helping the City and the agencies involved, to better understand the challenges faced by residents in Breamlea and Anakie when preparing for bushfire.

Throughout this project meaningful relationships were built with the residents in these high fire risk areas and relationships were enhanced with the agencies that work in the bushfire preparedness space and more broadly across the Emergency Management sector.

Awareness by residents of their fire risk and responsibilities with respect to bushfire was increased and a number of outcomes were delivered for these communities including the location specific Anakie Bushfire Safety Guide for Anakie residents and the Breamlea Fire Safety brochure for visitors and residents of Breamlea.

SUMMARY

There have been many positive outcomes as a result of community engagement activities over the past 12 months, however we recognise that there is always room for improvement.

As we look to the next 12 months, we aim to continue to build on our relationships with community, to conduct successful community engagement projects with a focus on being community-centred that deliver positive outcomes for both community and council, in line with our engagement principles.

We also aim for a consistent approach to community engagement across the organisation to provide a synonymous customer experience whether the feedback is being sought for a strategy, project or service.

Thank you for your support of City of Greater Geelong engagements over the past 12 months and we look forward to hearing from you again soon.

www.yoursay.geelongaustralia.com.au



We acknowledge the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways & Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are a part of our Greater Geelong community today.

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CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE
100 Brougham Street
Geelong VIC 3220
8.00am – 5.00pm

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CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

2.12. Clever and Creative - Our Progress 2021

Source: **Strategy, People & Performance**
Director: **Kaarina Phyland**

Purpose

1. To present the Clever and Creative – Our Progress 2021 report for noting by Council.

Background

2. The Community-led 30-year vision, *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future,* was launched in August 2017.

3. The Council resolution committed to a yearly review and report to the community outlining progress against the indicators. Our Progress 2021 is the fourth update and honours that commitment.

Key Matters

4. The Our Progress 2021 report has been reviewed and endorsed by the Vision Partner Group. The report contains two key features:

   4.1. Provides a snapshot of projects and activities completed by both the Vision Partner Group and community that align with the nine community aspirations.

   4.2. Review of the measures of success.

5. This year's report is a condensed version with a key focus on moving the reporting of vision's progress to the community in a more consistent and integrated format.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.12

Cr Moloney moved, Cr Murrihy seconded -

That Council note the publication of Clever and Creative – Our Progress 2021.

Carried

Financial Sustainability

6. There are no financial implications arising from the subject of this report.

Community Engagement

7. The Our Progress 2021 report has been prepared in consultation with the Vision Partner Group. The report will be made available to the community through the City's website (www.geelongaustralia.com.au) after the Council Meeting on 26 May 2022.

Social Equity and Sustainability

8. The Our Progress 2021 report documents the work that Council in collaboration with the community is undertaking in relation to the implementation of the 30-year vision. This update includes activities relating to the community aspiration for *an inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.*

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

9. The Our Progress 2021 report has been developed to meet our commitment to update the community on the progress of the vision on an annual basis.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

10. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priorities:

    Healthy, caring and inclusive community.
    Sustainable growth and environment.
    Strong local economy.
    High-performing council and organisation.

11. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:

    A destination that attracts local and international visitors.
    A fast, reliable and connected transport network.
    A leader in developing and adopting technology.
    A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities.
    An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.
    Creative and diverse culture.
    Development and implementation of sustainable solutions.
    People feel safe wherever they are.
    Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

12. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

13. Delivering the *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future* vision has been identified as a strategic risk for the City.

14. The City is working in partnership with its fifteen Vision Partner organisations to ensure that the community-led vision remains relevant, achievable and front-of-mind with the community and stakeholders.

Environmental Sustainability

15. The Our Progress 2021 report documents the work that Council, in collaboration with the community, is undertaking to help deliver the 30-year vision. This update includes activities relating to the community aspirations for *sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment,* and *development and implementation of sustainable solutions*.

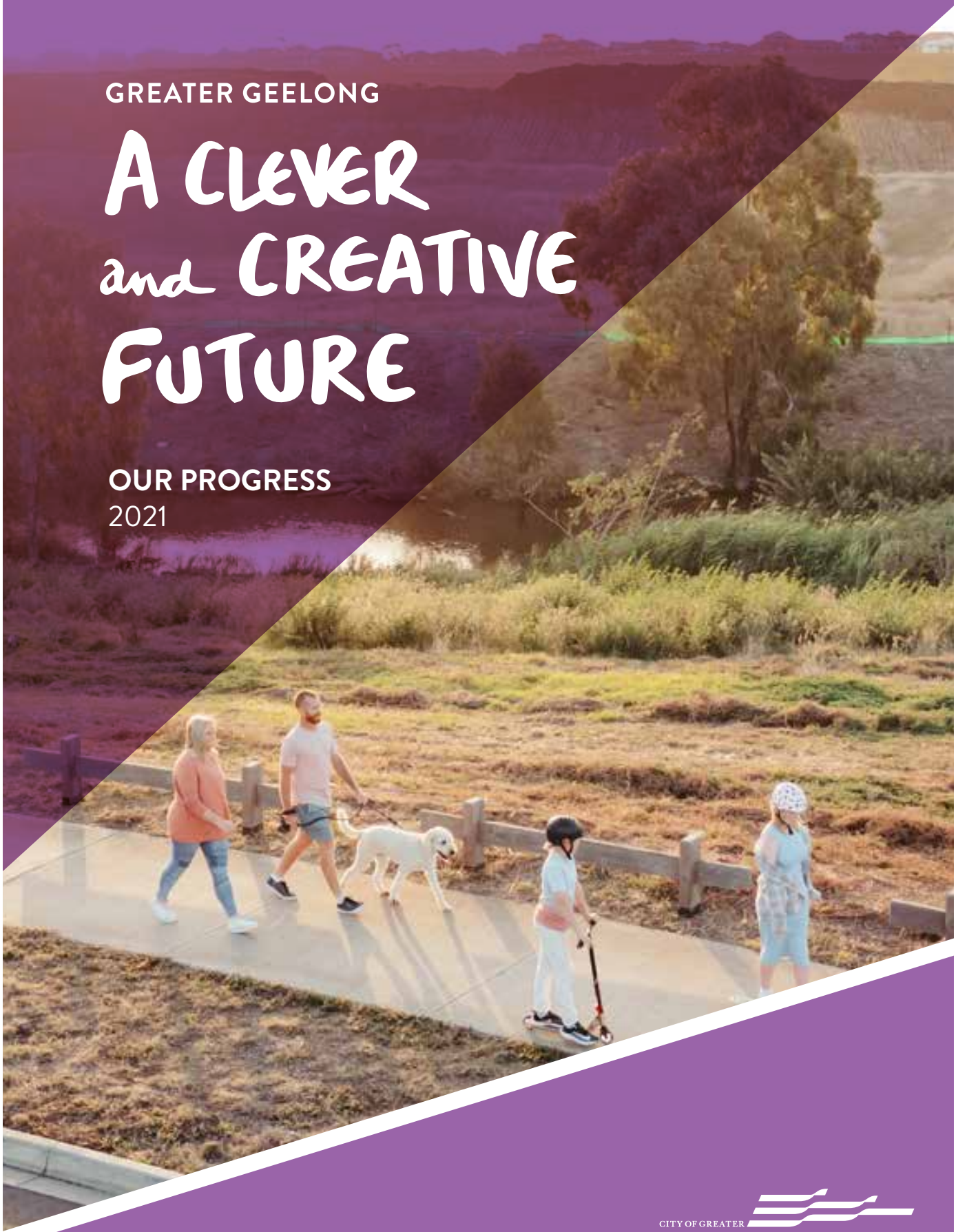
Attachments

1. Clever and Creative - Our Progress 2021 [**2.12.1** - 20 pages]

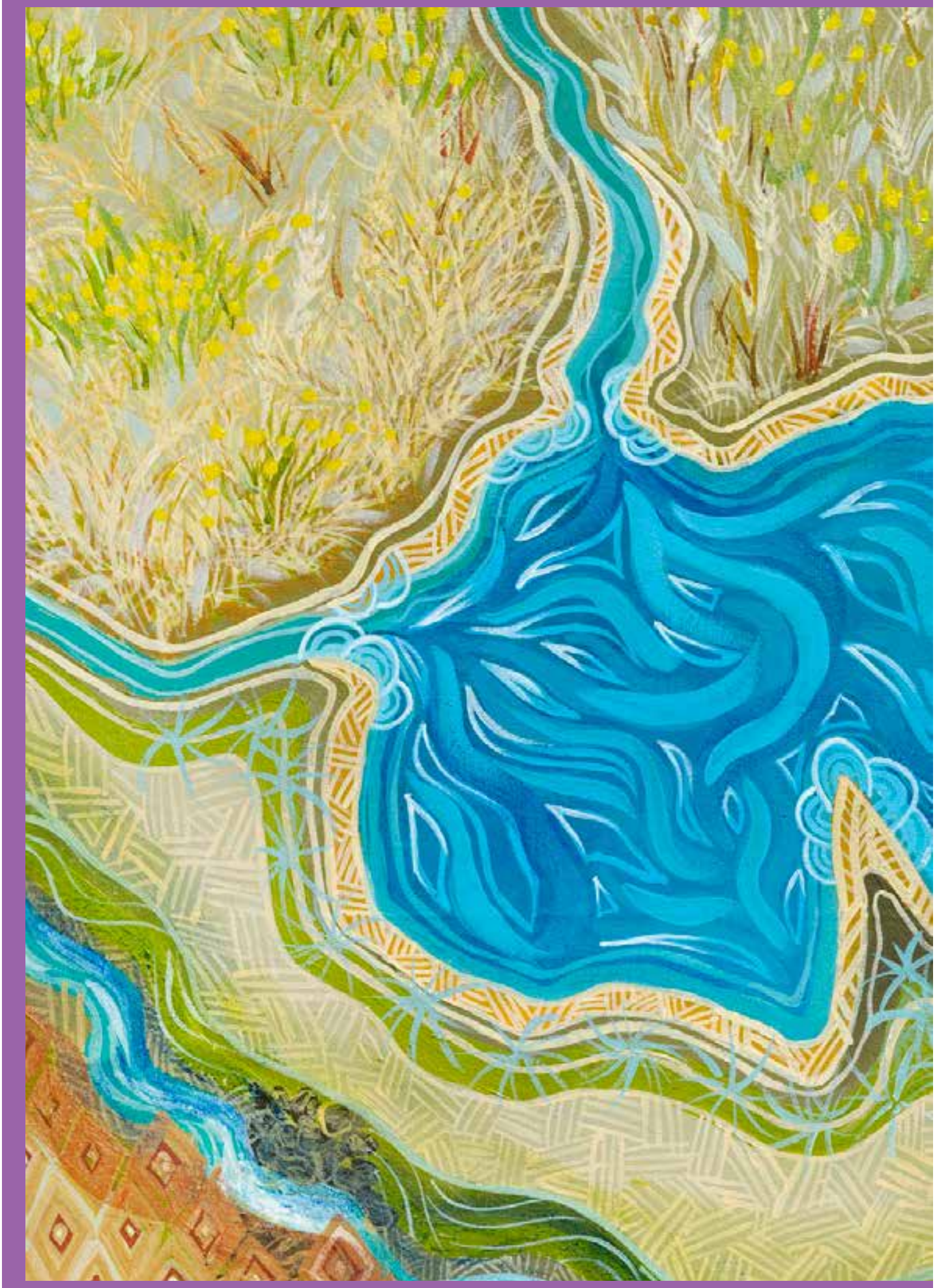
GREATER GEELONG

A CLEVER and CREATIVE FUTURE

OUR PROGRESS
2021



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG





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The City of Greater Geelong acknowledges the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.

We Acknowldege all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.

Cover image: Monier Way Shared Path, which connects the Barwon River, Fyansford and surrounding suburbs.

Artwork (opposite): *Corio* by Dr Jenny Murray-Jones.

PARTNER MESSAGE

As our community continues its recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, our region's strong history of resilience, collaboration and innovation has seen it not only deal with the challenges of the past two years, but also reposition itself to take advantage of the opportunities that have come with our new normal.

One of the key activities undertaken by the Vision Partner Group over the past 12 months has been the continued work on the Brand Geelong Project. Scheduled to launch in June 2022, this new place brand for Greater Geelong aims to leverages the region's competitive advantages, positioning it both nationally and internationally as a destination of choice for people to live, work, invest, study and visit.

Further driving the region's recovery in 2021 was the announcement of some major investment in the region, such as the establishment of Manufutures 2, a $20 million innovation hub at Deakin University that will continue to enhance our reputation for innovation and design. The Australian Government also announced Hanwha Defence Australia would be constructing its $1 billion LAND 8116 Armoured Vehicle Centre of Excellence project at Avalon Airport, and the City of Greater Geelong increased its funding commitment to the Northern Aquatic and Community Hub by a further $21.84 million, with work to commence on the new community facility in 2022.

While a number of the region's key events, such as the Geelong Business Excellence Awards and Sustainable House Day, continued online, 2021 did see the return of some in-person events, such as Geelong Design Week and a performance by Midnight Oil at the iconic Mt Duneed Estate, which was enjoyed by over 13,000 people.

The creative industries sector remains a key focus for our region as we build on our reputation as Australia's first UNESCO City of Design. In conjunction with the ongoing redevelopment of the Geelong Arts Centre, vision partner organisations – G21, Committee for Geelong and the Geelong Arts Centre – formed part of a regional steering committee collaborating to develop and release the region's first Creative Industries Strategy, with a focus on skills development, community engagement, increased investment, cultural tourism and digital access.

Of course, we remain mindful and offer our ongoing support to those individuals and industries who continue to deal with the devastating effects of the pandemic. The Resilient Geelong Report, commissioned by Committee for Geelong and Deakin University, remains one of the region's blueprints for helping to address these significant challenges together.

We urge everyone to continue collaborating, innovating and supporting each other, as we work towards a clever and creative future for all members of our community.

THE VISION PARTNER GROUP

MAYOR AND CEO MESSAGE

With learnings from 2020 under our belt, the Greater Geelong community spent 2021 adapting to the rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation and creating new opportunities for the region.

There were countless examples of community members helping those doing it tough as a result of COVID and council supported this by expanding its financial support for businesses and the broader community.

Demonstrating strength, versatility and innovative thinking in the face of another year of pandemic challenges, our collective actions contributed to the region's recovery from COVID and its long-term success.

Our aspirations in the 30-year vision to be recognised as a clever and creative city-region couldn't be more relevant and vital to pursue.

It's worth highlighting a few of the many achievements our community has to be proud of, each one aligning with our vision goals in unique ways.

Our diverse community members and tourism operators, beautiful natural environment and thriving culture were recognised in Leading Places: The 100 most loved destinations around the world for 2021, with The Bellarine coming 25th and Geelong taking out the 69th spot.

The City of Greater Geelong Council added $21.84 million to its existing funding commitment to ensure the critical Northern Aquatic and Community Hub project could get off the ground.

Wadawurrung Traditional Owners used their knowledge and expertise to help the planning, design and implementation of projects aimed at reinvigorating Central Geelong, with the support of Geelong City Deal funding.

In line with its priority focus on sustainability, council set a goal of our operations reaching net zero emissions by 2025 and we took a big step towards it by signing an agreement with 45 other Victorian councils to source all of the City's electricity from renewable sources.

And with climate change firmly set in its sights, Deakin University launched Australia's largest on-campus solar farm at its Waurn Ponds campus.

Our accomplishments of 2021 serve as inspiration as we continue to tackle both new and old issues, challenge the status quo and create positive change.

With our creative credentials and track record of success to back us up, we have a lot to look forward to.



Cr Trent Sullivan

Deputy Mayor,
City of Greater Geelong



Martin Cutter

CEO
City of Greater Geelong

UNESCO UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

The City of Greater Geelong is the Secretariat for our membership to the UNESCO Creative Cities Network as a City of Design.

Geelong is the first and only city in Australia with this designation, and one of just 43 in the world.

The following was achieved in 2021:

- We successfully delivered our 2nd Geelong Design Week themed "Unpredictable". The 10-day event celebrating local design and creativity, was held from 18 – 28 March 2021, hosting 69 events and attracting over 6,000 visitors from Geelong, Melbourne and regional Victoria.
- We delivered a set of Guiding Principles to articulate our aspirations as a Creative City of Design. The three core principles are Embrace a Design Mindset, Nurture Creative Talent and Foster a Design Culture.
- We delivered the Cities of Design Subnetwork Meeting from 12-14 October 2021. 40 Cities from across the globe participated in the event (virtual due to COVID-19), with a panel discussion delivered each day around one of the key themes of Reimagine, Renew, Regenerate. An international audience of over 1,000 tuned in to watch.
- We delivered our four-year Monitoring Report to UNESCO outlining our achievements for our first reporting period 2017-2021. The report highlights a range of local initiatives we have delivered, examples of how we have participated in the broader Network and our creative responses to COVID-19. Included are also our priority actions for our next four-year reporting period 2022-2025.
- We continued delivery of the Designing Geelong webinar series and have established a Design Excellence initiative with key pillars including design policy, design review, design awareness, design leadership, design country, design awards and design heritage.
- We delivered the Geelong COVID-19 Arts Recovery Industry Commission Grants, finalised our Arts and Culture Strategy, started planning for a new 30-year vision for the National Wool Museum and commenced work on our new flagship cultural event SURROUND SOUNDS – Geelong and the Bellarine.
- We continue to lead the Victorian Creative Cities Network (VCCN) (Melbourne City of Literature, Geelong City of Design, Ballarat City of Craft and Folk Art and Bendigo City of Gastronomy). The VCCN was recognised in the Victorian Government's Creative State Strategy and supported with some funding to underpin a joint initiative between the cities. The Group is currently exploring project options.
- We participated in network activities including attending all formal events of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network and the Cities of Design Subnetwork. Geelong coordinated the peer review of the 2016 - 2020 monitoring reports for fives Cities of Design, as well as leading the assessment of six applications for new cities to join the Network in the creative field of design.

GEELONG
CITY OF DESIGN

OUR COMMUNITY'S VISION

By 2047, Greater Geelong will be internationally recognised as a clever and creative city-region that is forward looking, enterprising and adaptive, and cares for its people and environment.

In 2017, over 16,000 Greater Geelong citizens contributed to the development of a 30-year vision for our city-region.

The community told us what they value about the region, how they rate it against the recognised elements of a successful community, and shared ideas about how to address challenges now and in the future.

Through the process, they listened to opinions, debated alternatives, analysed possible futures and compared ideas. Importantly, they deliberated and, in the process, learnt more about each other's aspirations, values and goals. The result was a community-led blueprint designed to achieve regional, national and international recognition for Greater Geelong as a clever and creative city-region.

To help achieve the vision, the following community aspirations were formulated:



Young people enjoying a game of tennis at Jetty Reserve in Clifton Springs

COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

- A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities
- A fast, reliable and connected transport network
- An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community
- A leader in developing and adopting technology
- A destination that attracts local and international visitors
- Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment
- Creativity drives culture
- People feel safe wherever they are
- Development and implementation of sustainable solutions

VISION REFRESH

Community and stakeholder engagement was central to everything we did in developing the community's long-term 30-year vision in 2017. Since then, the vision has not only informed the City's priorities, but has acted as our community's north star as we've collectively strived for a clever and creative future.

In January 2021, in line with the new *Local Government Act 2020*, we went back to our community and asked them whether the vision that they created in 2017 was still relevant – particularly in a post-COVID world.

Integrating it with the development of the City's *Our Community Plan 2021–25*, we asked the community to consider gaps and opportunities in the current vision to help us refine our approach.

In addition to engaging with individual community members, through surveys and deliberative engagement, the refresh of the community's 30-year long-term vision also included stakeholder input from key organisations and community groups.



A vision refresh workshop at the Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Overall, the feedback was that the existing clever and creative vision was still a good fit for our community, but there were some areas that needed more focus. These included:

- diversity and inclusion
- recognition of the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners
- education opportunities
- mental health
- safety
- access and affordability of healthcare services
- helping the local economy adapt to change
- community connection
- affordable housing.

We used this feedback to inform a second edition of the community vision. While it remains predominantly the same, a process of refinement to incorporate these concerns has sharpened our focus in these areas, which will play a significant role in the ongoing implementation of the vision.

To keep our community's long-term vision relevant in a rapidly changing world, we anticipate that we will revisit it with our community and partners again in 2023.



A young girl enjoying a multimedia display at the National Wool Museum

BRAND GEELONG PROJECT

PROJECT BACKGROUND

In 2017, the Brand Geelong Steering Committee was formed specifically to develop a new narrative for Geelong as a place brand. In partnership with iSPY Strategic Intelligence, a new narrative was developed and a working group was assembled to progress the project to the next stage.

The new narrative aimed to celebrate Geelong as innovative, broadly educated, caring and bold. Through local pride and a collaborative approach to communicating the narrative outside of the region, it was hoped that Geelong would develop a 'brand' that could be leveraged for tourism, industry and regional growth purposes.

Concurrently, the Greater Geelong community started developing its 30-year community-led vision, which was to become a strategic blueprint for the long-term future of our region. In lieu of some of the changes that came about because of the new vision, including the formation of a Vision Partner Group, the Brand Geelong Committee proposed that the partners take over the project in 2019.

DEVELOPING OUR BRAND STRATEGY

Building on the original work completed by the Brand Geelong Committee, local creative agency, Fluid, were engaged to conduct further desk research, stakeholder interviews and webinars with over 60 key local organisations and community leaders. The outcome was a final brand methodology that would be the foundation of a new place brand for the Greater Geelong region.

The proposed brand purpose and brand essence options were presented to the Vision Partner Group in August 2020, with all 15 partners voting to proceed with the following:

Brand Purpose – Our purpose is to market the Greater Geelong region as the ideal Great Australian destination to live, work and play, with the most diverse array of environments connected by the best community lifestyle Australia has to offer.

Brand Essence – Greater Geelong, The Greater Australian Story.

While the overarching brand essence is 'Greater Geelong, The Greater Australian Story', the brand will explore and reflect, as well as highlight and leverage, the region's diverse array of strengths and assets as a way of appealing to individual target audiences, including:

- business owners and investors
- regional migrants
- Greater Geelong residents
- curious students
- local and international students.

OUR VISUAL IDENTITY

Three potential creative concepts were developed by Fluid, in conjunction with the Brand Geelong Project Control Group, and were presented to the Vision Partners at their April 2021 forum for input and feedback.

BRAND GEELONG PROJECT CONTROL GROUP

It was agreed that all three concepts should be market tested with the target audience to decide which visual identity was the most appealing.

Two stages of market testing were undertaken:

Stage One (Qualitative)

Three focus group sessions were held in Melbourne, Ballarat and Geelong. Groups comprised of representatives from the following target audiences:

- business owners and investors
- potential regional migrants
- general population.

This research demonstrated the following:

- the execution of the central premise of the **campaign was sound and on strategy**
- the most effective version of the headline was **"Greater Geelong, Greater Australian Stories."**
- while one of the three concepts should **not** progress any further, adjustments should be made to the remaining two before progressing to the next stage.

Stage Two (Quantitative)

The two revised concepts were distributed across five separate locations: Geelong, Ballarat, Melbourne, Sydney and New York. Testing gave the following results:

- further confirmation that the **campaign was sound and on strategy**
- a strong indication that **the brand must hero the imagery** by using creatively shot, photographic depictions of the interesting and diverse assets Greater Geelong has to offer.

IMPLEMENTING THE BRAND

Following the development of the brand strategy, ongoing stakeholder engagement and robust testing of the visual identity system, an implementation plan was developed, and the brand is scheduled to launch in June 2022.

If you would like to tell your 'Greater Geelong, Greater Australian Story', visit **www.greater-geelong.com.au** to access the content hub.

VISION IN ACTION


Aerial shot of the new Wangim Walk


Changwon City Mayor, Mr Huh Sungmoo and Greater Geelong Deputy Mayor Trent Sullivan

Following is a snapshot of what happened in 2021 to further the community's 30-year clever and creative vision.

For more clever and creative initiatives, visit **www.geelongaustralia.com.au/clevercreative**

A PROSPEROUS ECONOMY THAT SUPPORTS JOBS AND EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Plans were announced to establish Manufutures 2 in Geelong, an innovation hub funded by the Victorian Government to establish the region as the nation's leading 'advanced manufacturing' precinct, creating more than 170 jobs.
- The Geelong Business Excellence Awards were held online in October with over 70 Greater Geelong businesses entering various award categories. The virtual event was viewed by over 20,000 people across a variety of platforms.
- The City of Greater Geelong formalised an agreement with Changwon City to become home of the Commonwealth's LAND 8116 project, valued at $1 billion. The project will build and maintain heavy artillery and ammunition resupply vehicles.

A LEADER IN DEVELOPING AND ADOPTING TECHNOLOGY

- The City of Greater Geelong adopted its first *Smart Cities Strategic Framework*, aimed at improving quality of life for our community by embracing digital technology, leveraging data and fostering innovation.
- A Smart Lighting system was installed in Ocean Grove
- Deakin University announced plans for its Waurn Ponds campus to become home to a world-class research centre developing vehicles of the future.

CREATIVITY DRIVES CULTURE

- RONE in Geelong – Featuring the renowned Geelong-born artist, this new installation transformed the rooms of the Geelong Gallery.
- A local collaboration of creative, cultural and advocacy organisations launched the region's first *Creative Industries Strategy*.
- Funded through the Geelong City Deal, Wadawurrung Traditional Owners took a central role in the planning, design and implementation of a range of projects to revitalise Central Geelong.
- Themed 'Unpredictable', Geelong Design Week showcased a diverse mix of over 60 exhibitions, events and pop-up shops and shared the expertise of local designers, artists and innovators.

A FAST, RELIABLE AND CONNECTED TRANSPORT NETWORK

- Work on the $135-million, state-of-the-art precinct that will become the new home of the Spirit of Tasmania officially began.
- The Barwon Heads Road Upgrade got underway.
- In collaboration with five local councils, the Committee for Geelong, Regional Development Victoria and the Department of Transport, G21 started working on an Integrated Transport Strategy to address gaps and weaknesses in the intra-regional transport network.

A DESTINATION THAT ATTRACTS LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

- Our region's creative and design capabilities reached the international stage when Geelong hosted the 2021 UNESCO Cities of Design Subnetwork Meeting in October.
- The wave attenuator, named Wangim Walk, was opened in Corio Bay to protect boats moored at the new-look Geelong Safe Harbour. Wangim is the Wadawurrung language name for boomerang.



Art installations as part of RONE Geelong.



3D modelling of Northern Aquatic and Community Hub



Cr Anthony Aitken, Noah Callan (Get Skilled Access Associate), Ben Pettingill (Sport4All Project Coordinator at Get Skilled Access) and Mayor Stephanie Asher

- The Bellarine and Geelong were ranked 25th and 69th respectively in *Leading Places: The 100 most loved destinations around the world for 2021.*

PEOPLE FEEL SAFE WHEREVER THEY ARE

- It was announced that the Greater Geelong region will be getting it's first dedicated youth mental health facility.
- The Victorian Government announced a $21 million pledge to build 30 public houses in East Geelong, which will provide homes for people in need of assistance, including women and children escaping family violence.
- Increased neighbourhood patrols and a focus on local crime contributed to a 10 per cent decrease in the number of criminal incidents reported to the police across Greater Geelong in 2021.

AN INCLUSIVE, DIVERSE, HEALTHY AND SOCIALLY CONNECTED COMMUNITY

- 'Pitch Up Geelong', delivered by The Give Where You Live Foundation, focused on education and youth this year by connecting three locally operated organisations with potential donors in a live crowdfunding experience at the Geelong Arts Centre.
- The City of Greater Geelong became one of six Victorian local governments to sign up to the Sport4All Program, funded by the Australian Government and delivered by Get Skilled Access. The program supports people with disability to participate in school and grassroots sport in whatever way suits them best.
- The City of Greater Geelong increased its funding commitment to the Northern Aquatic and Community Hub by a further $21.84 million, with work expected to commence in 2022.
- A learning centre for First Nation's people at The Gordon opened its doors as part of a $23.5 million campus upgrade. The new Kitjarra wurrun-ngeen Centre will provide financial and wellbeing services; a culturally safe space for study and careers counselling, and support that aims to increase the number of First Nation's people studying at the TAFE.

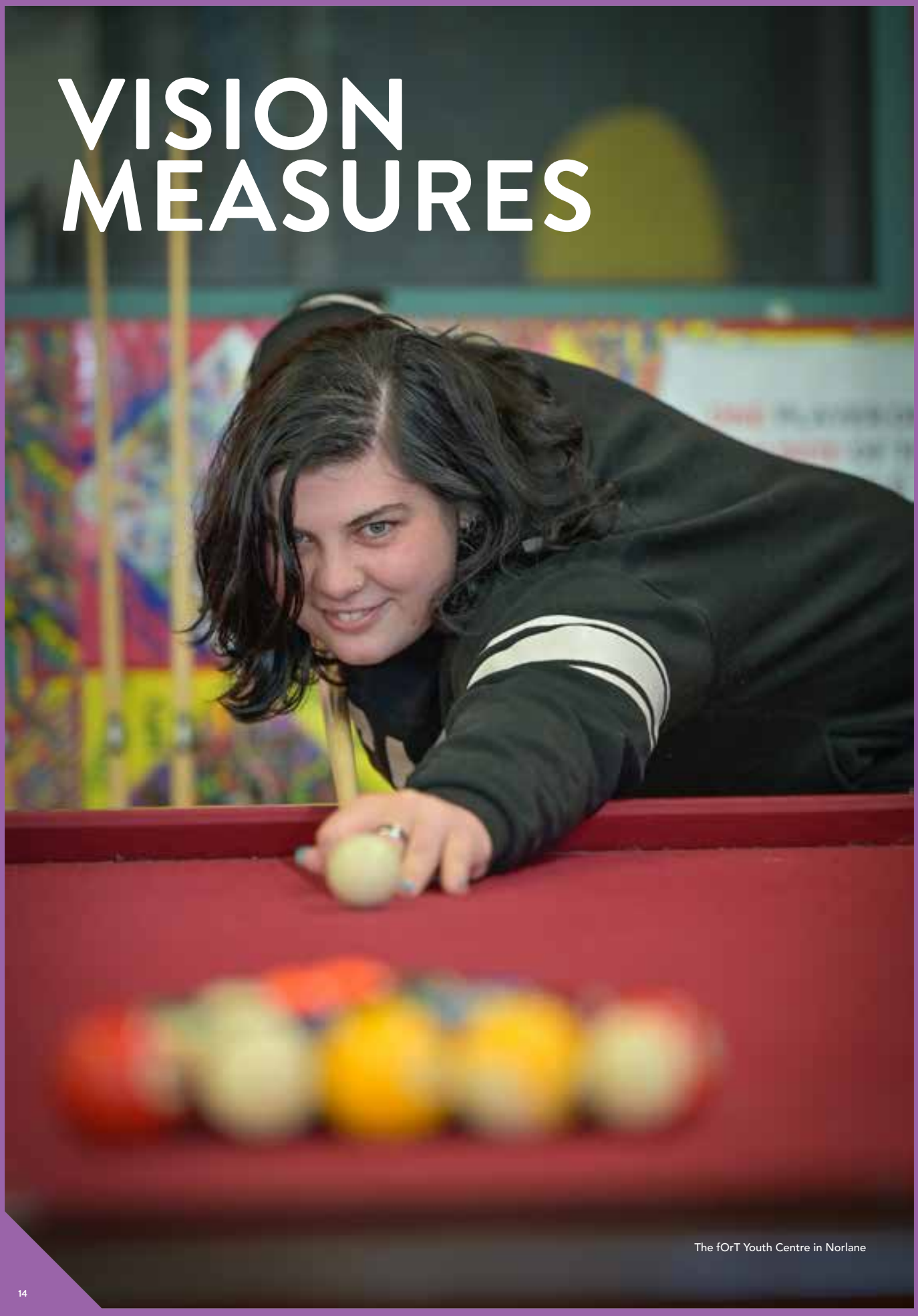
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THAT SUPPORTS POPULATION GROWTH AND PROTECTS THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- The City of Greater Geelong was announced as the overall winner of the Keep Victoria Beautiful 2021 Sustainable Cities Awards.
- The City established its first Sustainability Advisory Committee to help embed sustainability across all its key strategic documents.
- Council adopted its *Climate Change Response Plan 2021–30*, which includes a mitigation target to achieve net zero community emissions by 2035.

DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

- More than 19 tonnes of recycled glass was used to resurface sections of road in Lara as part of a new trial.
- Geelong Sustainability launched the new Barwon South-West Community Power Hub, designed to develop local renewable energy solutions in partnership with the local community.
- Geelong Sustainability delivered Sustainable House Day, an online community event that showcases the region's most unique and inspiring sustainable homes.
- Deakin University launched Australia's largest on-campus solar farm at its Waurn Ponds campus.

VISION MEASURES



The fOrT Youth Centre in Norlane

The data we've been tracking to measure our progress has been significantly impacted by the pandemic over the last 12 months.

Below is a summary of the key changes, both positive and negative, that happened during this time.

In the next six months, many of the longer term measures we're using to assess our progress will be updated for the first time since 2017. From this, we hope to gain a clearer picture of what is changing for the better, as well as those areas needing our focused attention over the next five years.

To view the full set of data we're using to track the progress of our community's 30-year vision, please visit **www.geelongaustralia.com.au/clevercreative**



The award-winning Ramblers Road artificial reef, which is protecting the area against coastal erosion and inundation risks

A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
SCHOOL LEAVERS – The number of school leavers engaged in work or post-school study is higher than the Victorian average.		1.2% below the state average (2016).
GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT – An increase in the amount of wealth generated by businesses, organisations and individuals working in the municipality. Note: New measure added in 2021		2.6% increase since 2020.
EMPLOYMENT – Greater Geelong's workforce participation rate is higher than the Victorian average.		2.6% below the state average (2016).
BUSINESS DIVERSITY – An increase in the diversity of businesses.		Regional Development Victoria Index of 53^ (2016).

Only baseline data available | Trending towards success | No change | Trending away from success

^Figure amended from previously reported due to data adjustments and methodology changes.

A leader in developing and adopting technology

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
DIGITAL INCLUSION – Australian Digital Inclusive Index (Access, Affordability and Digital Ability) score greater than 70. *Sample size <150, exercise caution in interpretation.		ADII score of 69 – an increase of 9 points since 2017.

Creativity drives culture

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
CREATIVE OCCUPATIONS – Increasing the percentage of the workforce employed in creative occupations.		4.75% of the workforce is employed in creative occupations (2016).
AN INNOVATION ECONOMY – Greater Geelong rated in the top 200 of the Global Innovation Cities Index.		Greater Geelong was rated 322 (2021) – up 12 places since 2017.

A fast, reliable and connected transport network

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
AIR TRAVEL – An international freight terminal and passenger airport within the city-region, connecting Greater Geelong to all Australian state capitals and Asia.		AirAsia X has become the first international airline to fly to Avalon Airport, with the inaugural flight from Kuala Lumpur landing in late 2018.
ACCESS TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT – An increase in the percentage of residences with proximate (400m) access to regular public transport. Note: New measure added in 2021. Data released in 2020.		38% (2018) – a closer analysis of access to regular public transport across the suburbs of Geelong reveals wide variation over the city.
METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK – 50% of journeys to work are made by public transport, walking or cycling.		8.75% of journeys to work are made by public transport, walking or cycling (2016).

A destination that attracts local and international visitors

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
NUMBER OF VISITORS – The total number of visitors to the city-region increases by 2.1% per annum. Note: Tourism was adversely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.		3.5 million – the city-region had a 13.3% decrease compared to the same period last year.
VISITOR EXPENDITURE – Expenditure by visitors to the city-region increases by 3.8% per annum. Note: Tourism was adversely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.		$658 million – the city-region had a 10% decrease compared to the same period last year.
INTERNATIONAL VISITORS – International overnight visitors grow at a rate of 4.9% per annum. Note: Tourism was adversely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.		For year ending September 2021, international visitor data is currently limited to state-level results.

Only baseline data available | Trending towards success | No change | Trending away from success

DOMESTIC VISITORS – Domestic overnight visitors grow at a rate of 1.9% per annum. Note: Tourism was adversely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.		1 million – the city-region had a 0.6% decrease compared to the same period last year.
TOURISM EMPLOYMENT – Tourism employment increases 1.6% per annum. Note: Tourism employment was adversely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.		Estimated 4,900 jobs in 2020–21. The city-region had a 17.8% decrease compared to the same period last year.

People feel safe wherever they are

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
PERCEPTIONS OF SAFETY – 95% of residents agree that they feel safe in the area where they live.		61% of residents feel safe in the area where they live (2021).
CRIME – Crime statistics are 20% below the state average.		Currently 2.1% above the state average, down from 4.4% (2020).
FAMILY VIOLENCE – Crime statistics are 20% below the state average.		Currently 12.11% above the state, down from 17.33% above the state (2020).

An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
SOCIAL EQUITY – No Greater Geelong suburbs in the bottom 20% of the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD).		13 Greater Geelong state suburbs are in the bottom 20% of the IRSD (2017).
EMPLOYMENT IN AREAS OF DISADVANTAGE – Workforce participation in the most vulnerable suburbs is higher than the state average.		All 13 state suburbs in the bottom 20% of the IRSD have a lower workforce participation rate than Victoria (2017).
PERCEPTION OF MULTICULTURALISM – An increase in the proportion of adults who agree that multiculturalism makes life better in their suburb.		66% of residents believe that multiculturalism makes their suburb better (2021).
SOCIAL SUPPORT – An increase in the proportion of adults that are a member of an organised group (sports, religious, school, professional, community or action group).		56% (2021)
SELF-REPORTED HEALTH – Over 50% of residents reporting their health as very good or excellent.		54% (2021) 59% (2017)
SELF REPORTED MENTAL HEALTH – A decrease in the proportion of adults experiencing high or very high psychological distress		20% (2021) 10% (2017)

Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
SUBURBAN TREE CANOPY – Suburban tree canopy is greater than 25%.		14% (2019) – a positive result given increased urban development in the region.

 Only baseline data available  Trending towards success  No change  Trending away from success

NATURAL HABITAT – An increase in the quantity of protected natural habitat. Note: This refers to the protected natural habitat managed by the City of Greater Geelong.		63% increase in protected habitat since 2018 (baseline).
PUBLIC OPEN SPACES – In urban areas, 95% of dwellings are within 400 metres of public open space. Note: This refers to primary recreation, heritage and nature public open space managed by the City of Greater Geelong. It excludes all other open space classifications and aligns with our *Social Infrastructure Plan* open space provision standards. Note for 2022: Additional Growth Areas still under development have been included in this year's data		Urban/suburban: 65% (2021) 76% (2020) Rural: 95% of dwellings are within 5km of public open space (2021)
SUBURBAN OPEN SPACE – No net loss of open space by suburb. Note: We updated our methodology in the collection of this data during 2020, including the consolidation and reclassification of suburban open space land parcels, so caution should be applied when comparing results from January 2021 onwards with past results. * Note for 2022: This section no longer includes conservation/nature reserves as this is reported in the 'Natural Habitat' section above. 1462 ha of nature as per our database.		2021 data shows 469 sites with a total area of 1039 hectares* – a decrease of 61 sites and 1,108.6 hectares since 2017 (baseline).
CENTRAL GEELONG – 10,000 people living in Central Geelong.		1,566 people live in Central Geelong (2016).

Development and implementation of sustainable solutions

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT – 50% of new housing construction to be conducted within existing urban areas.		Our current construction portion is 29% (2020), up from 25.8% (2019). This is because the number of dwellings constructed in existing areas has remained constant, but this development is declining in proportion to overall development in greenfield growth fronts.
WASTE MANAGEMENT – Performing better than the Victorian average in solid and green waste diverted from landfill.		The Greater Geelong region diverted 53.87% in solid and green waste from landfill, compared with the Victorian average of 47.48% (2020–21).
CARBON EMISSIONS – Greater Geelong being a carbon neutral city-region.		Greater Geelong had a 0.47% decrease in production of CO2 or equivalent compared to the baseline (2017 January – December)
WATER USE – 20% of all water provided to the municipality is recycled water.		10.2% of water provided to the municipality is recycled, up from 9.4% in 2016–17 (baseline).

 Only baseline data available  Trending towards success  No change  Trending away from success

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR A CLEVER AND CREATIVE FUTURE

Are you doing something clever and creative? If so, show your support for the Greater Geelong region's 30-year vision by displaying the 'We Support' logo on your website and publications.

To find out how to get on board, visit geelongaustralia.com.au/clevercreative



xxxxx

Community planting in new-growth areas

GREATER GEELONG

A CLEVER and CREATIVE FUTURE

www.geelongaustralia.com.au/clevercreative

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CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE
100 Brougham Street
Geelong VIC 3220
8.00am – 5.00pm

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CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

2.13. Year to Date Quarterly Financial Management Report - March 2022

Source: **Customer & Corporate Services**
Director: **Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. To present to Council the financial performance information from 1 July 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Background

2. On 22 June 2021, the 2021-22 budget was adopted with a recurrent operating deficit of ($8.1 million) and a non-recurrent surplus of $139.6 million, resulting in a net surplus of $131.5 million.

Key Matters

3. The recurrent operating result to 31 March 2022 is a surplus of $3.2 million, which compares to a budgeted deficit of ($13.3 million). This represents a better than anticipated outcome by $16.6 million. A summary of the year-to-date variances are provided in the attachment.

4. The non-recurrent result (including gifted assets from developers, recognition of infrastructure), capital income, sale of properties, developer cash contributions to infrastructure etc.) for the period was a surplus of $82.2 million, compared to a budgeted surplus of $96.4 million. This represents a less than anticipated outcome by ($14.2 million). A summary of the non-recurrent variances is provided in the attachment.

5. The total surplus of $85.5 million is $2.4 million favourable to the year to date budget.

6. Capital expenditure year to date is $123.8 million against a year-to-date budget of $155.0 million and $31.2 million lower than budget expectations. Delays in project expenditure is partly due to COVID-19 restrictions in place during the first half of the financial year, plus the timing of land acquisitions in the Armstrong Creek development area.

7. The cash and investment balance of $137.7 million is ($22.5 million) lower than budgeted with $84.3 million budgeted borrowings being deferred, with $34 million anticipated to be borrowed in the last quarter of the financial year. This has been partly offset with lower capital spend of $31.2 million, improved rate receipts $19.5 million and higher contributions from developers $12.6 million.

8. The current full year forecast is an expected surplus of $9.3 million, which is $17.4 million favourable to budget. The favourable forecast is largely due to an increase in the Commonwealth assistance grants, with an additional 25% of the 2022-23 grant being received this financial year driving a $7.6 million favourable result, along with increased supplementary rates income of $0.9 million, reversal of prior period accruals $3.6 million, lower depreciation $1.2 million and lower salaries and improved other costs of $3.3 million.

9. There were no environmental upgrade agreements entered into for the quarter. There are two existing agreements in place valued at $237,000. One agreement of $122,000 is in payment default and the property owner was put into liquidation on 25 October 2021 with receivers appointed.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.13

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Harwood seconded -

That Council endorse the Year to Date Quarterly Financial Management Report - March 2022.

Carried

Financial Sustainability

10. As detailed within the attached Year to Date Quarterly Financial Management Report – March 2022.

Community Engagement

11. Community engagement was undertaken during the development of the 2021-22 budget. Internal consultation has occurred with managers on the development of the full year forecast. Project managers have been consulted and provided the latest project updates which have been factored into this report.

Social Equity and Sustainability

12. Incomes and expenditures on the City's social equity programs are included in the attached Year to Date Quarterly Financial Management Report – March 2022.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

13. The report is provided in accordance with requirements under the *Local Government Act 2020.*

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

14. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
High-performing council and organisation.

15. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:
A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities.

Conflict of Interest

16. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

17. There are no high or extreme risks arising from the subject of this report.

Environmental Sustainability

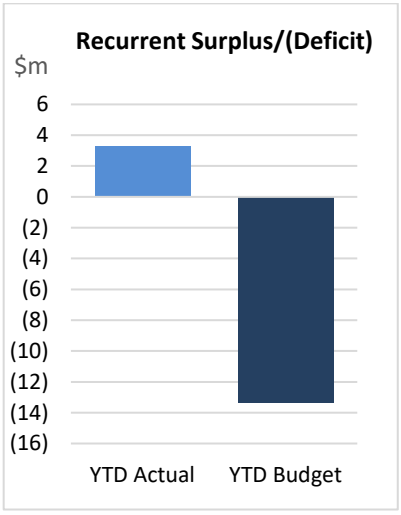
18. Incomes, expenditure and investments focus on the preservation and enhancement of the City's commitment to environmental strategies and targets.

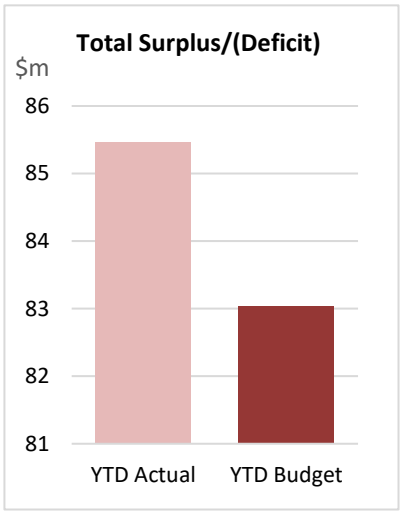
Attachments

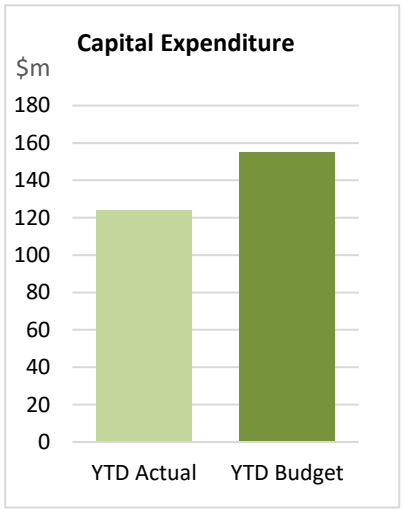
1. Quarterly Financial Management Report Attachment - March 2022 [**2.13.1** - 9 pages]

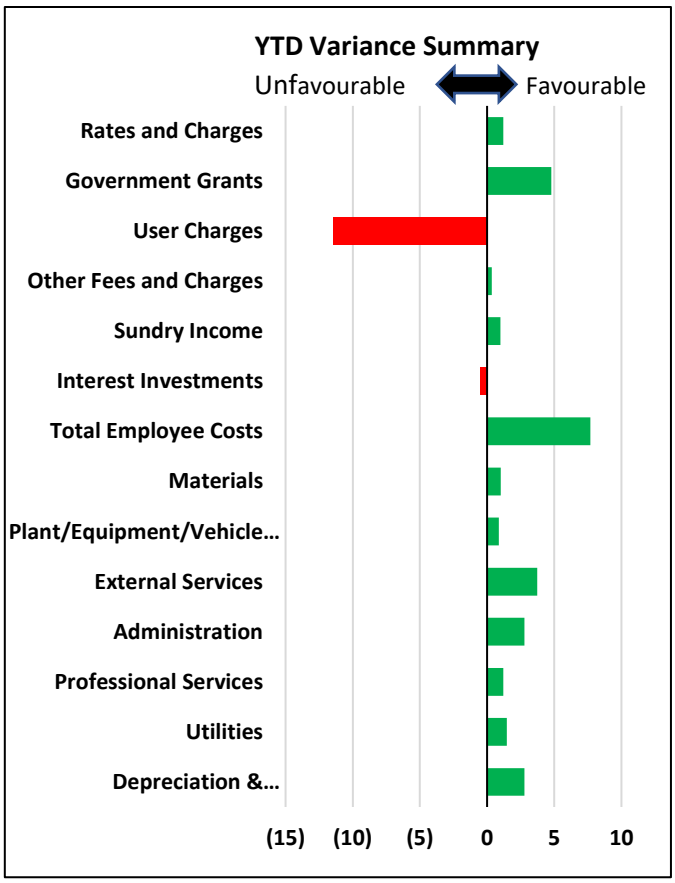
QUARTERLY FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT

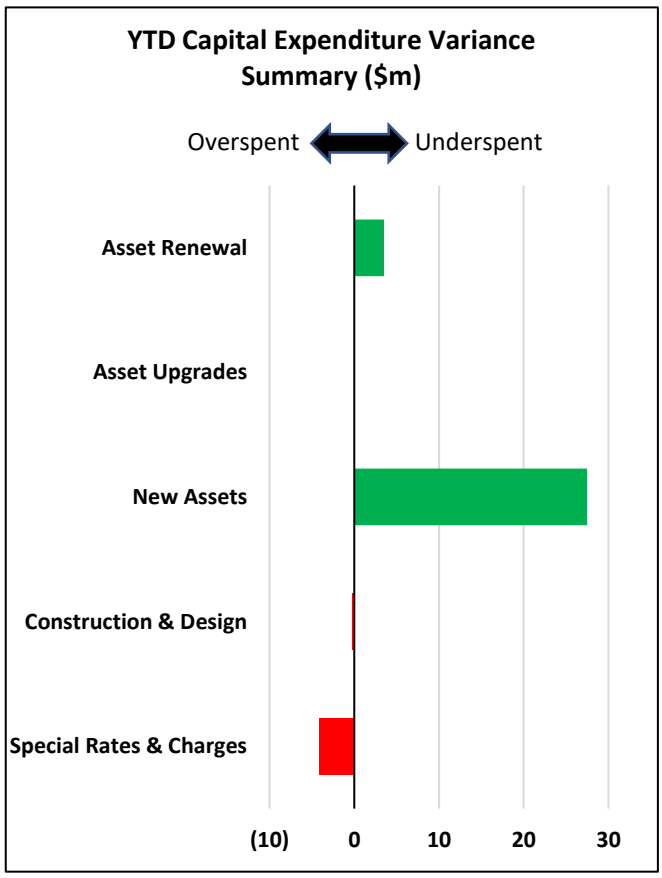
March 2022











1. The following table outlines the year-to-date performance versus budget as at 31 March 2022. The full year forecast is expecting a recurrent surplus of $9.3 million which is $17.4 million favourable to budget and a non-recurrent surplus of $130.6 million or ($9.0 million) unfavourable to budget.

Overall Summary						
	YTD Actual $m	YTD Budget $m	YTD Var Fav/ (Unfav) $m	FY Budget $m	FY Forecast $m	FY Var Forecast v Budget $m
Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	3.3	(13.3)	**16.6**	(8.1)	9.3	**17.4**
Non-Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	82.2	96.4	**(14.2)**	139.6	130.6	**(9.0)**
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	85.5	83.1	**2.4**	131.5	139.9	**8.4**
Capital Expenditure	123.8	155.0	**31.2**	208.6	182.8	**25.8**
Closing Net Cash Positive/(Negative)	137.7	160.2	**(22.5)**	146.8	140.8	**(6.0)**

Recurrent Summary						
	YTD Actual $m	YTD Budget $m	YTD Var Fav/ (Unfav) $m	FY Budget $m	FY Forecast $m	FY Var Forecast v Budget $m
Recurrent Income	294.1	299.4	**(5.3)**	410.0	411.2	**1.2**
Recurrent Expenditure	290.8	312.8	**21.9**	418.1	401.9	**16.2**
Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	3.3	(13.3)	**16.6**	(8.1)	9.3	**17.3**
YTD Variance - $16.6m Favourable						

2. The following major variances contributed to this recurrent result:

Income:

2.1 **Rates & Charges $1.2 million favourable** – Mostly driven by higher number of supplementary rates being processed and additional waste charges.

2.2 **Government Grants $4.8 million favourable** – materially driven by a prior year adjustment plus additional COVID support including Outdoor activation grants.

2.3 **User Charges ($11.5 million) unfavourable** – resulting materially from closure of leisure and arts facilities due to COVID-19 and lower carparking fees.

Expenditure:

2.4 **Employee costs $7.7 million net favourable** – the drivers behind the favourable variance are reduced staffing requirements due to facility closures in the first half & vacant positions throughout the year and increased amount of annual leave taken.

2.5 **Depreciation $3.8 million favourable** – Lower than expected depreciation of infrastructure assets and lower computer depreciation due to the delay with the go live date of Finance/HR core systems.

2.6 **Other expenditure $9.1m favourable** – Contractors $1.1 million, waste disposal & recycling $0.6 million, repairs and maintenance $0.8 million, materials $1.0 million, doubtful debts $2.3 million, consultants $1.2 million, utilities $1.5 million and gain on sale of fleet vehicles $0.6 million.

Non-Recurrent Summary						
	YTD Actual $m	YTD Budget $m	YTD Var Fav/ (Unfav) $m	FY Budget $m	FY Forecast $m	FY Var Forecast v Budget $m
Non-Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	82.2	96.4	**(14.2)**	139.6	130.6	**(9.0)**
YTD Variance – ($14.2m) unfavourable						

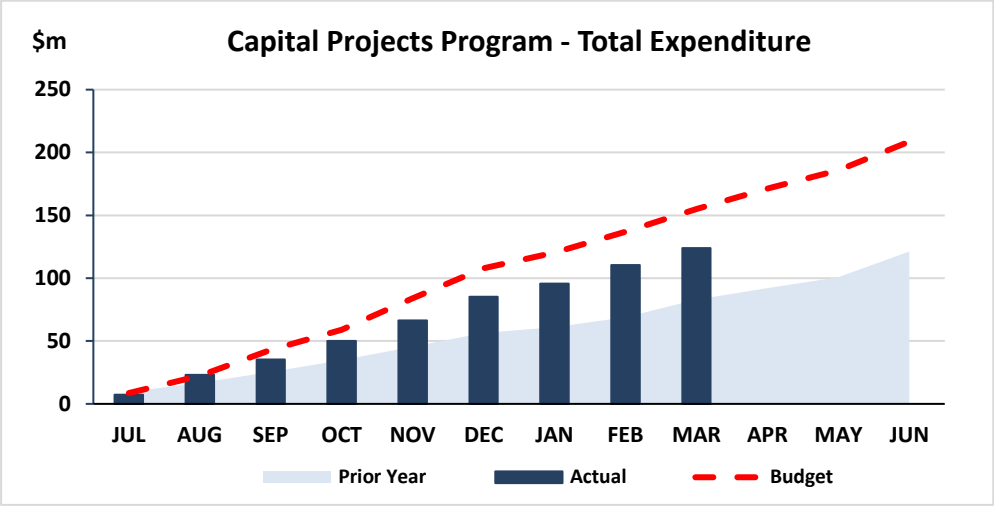
3. This non-recurrent result was driven by unfavourable subdivision gifted assets (recognition of Infrastructure) ($18.2 million), lower than expected gain on property sales ($13.9 million), offset by increased developer contributions to date $11.9 million, capital grants and income $5.0 million and disposal of infrastructure $1.5 million.

Capital Expenditure Summary				
	YTD Actual $m	YTD Budget $m	YTD Var Underspent/ (Overspent) $m	FY Budget $m
Capital Expenditure	123.8	155.0	**31.2**	208.6
YTD Variance – $31.2m underspent				

4. The capital program is currently $31.2 million underspent, mostly due to the timing of project spend, with material land acquisitions now forecast to occur in May and June 2022. Large project variances to budget are as follows:

Project	YTD Var Underspent/(Overspent) $m
C21601 - Armstrong Creek land acquisition program	25.0
C33005 - Roads Renewal	6.3
C13008 - Northern Aquatic and Community Hub (Northern Arc)	2.6
C40006 - Infrastructure Delivery - Roads	1.6
C16005 - Digital Modernisation	(1.8)
C34004 - Drainage - New	(4.3)
C11002 - Civic Accommodation	(5.4)
C33006 - Roads Preservation	(5.5)

5. The graph below summarises total capital gross expenditure to date.



Environmental Upgrade Agreements

6. The City has two environmental upgrade agreements in place.

6.1 An environmental upgrade agreement was entered into in June 2017 for Lot 2 on Plan Subdivision 041455, Volume 08704 Folio 526.

- The total charge for this agreement is $115k and all payments that have fallen due have been remitted.
- The total value of payments that are yet to fall due is $63k.

6.2 An environmental upgrade agreement was signed in April 2020, with payments deferred until 30 September 2020 due to COVID-19 for Lot 3 on Plan Subdivision 74780, Volume 08651 Folio 328.

- The total charge for this agreement is $122k. This agreement is in default with no payments made, interest has been charged to the account. The property owner was put into liquidation on 25 October 2021 with receivers appointed.

Operating Statement
as at 31 March 2022

	Current Month		Year To Date		Full Year		
	ACT	Δ BUD	ACT	Δ BUD	FOR	BUD	Δ BUD
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
RECURRENT INCOME							
Rates and Charges	22,113	(370)	203,678	1,217	269,836	268,323	1,513
Government Grants.	3,433	64	43,071	4,771	75,365	62,275	13,090
User Charges	4,244	(890)	32,802	(11,459)	46,429	59,400	(12,971)
Fees and Charges - Statutory	1,787	15	10,886	(358)	14,694	15,474	(781)
Sundry Income	392	219	3,272	984	4,465	3,358	1,107
Interest Investments	83	(27)	381	(504)	459	1,225	(766)
Total Recurrent Income	**32,052**	**(990)**	**294,090**	**(5,348)**	**411,247**	**410,055**	**1,192**
RECURRENT EXPENDITURE							
Salary Related Expenditure	16,489	(566)	130,870	6,789	172,677	183,060	10,383
Other Employment Costs	71	162	1,199	896	2,609	2,794	185
General Works - Materials	665	36	5,517	1,008	7,725	8,590	865
General Works - Plant/Equipment/Vehicle Costs	1,096	90	9,984	878	13,939	14,416	477
General Works - External Services	5,782	366	51,678	3,733	75,317	75,018	(299)
Administration	2,887	83	26,107	2,782	37,546	39,297	1,751
Professional Services	612	190	5,712	1,215	8,370	9,724	1,354
Utilities	756	254	6,699	1,464	9,292	10,559	1,267
Efficiency Dividend	-	(133)	-	(1,200)	0	(1,600)	(1,600)
Depreciation	5,655	702	53,435	3,781	75,108	76,287	1,179
Gain/Loss on Sale of Plant & Equipment	0	(104)	(359)	576	(636)	(24)	612
Total Recurrent Expenditure	**34,013**	**1,080**	**290,842**	**21,923**	**401,947**	**418,120**	**16,174**
Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	**(1,961)**	**90**	**3,248**	**16,575**	**9,300**	**(8,066)**	**17,366**
NON-RECURRENT INCOME							
Capital Grants and Income	342	120	13,934	5,050	21,931	17,846	4,085
Developer Cash Contributions	1,937	(1,660)	30,080	11,877	30,597	29,360	1,237
Gain/(Loss) on Sale of Property	-	(1,536)	(26)	(13,854)	4,601	18,438	(13,837)
Recognition of Infrastructure	-	(6,667)	41,753	(18,247)	80,000	80,000	0
Total Non-Recurrent Income	**2,280**	**(9,743)**	**85,741**	**(15,174)**	**137,129**	**145,643**	**(8,515)**
NON-RECURRENT EXPENDITURE							
Loss on Disposal of Infrastructure	6	501	3,077	1,483	6,080	6,080	0
Non Council Assets/Prior Yr Adj	-	-	452	452	452	-	(452)
Asset Demolition	-	-	-	-	0	-	0
Disbursements	-	-	-	-	0	-	0
Total Non-Recurrent Expenditure	**6**	**501**	**3,529**	**1,031**	**6,532**	**6,080**	**(452)**
Non-Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	**2,274**	**(9,242)**	**82,212**	**(14,143)**	**130,597**	**139,563**	**(8,967)**
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	**313**	**(9,152)**	**85,460**	**2,432**	**139,897**	**131,497**	**8,399**

Statement of Financial Position
as at 31 March 2022

	Current Month	Prior Month
Assets	$'000	$'000
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	92,557	89,223
Trade and other receivables - Current	65,937	99,319
Other financial assets	45,142	53,146
Inventories	1,296	1,099
Non-current assets classified as held for sale	-	-
Other assets	3,917	5,363
Current Assets	**208,849**	**248,152**
Non-Current Assets		
Trade and other receivables - non-current	15,317	15,317
Investments in associates, joint arrangement,	9,327	9,327
Property, infrastructure, plant & equipment	2,908,521	2,913,837
Right-of-use assets	1,210	1,437
Intangible assets	2,160	2,192
WIP Balance Sheet	73,987	73,158
WIP Operating	117,587	104,231
Total Non-Current Assets	**3,128,110**	**3,119,499**
Total Assets	**3,336,959**	**3,367,651**
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables - current	123,673	143,801
Trust funds and deposits	19,850	29,893
Provisions - current	39,039	38,317
Interest-bearing liabilities - current	12,272	12,233
Lease liabilities -current	708	949
Current Liabilities	**195,542**	**225,193**
Non-Current Liabilities		
Provisions - Non-Current	17,228	17,380
Interest-bearing liabilities - non-current	96,599	97,801
Lease Liabilities - Non-Current	564	564
Non-Current Liabilities	**114,391**	**115,745**
Total Liabilities	**309,933**	**340,937**
Net Assets	**3,027,027**	**3,026,714**
Equity		
Accumulated surplus	1,737,735	1,737,421
Reserves	1,289,292	1,289,292
Total Equity	**3,027,027**	**3,026,714**

Statement of Cash Flows
as at March 2022

	ACT	BUD	Δ BUD
	$'000	$'000	$'000
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Payments			
Employee Costs	(133,505)	(131,177)	(2,328)
General Works / Utilities / Disbursements	(95,416)	(115,972)	20,556
Administration / Professional Services	(32,571)	(15,046)	(17,525)
Interest Expense	(2,118)	(2,672)	554
	(263,610)	**(264,867)**	**1,257**
Receipts			
General Rates	226,461	206,877	19,584
Fire Services Levy	1,626	7,882	(6,256)
Fees and Charges	53,608	42,831	10,777
Investment Income	381	885	(504)
GST Recoveries on Operating Transactions	18,461	14,258	4,203
Government Grants	43,158	38,300	4,858
	343,695	**311,033**	**32,662**
Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow) from Operating Activities	**80,085**	**46,166**	**33,919**
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Payments for Land & Buildings, Plant & Equipment and Infrastructure Assets	(123,815)	(155,883)	32,068
Capital Income	13,934	8,845	5,089
Proceeds from Sale of Land & Buildings	38	25,350	(25,312)
Proceeds from Sale of Plant & Equipment	842	549	293
Developer Cash Contribution	30,808	18,202	12,606
Net Cash Outflow from Investing Activities	**(78,193)**	**(102,936)**	**24,744**
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Repayment of Borrowings	(8,197)	(9,376)	1,179
Proceeds from New Loans		82,298	(82,298)
Net Cash Outflow from Financial Activities	**(8,197)**	**72,922**	**(81,119)**
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held	**(6,305)**	**16,152**	**(22,457)**
Cash at the Beginning of the Financial Year	144,005	144,005	0
Cash at the End of Current Period	**137,700**	**160,157**	**(22,457)**

	YTD Actual $m	YTD Budget $m	YTD Var Fav/ (Unfav) $m	FY Budget $m
Closing Net Cash Positive/(Negative)	137.7	160.2	(22.5)	146.8
YTD Variance – $10m favourable				

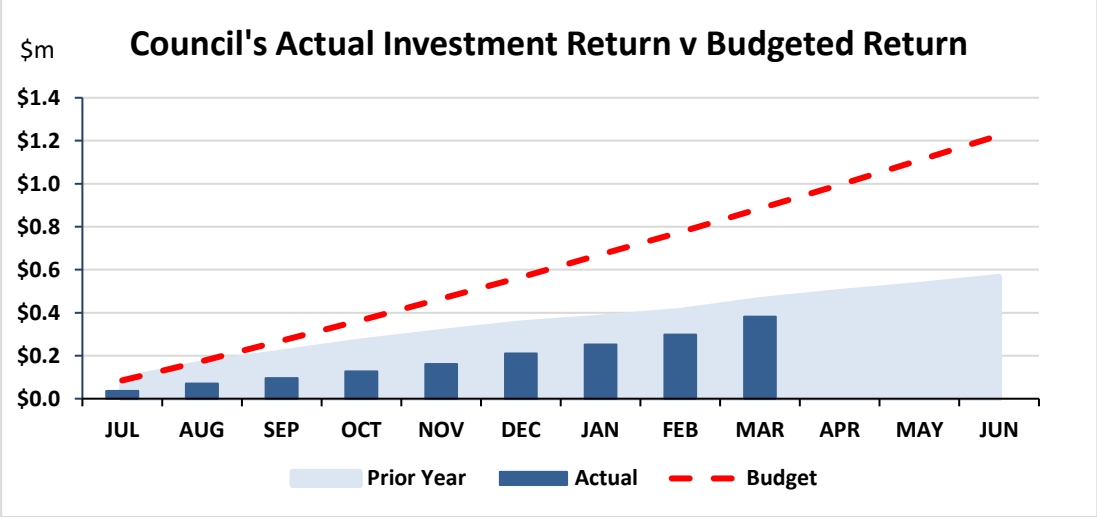
7. The cash and investment balance of $137.7 million is $22.5 million lower than expected with budgeted borrowings of $82 million being deferred, with favourable offsets in lower capital spend $31.2 million, improved rate receipts $19.5 million and higher contributions from developers $12.6 million. Rate collections will be continually monitored considering continued COVID19 impacts.

8. Council has future commitments for $78.1m, as detailed below:

Long service leave	$24.3m
Statutory reserves	$18.5m
Refundable deposits	$11.3m
Income in advance	$24.0m
Total	**$78.1m**

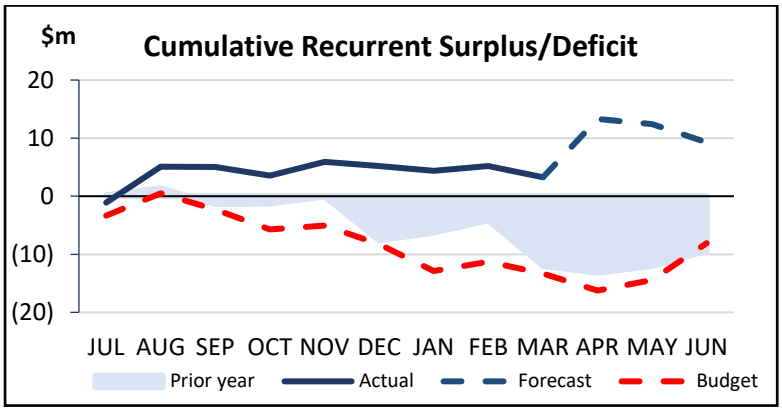
9. The landfill provision balance is currently $16.7 million.

10. Working capital funds are invested in short term deposits and investment returns are as follows:



11. Investment returns are currently ($0.5m) below budget and ($0.1m) lower compared to the same time last year. This is driven by declining interest rates and lower amounts invested, due to a focus on maintaining a healthy cash balance post COVID-19 pandemic.

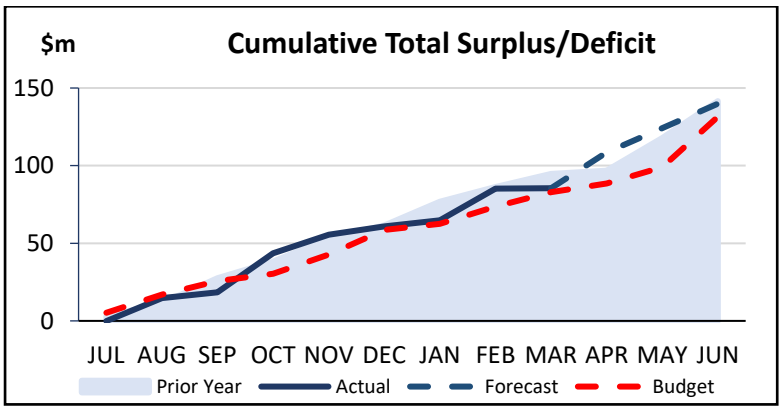
Financial Performance Indicators



Our **recurrent surplus** of $3.2 million is favourable to budget, due to lower employee costs, depreciation, contractors, training, consultants. This is partly offset by loss of user fees mainly in leisure centres driven by the COVID-19 forced closures in the first half.

At the same time last year, the recurrent deficit was ($12.0 million). In the current year, income is $17.4 million higher, due to increased rates & charges & user charges. Expenditure is $2.1 million higher due to increased salaries.

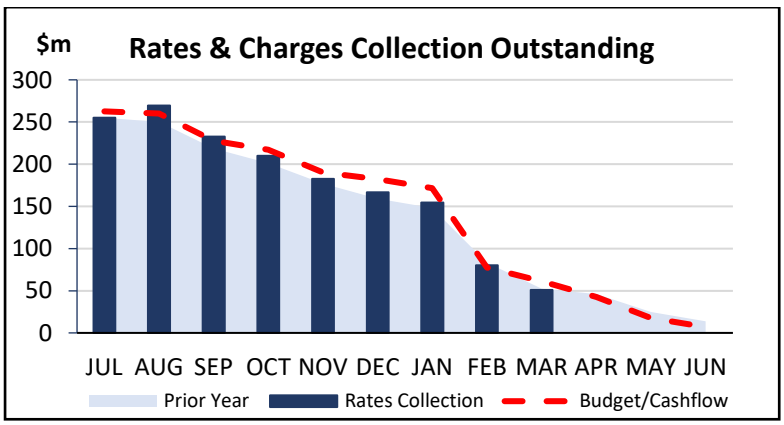
The full year recurrent forecast indicates a surplus of $9.3 million.



Our **total surplus** of $85.5 million is favourable to budget, due to lower employee costs, doubtful debts, contractors, depreciation, offset by lower than anticipated revenue in user fees, subdivision gifted assets & sale of property.

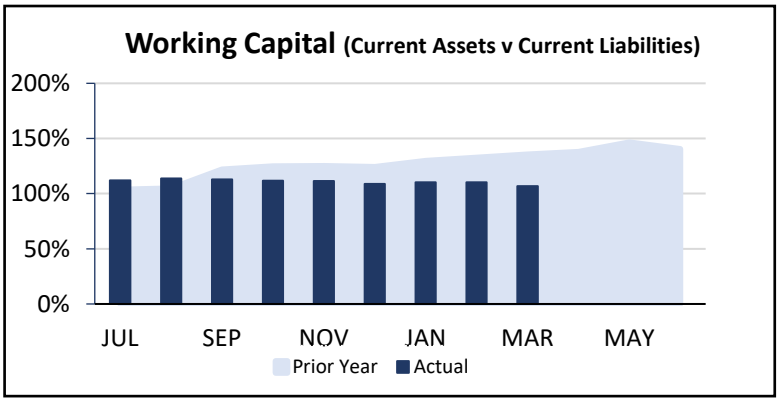
At the same time last year, the total surplus was $94.7 million. In the current year, subdivision gifted assets (Recognition of Infrastructure) & gain on sale of property are lower, which is offset by this year's favourable recurrent position.

The full year total forecast indicates a surplus of $139.9 million.



Rates collection is favourable to budget close to $19.6 million, with 80.5% of full year rates received as at 31 March 2022. Collections of balances in arrears are tracking well, post debt collection letters being sent.

Rate receipts are now tracking in line with pre COVID levels and collection rates should end close to 97% for the year.



Working Capital ratio is marginally unfavourable compared to the same time last year, mostly due to last year being inflated because of a $45 million loan being taken out in September.

The budget allows for total loan borrowings of $82.3 million to be taken out during the financial year to cover capital projects in development which is yet to be utilised.

2.14. Proposed Sale - Land Abutting 49 Lascelles Avenue, Manifold Heights

Source: **Customer & Corporate Services**
Director: **Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. To advise Council of the outcome from community engagement and seek approval to sell the land at the rear of 49 Lascelles Avenue, Manifold Heights.

Background

2. The land is behind the property at 49 Lascelles Avenue, Manifold Heights (Lot 5 on Title Plan 1563G) with an area of approximately 45m2 and is the result of an historic road reserve which was discontinued by the Greater Geelong City Council in 1999.
3. At the time of the discontinuance most parts of the road reserve were sold and transferred to adjoining property owners. This parcel of land was not sold.
4. The Director, Customer and Corporate Services as delegated, approved the commencement of the statutory process in accordance with section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020.*

Key Matters

5. Community engagement on the proposed sale was undertaken and submissions were invited; no submissions were received.
6. Council has the authority to sell land in accordance with section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020.*

RESOLUTION - Item 2.14

Cr Murrihy moved, Cr Mansfield seconded -

That Council:

1. **Note that no submissions were received from the community engagement process for the proposed sale of land behind 49 Lascelles Avenue, Manifold Heights;**
2. **Approve the sale of the land resulting from the historic road discontinuance behind 49 Lascelles Avenue, Manifold Heights represented as lot 5 on title plan 1563G; and**
3. **Authorise the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to sign all documents to complete the sale of the land.**

Carried

Financial Sustainability

7. The City has obtained a current market valuation of the land.

8. If Council approves the sale of the land, it will be sold with consideration to the valuation.

Community Engagement

9. Public notice and community engagement were undertaken by publishing a notice in the Geelong Independent on 18 March 2022, the Geelong Advertiser on 19 March 2022 and the Geelong Australia website via Have Your Say from 11 March 2022 to 15 April 2022.

10. Submissions were invited and no submissions were received.

Social Equity and Sustainability

11. There are no social equity and sustainability implications created by the recommendation to sell the land.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

12. Council has complied with section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* which requires that a notice be published of an intention to sell land and that community engagement be undertaken in accordance with its Community Engagement Policy.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

13. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
High-performing council and organisation.

14. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
Development and implementation of sustainable solutions.

Conflict of Interest

15. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

16. There are no notable risks associated with the sale of the land at the rear of 49 Lascelles Avenue, Manifold Heights (Lot 5 on Title Plan 1563G) to the owner of 49 Lascelles Avenue, Manifold Heights.

Environmental Sustainability

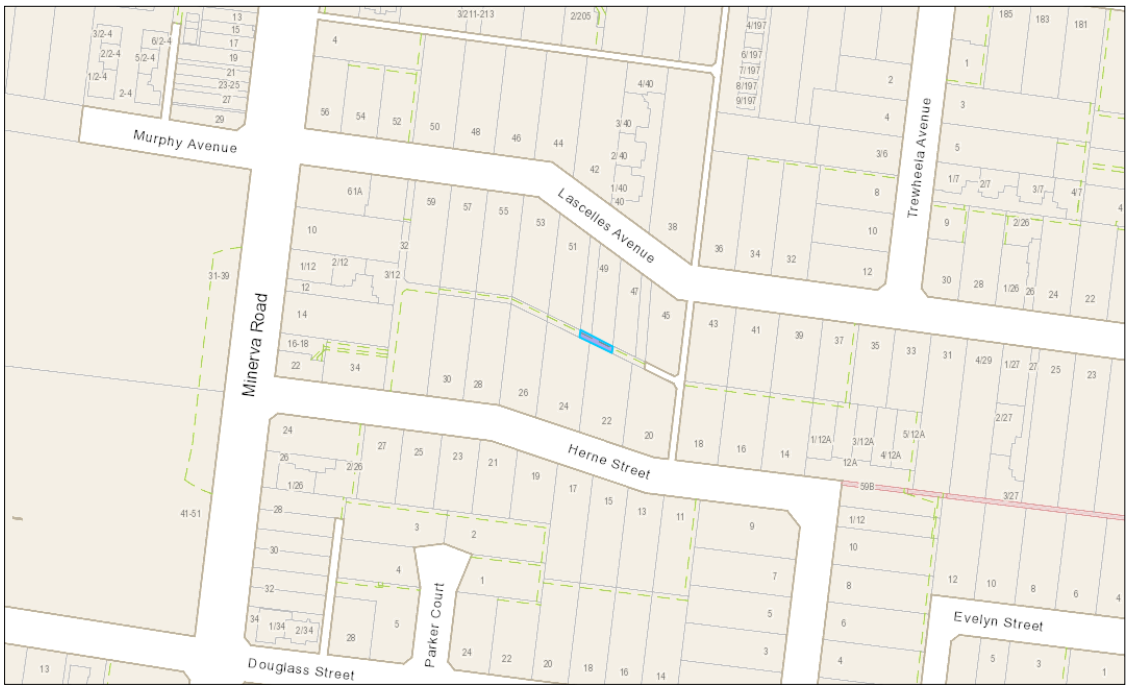
17. There are no environmental implications to this proposal.

Attachments

1. Location Plan Land abutting 49 Lascelles Ave Manifold Heights [**2.14.1** - 1 page]

Location Plan - Land abutting 49 Lascelles Ave, Manifold Heights





2.15. Proposed Lease to Telstra Corporation Limited – Mt Anakie 2392A Ballan Road, Anakie

Source: **Customer & Corporate Services**
Director: **Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. To advise Council of the outcome of the community engagement relating to the proposed lease to Telstra Corporation Limited (Telstra) and to seek Council's approval to enter into a 21-year lease with Telstra for the site located at Mt Anakie, 2392A Ballan Road, Anakie VIC 3213.

Background

2. Telstra has been in occupation at this location on Mt Anakie circa 1995 when the Greater Geelong City Council was appointed Committee of Management by the then Minister for Environment and Conservation. The existing lease expired 21 February 2021; Telstra has continued occupation under the holding over clause.
3. The lease area comprises approximately 1,394m2 of land at the top of Mt Anakie with Telstra infrastructure within their leased compound and access and egress to the site.
4. Council approved the commencement of the community engagement process at its meeting on 27 July 2021 for the City's intention to enter a lease with Telstra Corporation Limited for a maximum term of 21-years for the lease area 2392A Ballan Road, Anakie VIC 3213.

Key Matters

5. Submissions were invited and one submission was received. This submission was from the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) who did not request to be heard. The WTOAC is the Registered Aboriginal Party and it did not support the infrastructure being present on a significant living cultural heritage place.
6. The City, WTOAC and Telstra have met and discussed the proposed lease. The City has agreed to incorporate into the lease agreement that the City does not intend to offer a further lease beyond the new 21-year lease and that no works may be undertaken within the lease area without approval from the City and WTOAC.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.15

Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Aitken seconded -

That Council:

1. **Note the outcome of the community engagement process for the proposed lease to Telstra Corporation Limited;**
2. **Approve a 21-year lease to Telstra Corporation Limited for the site located at Mt Anakie, 2392A Ballan Road, Anakie VIC 3213; and**
3. **Authorise the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to sign all documents to complete the lease of the land.**

Carried

Financial Sustainability

7. Rent received from this lease which has a Significant Environmental Overlay is distributed towards the environmental management of this site including but not limited to maintenance of the native vegetation and access track.

8. There are no ongoing cost implications to the City in maintaining the lease area as the Lessee will be responsible for all maintenance.

9. The lease will include a special condition that the Lessee must remove all infrastructure and remediate the area at the end of the lease, at the tenant's cost.

Community Engagement

10. Community engagement was undertaken in accordance with the City's community engagement policy providing an opportunity for the community to provide its feedback to Council on the proposed lease, by publishing a notice in the Geelong Times publication and on the Geelong Australia website via Have Your Say.

11. City officers, Telstra and WTOAC attended Mt Anakie Reserve to observe the site and discuss the proposed lease.

Social Equity and Sustainability

12. Future decisions and planning will be in partnership with the City and WTOAC and will include any social equity and sustainability considerations.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

13. Council has complied with section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020* which requires that, as the proposed lease is for a term of greater than 10 years, community engagement must be undertaken in accordance with the Council's Community Engagement Policy in respect of the proposal to inform decision making on whether to enter the lease.

14. As the site proposed to be leased is on Crown land, the lease will be a s17D Crown Land Lease and require the approval of the Minister's delegate in accordance with the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978.*

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

15. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
    High-performing council and organisation.

16. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:
    A leader in developing and adopting technology.

Conflict of Interest

17. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

18. The Lessee is responsible for managing any risks associated with their infrastructure and the lease area.

19. The recommendation to require approvals for any work on the site will minimise risks to the environment and cultural heritage values.

Environmental Sustainability

20. The City managed nature reserve is zoned PCRZ (Public Conservation and Resource Zone) and protected by an Environment Significance Overlay.

Attachments

1. Mt Anakie [**2.15.1** - 1 page]

DERIVED FROM TELSTRA PLAN V103641 SHEET S1 (9/8/18)

L.G.A.: GREATER GEELONG
Locality: ANAKIE
Parish: ANAKIE
County: GRANT

EASEMENT: E-1 CARRIAGEWAY

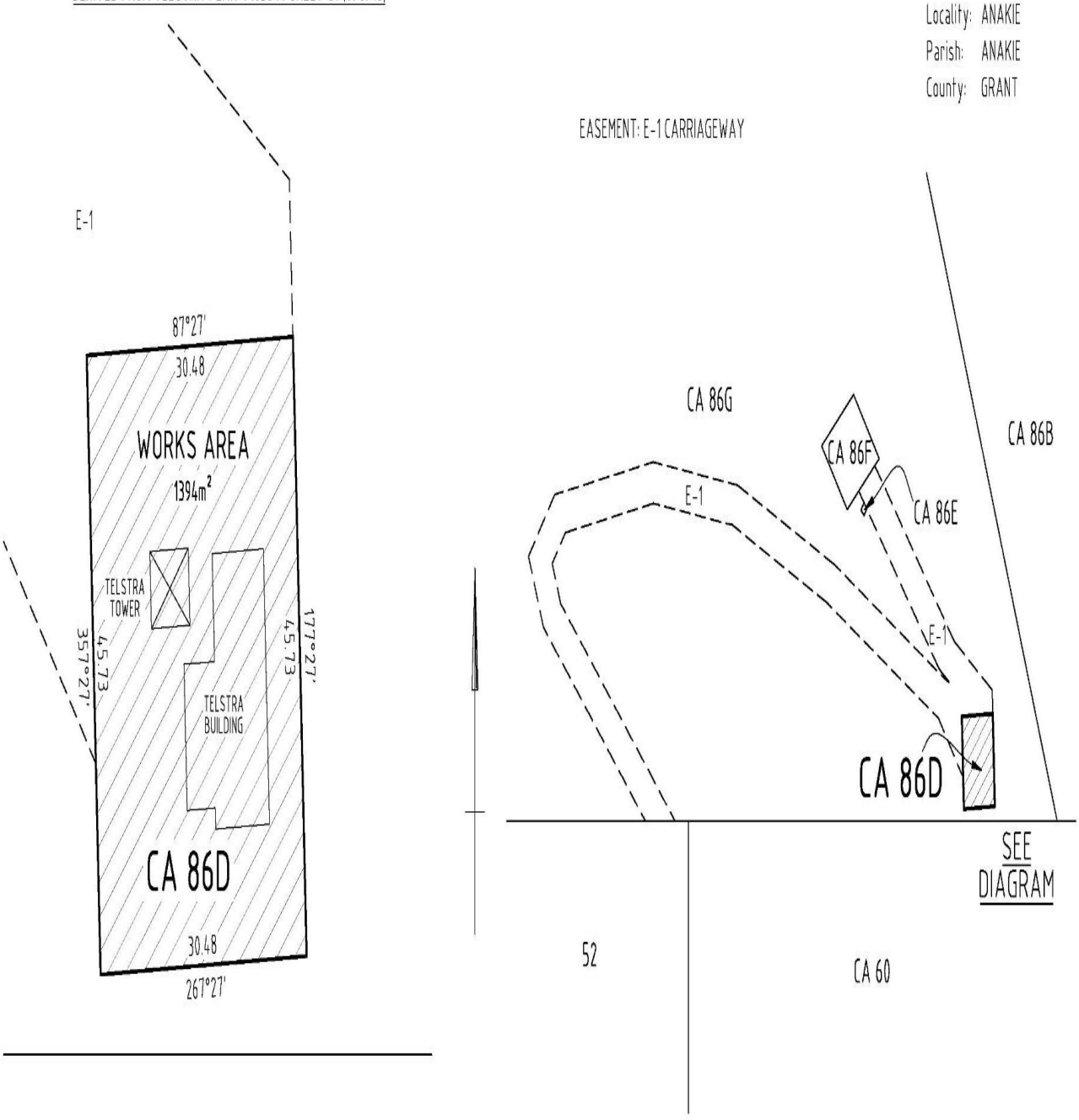


DIAGRAM
SCALE 1:600

JDE No. 30897700 ALL DIMENSIONS IN METRES SCALE 1:4000

ORDER	DRAWN	CHKD	AMENDMENT	EXAM	APPD	DATE	ISS
NA	KM	CW	Original	SEJ	SV	11/12/20	1

Sureline Geomatics
TEL. (02) 9896 8025
info@suregeo.com.au

CT: VOL 11712 FOL 242
Owner: GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL
Address: 30 GHERINGHAP STREET GEELONG, VIC 3220

NOTE: Covenants or Restriction to user have not been investigated for the purpose of this plan

SVY -- REF 20520

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Telstra

MOBILE NETWORK SITE 28640
MOUNT ANAKIE RT
SITE TENURE PLAN
MOUNT ROAD, ANAKIE, VIC 3213

DWG NO. V103641 SHT NO. G1 INDEX

A4

2.16. Tender T2200048 - Shell Reserve Change Facility Redevelopment - Construction

Source: **Customer & Corporate Services**
Director: **Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. To award Contract C2200048 for the Shell Reserve Change Facility Redevelopment – Construction to Plan Group (Geelong) Pty Ltd (ABN 47 618 868 429).

Background

2. The Shell Reserve Change Facility Redevelopment is located at 48 Purnell Road, Corio, 3214.
3. The City committed to funding $3,081,000 for the project in June 2021. The State Government committed to funding $500,000 for the project in June 2021.
4. The design of the facility was completed by Loft Architecture in February 2022.

Key Matters

5. The Procurement Services Unit administered an open tender process on behalf of Capital Projects for the construction phase of the Shell Reserve Change Facility.
6. The submissions were evaluated in accordance with the processes detailed in the City's 'Procurement and Contracts Manual'.
7. Based on the tenderer's similar project experience, expertise, value for money and project risks the Tender Evaluation Panel recommend that Plan Group (Geelong) Pty Ltd be awarded the contract for the provision of these works.
8. Subject to Council awarding the Contract, the project will commence June 2022.
9. The lump sum price for the delivery of the project is $2,465,917.00 excluding GST.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.16

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Grzybek seconded -

That Council:

1. **Award Contract C2200048 to Plan Group (Geelong) Pty Ltd (ABN 47 618 868 429) for the Shell Reserve Change Facility Redevelopment – Construction for the tendered lump sum price of $2,465,917.00 excluding GST; and**

2. **Authorise to the Chief Executive Officer to execute Contract No. C2200048 and any other documents required by or to give effect to the terms of the Contract on behalf of Council.**

Carried

Financial Sustainability

10. The tender is within the allocated budget. The remaining budget will be allocated to internal and external related project costs.

Community Engagement

11. This tender was a standard construction project which did not have any opportunities for collaboration.

Social Equity and Sustainability

12. The facility has gender-neutral amenities and is DDA (*Disability Discrimination Act 1992*) compliant and provides full and appropriate access for all persons with disability, meeting all relevant legislation and best practice.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

13. This tender was advertised in accordance with the requirements of section 108 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the tender process has been conducted in accordance with the City's Procurement Policy.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

14. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
    Healthy, caring and inclusive community.
    Sustainable growth and environment.

15. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:
    An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.
    Creative and diverse culture.
    People feel safe wherever they are.

Conflict of Interest

16. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

17. The tender evaluation process involved the assessment of work, health and safety policies, procedures and risk assessment documents.

Environmental Sustainability

18. The proposed facility has several environmentally sustainable systems including solar photovoltaic system, battery energy storage system with total energy 14kWh, rainwater harvesting tanks and reticulated recycled water system.

Attachments

Nil

Tender Details

Contract Details

19. Contract C2200048: Shell Reserve Change Redevelopment - Construction.

Invitation to Tender

20. The City issued an open tender T2200048, closing 2pm Tuesday 5 April 2022, seeking to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced contractor to undertake works associated with the Shell Reserve change facility.

Table 1 Invitations to Tender

Medium	Date Advertised
Geelong Times	Thursday 24 March 2022
eProcure	Saturday 12 March 2022

Tender Evaluation Panel

21. The Tender Evaluation Panel comprised the following staff and external advisors:

Table 2 Tender Evaluation Panel

Position Title	Panel role
Procurement Specialist	Chair
Project Manager & OHS Officer, Capital Projects	Member
Project Director, Civil Accommodation	Member
Team Leader, Community and Recreation	Member

Tender Submissions

22. Tenders had to meet the following mandatory criteria:

    22.1. OH&S system – if the tenderer's OH&S processes and procedures do not meet a minimum standard determined by the City, the tenderer will not be considered for the contract;

    22.2. City of Greater Geelong Heat and UV Radiation Exposure and Outdoor Clothing Procedures (Long/Long) – if the tenderer's did not agree to abide by the City's Long/Long policy, the tenderer will not be considered for the contract;

    22.3. OH&S KPI requirements – if the tenderer's did not agree to the OH&S KPI requirements being applied to the Contract, the tenderer will not be considered for the contract;

    22.4. Site meeting briefing – if the tenderer did not attend the mandatory site meeting briefing, the tenderer will not be considered for the contract; and

22.5. Must have completed equivalent works as the head contractor of a project exceeding $2,000,000.00 (ex GST) in the past (3) years. If the tenderer did not meet this requirement, the tenderer will not be considered for the contract.

22.6.

Table 3 Tender Submissions Received

Tender		Conforming tender
A	Plan Group (Geelong) Pty Ltd	Yes
B	Tender B	Yes
C	Tender C	No

Tender Evaluation

23. The Tender Evaluation Panel used the following qualitative criteria (in order of weighting) to assess the submissions:

Table 4 Comparative Criteria Weighting

Comparative Criteria	Weighting %
Methodology/plan for performing contract	40
Capability and experience, including past performance	25
Proposed project resourcing	15
Economic & local content contribution (mandatory)	10
Quality Management	5
Project Risk Management	5

24. The tender was evaluated by the tender evaluation panel in a two staged process:

24.1. Qualitative assessment of a weighted score totaling 100%; and

24.2. Evaluation of price.

25. Plan Group (Geelong) Pty Ltd were deemed the best value for money tenderer, demonstrating best value for money for the City, and placing them as the preferred.

Tender Evaluation Scores

26. At the conclusion of the evaluation the tenders were ranked in the following order:

Table 5 Tender Evaluation Scores

Tender		Rank
#	Plan Group (Geelong) Pty Ltd	1
#	Tender B	2

Post Tender Contact

27. The tender evaluation panel sought clarifications in writing from Plan Group (Geelong) Pty Ltd regarding their inclusions and contract departures.

Probity

28. No probity issues were identified.

2.17. Glenlee Estate Stage 8 - Revocation of Flood Prone Area Designation of New Lots

Source: **City Services**
Director: **Guy Wilson-Browne**

Purpose

1. To revoke Council's designation of 12 December 2006 of flood affected land at Glenlee Estate, Stage 8 as liable to flooding pursuant to regulation 153 of the *Building Regulations 2018*.

Background

2. Council has a statutory obligation under the *Building Regulations 2018* to designate land as liable to flooding where it knows it to be prone to flooding. Conversely, there is an obligation to remove the encumbrance of designation from land that is no longer considered to be flood prone.
3. The current designated flood mapping (**Attachment 1**) was designated by Council at its meeting of 12 December 2006.
4. This revocation will result in another stage of new lots in Glenlee Estate fronting 107 Sparrovale Road, Charlemont being free of their flood prone status, paving the way for homes to be built on this land.

Key Matters

5. The flood mapping is subject to a revision due to the subdivision and development at 107 Sparrovale Road, Charlemont. Prior to subdivision the parent lot was considered liable to flooding. This development site, which is also known as Glenlee Estate, Stage 8 achieves flood immunity for newly created lots for flood events up to and including the 100-year Average Recurrence Interval (**ARI**). This is based on the completion of approved internal works.
6. The recommendation by City engineers that the flood prone status can be removed includes assessment of internal drainage, road construction and earthworks to contain potential floodwaters from the 100-year ARI event within road and drainage reserves (**Attachment 2**).
7. It should be noted that designation is separate to the creation of flood overlays within the Planning Scheme, which follows designation. In the case of this development, the planning scheme amendment to create post-development flood zones or overlays is proposed after the design of the proposed precincts.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.17

Cr Moloney moved, Cr Harwood seconded -

That Council revoke the Council designation of 12 December 2006 of flood affected land at Glenlee Estate, Stage 8 as liable to flooding pursuant to regulation 153 of the *Building Regulations 2018*.

Carried

Financial Sustainability

8. There are no financial implications arising from the subject of this report.

Community Engagement

9. A revocation of designation does not warrant public consultation as it constitutes the removal of an encumbrance on land, and is based on engineered survey plans rather than public input as the trigger for removal. Relevant City databases and flood maps will be revised, and updates sent to the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority.

Social Equity and Sustainability

10. The City has a responsibility to the community to provide the best possible information on areas that are flood prone. The removal of flood prone designation allows owners to build on their land without a special permit from the City, and without raising the floor level of their home. It also reduces the cost of property insurance.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

11. The City has various statutory responsibilities for drainage management and flood management (prevention, response, and recovery) as set out in:

    11.1. The Local Government Act 1989;
    11.2. Local Government Act 2020;
    11.3. Local Government Regulations 1990;
    11.4. Planning and Environment Act 1987;
    11.5. Building Regulations 2018;
    11.6. Water Act 1989;
    11.7. Subdivision Act 1988, and
    11.8. Emergency Management Act 2013.

12. The works have resulted in the lots being protected from flooding during a major storm event that has a one per cent probability of occurring in any one year and occurs on average once in 100 years. This is the required standard for new subdivisions.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

13. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
    Sustainable growth and environment.

14. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
    Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

15. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

16. The City has some risk exposure with any failure to disclose the flood-prone status of a property in a Land Information Certificate. The revocation of the designation is the last step in minimising the City's risk.

Environmental Sustainability

17. The revocation of flood-prone areas designation and designation of revised flood data through the design of this stage is considered unlikely to result in any known adverse environmental impacts.

Attachments

1. Glenlee Estate East - Stage 8 - Current Flood map [**2.17.1** - 1 page]
2. Glenlee Estate East - Stage 8 - Revised Flood map [**2.17.2** - 1 page]


RESERVE
RD
ST
AVE
ST
FARMINGTON ST
ARNOLD CRCT
CODRINGTON ST
SPARROVALE RD
MOLLYAN AVE
PIGEON ST
DIEGO PL
ARNOLD CRCT
MACOMB WAY
CRES
CASPAR PL
RD
CRCT
ST
FLANNERY ST
LIMESTONE ST
BLIGH ST
WYLIE
STAGE 8
GILROY
FLANNERY CRCT
BVD
AVE
BEAUMONT
BARWON HEADS
RECHENBERG
ORLAND CRCT
ORLAND CRCT
BVD
HILLSBOROUGH CL
WALK
HART
CURRENT FLOOD MAP
STAGE BOUNDARY EXTENTS
100 YEAR (1% PROBABILITY) FLOOD EXTENT (FLOOD DEPTHS LESS THAN 0.05m OMITTED)


RESERVE
RD
ST
AVE
ST
MOLLYAN
PIGEON
FARMINGTON ST
ARNOLD
CRCT
CODRINGTON
SPARROVALE RD
MACOMB WAY
CRES
DIEGO PL
ARNOLD
CRCT
CASPAR PL
RD
CRCT
ST
FLANNERY
ST
LIMESTONE
ST
BLIGH
WYLIE
GILROY
STAGE 8
BVD
FLANNERY
CRCT
BEAUMONT AVE
BARWON HEADS
ORLAND
CRCT
ORLAND
CRCT
BVD
RECHENBERG
HILLSBOROUGH
CL
WALK
HART
REVISED FLOOD MAP
STAGE BOUNDARY EXTENTS
100 YEAR (1% PROBABILITY) FLOOD EXTENT (FLOOD DEPTHS LESS THAN 0.05m OMITTED)

2.18. Anchoridge Estate Stages 14 & 15 Revocation of Flood Prone Area Designation of New Lots

Source: **City Services**
Director: **Guy Wilson-Browne**

Purpose

1. To revoke Council's designation of 12 December 2006 of flood affected land at Anchoridge Estate Stages 14 & 15 as liable to flooding pursuant to regulation 153 of the *Building Regulations 2018.*

Background

2. Council has a statutory obligation under the *Building Regulations 2018* to designate land as liable to flooding where it knows it to be prone to flooding. Conversely, there is an obligation to remove the encumbrance of designation from land that is no longer considered to be flood prone.
3. The current designated flood mapping (**Attachment 1**) was designated by Council at its meeting of 12 December 2006.
4. This revocation will result in another stage of new lots in Anchoridge Estate fronting 50A Buchanan Boulevard, Armstrong Creek being free of their flood prone status, paving the way for homes to be built on this land.

Key Matters

5. The flood mapping is subject to a revision due to the subdivision and development at 50A Buchanan Boulevard, Armstrong Creek. Prior to subdivision the parent lot was considered liable to flooding. This development site, which is also known as Anchoridge Stages 14 & 15 achieves flood immunity for newly created lots for flood events up to and including the 100-year Average Recurrence Interval (**ARI**) event. This is due to the completion of approved internal works.
6. The recommendation by City engineers that the flood prone status can be removed includes assessment of internal drainage, road construction and earthworks to contain potential floodwaters from the 100-year ARI event within road and drainage reserves (**Attachment 2**).
7. It should be noted that designation is separate to the creation of flood overlays within the Planning Scheme, which follows designation. In the case of this development, the planning scheme amendment to create post-development flood zones or overlays is proposed after the design of the proposed precincts.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.18

Cr Harwood moved, Cr Nelson seconded -

That Council revoke the designation of 12 December 2006 of flood affected land at Anchoridge Estate Stages 14 & 15 as liable to flooding pursuant to regulation 153 of the *Building Regulations 2018*.

Carried

Financial Sustainability

8. There are no financial implications arising from the subject of this report.

Community Engagement

9. A revocation of designation does not warrant public consultation as it constitutes the removal of an encumbrance on land. This encumbrance is dictated by engineered survey data, rather than public input. Relevant City databases and flood maps will be revised, and updates sent to the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority.

Social Equity and Sustainability

10. The City has a responsibility to the community to provide the best possible information on areas that are flood prone. The removal of flood prone designation allows owners to build on their land without a special permit from the City, and without raising the floor level of their home. It also reduces the cost of property insurance.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

11. The City has various statutory responsibilities for drainage management and flood management (prevention, response, and recovery) as set out in:

    11.1. The Local Government Act 1989;
    11.2. Local Government Act 2020;
    11.3. Local Government Regulations 1990;
    11.4. Planning and Environment Act 1987;
    11.5. Building Regulations 2018;
    11.6. Water Act 1989;
    11.7. Subdivision Act 1988; and
    11.8. Emergency Management Act 2013.

12. The works have resulted in the lots being protected from flooding during a major storm event that has a one per cent probability of occurring in any one year and occurs on average once in 100 years. This is the required standard for new subdivisions.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

13. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
    Sustainable growth and environment.

14. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
    Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

15. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

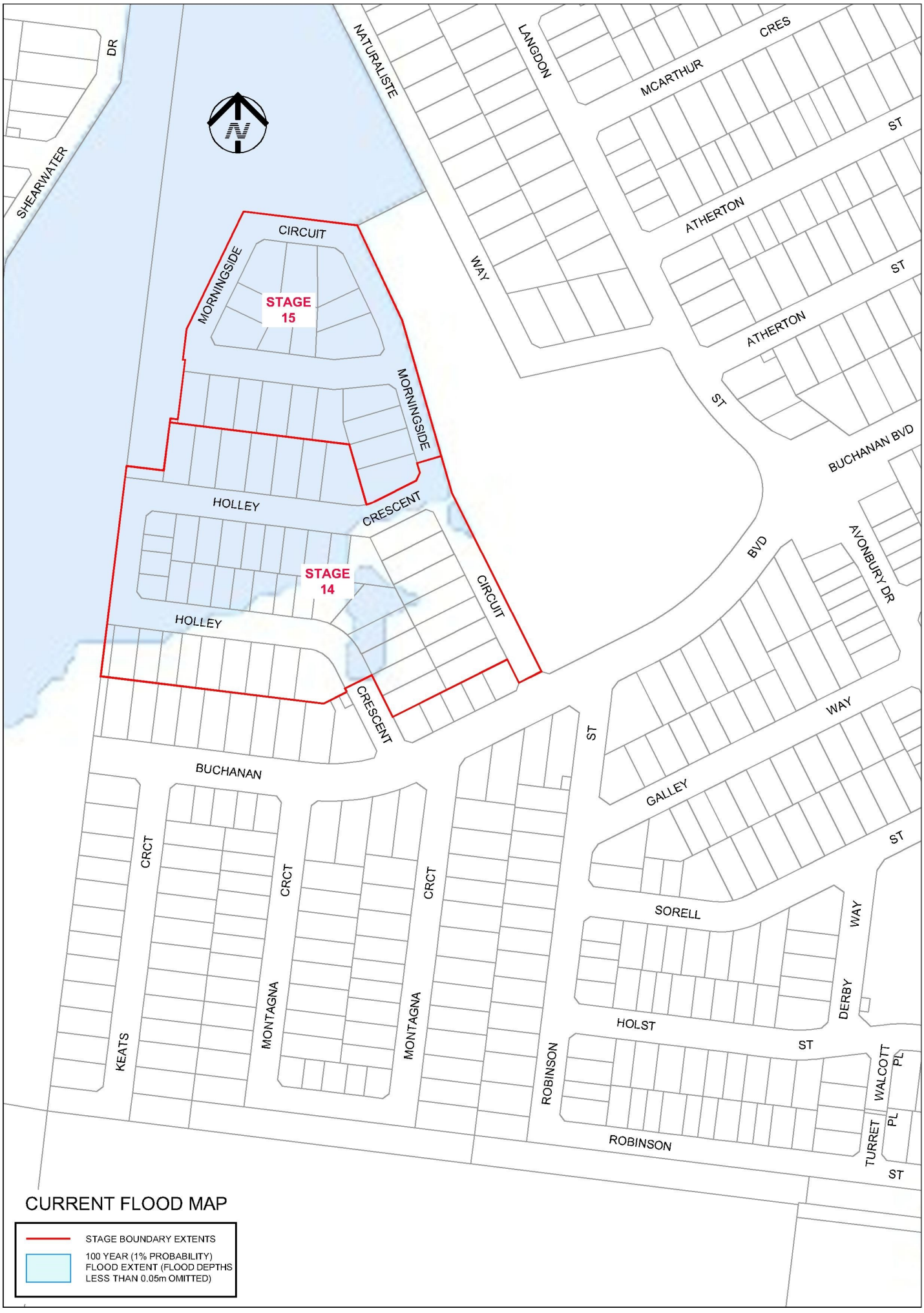
16. The City has some risk exposure with any failure to disclose the flood-prone status of a property in a Land Information Certificate. The revocation of the designation is the last step in minimising the City's risk.

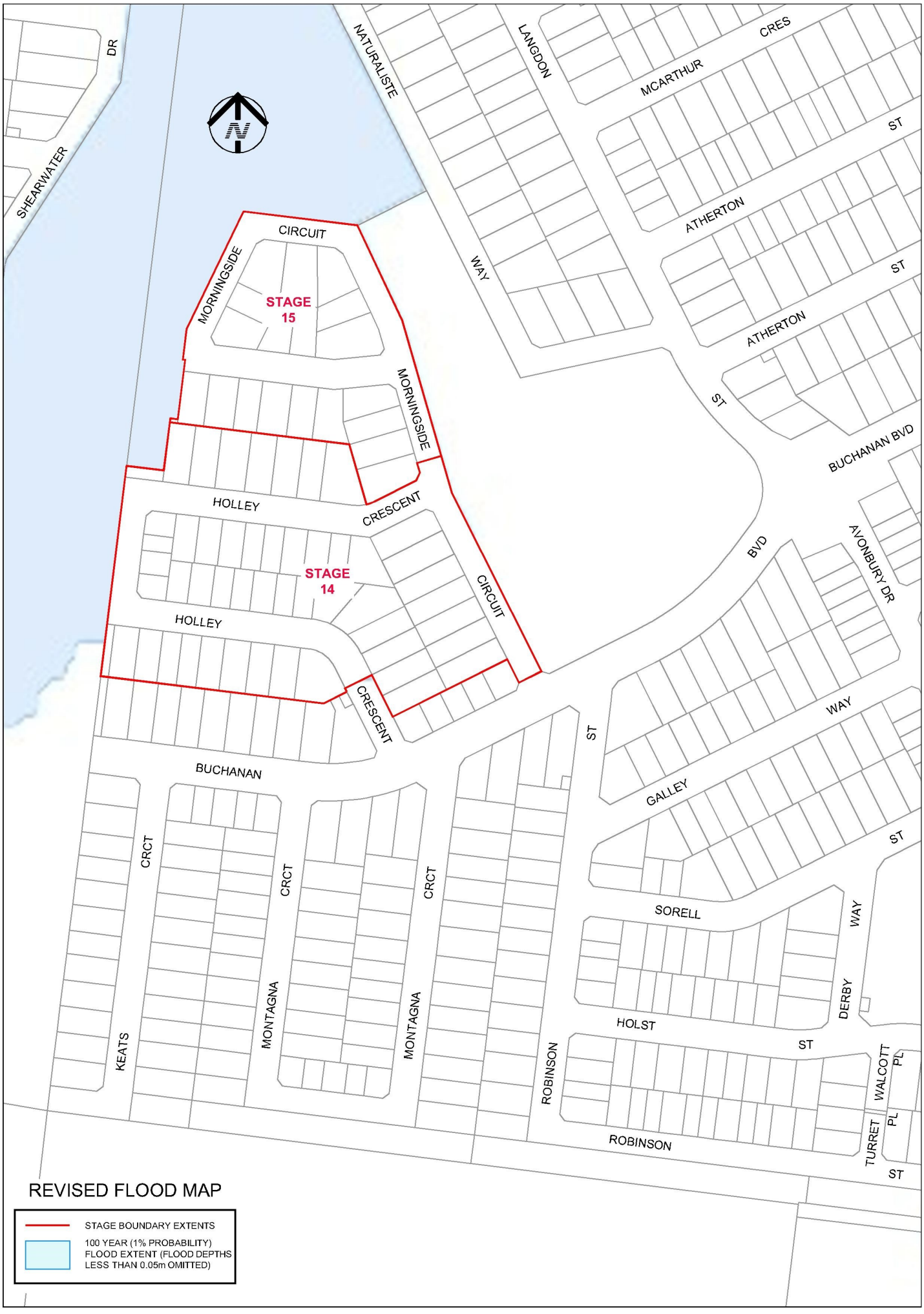
Environmental Sustainability

17. The revocation of flood-prone areas designation and designation of revised flood data through the design of this stage is considered unlikely to result in any known adverse environmental impacts.

Attachments

1. Anchoridge Stage 14&15 - Current Flood Map [**2.18.1** - 1 page]
2. Anchoridge Stage 14&15 - Revised Flood Map [**2.18.2** - 1 page]


DR
SHEARWATER
NATURALISTE
LANGDON
MCARTHUR
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ATHERTON
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ATHERTON
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BUCHANAN BVD
CIRCUIT
MORNINGSIDE
STAGE 15
MORNINGSIDE
HOLLEY
CRESCENT
STAGE 14
CIRCUIT
HOLLEY
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AVONBURY DR
WAY
GALLEY
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BUCHANAN
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SORELL
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MONTAGNA
MONTAGNA
KEATS
DERBY
HOLST
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ROBINSON
WALCOTT
PL
PL
TURRET
ROBINSON
ST
CURRENT FLOOD MAP
STAGE BOUNDARY EXTENTS
100 YEAR (1% PROBABILITY) FLOOD EXTENT (FLOOD DEPTHS LESS THAN 0.05m OMITTED)


DR
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STAGE 15
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REVISED FLOOD MAP
STAGE BOUNDARY EXTENTS
100 YEAR (1% PROBABILITY) FLOOD EXTENT (FLOOD DEPTHS LESS THAN 0.05m OMITTED)

3. RECORD OF INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

Source: **Office of the Chief Executive**
Chief Executive Officer: **Martin Cutter**

Summary

1. The Governance Rules of the City of Greater Geelong require the tabling of records of informal meetings of Councillors at the next convenient Council meeting and that their record be included in the minutes of that Council meeting.

2. A summary of the informal meetings of Councillors is attached.

RESOLUTION - Item 3.1

Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Kontelj seconded -

That Council receive the summary of the informal meetings of Councillors for the period to 24 May 2022.

Carried

INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS
(Council Meeting 24 May 2022)

Informal Meeting Details	Councillor Attendance/Apology	Officer Attendance	Agenda Items	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
Councillor Briefing **3 May 2022**	Crs Sullivan, Aitken, Grzybek, Kontelj, Mason, Moloney, Murrihy, Nelson *Apologies : Cr Asher – Mayor (Leave of Absence), Cr Mansfield (Leave of Absence), Cr Harwood*	M Cutter (CEO) B Ince (A/DIR) G Wilson-Browne (DIR) K Phyland (DIR) S McKew (MGR) R Thomas (MGR) J Hurse (MGR) A Schmidt (PROJ MGR) M Tesoro (CO ORD) S Beck (PROJ MGR)	• Northern Growth Area • Grants Guidelines • Digital Modernisation Update	• Nil
Councillor Briefing **10 May 2022**	Crs Sullivan, Grzybek, Harwood, Kontelj, Mansfield, Mason, Moloney, Murrihy, Nelson *Apology : Cr Asher – Mayor (Leave of Absence), Cr Mansfield (Leave of Absence)*	M Cutter (CEO) R Stevens (DIR) M Dugina (DIR) G Smith (DIR) K Phyland (DIR) R Thomas(A/DIR) B Ince (EXEC DIR) S Beck (PROJ MGR) S McKew (MGR) J Hurse (MGR) J Tester (CO ORD) A Higgs (MGR) K Pizzi (MGR) J Lane (MGR) K Ivens (Snr Advisor CEO)	*Presentation:* *Update Geelong Affordable Housing Trust and EOI for Registered Housing Association* *Council Reports:* • Social Equity Framework 2022-25 • 26 January – Community Engagement • Vision Zero Geelong – Safe Local Streets 2022-27 • Blue Waters Lake Reserve Master Plan Draft • Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan (Draft) • Indented Head Woodland Nature Reserve Master Plan Draft • Amendment C387ggee Proposed Rezoning – Jetty Road Urban Growth Area Stage 2, Curlewis • Northern Aquatic and Community Hub Gas to Electricity Conversion • Low Cost Camping Review • 2022-23 Grant Guidelines	• Nil

			• Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy Progress Report • Geelong Major Events Committee – 2022-26 External Member Positions • Community Engagement Impact Report 2022 • Clever and Creative – Our Progress 2021 • Year to Date Quarterly Financial Management Report – March 2022 • Proposed Sale – Land Abutting 49 Lascelles Avenue, Manifold Heights • Tender T2200048 – Shell Reserve Change Facility Redevelopment – Construction • Glenlee Estate Stage 8 – Revocation of Flood Prone Area Designation of New Lots • Anchoridge Estate Stages 14 & 15 Revocation of Flood Prone Area Designation of New Lots • 2021-22 Environmental Sustainability Grants Round Two *(Confidential)* • Bell Park Sports Club *(Confidential)*	

4. PLANNING DELEGATIONS

Source: **City Planning & Economy**
Director: **Gareth Smith**

Purpose

1. To provide the schedule of planning permit applications determined under delegation since the last report.

Background

2. Section 11 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and section 188 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* empower Council to delegate its powers, duties and functions under relevant legislation to members of Council staff.

3. Section 63 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and section 188 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* allow Council to establish a delegated committee with the power to determine planning permit applications.

4. Council to Staff Instrument of Delegation allows staff to determine planning permit applications where there are less than 6 objections lodged.

5. The Planning Committee's terms of reference provide for determination of planning permit applications where there are 6 or more objections lodged.

6. The City is required by Council to provide information on planning permit applications determined under delegation.

Key Matters

7. The Schedule attached to this report provides information on the planning permit applications determined under delegation since the last report.

RESOLUTION - Item 4.1

Cr Harwood moved, Cr Mason seconded -

That Council receive the information in the Schedule titled Planning Decisions Report for April 2022.

Carried

Planning Decisions April 2022

App Number	Location	Application Type	Decision Date	Description	Authority Description No of Objectors
PP-1085-2021	4 Elm Court, WAURN PONDS VIC 3216	Removal of Restriction on Lot 84 PS337755	14/4/2022	Refusal	Decision Making Committee
PP-1223-2021	57-59 Murradoc Road, DRYSDALE VIC 3222	Use and Development of the land for a Convenience Restaurant, Alter access to a road in a Transport Zone 2, Construct and Display Internally Illuminated Business Identification Signage (including a Pole Sign)	22/4/2022	NOD Planning Permit	Decision Making Committee
PP-1318-2019	70 Bates Road, LITTLE RIVER VIC 3211	Change of Use for Garden Supplies, Associated Works, and Native Vegetation Removal	13/4/2022	Extended Planning Permit	Delegated Authority
PP-1338-2011	1 Newcombe Street, PORTARLINGTON VIC 3223	Development of a Three-Storey Building comprising Twelve (12) Dwellings and Alteration (Removal) of Access to a Road Zone Category 1	28/4/2022	Refusal Extended Planning Permit	Decision Making Committee
PP-1446-2021	2/53 Sharp Street, NEWTOWN VIC 3220	Construction of a Rooftop Deck	29/4/2022	NOD Planning Permit	Decision Making Committee
PP-441-2018	713-729 Portarlington Road, LEOPOLD VIC 3224	Works to remove rocks at the entrance of an artificial water body to Corio Bay	13/4/2022	Extended Planning Permit	Delegated Authority
PP-845-2020	88 High Street, BELMONT VIC 3216	Construction of Three (3) Dwellings	11/4/2022	Grant a Planning Permit	Delegated Authority
PP-964-2021	102 The Parade, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Construction of a Three (3) Storey Building Containing Nine (9) Dwellings a reduction to the standard car parking rate and Creation and Alteration of Access to a Transport Zone	19/4/2022	NOD Planning Permit	Decision Making Committee
PP-1033-2021	67 Marlin Drive, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Construct Two (2) Dwellings and a Two (2) Lot Subdivision	1-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-1037-2021	13 Orton Street, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Construction of Four (4) Dwellings, Four (4) Lot Subdivision and Alter Access to a Road in a Transport Zone 2	13-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	5
PP-1156-2021	8 Bundoora Crescent, HIGHTON VIC 3216	Construction of Three (3) Dwellings and Three (3) Lot Subdivision	1-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	3
PP-1169-2021	58 Bluff Road, ST LEONARDS VIC 3223	Construction of Two (2) Dwellings	14-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	3

PP-1339-2021	1582-1590 Bellarine Highway, WALLINGTON VIC 3222	Removal of restrictive covenant C012764 from C/T Vol. 8471 Fol. 310 and restrictive covenant C579066 from C/T Vol.8471 Fol.314 and C/T Vol. 9442 Fol.958.	27-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	3
PP-1351-2021	4 Gellibrand Street, PORTARLINGTON VIC	Construction of Two (2) Dwellings	1-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-1360-2021	8 Park Street, PORTARLINGTON VIC 3223	Construction of a Second Dwelling	22-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-1402-2021	4 Ovens Court, CORIO VIC 3214	Construction of Four (4) Dwellings	11-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	3
PP-1450-2021	22 Carinya Avenue, NEWCOMB VIC 3219	Construction of Two (2) Dwellings	28-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-1524-2021	57 Minerva Road, HERNE HILL VIC 3218	Construction of Two (2) Dwellings and Two (2) Lot Subdivision	1-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	2
PP-1548-2021	1 East Court, NEWCOMB VIC 3219	Construction of a Two Storey Building Consisting of Four (4) Community Care Accommodation Units	7-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-238-2020	22-24 Moolap Station Road, MOOLAP VIC 3224	Use and Development of the Land for a Transfer Station	20-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-305-2021	412-450 Tower Road, PORTARLINGTON	Use and Development of a Dwelling	28-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-330-2020	27 Griffen Street, HAMLYN HEIGHTS VIC 3215	Construction of Three (3) Dwellings and Three (3) lot subdivision	1-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	2
PP-34-2021	192-200 Whitcombes Road, DRYSDALE VIC 3222	Buildings and Works for the Construction of Two (2) Sheds Associated with an Existing Dwelling	21-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	2
PP-442-2021	67 Leviens Road, ST LEONARDS VIC 3223	Construction of Six (6) Dwellings	11-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-771-2021	54 Bailey Street, BELMONT VIC 3216	Construction of Two (2) Dwellings	28-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	3
PP-779-2021	42 Dunloe Avenue, NORLANE VIC 3214	Construction of Three Dwellings	28-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-870-2021	38 Laurel Bank Parade, NEWTOWN VIC 3220	Partial Demolition and Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling in a Heritage Overlay	28-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-901-2021	21 The Avenue, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Construction of Dwelling over 7.5m in Height from NGL and within 2m of a Side Boundary	22-Apr-2022	NOD - Delegate	1

5. CONFIDENTIAL

Council will close the meeting to the public in accordance with the provision of section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* to consider the following items:

5.1. 2021-22 Environmental Sustainability Grants Round Two (Confidential)

Source: Customer & Corporate Services
Director: Michael Dugina

CONFIDENTIAL

RESOLUTION - Item 5.1

Cr Kontelj moved, Cr Aitken seconded -

That Council consider this report at the conclusion of the meeting as it is designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66(5) of the Local Government Act 2020. The information contained in this report is confidential because it contains Council business information being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations. This section is applicable because the agenda item contains a level of details which if released, would diminish the organisation's capacity to compete in a commercial environment.

Carried

5.2. Bell Park Sports Club (Confidential)

Source: Community Life
Director: Robyn Stevens

CONFIDENTIAL

RESOLUTION - Item 5.2

Cr Kontelj moved, Cr Mansfield seconded -

That Council consider this report at the conclusion of the meeting as it is designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66(5) of the Local Government Act 2020. The information contained in this report is confidential because it contains Council business information being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations. This section is applicable because of the sensitive nature of the information and if prematurely released, would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations.

Carried

CLOSE OF MEETING

Cr Harwood moved, Cr Murrihy seconded -

That the meeting be closed to the public.

Carried

The meeting was closed to the public at 9.32pm

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Mason seconded -

That the meeting be re-opened to the public.

Carried

The meeting was opened to the public at 9.41pm

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9.41pm on Tuesday 24 May 2022.

Signed: _____

Cr Trent Sullivan (Deputy Mayor)

Date: _____