

AGENDA

Greater Shepparton City Council

COUNCIL MEETING

3:00PM, Tuesday 21 March 2023

In the Council Boardroom, Welsford Street

COUNCILLORS

Cr Shane Sali (Mayor)

Cr Anthony Brophy (Deputy Mayor)

Cr Seema Abdullah

Cr Dinny Adem

Cr Geoffrey Dobson

Cr Greg James

Cr Ben Ladson

Cr Sam Spinks

Cr Fern Summer

VISION

GREATER SHEPPARTON, GREATER FUTURE

A thriving economy in the foodbowl of Victoria with excellent lifestyles, innovative agriculture a diverse community and abundant opportunities

Values

Values reflect what we feel is important. Organisations may have core values that reflect what is important in the organisation. These values may be guiding principles of behaviour for all members in the organisation.

Respect first, always

We are attentive, listen to others and consider all points of view in our decision making.

Take ownership

We take pride in honouring our promises and exceeding expectations, and are transparent with and accountable for our actions.

Courageously lead

We lead with integrity, and stand up and stand by what is in the best interests of the Greater Shepparton community.

Working together

We work collaboratively to create higher quality outcomes that are more efficient, thoughtful, effective and responsive. We cannot accomplish all that we need to do without working together.

Continually innovate

We are open to new ideas and creatively seek solutions that encourage us to do our best for our community.

Start the celebration

As ambassadors for our people and place, we proudly celebrate the strengths and achievements of Council and the Greater Shepparton community.

**A G E N D A
FOR THE
COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
TUESDAY 21 MARCH 2023 AT 3:00PM**

**CHAIR
CR SHANE SALI
MAYOR**

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Risk Level Matrix Legend

Note: A number of reports in this agenda include a section on “risk management implications”. The following table shows the legend to the codes used in the reports.

Likelihood	Consequences				
	Negligible (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Major (4)	Extreme (5)
Almost Certain (5) Would be expected to occur in most circumstances (daily/weekly)	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	EXTREME	EXTREME
Likely (4) Could probably occur in most circumstances (i.e. Monthly)	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	HIGH	EXTREME
Possible (3) Reasonable probability that it could occur (i.e. over 12 months)	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH
Unlikely (2) It is not expected to occur (i.e. 2-5 years)	LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Rare (1) May occur only in exceptional circumstances (i.e. within 10 years)	LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH

Extreme Intolerable – Immediate action is required to mitigate this risk to an acceptable level. Event/Project/Activity is not to proceed without authorisation

High Intolerable – Attention is needed to treat risk.

Medium Variable – May be willing to accept the risk in conjunction with monitoring and controls

Low Tolerable – Managed by routine procedures

1 Welcome to Country

Cr James will now present a Welcome to Country on behalf of the Yorta Yorta Elders Council and the 16 family groups.

2 Acknowledgement

We, Greater Shepparton City Council, acknowledge the Yorta Yorta Peoples of the land which now comprises Greater Shepparton, we pay our respect to their tribal elders, we celebrate their continuing culture and we acknowledge the memory of their ancestors.

3 Privacy Notice

This public meeting is being streamed live via our Facebook page and made available for public access on our website along with the official Minutes of this meeting.

All care is taken to maintain your privacy; however as a visitor in the public gallery, it is assumed that your consent is given in the event that your image is broadcast to the public. It is also assumed that your consent is given to the use and disclosure of any information that you share at the meeting (including personal or sensitive information) to any person who accesses those recordings or Minutes.

4 Governance Principles

Council considers that the recommendations contained in this Agenda gives effect to the overarching governance principles stated in Section 9(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. These principles are as follows:

1. Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
2. priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
3. the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
4. the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
5. innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued;
6. collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
7. the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;
8. regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
9. the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

5 Apologies

Nil Received.

6 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

In accordance with section 130 (1)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 Councillors are required to disclose any “conflict of interest” in respect of a matter to be considered at a Council Meeting.

Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.

7 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the 21 February 2023 Council Meeting as circulated, be confirmed.

8 Public Question Time

Nil Received.

9 Deputations and Petitions

Nil Received.

10 Community Directorate

10.1 Katandra West and District Community Planning Group Action Plan 2023-24

Author	Team Leader Community Strengthening
Approved by	Director Community
Purpose	For Noting

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council receive and note the *Katandra West and District Community Planning Group Action Plan 2023-24*, as attached.

Executive Summary

The Katandra West and District Community Planning Group (the Group) was established in April 2021 in its current form.

The Group works together to understand, and advocate for, the community's goals and priorities for the future of Katandra West and District.

The draft *Katandra West and District Community Planning Group Action Plan 2023-24* (the Action Plan) has been finalised and is now ready to be presented to Council.

The Group has accepted an invitation from the Councillors to present at a Council briefing and would like to use this opportunity to showcase the Action Plan and highlight other opportunities and issues.

Report Detail

Background:

The Katandra West and District Community Planning Group (the Group) originally formed in 2012.

The original Group, along with partners, worked on:

- supporting the building of the Katandra West Community Centre
- installation of doggie waste bin in the Recreation Reserve
- having reflective buttons installed on the road into town
- obtaining stage one funding for the Katandra West Youth Spot
- a 'welcome kit' for new residents
- line marking outside the recreation reserve

- lights at entrance of the recreation reserve
- new town entry signage
- supporting improvements to the primary school crossing.

The original Group disbanded making room for the current Group to form in April 2021.

The Group has worked with multiple community groups and various organisations to identify and achieve positive outcomes for the Katandra West and District communities.

Achievements:

The current Group has advocated for and worked on the following:

- development of the Action Plan 2023-24
- rectification and repair works to the drainage pit on Recreation Reserve grounds (2021)
- shade sails for the Recreation Reserve playground (installed 2022)
- new Lincoln Street footpaths (installed 2022)
- Queen Street footpath - near CFA (installed 2022)
- Jolly Santa installation (Christmas 2022)
- design of a new logo and purchase of an accompanying banner (2022)
- installation of a blue 'Primary School' fingerboard directional sign (to be completed early 2023)
- street lighting audit of key locations (audit will be undertaken in February 2023).

The Group advocated to bring the public toilet renewal forward to the 2022/23 financial year along with some landscaping/beautification works in the area surrounding the Katandra West Hall.

Group Membership

The Group consists of local people passionate about Katandra West and District. Some of the members are part of other community groups such as the Men's Shed, the Community Asset Committee, sporting clubs, and the Katandra and District History Group Inc.

Developing the draft *Katandra West and District Community Planning Group Action Plan 2023-24*

The Group conducted consultation using a variety of methods including hard copy surveys, Shaping Greater Shepparton and attendance at community meetings, events and dinners. Results from this consultation formed the basis of the Action Plan.

Following the consultation feedback, the Group identified three key themes which are embedded in the Action Plan:

1. Infrastructure and Services for Liveability

We want Katandra West to have the facilities and services to make it attractive place to live.

2. Walkability & Accessibility

We want everyone to be able to walk or cycle safely wherever they need to go.

3. Beautification & Natural Environment

We want Katandra West to have attractive open spaces that enhance and celebrate the natural environment.

The Group has developed a list of 18 Priority Actions which relate to the key themes. Some of these actions are not the responsibility of Council and will require the group to undertake advocacy to other agencies and organisations.

What the Group Heard

Examples of priority actions are:

1. Beautify the historic hall area
2. develop the footpath network to connect Katandra West's community to services and facilities
3. improve mobile and internet coverage throughout the district.
4. connect Katandra West township to sewerage system to unlock growth and development opportunities
5. provide accessible, high quality public toilets for residents and visitors.

Regarding the Katandra West Hall the community indicated strong dissatisfaction with leaving the hall in its current state.

The Group and the broader community are keen to ensure Katandra West and District continues to thrive. Residents are aware as older members of the community move elsewhere to downsize, attracting young families/people to settle in the township and surrounds becomes even more crucial to the future of the area.

The Group believe there are key items that would help make Katandra West and District more attractive to young families/people. These are captured in the key theme of: ***'Infrastructure and services for Livability: We want Katandra West to have the facilities and services to make it an attractive place to live.'***

The Priority Actions in this theme cover:

- mobile and internet coverage
- public toilets
- sewerage connection
- play equipment
- BBQ facilities
- storm water
- vacant land purchase
- transport
- a home for the Katandra and District History Group
- maternal and child health and early childhood education and care services.

The Group also recognise that the small town centre is an asset. Improving the attractiveness, accessibility, safety, and walkability of the town center is key. This is reflected in the theme of ***'Walkability & Accessibility: We want everyone to be able to walk or cycle safely wherever they need to go.'***

The Priority Actions in this theme cover:

- footpaths
- lighting
- parking
- safety
- traffic safety.

The Group also found that the existing natural environment of Katandra West and District is considered an asset. They have identified opportunities to enhance this, in the key theme: ***'Beautification & Natural Environment: We want Katandra West to have attractive open spaces that enhance and celebrate the natural environment.'***

The Priority Actions in this theme cover:

- beautifying the historic hall area
- parks and open space development
- town entries and native vegetation
- festive decorations.

The group have now developed a draft *Katandra West and District Community Planning Group Action Plan 2023-24 (attachment 5.2.2)*, which is reflective of the priorities of the wider community and seek Council to receive and note the Action Plan at the next convenient Ordinary Council Meeting.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

We will prioritise leadership in the community to celebrate our cultures, people and places that makes Greater Shepparton a unique, vibrant, diverse and liveable region.

- 1.1 Council to take an active leadership role for access and inclusion in our community.
- 1.4 Communities have resources and abilities to self-advocate.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY and WELLBEING

We will support the mental and physical health and wellbeing of all in our community, ensuring universal access to information, services, housing, healthcare and learning opportunities.

- 2.3 Council to provide accessible play spaces for all abilities.

VIBRANT and DIVERSE ECONOMY

We will drive the visitor economy by growing visitor experiences and major events that provide employment and other opportunities to the community. Our economic development will focus on establishing a strong, adaptive, sustainable and thriving region supported by agriculture and a diverse range of industries.

- 3.6 Attract people to live, work, study and remain in our region.
- 3.7 Expanded educational opportunities.
- 3.8 Maximise utilisation and investment return on Council assets.
- 3.10 Efficient land use planning to encourage and support future development.

INFRASTRUCTURE and TECHNOLOGY

We will focus on the planning of our region's requirements to enable delivery of technology and infrastructure to meet the current and future needs of the community.

- 4.6 Engage with historical societies and museums to develop a plan that ensures their sustainability.
- 4.8 Plan, prioritise and communicate asset maintenance and new asset delivery.
- 4.9 Reliable, efficient, affordable and accessible transport.
- 4.11 Develop and improve Community and recreation facilities.

ENVIRONMENT and CLIMATE EMERGENCY

We will prioritise our environment and take urgent action to reduce emissions and waste in order to protect public health and create a region that mitigates and adapts to climate change.

- 5.1 Council endeavours to make the natural environment accessible to all, regardless of age and abilities.
- 5.5 Council commits to working with our community to deliver climate safe future.
- 5.9 Drive climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Risk Management

There are no Medium to Extreme risks associated with this report.

Policy Considerations

Community Planning Policy

In establishing and operating a Community Plan Group, the community will:

- *Develop a Community Plan, which is reflective of the priorities of the wider community and will be endorsed by Council.*

In supporting Community Plan Groups, Council will:

- *Endorse, rather than adopt, Community Plans (and significant reviews) at an Ordinary Council Meeting to acknowledge that the community plans are 'owned' and driven by the community rather than Council.*

Financial Implications

The actions identified within Community Plans are priorities of that particular community. Delivery of these actions is a combined responsibility of community, business, Council and other government bodies and, with inclusion alone, does not guarantee delivery.

Subject to budgetary processes, Council provides an annual budget towards the Community Plan Implementation Fund. In 2022/23, the operational budget is \$55,988.00 which is used to support Greater Shepparton's 12 Community Planning Groups to achieve their priorities.

Community Development Officers (CDO) actively work with groups to identify suitable alternate internal and external funding opportunities to achieve their priorities; including submissions to Council's draft budget process. CDO also advocate internally and externally for inclusion of priorities into existing works programs.

Legal/Statutory Implications

There are no legal or statutory implications associated with this report.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The following are specific items in the Action Plan which relate to the environment and sustainability:

Theme: Beautification & Natural Environment
We want Katandra West to have attractive open spaces that enhance and celebrate the natural environment.
Priority Actions
Beautify the Historic Hall area
Develop attractive parks and open spaces
Beautify town entry corridors with native vegetation

Social Implications

The *Katandra West and District Community Planning Group Action Plan 2023-24* focuses on connecting community by identifying goals around liveability, walkability, improved infrastructure services, and transport connections.

The Group recognises existing community groups such as the Katandra and District History Group, Men's Shed, and sporting clubs are an integral part of maintaining and encouraging social connectedness. The school and kindergarten are also seen as important in this regard.

Economic Impacts

There are no adverse economic impacts associated with this report however many of the key actions may indirectly support and drive strong economic outcomes.

Consultation

Consultation Overview:

Despite initial community reluctance to engage, the Group persisted and were able to undertake consultation.

The Group workshopped ideas at Group meetings (generally held monthly) about the goals and opportunities for the future of Katandra West and District.

The Group developed a draft Action Plan and sought feedback from the community, Recreation Reserve Committee Chair, and others, before revising and finalising their Action Plan.

The Group 'closed the loop' by handing out copies of the updated draft Action Plan at the community Christmas party. The copies available at this event noted the Group would be seeking Council endorsement early 2023.

Consultation methods:

- distribution of Draft Action Plan
- survey
- Shaping Greater Shepparton
- Katandra West and District Community Planning Group meetings.

Consultation promotion:

- community Facebook page
- football Club dinners
- mail out to 169 households
- primary school newsletter
- surveys at general store, football/netball club and primary school.

Who:

- general Katandra West community
- Council departments, facilitated by the Community Development Officer, including:
 - Building, Planning and Compliance
 - Children's Services
 - Community Wellbeing
 - Engineering and Assets
 - Environment
 - Parks, Sport, and Recreation
 - Projects.
- Katandra West and District Community Planning Group members
- Katandra West Recreation Reserve Committee Chair.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- 4.3.2 Attractive Small Towns Retained
- 4.3.4 The Municipality is More Attractive
- 4.3.5 Different New Residential Development
- 4.3.7 The Municipality is Greener
- 4.3.9 The Municipality is Culturally Active
- 4.3.10 The Municipality is Healthier
- 4.3.11 The Municipality is Not as Vulnerable to Climatic Change
- 4.3.13 The Municipality is More Active

b) Other strategic links

- Council Plan
- Community Planning Policy
- Greater Shepparton Public Health Strategic Plan
- Our Climate Safe Future – Climate Emergency Action Plan
- Playspace Strategy
- Public Toilet Strategy
- Universal Access and Inclusion Plan
- Youth Strategy and Action Plan

Conclusion

The Katandra West and District Community Planning Group are proud to present the draft *Katandra West and District Community Planning Group Action Plan 2023-24* to the Council.

Attachments

1. Katandra West and District Action Plan 2023-24 [10.1.1 - 1 page]

11 Corporate Services Directorate

11.1 Contracts Awarded Under Delegation - February 2023

Author Team Leader – Contracts and Procurement
 Approved by Director Corporate Services
 Purpose For Noting

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. **note that no contracts were awarded under delegation pursuant to a formal tender process for the reporting period; and**
2. **note the requests for tender advertised but not yet awarded.**

Report

To inform the Council of the status of request for tenders that have been awarded under delegation during the period 1 February 2023 to 28 February 2023, and those that have been publicly advertised but are yet to be awarded as at 6 March 2023. The report does not include all purchasing activities, only procurement which requires a formal quotation or tender process.

Contracts Awarded under Delegated Authority

Contract No.	Project Name	Details	Value inclusive of GST	Awarded to
Nil				

Requests for Tenders advertised but not yet awarded

Contract No.	Contract Name	Contract detail, including terms and provisions for extensions	Status
2273	Provision of Internal Audit Services	Schedule of Rates Contract for the Provision of Internal Audit Services	Tender scheduled to close on 29 March 2023
2282	Murchison Recreation Reserve – Design Pavilion	Lump Sum Contract for the detailed design of Murchison Recreation Reserve Pavilion	Tender currently under evaluation
2293	Construction of Block 5 Landscaping, McLennan Street Mooroopna	Lump Sum Contract for the construction of Block 5 Landscaping, McLennan Street, Mooroopna	Tender currently under evaluation
2300	Shepparton & Ardmona Resource Recovery Centre Upgrades	Lump Sum Contract for the detailed design (reduced scope and readvertised) of Shepparton and Ardmona Resource Recovery Centre upgrades	Tender currently under evaluation

Through the S5 Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer the Council has delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer to award a contract up to the value of \$1,000,000.

The financial delegation to Directors to approve contracts up to a value of \$500,000 for goods and services and works are included in the S7 Instrument of Sub-Delegation by Chief Executive Officer.

Legal/Statutory Implications

Previously, Section 186 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) established the requirements for tendering and entering into contracts.

In accordance with Section 108 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council has adopted its Procurement Policy establishing the value at which Council must invite a tender or seek an expression of interest.

Conclusion

It is important that decisions and actions taken under delegation be properly documented and transparent in nature. The report details the contracts awarded under delegated authority of the Council during the period 1 February 2023 to 28 February 2023.

Attachments

Nil

11.2 Councillor Representation on Committees

Author Team Leader Governance
 Approved by Director Corporate Services
 Purpose For Decision by Council

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. appoint the Councillors listed in the table, below as representatives on the Committees of Council, established in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020:

Committee	2023 - 2024 Councillor Representatives
Audit and Risk Management Committee	Cr Shane Sali Cr Anthony Brophy
CEO Remuneration Review Committee	Mayor, Shane Sali Deputy Mayor, Cr Anthony Brophy Cr Dinny Adem Cr Sam Spinks
Development Hearings Panel	Chair, Cr Shane Sali Cr Dinny Adem

2. appoint the Councillors listed in the table below, as representatives on the following Advisory Committees of Council:

Committee	2023 – 2024 Councillor Representatives
Affordable Housing Reference Group	Cr Seema Abdullah Cr Sam Spinks
Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton Advisory Committee	Cr Geoff Dobson

Committee	2023 – 2024 Councillor Representatives
Calder Woodburn Advisory Committee	Cr Anthony Brophy
Disability Advisory Committee	Cr Ben Ladson
Greater Shepparton Aerodrome Advisory Committee	Cr Dinny Adem
Greater Shepparton LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee	Cr Sam Spinks
Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee	Cr Ben Ladson
Greater Shepparton Public Health and Wellbeing Plan Advisory Committee	Cr Sam Spinks
Greater Shepparton Women’s Charter Alliance Advisory Committee	Cr Dinny Adem
Positive Ageing Advisory Committee	Cr Anthony Brophy
RiverConnect Community Advisory Committee	Cr Sam Spinks Cr Geoff Dobson
Shepparton Regional Saleyards Advisory Committee	Cr Geoff Dobson
Shepparton Showgrounds Advisory Committee	Cr Dinny Adem
Sports Hall of Fame Advisory Committee	Cr Anthony Brophy Cr Ben Ladson
Tatura Park Advisory Board	Cr Shane Sali

3. appoint the Councillors listed in the table below, as representatives on the following Committees and Organisations, that are independent of Council:

Committee / Organisation	2023 – 2024 Councillor Representatives
Best Start Early Years Alliance	Cr Seema Abdullah
Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance	Cr Sam Spinks
Goulburn Valley Highway Bypass Action Group	Mayor
Goulburn Valley Regional Library Corporation Board	Cr Greg James

Committee / Organisation	2023 – 2024 Councillor Representatives
Municipal Association of Victoria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Representative • Substitute Council Representative 	Cr Seema Abdullah Cr Dinny Adem
Murray Darling Association (MDA)	Cr Geoff Dobson
Regional Cities Victoria (RCV)	Mayor
Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry Parking Reference Group	Cr Greg James Cr Dinny Adem
Shepparton Education Plan Project Board	Mayor

Executive Summary

As part of the Council’s community consultation, communication and advocacy role, the Mayor, Councillors and officers are represented on various community organisations and government agency groups, Council committees required by legislation and advisory committees of Council.

In some cases, the Council is represented by the Mayor, and therefore, a separate appointment is not required.

- Mayoral appointments include:
- Goulburn Valley Highway Bypass Action Group
 - Regional Cities Victoria (RCV)
 - Shepparton Education Plan Project Board

As a Development Hearings Panel is a delegated committee, the Mayor has the power to appoint the Chair of this committee, with Council appointing an additional Councillor as a member.

Previously, the Mayor was a member of the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMP), however legislation has changed removing the requirement for a Councillor to be a member of this committee.

A review of Councillor Representation on committees takes place annually.

Report Detail

As part of the Council’s community consultation, communication and advocacy role, the Mayor, Councillors and officers are represented on various community organisations and government agency groups, as well as purpose groups appointed by the Council. Councillor Representation on committees will be reviewed annually.

The purpose of each of the committees, groups or organisations is provided below for information.

1. Committees of Council, established in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020

The following committees are established in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC)

The Audit and Risk Management Committee has been established in accordance with section 53 of the Local Government Act 2020. Section 53(3)(a) states that the ARMC must include members who are Councillors of Council. The ARMC provides Council with additional assurance that the financial and internal procedures and systems of the organisations are in order, risks are identified and managed, and the organisation is complying with all laws and regulations affecting it.

CEO Performance and Remuneration Committee

The purpose of this committee is to oversee recruitment of the CEO, provide recommendations as to the remuneration and conditions of employment, assess the CEO's performance, perform an annual review, and determine annual remuneration. This committee will consist of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor (where appointed) and two councillors.

Development Hearings Panel (DHP) is a delegated committee of the Council

Development Hearings Panels are established under section 63 of the Local Government Act 2020 and must include at least 2 Councillors. The functions of the DHP are to consider various matters under the Planning and Environment Act 1987, the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme and other relevant regulations. Specifically, this includes:

- planning permit and permit amendment applications where up to (and including) 5 objections are received (applications with 6 or more objections must go to Council);
- any permit application or permit amendment application, secondary consent, request for extension of time or other determination of an Officer (under a delegated authority) which is recommended for refusal by an Officer;
- any relevant matter referred to the DHP by an Officer; and
- any relevant matter referred to the DHP by the Council.

As a delegated committee, the Mayor has the power to appoint the Chair of this committee, with Council appointing an additional Councillor as a member.

2. Advisory Committees of Council:

Advisory Committees play a vital role in community consultation, communication and advocacy. Council supports these committees through Councillor and Council officer involvement and administrative support as required.

Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group

The Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group (the Group) will advise Greater Shepparton City Council (Council) on the application and implementation of the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020*, in pursuit of the vision that 'all members of the Greater Shepparton community have access to safe, affordable and appropriate housing'.

Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton Advisory Committee

Council authorised the formation of the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton Advisory Committee at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 16 June 2020. The Terms of Reference were adopted in April 2021 with a Councillor representative being appointed to the committee. The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to provide advice to Council in relation to the ongoing development, functioning and performance of the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton.

Calder Woodburn Memorial Avenue Advisory Committee

The purpose of the Calder Woodburn Memorial Avenue Advisory Committee is to provide advice to Council in relation to maintaining, enhancing and conserving the heritage and environmental values of the Calder Woodburn Memorial Avenue.

Disability Advisory Committee

This Committee aims to improve the accessibility and inclusiveness of Council services and facilities and assist in the strategic and detailed planning of all new activities. As part of a capacity building opportunity, a rotating chairperson position is filled by members of the Disability Advisory Committee with the Councillor playing a key role in connecting the committee and its objectives with the Council.

Greater Shepparton Aerodrome Advisory Committee

This Committee advises Council on the management and operation of the Shepparton Aerodrome.

LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee

The LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee provides a platform for advocacy and representation of the LGBTIQA+ community to support and inform future Greater Shepparton City Council (GSCC) directions relating to LGBTIQA+ representation, decision making and inclusive practices across Greater Shepparton.

Heritage Advisory Committee

The Heritage Advisory Committee advises Council on the future development of cultural heritage matters across Greater Shepparton and promotes community participation in and awareness of cultural heritage issues within the Municipality.

Greater Shepparton Public Health Advisory Committee

The Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee (HWBAC) is a collaborative partnership that guides the strategic direction of the Municipal Public Health Plan (MPHP) for Greater Shepparton to meet statutory obligations and support the delivery of health initiatives. Together emerging health trends are identified from analysis of local demographics, indicators and working knowledge to maximise local health outcomes.

Greater Shepparton Women's Charter Alliance Advisory Committee

This Committee provides advice to promote women in leadership and decision-making roles.

Positive Ageing Advisory Committee

This Committee works in partnership with the community and Council to ensure there are consultation and participation mechanisms in place for seniors, their families, carers, advocates and service providers to enable meaningful input into Council's service planning and policy development. The committee also informs and educates Council and the community about issues for seniors, their families, carers and others, informs and educates federal and state government through local government and provides advice and assistance to Council to ensure all capital works and services are accessible and inclusive of seniors.

RiverConnect Community Advisory Committee

This Committee has been established to achieve the best possible outcome from the implementation of a very significant, unique and complex community orientated project through the redevelopment of the Goulburn-Broken River flood plain between Shepparton and Mooroopna, incorporating high level community involvement and participation.

Shepparton Regional Saleyards Advisory Committee

The purpose of this Committee is to provide advice in relation to the annual budget, fees and charges and the strategic direction of the saleyards.

Shepparton Showgrounds Advisory Committee

The purpose of this Committee is to advise Council on procedures, rules, conditions of use, future strategic planning and proposed capital works which are necessary for the optimum management of the Shepparton Showgrounds.

Sports Hall of Fame Advisory Committee

This advisory committee has been formed to recognise and celebrate significant sporting achievements of Greater Shepparton residents at both at a national and international level.

Tatura Park Advisory Board

This advisory board provides feedback to Council from user groups and discusses and puts forward ideas for the future development of the facility.

3. Committees and Organisations, independent of Council

Council participates in a number of committees and organisations that are conducted outside of Council operations. It is important for Councillors to represent Council at these meetings to advocate of behalf of the community and for the Greater Shepparton region at a State and National level.

Best Start Early Years Alliance

The committee comprises a wide range of participants from the field of early childhood development who collectively provide expert direction to coordinate activities and provide advice to Council on how best to ensure a best start in life for children in Greater Shepparton. The committee is responsible for the creation and implementation of the Greater Shepparton Municipal Early Years Plan.

Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance

The Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance is a program that will work with councils and groups in our region to reduce greenhouse emissions and adapt to climate change.

Goulburn Valley Highway Bypass Action Group

The Goulburn Valley Highway Bypass Action Group will provide advice to Greater Shepparton City Council on the development of the proposed Goulburn Valley Highway Shepparton Bypass.

Goulburn Valley Regional Library Corporation Board

This Committee enables member Councils (Greater Shepparton, Moira and Strathbogie municipalities) to provide, through economy of scale and structure, a standard level of library service for their communities and the regional community which they would be unable to provide individually for the same level of annual expenditure.

Municipal Association of Victoria

The State Council is the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) governing body, made up of representatives from each member of Council. State Council's powers include:

- determining the rules of the Association
- electing the President and other members of the Board
- determines the strategic direction
- appointing the auditor

Two State Council meetings per year, held in Melbourne - conducted in May and October

Murray Darling Association

The Murray Darling Association (MDA) is a peak body which has been representing Local Government, community groups, businesses, individuals and agencies across the Murray Darling Basin since 1944. Representatives on this association undertake an advocacy role in presenting the needs and priorities of our community to the board members of the MDA.

Regional Cities Victoria

Regional Cities Victoria (RCV) comprises Mayors and Chief Executive Officers of the 10 largest cities in regional Victoria. The group meets bi-monthly and is chaired by a host council which is voted to the position annually. RCV is an alliance of regional cities dedicated to achieving real change in regional Victoria through policy development and active implementation of those policies. Regional cities are the heart of regional Victoria and by improving their infrastructure and liveability, regional cities can help to grow and support wider regional and rural communities.

Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry Parking Reference Group

The Parking Reference Group will provide feedback to Greater Shepparton City Council on the application and implementation of the Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy.

Shepparton Education Plan Project Board

Developed to provide strategic advice on matters relevant to the development and implementation of the Shepparton Education Plan.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

We will prioritise leadership in the community to celebrate our cultures, people and places that makes Greater Shepparton a unique, vibrant, diverse and liveable region.

1.1 Council to take an active leadership role for access and inclusion in our community.

1.2 Council to work with stakeholders to support leadership within our multicultural communities.

1.3 Council services will be realistic and delivered in an efficient and effective manner with the aim of continuously looking for delivery that matches our ever changing environment.

1.4 Communities have resources and abilities to self-advocate.

Risk Management

The review of Councillor Representation on Committees ensure that representation is reviewed within statutory requirements. No risks associated with these appointments have been identified.

Policy Considerations

There are no conflicts with existing council policies.

Financial Implications

The only financial implications associated with this proposal are the expenses associated with the Councillors' attendance at meetings and functions. All such expenses have budgetary provision.

Legal/Statutory Implications

This proposal conforms to all relevant legislation.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental or sustainability impacts arising from this proposal.

Social Implications

There are no social implications arising from this proposal.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts arising from this proposal.

Consultation

As part of the Council's community consultation, communication and advocacy role, the Mayor, Councillors and officers are represented on various community groups and committees.

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Collaborate	Feedback received from the Committee will be incorporated into decisions at the maximum level possible.	Councillor appointees to the Committees enables ongoing collaboration between the committee and the Council.

Consultation has previously been undertaken with the committee support officers and the responsible Manager regarding the role of Councillors play on each committee, the benefit to having a Councillor representative and whether or not the committee could function without Councillor representative. In most instances, it was determined that having a Councillor representative was very significant to the operation of the various committees.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

There are no direct links to the *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy*.

b) Other strategic links

No other strategic links have been identified.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Councillors be appointed to committees as per the recommendation.

Attachments

Nil

11.3 February 2023 Monthly Financial Report

Author	Manager Finance and Rates
Approved by	Director Corporate Services
Purpose	For Noting

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council receive and note the February 2023 Monthly Financial Report, as attached.

Executive Summary

The report presents the Council's actual financial performance compared to the budget for the eight months ended 28 February 2023.

Report Detail

The February 2023 Monthly Financial Report incorporates the following sections which are presented for Council's consideration:

- Operating Performance
- Capital Works Performance
- Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Cash Flow Statement
- Capital Works Statement

The 2022/2023 Budget was adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 June 2022. Council endorsed the Quarter 2 Forecast Review of the Ordinary Council Meeting held Tuesday 21 February 2023.

Operating Position

Council's year-to-date budget performance is on track compared to the adopted Quarter 2 Forecast review.

The projected full year underlying operating position of a \$19.5m deficit remains favourable compared to the Adopted Budget position of \$21.61m, however has deteriorated since the Quarter 2 Forecast Review of \$18.27m. To be financially sustainable, Council must continue to work towards achieving and maintaining an adjusted underlying surplus, as indicated in the adopted 2021-2031 Financial Plan. Officers will review budget forecasts ahead of the Quarter 3 Forecast Review, with the goal of improving the position from Quarter 2.

October 2022 Flood Event

The financial impact of the October 2022 Flood Event continues to be established as relief and recovery activities, asset remediation and insurance works progress.

Some relief and recovery activities undertaken by Council, in addition to damage to essential infrastructure assets such as roads and bridges are covered under the National Disaster Funding Arrangement (NDFA). The current forecast remains an estimate based on projected employee costs and materials and services incurred in relation to these activities. Emergency works are ongoing and condition assessments are underway to determine reconstruction works, with approval required from the funding body prior to reconstruction works commencing.

Damage to non-essential infrastructure owned by Council is generally covered under insurance. The current forecast reflects expenditure incurred to date through activities to assess, make safe and avoid further damage of impacted insured assets. Insurance revenues reflect anticipated successful claims based on expenditure incurred so far, with regard given to the excess payable under the policy. The forecast will continue to be revised as scopes of remediation works are received and agreed to.

Council has received support from the State Government Council Flood Support Fund totalling \$1.5 million. This funding will go towards remediation of assets and recovery activities not covered by NDFA or insurance, such as clean-up of open space and minor infrastructure works such as repairs to the shared path network. This funding goes some way to reducing the financial impact of the flood on Council.

Capital Works

The 2022/2023 Budget provided for capital works of \$62.60 million, of which \$41.37 million is funded by government grants. The current projected full year forecast is \$48.19 million, with funding of \$26.7 million. This reduction is largely due to the deferral of the Knight/Hawdon Intersection (\$5.15m) and Strategic Cycling Corridor (\$5.74m) projects into future financial years due to changes to the funding streams. Refer to the Capital Works Statement within the attachment for further variance commentary.

Renewal and upgrade expenditure as a percentage of depreciation is now forecast to be 95 per cent, which is a measure of investment in maintaining Council's existing asset base.

Balance Sheet

Council has adopted the liquidity ratio (current assets as a percentage of current liabilities) as a further measure of financial sustainability. The current liquidity ratio is impacted by the high rates receivable balance, which will reduce over the year as Council receipts payments and expends funds on services and infrastructure. 2022/2023 ending liquidity is projected to be 136 per cent, which is within the desired range.

The 2022/23 Adopted Budget and 2021-2031 Financial Plan indicate future challenges in maintaining liquidity at the required level. Continued focus on financial sustainability, through reviews of services, reduction of operating expenditure, increases to revenue and prioritisation of renewal ahead of new assets is required.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

We will prioritise leadership in the community to celebrate our cultures, people and places that makes Greater Shepparton a unique, vibrant, diverse and liveable region.

1.8 Good governance and sustainable financial management.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Poor performance against budget	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Regular monitoring and reporting of performance against budget and forecast variances.
Deterioration of Council's financial position against the adopted Financial Plan, resulting in diminished ability to achieve and maintain financial sustainability, as measured by the adjusted underlying operating result, liquidity and renewal and upgrade of assets.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Linkage of budget setting and performance to the adopted Financial Plan.

Policy Considerations

The monthly financial report has been prepared in accordance with accounting policies and the 2021-2031 Financial Plan

Financial Implications

The financial implications associated with this report are detailed in the monthly financial report.

Legal/Statutory Implications

Section 101 of the *Local Government Act 2020* provides that Council maintains a budgeting and reporting framework that is consistent with the principles of sound financial management. In addition, Section 97 requires that at least every 3 months a statement comparing the budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date is presented to Council at a Council meeting which is open to the public.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

No environmental or sustainability impacts have been identified in relation to this resolution.

Social Implications

No social implications have been identified in relation to this resolution.

Economic Impacts

No economic impacts have been identified in relation to this resolution.

Consultation

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- There are no direct links to the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy.

b) Other strategic links

- 2021-2031 Financial Plan

Conclusion

The report presents Council's actual financial performance compared to the budget for the month ending 28 February 2023.

Attachments

1. February 2023 - GSCC Council Report - Monthly Financial Statements [**11.3.1** - 12 pages]

12 Sustainable Development Directorate

12.1 Shepparton North Structure Plan

Author	Senior Strategic Planner
Approved by	Director Sustainable Development
Purpose	For Decision at a Council Meeting

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1. note the conclusion of the community engagement process associated with the *Shepparton North Issues, Opportunities and Emerging Challenges Paper August 2022*;**
- 2. receive and note the *Conversation Report – Shepparton North Issues, Opportunities and Emerging Challenges Paper, November 2022* summarising all submissions received or heard in relation to the *Shepparton North Issues, Opportunities and Emerging Challenges Paper August 2022*, as attached.**
- 3. adopt the *Shepparton North Structure Plan March 2023*, as attached.**
- 4. begin preparing a planning scheme amendment to implement the structure plan by including it into the *Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme*.**

Executive Summary

Shepparton North is currently experiencing strong population growth and significant investment in infrastructure, particularly planning for arterial road projects and the construction of stormwater drainage in recent years.

In May 2021, the Minister for Planning recommended that Greater Shepparton City Council (Council) prepare a structure plan for Shepparton North, including the Shepparton North Activity Centre (being the area to the east of Numurkah Road between Hawkins Street and Ford Road), existing commercial uses along Pine Road and Hawkins Street, the Shepparton Sports and Events Centre, and the Munarra Centre for Regional Excellence.

Council engaged Mesh Liveable and Urban Communities Pty Ltd (Mesh) in November 2021 to prepare the Shepparton North Structure Plan (the Structure Plan).

Council undertook community consultation as part of pre-draft consultation to inform the Structure Plan between 21 February and 21 March 2022. Submissions received informed the preparation of the *Shepparton North Issues, Opportunities and Emerging Challenges Paper* (the Key Issues and Opportunities Paper) in August 2022 by Mesh. The Key Issues and Opportunities Paper identifies the key challenges a future structure plan must address and identify opportunities and potential responses to key challenges.

Council undertook further consultation on the Key Issues and Opportunities Paper between 19 September and 21 October 2022 receiving 22 submissions. A conversation report has been prepared summarising all submissions received and Council officers' responses to the themes raised (*Attachment One: Conversation Report – Shepparton North Issues, Opportunities and Emerging Challenges Paper, November 2022*).

All submissions received have informed the preparation of the *Shepparton North Structure Plan March 2023* (*Attachment Two: Shepparton North Structure Plan March 2023*). Council is now requested to adopt the Structure Plan which will allow Council Officers to commence the Planning Scheme amendment process.

The Structure Plan will guide the future development of the Shepparton North Activity Centre for predominantly retail and commercial purposes whilst also investigating the wider Shepparton North Area (*Attachment Two: Shepparton North Structure Plan March 2023*).

Report Detail

Shepparton North is currently experiencing strong population growth and significant investment in infrastructure, particularly planning for arterial road projects and the construction of stormwater drainage in recent years.

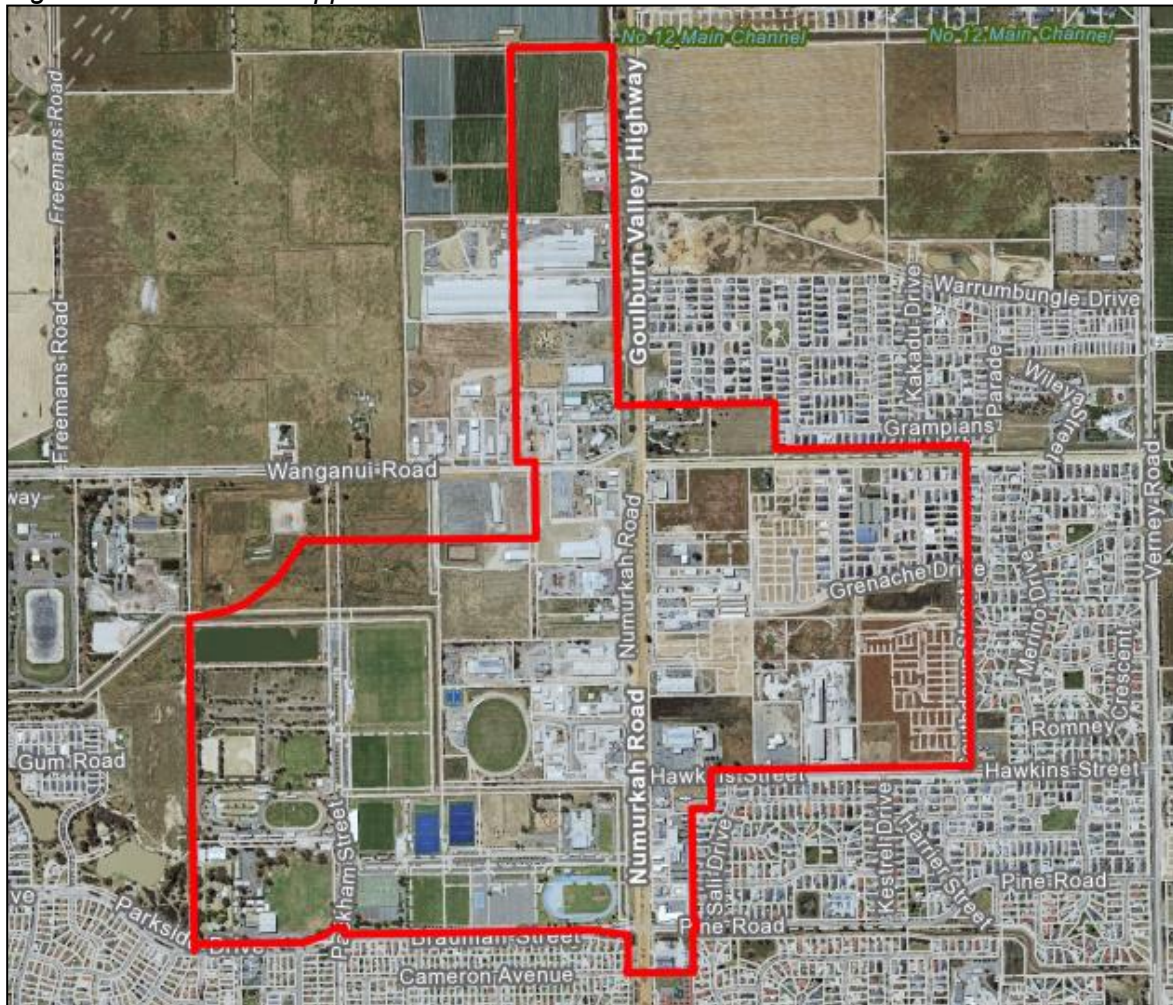
In May 2021, the Minister for Planning recommended that Greater Shepparton City Council (Council) prepare a structure plan for Shepparton North, including the Shepparton North Activity Centre (being the area to the east of Numurkah Road between Hawkins Street and Ford Road), existing commercial uses along Pine Road and Hawkins Street, the Shepparton Sports and Events Centre, and the Munarra Centre for Regional Excellence.

Council engaged Mesh Liveable and Urban Communities Pty Ltd (Mesh) in November 2021 to prepare a structure plan for Shepparton North.

An indicative boundary for the structure plan was prepared by Council officers in early-2022, which comprises:

- all commercial land on both sides of Numurkah Road (Goulburn Valley Highway) between Ford Road and Pine Road;
- residential interface areas, including the recently constructed The Vines residential estate;
- commercial and industrial land on the western and eastern sides of Numurkah Road (Goulburn Valley Highway) between Pine Road and Ford Road / Wanganui Road; and
- the Shepparton Sports City, and the Shepparton Sports and Events Centre.

Figure 1: Indicative Shepparton North Structure Plan Area.



The structure plan is required to guide the future development of Shepparton North and provide best practice design guidance for future development within any final study area.

Council undertook pre-draft community consultation in between 21 February and 21 March 2022. Council received 11 submissions during the pre-draft consultation phase. A Conversation Report was prepared to summarise the submissions received and heard; this report was circulated to submitters.

In August 2022, Mesh prepared the *Shepparton North Issues, Opportunities and Emerging Challenges Paper* (the Key Issues and Opportunities Paper).

The Key Issues and Opportunities Paper gathered and synthesised all background research, and key issues and themes raised in submissions. The Key Issues and Opportunities Paper also outlined:

- Council's aspirations for Shepparton North;
- key influences informing the growth of Shepparton North (e.g., growth constraints, etc.);
- the role of key land uses;
- how development can positively contribute to the growth of the area;
- what form commercial and residential development should take; and
- what the issues and opportunities for the transport network are.

Consultation

Council undertook additional community consultation with relevant landowners, referral authorities and government agencies on the Key Issues and Opportunities Paper between 19 September and 21 October 2022.

Council received 22 submissions during the consultation phase. Methods of engagement included:

- invitations to all stakeholders who actively participated in the Shepparton North Activity Centre Advisory Committee to attend a 1-2-1 appointment with Council officers and the consultant;
- direct e-mails and letters sent to all landowners, occupiers of land, referral authorities and agencies, and previous submitters;
- information on Council's website including a submission portal on Shaping Greater Shepparton allowing online submissions; and
- full page advertisement in the Shepparton News.

Submissions were invited via an online submission form, by email, and by post and verbal briefings were delivered via in person or via video conference.

A range of common themes were identified in submissions, these were, in no particular order:

- issues and opportunities for future commercial use;
- transport and movement considerations;
- opportunities for landscaping and gateway treatments along Numurkah Road;
- interface issues between commercial and residential areas;
- use of the Activity Centre Zone;
- issues and opportunities for mixed use development and non-commercial development; and
- servicing of future development.

A Conversation Report was prepared to summarise the submissions received and heard, and Council officers' responses to the themes raised is included as (Attachment One: *Conversation Report – Shepparton North Issues, Opportunities and Emerging Challenges Paper, November 2022*). All of these submissions have informed the *Shepparton North Structure Plan*.

The Structure Plan will guide the future development of the Shepparton North Activity Centre for predominantly retail and commercial purposes whilst also investigating the wider Shepparton North Area (Attachment Two: *Shepparton North SP Outline and Key Graphics Set*).

Council Officers have undertaken extensive consultation on this project and consider that the Structure Plan is ready for adoption by Council. This would allow Officers to commence the Planning Scheme amendment process.

The Planning Scheme amendment will provide a formal consultation process for the Structure Plan. The once authorised by the Minister, the amendment will be formally exhibited to the community. During this time the community can make submissions to the planning authority about the amendment proposal, these submissions will be considered by an independent panel.

Council officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred, and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Council is now requested to adopt the *Shepparton North Structure Plan March 2023* to allow Council officers to begin preparing a planning scheme amendment to implement the Shepparton North Structure Plan March 2023 into the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

VIBRANT and DIVERSE ECONOMY

We will drive the visitor economy by growing visitor experiences and major events that provide employment and other opportunities to the community. Our economic development will focus on establishing a strong, adaptive, sustainable and thriving region supported by agriculture and a diverse range of industries.

3.2 Council to prioritise the redevelopment of the Shepparton Sports and Events Centre.

3.5 Encourage and facilitate investment and expansion.

3.6 Attract people to live, work, study and remain in our region.

3.10 Efficient land use planning to encourage and support future development.

INFRASTRUCTURE and TECHNOLOGY

We will focus on the planning of our region's requirements to enable delivery of technology and infrastructure to meet the current and future needs of the community.

4.10 Progress housing and business development opportunities.

Risk Management

Not progressing the project in a timely manner is considered to be a risk to the continued integrity of this project.

Policy Considerations

The adoption of the Structure Plan and Planning Scheme amendment outlined in this report is consistent with Council policies and will support the preparation of a structure plan for Shepparton North.

Financial Implications

All costs required to facilitate this project have been included in Council's 2022/2023 financial year budget.

Legal/Statutory Implications

The adoption of the Structure Plan and Planning Scheme amendment outlined in this report aligns with Council policies and the Victorian Government's *Planning Practice Note 58 - Structure Planning for Activity Centres, June 2015*.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The adoption of the Structure Plan and Planning Scheme amendment outlined in this report will not result in any environmental impacts.

Social Implications

The adoption of the Structure Plan and Planning Scheme amendment outlined in this report will not result in any adverse social implications.

Economic Impacts

The final structure plan will provide clear direction, and certainty to landowners and developers regarding areas suitable for development.

The recommendation will not result in any adverse economic implications.

Consultation

Council undertook pre-draft community consultation from 21 February to 21 March 2022. Council received 11 submissions during the pre-draft consultation phase. Methods of engagement included:

- direct emails to all stakeholders who actively participated in the Shepparton North Activity Centre Advisory Committee;
- Council's e-newsletter to 5,500 subscribers;
- information on Council's website including a submission portal on Shaping Greater Shepparton allowing online submissions;
- social media promotion with link back to website;
- potential to place advertisements in the Shepparton News / Adviser; and
- direct letters to everyone within the Shepparton North Activity Centre.

Submissions were invited via an online submission form, by email, by post and verbal briefings were delivered via in person or online forums.

Council undertook additional community consultation on the Key Issues and Opportunities Paper between 19 September and 21 October 2022. Council received 22 submissions during the consultation phase. Methods of engagement included:

- invitations to all stakeholders who actively participated in the Shepparton North Activity Centre Advisory Committee to attend a 1-2-1 appointment with Council officers and the consultant;
- direct e-mails and letters sent to all landowners, occupiers of land, referral authorities and agencies, and previous submitters;
- information on Council's website including a submission portal on Shaping Greater Shepparton allowing online submissions; and
- full page advertisement in the Shepparton News.

Submissions were invited via an online submission form, by email, and by post and verbal briefings were delivered via in person or via video conference.

Council officers believe that proper and extensive consultation has occurred in the preparation of the structure plan, and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

It is recommended that Council adopt the Shepparton North Structure Plan and begin the preparation and exhibition of a Planning Scheme Amendment to implement the Structure Plan. This will also provide an opportunity for further engagement through a formal planning scheme amendment process.

The once authorised by the Minister, the Planning Scheme amendment will be formally exhibited to the community. During this time, the community can make submissions to the planning authority about the amendment proposal, these submissions be considered Council and by an independent panel if needed.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy 2006

Relevant objectives:

- To provide for sufficient suitable additional land for urban growth

b) Other strategic links

- *Greater Shepparton Housing Strategy 2011*
- *City of Greater Shepparton Commercial Activity Centres Strategy 2015*
- *Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme*

Conclusion

Shepparton North is experiencing strong population growth and significant investment in infrastructure, particularly planning for arterial road projects and stormwater drainage infrastructure, in recent years.

A structure plan is required to guide the future development of the Shepparton North Activity Centre for predominantly retail and commercial purposes whilst also investigating the wider Shepparton North Area. This will better ensure that the structure plan provides appropriate connections to surrounding commercial, recreational, and residential areas in the wider Shepparton North area.

Council officers have undertaken community consultation for the pre-draft and the Key Issues and Opportunities Paper. All these submissions have informed the Structure Plan.

On the basis of the matters outlined in this report, it is recommended that Council adopt the *Shepparton North Structure Plan March 2023* to allow Council officers to begin preparing a planning scheme amendment to implement the *Shepparton North Structure Plan March 2023* such that it forms part of the *Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme*.

Attachments

1. Conversation Report Shepparton North Issues, Opportunities and Emerging Challenges Paper November 2022 [12.1.1 - 8 pages]
2. Shepparton North Structure Plan [12.1.2 - 78 pages]

12.2 Asia Fruit Logistica Delegation 2023

Author	Manager Economic Development
Approved by	Director Sustainable Development
Purpose	For Decision at a Council Meeting

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council authorise the Mayor, Cr Shane Sali and Chief Executive Officer, Peter Harriott to be included in the delegation which represents Greater Shepparton at the Asia Fruit Logistica in Hong Kong, China in September 2023.

Executive Summary

Greater Shepparton's agriculture industry outputs \$765 million in produce every year and the horticulture industry equates to \$328 million, majority of which is exported around the world every year.

In 2017, 2018 and 2019 Greater Shepparton City Council led a delegation to Asia Fruit Logistica to investigate and pursue opportunities that relate to international trade.

Due to COVID-19 there was no delegation to Asia Fruit Logistica in 2020 or 2021. It should also be noted that the 2022 trip to attend the expo in Bangkok Thailand was not attended by Council at late notice due to the regions flood crisis. Council did however continue to financially support the stand given Fruit Grower Victoria and local growers attended the event.

As a result of the success of the trade stand at Asia Fruit Logistica in the past, officers are proposing that a Greater Shepparton delegation attend Asia Fruit Logistica in September 2023.

The proposed visit would involve attending the Asia Fruit Logistica Expo in Hong Kong, China where Council, in conjunction with Fruit Growers Victoria (FGV) and local growers, will host a stand.

This expo provides Council with an opportunity to support one of the region's largest industry sectors, collaborate with local horticulture industry body Fruit Growers Victoria, partner with the local growers, have a presence at the event to demonstrate local government support and to market the region as the Fruit Capital of Australia; a place to do business and obtain high quality produce through imports.

A trade stand at the expo will increase awareness of the region's horticultural offering and build on the opportunity for agreements to be negotiated between overseas buyers and Greater Shepparton growers, leading to increased prosperity within the region.

Local fruit growers are supportive of this initiative and believe that having a dedicated stand will allow them to hold their meetings at a site which will give them an enhanced level of credibility amongst their competition. A multitude of local fruit growers attend the expo each year and have outlined the benefit of utilising the stand for trade negotiations.

Report Detail

In 2017, 2018 and 2019 Greater Shepparton City Council led a delegation to Asia Fruit Logistica to investigate and pursue opportunities that relate to international trade. The delegations in the past have consisted of the Mayor and a variety of officers including the Greater Shepparton City Council CEO, Director of Sustainable Development, Manager of Economic Development and Economic Development Project Officer as well as a local fruit grower.

Commercial agreements between buyers and sellers are regularly achieved at this expo and it has become the most attended expo by local growers due to the vast opportunities that are presented at the event.

Outcomes and opportunities that have resulted from the 2017-2019 delegations include the following:

- Council held a meeting in 2017 with the Austrade Office in Shanghai and spoke with the Chinese quarantine group AQSIQ to support the lobbying efforts of the Federal Government. The protocols that Council were advocating for related to plums, apricots, and peaches.
- Business Victoria – Whilst in China in 2017, a presentation was made to Commissioner Tim Dillon. This meeting has resulted in a much closer relationship with Business Victoria and has progressed potential investment opportunities particularly in the field of renewable energy.
- Friendship City Jintan – Visits to our Friendship city each delegation year have resulted in educational and tourism opportunities such as student exchange, linkages between GOTAFE and the Jintan Secondary College.
- Asia Fruit Logistica – Council attended the Asia Fruit Logistica to learn more about the changing world of fresh produce, to establish new business contacts and to work towards growing the local agricultural sector promoting Greater Shepparton as the Fruit Capital of Australia. The Asia Fruit Logistica also presented the opportunity for Council to support the local growers and representatives who attended by providing growers with a trade stand to utilise for trade negotiations. Each year there were over 10 local representatives at the Asia Fruit Logistica and contracts were signed between buyers and locals as a result of the Asia Fruit Logistica opportunity.
- Since beginning these delegations Council has been recognised as progressive in the international liaison space and has presented on our international engagement to Regional Development Victoria, Global Victoria, Industry bodies such as Summerfruit Australia, AusVeg, FGV and Agriculture Victoria.

Council was panned to attend the 2022 Asia Fruit Logistica expo in conjunction with FGV however Council unfortunately did not pursue the trip due to the region's flood crisis. FGV however attended the expo in conjunction with various local growers and spoke highly of their experience. Although overall visitor attendance was less compared to other years due to the event not taking place in China because of COVID, FGV informed Council that attendance was still worthwhile at the 2022 event and that it was understandably a shame that Council could not attend.

Council officers believe that based on previous attendance and experience at the expo that continuing to host a stand would present an opportunity for Council to increase the region's (and local growers') presence at the event, and to market the Greater Shepparton region and our significant horticultural footprint.

It should also be noted that whilst visiting the expo in previous years, officers recognised that other parts of the world such as New Zealand, were very proactive at marketing their strengths and products through investment in a stand.

Hosting a stand at the exhibition would provide the following benefits:

- The Asia Fruit Logistica is the premier trade event for the international trade of fresh produce in Asia and is an ideal opportunity for Council to support the local exporters and for associated businesses to promote their products and services.
- Assist growers to facilitate investment opportunities by having a physical presence to market themselves and to display their fruit. It will also provide opportunities to be involved in business matching sessions and market insight tours. The stand will be strategically placed with industry bodies from Australia who are working with Council on protocols and marketing our horticulture industry such as Apple and Pear Australia (APAL), Summerfruit Australia and Fruit Growers Victoria.

The proposed itinerary is as follows:

- 4 September / 5 September – Depart Melbourne Airport | Arrive Hong Kong Airport
- 6 September – Asia Fruit Logistica
- 7 September – Asia Fruit Logistica
- 8 September – Asia Fruit Logistica
- 8 September / 9 September - Depart Hong Kong for Melbourne Airport

Local fruit growers are supportive of this initiative and believe that having a dedicated stand will allow them to hold their meetings at a site which will give them an enhanced level of credibility amongst their competition. Several growers have committed to attending the expo and utilising the stand for trade negotiations.

The Asian market highly values government relations and growers believe that having Council involved in discussions with potential and existing clients will be of significant benefit to their negotiations and reaching agreements with buyers.

Council and Fruit Growers Victoria (FGV) will be providing a concierge service to growers from the region during their usage of the stand. This will allow Council and FGV to collect data on the number of visits to the stand during the expo, the types of meetings occurring and number of meetings occurring each day.

As part of the delegation Council will also be represented by an officer from within the Economic Development department.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

VIBRANT and DIVERSE ECONOMY

We will drive the visitor economy by growing visitor experiences and major events that provide employment and other opportunities to the community. Our economic development will focus on establishing a strong, adaptive, sustainable, and thriving region supported by agriculture and a diverse range of industries.

3.5 Encourage and facilitate investment and expansion.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Public Criticism	Possible	4	Low	Communicate effectively the purpose of the trade stand and delegation in supporting Greater Shepparton's economy and trade, as well as the outcomes achieved following the delegation.

Policy Considerations

Council's delegation and involvement in Asia Fruit Logistica aligns with the International Engagement Strategy and the International Engagement policy.

Financial Implications

The costs associated with sending three Council representatives are as follows:

Travel and Accommodation Expenses:

Flights, Visas and Insurance	\$7,500
Food, Transport	\$1,700
Accommodation	\$3,000
Total cost to Council for delegation only	\$12,200 inc GST
Cost for Asia Fruit Logistica Stand (As per partnership agreement with FGV):	\$9,900 inc GST

	Approved Budget Estimate for this proposal ¹	This Proposal GST Exclusive	Variance to Approved Budget Estimate	This Proposal GST Inclusive ²
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue				
Expense	\$20,091	\$20,091		\$22,100
Net Total	\$20,091	\$20,091		\$22,100

¹ Budgets are GST exclusive

² For Contract Award reports the GST inclusive expense shall match the amount reported in the recommendation

Legal/Statutory Implications

There are no legal/statutory implications associated with this report.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no adverse environmental impacts associated with the international visit. The visit will create positive investment opportunities for Greater Shepparton and these opportunities will continue to be facilitated by the Economic Development department.

Social Implications

In the past at Asia Fruit Logistica, Council has developed a closer working relationship with our region's growers. Council has since been able to assist local growers with various

developments including the extension of their facilities, grant assistance and lobbying efforts.

The proposed stand at the Asia Fruit Logistica 2023 will allow Council to further enhance the growth of Greater Shepparton's agricultural sector whilst also supporting local businesses and building international relationships.

Economic Impacts

Attending the Asia Fruit Logistica Expo and hosting a stand creates an opportunity to increase the awareness in relation to Greater Shepparton's interests in becoming widely known as a region that is receptive to international investment inquiries and opportunities.

The stand also provides an opportunity for growers in the region to organise and hold business meetings and trade negotiations at the stand.

Consultation

Council's Economic Development department have historically consulted fruit growers, transport companies and horticultural industry bodies, including APAL, AusVeg, Fruit Growers Victoria and Horticulture Innovation who have attended the Asia Fruit Logistica in the past.

Local operators and growers who were consulted recommended that Council have a presence at the exhibition and felt that Council's presence will support their negotiations and business dealings.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Topic: Economic Development

- Theme: Agriculture and Rural Land – Objective 3 - To develop and promote the municipality as a regional centre for food and primary industry research and development.
- Economic Development, Tourism and Major Events Strategy 2017 to 2021
- International Engagement Strategy 2022

Conclusion

After consideration and consultation with local businesses and organisations within the agricultural sector, Council officers have determined that since the success of previous trade stands held at Asia Fruit Logistica, hosting a stand in 2023 and sending a delegation would be a productive exercise and further increase the potential of exports and attract investment to Greater Shepparton.

This exhibition aligns with Council's direction relating to enhancing investment opportunities, building relationships with overseas investors and aligns with Council's International Engagement Strategy.

Attachments

Nil

13 Infrastructure Directorate

13.1 Resource Recovery Collective Hume Tender Award

Author Manager Resource Recovery
 Approved by Director Infrastructure
 Purpose For Decision by Council

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. award Contract Number 2312 to Cleanaway for an initial period of 7.5 years with an option to extend for a further 7.5 years;
2. award Contract Number 2313 to Western Composting for an initial period of 7.5 years with an option to extend for a further 7.5 years; and
3. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to enter negotiations and execute the contract documents as required.

Executive Summary

This report relates to council's participation (via a MOU) in the 'Resource Recovery Collective – Hume', a regional collaborative tender for waste and recycling services. It seeks Council's endorsement of the recommendations from the appointed Tender Evaluation Panel.

Contract Details

Contract Number 2312 for Kerbside Bin Collection, handling and disposal for period of 7.5 years with an option to extend for a further 7.5 years,
 Contract Number 2313 for FOGO processing for an initial period of 7.5 years with an option to extend for a further 7.5 years.

Tenders

The Request for Tender was released on 6 June 2022 via eProcure and closed on 19 September 2022. This was well promoted across local, regional and state media and briefing opportunities were provided for prospective tenderers.

Tender Evaluation

The extensive Tender Evaluation process was conducted in accordance with the Resource Recovery Collective – Hume Tender Evaluation Plan against the agreed and promoted detailed evaluation criteria set prior to the release of the tender. Panel members assessed tenders independently and then met on numerous occasions over several months to complete consensus scoring, seek clarifications from tenderers, conduct reference checks and agree on the shortlisting of preferred tenderers which are now being recommended to Participants.

Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria was prepared by Resource Recovery Collective – Hume for which the following objectives were set and agreed to by all Participants for the project and the tender evaluation criteria and weighting were based on:

- Encourage regional investment in people, sustainable infrastructure and innovative services
- Increase in resource recovery while advancing a circular economy
- Maintain a strategic focus in procurement and service delivery
- Embrace innovative waste services models
- Achieve best outcomes for people and the environment

Council Plan / Key Strategic Activity

ENVIRONMENT and CLIMATE EMERGENCY

We will prioritise our environment and take urgent action to reduce emissions and waste in order to protect public health and create a region that mitigates and adapts to climate change.

5.8 Support a circular economy and reduce waste to landfill.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Delays in Contract Award	Unlikely	High	Moderate	Would need Ministerial Approval to allow extension of Contract
Contractor failing financially	Unlikely	High	Moderate	Financial capability checks completed on tenders in contention as part of the evaluation process
Death or serious injury to the public in the conduct of the service	Rare	Catastrophic	High	Trucks to meet safety requirements detailed in specification for safe movements and blind spot mitigation
Contractor withdrawal of service for safety compliance reasons	Rare	High	High	Regular surveillance and communication with successful tenderer by Superintendent

Policy Considerations

Key regulatory and current state changes have been considered in the preparation of the Tender to determine the performance outcomes required in alignment with Local and State Government requirements with the ability to adapt to new requirements.

Financial Implications

Recycling Victoria have provided significant resourcing and financial support towards the management of the Resource Recovery Collective – Hume. This has included funding the costs of specialist probity, legal, technical and procurement resources. At this stage, a financial contribution from Participants has not been sought.

This tender will allow Council to project the cost of these services more accurately over the long term as well as the ability to leverage significant tonnages from across the region ensuring value for money services can be achieved.

Legal / Statutory Implications

Environment Protection Act 2017 (Vic)
Circular Economy Act 2021 (Vic)
Local Government Act 2020 (Vic)

Environmental / Sustainability Impacts

The Contract encourages innovative management of waste streams where productivity and sustainability outcomes can be achieved.

Social Implications

The Contract encourages regional investment in people, sustainable infrastructure, and innovative services. As a result, the Contract will achieve best outcomes for people and the environment.

Economic Impacts

The Contract will increase resource recovery as we advance towards a circular economy through innovative waste services that adopts a price and risk model to ensure continuity of service. By improving recycling and contamination rates as well as maintaining a leadership position in Victoria with adaptable goals.

Consultation

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy
Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2013-2023

Conclusion

The award of Contract Number 2312 to Cleanaway and Contract Number 2313 to Western Composting per Resource Recovery Collective - Hume Collaborative Tender.

Attachments

Nil

14 Confidential Management Reports

14.1 Designation of Confidentiality of Information - Attachments

The following report attachments have been designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer under Governance Rule 107 and in accordance with the definition of *Confidential Information* in the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act).

- Item 13.2 Resource Recovery Collective Hume Tender Award

These documents contain information which is consistent with the definition of 'private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking disadvantage.'

15 Documents for Signing and Sealing

Nil Received.

16 Councillor Reports

16.1 Councillor Activities

16.1.1 Councillor Activities - February 2023

Author	Executive Assistant to the Mayor and Councillors
Approved by	Director Corporate Services
Purpose	For Noting

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020 officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interests regarding the matter under construction.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council receive and note the summary of the Councillor's Community Interactions and Informal Meetings of Councillor's.

Councillor's Community Interaction and Briefing Program

From 1 February 2023 to 28 February 2023, some or all of the Councillors have been involved in the following activities:

- Committee for Greater Shepparton - Working Lunch Event with OVGA | Housing Infrastructure Opportunities & Challenges
- Affordable Housing Reference Group Meeting
- Calder Woodburn Memorial Avenue Advisory Committee Meeting
- Official Opening | Vibert Reserve Pavilion Redevelopment
- Development Hearing Panel Meeting
- Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting
- Visitor Economy Industry Gathering & Brand Launch
- Audit & Risk Management Committee Meeting
- Kiwanis Club of Mooroopna function
- Launch | 2023 Riverlinks Season
- Greater Shepparton City Council - End of Harvest Ball 2023
- Shepparton's Inaugural Pride Ball - Bring Us the Glitz & Glamour!!
- Shepparton Reconciliation Group - Apology Breakfast
- Flood Recovery Morning Tea with the Richmond Football Club
- RiverConnect Implementation Advisory Committee Meeting
- Municipal Association of Victoria | Presidential Candidate forum
- Regional Cities Victoria Meeting
- Best Start Early Years Alliance meeting
- Program Launch | Shepparton Festival 2023

- Parking Reference Group Meeting
- Rights Information & Advocacy Centre and Muso Magic | Presentation
- Verney Road Primary School | 2023 School Captain Presentation
- USA Growers Tour Greater Shepparton Visit | Mayor Welcome & Dinner Function
- Lions Club of Shepparton - Mayor Guest Speaker
- Murray Darling Association - Region 2 Meeting
- Climate Leadership and Jobs Summit Program
- Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton Advisory Meeting
- Goulburn Murray Climate Leadership & Jobs Summit - Innovation, Clean Tech & Resilience
- Rotary Club of Tatura | 60th Anniversary Celebrations
- Sangi Rag Pitch Event - Afghan Community
- Dinner | Melbourne Market Board Members
- Community Sod Turning Event | Munarra Centre for Regional Excellence (MCRE) - Parliamentary Secretary
- Rotary Club of Shepparton | Mayor Guest Speaker

In accordance with section 106 of Council's Governance Rules a summary of the matters discussed at the Informal Meetings of Councillors, are attached.

Attachments

1. Record of Assemblies of Councillors Development Hearings Panel 3 February 2023 [16.1.1.1 - 1 page]
2. Assemblies of Council CEO Councillors Catch Up 7 February 2023 [16.1.1.2 - 1 page]
3. Assemblies of Council CEO Councillors Catch Up 14 February 2023 [16.1.1.3 - 1 page]
4. Record of Assembly of Councillors Affordable Housing Reference Group 2 [16.1.1.4 - 1 page]
5. Record of Assembly of Councillors Heritage Advisory Committee 6 February 2023 [16.1.1.5 - 2 pages]
6. Assemblies of Council CEO Councillors Catch Up 28 February 2023 [16.1.1.6 - 1 page]

16.2 Council Committee Reports

16.2.1 Murray Darling Association Region 2 Report

Author	Team Leader - Governance
Approved by	Chief Executive Officer
Purpose	For Noting

Enter Name of Committee

Murray Darling Association.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report from Cr Geoff Dobson be noted.

Report Details

Region 2 held its latest meeting on Wednesday 22nd February at the Greater Shepparton City Council offices.

Amongst the issues covered was the potential of merging Region 2, which is centred on Moira, Greater Shepparton, Berrigan and Federation Councils with Region 1, which is centred on the Upper Murray area including Albury and Wodonga, Wangaratta and Benalla.

The reasoning behind this proposal centres around the geographical nature of member Councils and to improve efficiencies of management.

Our guest speaker was Martin Hawson, CEO of Mildura Rural City Council who gave an excellent presentation of Mildura's handling of the latest flood emergency.

Mildura and Wentworth are located on the confluence of the Darling and Murray Rivers, where volumes of combined water inflow have rarely matched the latest event.

Other than having much more time to prepare than Greater Shepparton, our two municipalities were very similar in handling the flood event.

Some differences were the time to relocate some Council assets to higher ground, and risk assessment processes.

Similarities to Greater Shepparton were communication strategies, multi-agency interaction and early establishment of incident control centres.

In total, 40 properties in Victoria were inundated and 130 people were offered relief. Community meetings totalled 14.

In terms of recovery, the floods hit their peak tourist season, assessed at \$15M in losses to that sector, \$10M in lost infrastructure and local roads are still being assessed.

Their immediate focus is centred on economic recovery, hospitality and tourism and developing future community events to provide hope to those whose livelihoods have been affected, as this is the third year of interruption for that sector.

The next Region 2 meeting will be held in Corowa during May where it is hoped that the MDA National Chair will present as well as the Murray River Action Group, which is centred around Corowa.

Can I offer my appreciation to Sharon Terry and the Environment team for administering the MDA Region 2 portfolio.

Attachments

Nil

17 Notice of Motion, Amendment or Rescission

17.1 Notice of Motion 2/2023 Bike Jumps Reference Group

Author Administration Governance
Approved by Chief Executive Officer
Purpose For Decision at a Council Meeting

Cr Summer has given notice of intent to move:

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. present a summary of results from the Bike Jumps Reference Group that was formed in 2020 to assist Council to develop dirt jump and cycling infrastructure within Greater Shepparton;
2. receive the summary that will be presented no later than April 2023, in order to inform the 2023-2024 budget; and
3. advise Councillors of any specific working groups formed as a result of this reference group and their outcomes.

18 Urgent Business not Included on the Agenda

Nil Received.

19 Close of Meeting