

AGENDA

Greater Shepparton City Council

COUNCIL MEETING

3:00PM, Tuesday 18 April 2023

Studio 1, Riverlinks Eastbank

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 18 APRIL 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 March 2023 Council Meeting and 11 April 2023 Additional Council Meeting as circulated, be confirmed.

8 Public Question Time

Nil Received.

9 Deputations and Petitions

Nil Received.

10 Community Directorate

10.1 Toolamba and District Community Plan

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 *Toolamba and District Community Plan 2023-2027*, as attached.

Executive Summary

The Toolamba and District Steering Committee (the Committee) formed in 2010.

The Committee prides itself on working with the broader community to identify the community’s vision, key priorities and shape the development of Toolamba and District into the future.

The Toolamba and District Community Plan 2023-2027 has been finalised and is now ready to be presented to Council for receiving and noting.

Report Detail

Background:
 The Toolamba and District Steering Committee (the Committee) membership possesses a broad range of experience, skills, and interests. The members of the Committee are embedded in their community and often have multiple community roles. Various Committee members are also members of Lions Clubs, the Country Women’s Association, Community Asset Committee, Toolamba CFA, Toolamba Primary School, Friends of Daunts Bend, Toolamba and District Cemetery Trust, etc.

A common passion for their community and its people is the reason they come together to volunteer their time and expertise.

Achievements:

The Committee has a long list of achievements, of which they are very proud. These items have been achieved through partnerships, targeted advocacy (to Council and other governments), fundraising, grant applications, and in-kind community support. Some key achievements include:

- fencing for the CFA building
- war memorial at Community Hall
- heritage signage installation
- public toilet installation
- memorial gate
- car park for primary school and community hall
- flag poles
- 'what's happening in our town' sign
- improved town entry signs
- new speed signs and safe school crossing places
- playground in Colaura Gardens with shade sails and park furniture
- central water fountain and dog bag bins
- community beehive
- youth spot at recreation reserve with skate ramps, swing, free Wi-Fi and pod dining
- fitness stations around the community oval
- streetscaping initiatives (annual)
- community tree planting initiatives (annual)
- community Facebook page
- quarterly community newsletters
- welcome packs for new residents
- community website and central community email address
- Daunt's Bend volunteer group launched with Parks Victoria
- shared community events
- Aboriginal art mural
- facilitation of a shared community groups forum (bi-annually).

Informing the Toolamba and District Community Plan 2023-2027:

The Committee conducted consultation using a variety of methods to inform the Plan. In broad terms, community connectedness, the natural environment, small town 'feel' and increased/well maintained infrastructure and community assets were identified as being important – both now and into the future.

The Committee heard from the community that the following is fundamental to Toolamba and District:

- open spaces / small town feel
- enduring natural assets / green spaces / access to nature
- family friendly / feeling safe
- inclusiveness / being treated with dignity
- social connectedness / places to gather / community activities
- knowing our neighbours / shared values
- maintaining our own identity within the Greater Shepparton area.

The future of Toolamba and District:

The Committee received feedback about a broad range of items that are important for Toolamba and District's future:

- walking and cycling tracks
- town centre feel / 'Milk Bar' or small store to help connect us
- stronger connections between Toolamba and Old Toolamba

- accessibility of services such as health / pharmacy / parcel deliveries
- more children-related activities
- facilities for older adults
- activities / facilities for teenagers
- life-skill classes / community education / cultural facilities
- a shared community space / thriving recreational spaces
- thriving community associations / clubs
- better facilities at the river (For example: upgraded boat ramp and picnic areas)
- access to more sports / improved sporting facilities
- access to public transport
- high-quality community assets
- well maintained infrastructure such as footpaths / road edges / drainage
- footpaths for Old Toolamba
- connection to appropriate utilities
- future services meet changing needs of the community
- community involvement in forest upkeep
- landscaping support for cemetery
- growing Kindergarten and Primary School
- the Toolamba Growth Plan being fit for Toolamba 'lifestyle' and community desires.

On the basis of this information the Committee have developed a list of 17 'desired outcomes':

DESIRED OUTCOMES
Increased community activities for: - Parents with young kids - Teenagers - Older Adults
Existing clubs and associations remain sustainable
Life-skills classes / community education opportunities are available
Increased connection with Old Toolamba and other towns
Our green / open spaces are cared for
General services are available in town
Our town / district identity is strong
Shared community / recreational spaces are developed
Heritage and cultural artefacts are incorporated into the town / district
Our sporting and recreational facilities are redeveloped and are sustainable
Public transport options are available
Community assets are redeveloped and sustainable
Maintenance of footpaths / road edges / drainage is included in planning and budgeting
Identified road safety needs are addressed
The growth plan for Toolamba meets community needs
Identify opportunities for emissions reductions and climate change adaptation measures
Ensure accessibility and inclusivity in all that we do

The Committee has allocated a priority ranking to each 'Desired Outcome' and provided possible actions to help them and the community achieve those outcomes. They have also identified groups, organisations, and levels of government who they will partner with to achieve their goals.

The Committee appreciated the opportunity to present their priorities and achievements to Council Briefing in November 2022.

The Committee have now developed a draft Toolamba and District Community Plan 2023-2027 (attachment 5.2.1), which is reflective of the priorities of the wider community and seek Council receive and note the 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.

1.4 Communities have resources and abilities to self-advocate.

1.9 Provide a high profile collaborative advocacy role.

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.

2.4 Leave no one behind.

2.5 Recognise First Nations history and advance reconciliation.

2.9 Community members are supported to achieve and sustain physical, emotional and creative wellbeing.

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.

3.8 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.

4.9 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.

5.6 Reduce carbon emissions in our community.

5.7 Conserve and improve biodiversity and our natural environment, and protect and improve river health.

5.9 Drive climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Risk Management

There are no medium to extreme risks associated with this report.

Policy Considerations

The Toolamba and District Steering Committee, with Council Officer support, developed their Plan in line with Council's Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) approach.

This ties in with the *Greater Shepparton City Council Community Planning Policy*, the purpose of which is to empower and provide opportunities to local people to be proactive, influential and take ownership in shaping the future plans in the areas in which they live.

In line with Council's Policy, the community has identified their own priorities and needs based on their own local identity, culture, history and assets.

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.

This financial year, Council is supporting Community Plan priorities through Capital expenditure which includes:

- Sevens Creek Shade Sails - \$50,000.00
- Midland Highway Recreational Path - \$55,000.00
- Dookie Rail Trail Feasibility - \$50,000.00.

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 Toolamba and District Community Plan 2023-2027 highlights how important the natural environment is to the Toolamba and District community.

The consultation process revealed the most important item was having "*Good access to 'green' open spaces and nature*". Further, the community indicated the enduring existing natural assets and access to nature are fundamental to Toolamba and District now, and into the future.

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

DESIRED OUTCOMES	PROPOSED ACTIONS
Identify opportunities for emissions reductions and climate change adaptation measures	Look for community energy saving opportunities based on successful approaches other communities have implemented such as 'Zero Yackandandah' and working with green community groups
Our green / open spaces are cared for	Embed the Daunts Bend volunteer group to look after the forest in partnership with Parks Victoria
	Continue to support street tree-scaping program funded by Greater Shepparton City Council
	Continue with community tree planting initiatives including 'One Tree Per Child'
Shared community / recreational spaces are developed	Support the development and funding of shared spaces, such as a Community Garden
Community Assets are redeveloped and sustainable	Advocate for the redevelopment of the Toolamba Community Hall including implementing sustainable energy solutions
	Look for development opportunities by the river e.g.: picnic areas, boat ramp improvements
	Funding applications for asset maintenance programs such as re-fencing forest
The growth plan for Toolamba meets community needs	Continued advocacy for sustainable growth that meets community expectation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows for appropriately planned infrastructure; • Community asset development is considered; • Land and house development is appropriate.
	Continued advocacy for appropriate services & utilities for Toolamba's growth Including but not limited to sewage and water and renewable energy options

Social Implications

Community connectedness:

The Toolamba and District Community Plan 2023-2027 purposefully outlines the community groups and clubs that are integral to residents.

The Committee – and wider community - recognise these groups and clubs ensure people feel connected to their community and to their sense of place. The clubs and groups are an important way of connecting people and creating social networks.

All of these groups and clubs are run by local volunteers, and sustainability of these groups and clubs has been identified as a priority in the Plan:

Desired Outcome: Existing clubs and associations remain sustainable.

Shared community spaces:

The community also highlighted the importance of developing and funding shared spaces that encourage community connectedness such as:

- a Men's Shed
- community garden
- community pizza oven
- additional facilities for teenagers.

This is part of:

Desired Outcome: Shared community/recreational spaces are developed.

Sport and recreation facilities:

During consultation, the community highlighted concerns around the loss of sporting clubs in recent years, and the impact on social connectedness. They have indicated sport and recreation should be a priority:

Desired Outcome: Our sporting and recreational facilities are redeveloped and are sustainable.

In particular Proposed Actions include:

- *support the design and replacement of tennis courts for the sustainability of the Toolamba Tennis club*
- *support development of oval and sports ground at community hall.*

Connecting Toolamba and Old Toolamba:

Toolamba and Old Toolamba are somewhat geographically disconnected. Ensuring the two locations remain socially connected and accessible is important to the Committee and broader community.

This is reflected in the:

Desired Outcome: Increased connection with Old Toolamba and other towns.

Suggestions for increasing this connection is outlined in the Proposed Actions of:

- *development of a walking track to Old Toolamba in partnership with the GV Trails project*
- *development of walking tracks to / from other towns*
- *development of cycling tracks between Toolamba and other towns*
- *include in community newsletters / feature on Community website*
- *ensure events are whole of community*
- *hold shared events with other towns.*

Economic Impacts

There are no adverse economic impacts associated with this report.

In the past year, the Toolamba and District community lost their general store (which closed) and has also lost access to Australia Post parcel services.

The Committee recognises the importance of these and other services to ensuring the area stays economically strong and an attractive place to live.

The Plan includes Desired Outcomes and associated Proposed Actions that the Toolamba and District Steering Committee believe would be of economic benefit their community.

As follows:

Desired Outcome	Proposed Actions
General services are available in-town	Investigate possibility of in-town services such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharmacy • Milk bar / groceries • Coffee / café services • Parcel delivery / collections
	Look for opportunities to develop a community facility to house in-town services (as above)

Consultation

Consultation Overview:

The Toolamba and District Steering Committee conducted extensive consultation to develop this Plan.

The consultation occurred over a period of many months; with a longer timeframe to allow for disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Consultation methods:

- Conversations with community clubs
- Ideas Tree
- Ideation Workshops
- Survey
- Toolamba and District Steering Committee meetings

Consultation promotion:

- Letters to selected 'Community Advisors'
- Mail drops
- Primary School Newsletters
- Promotion at skate workshop held at the Youth Spot
- Tatura Bulletin
- Toolamba and District Steering Committee Newsletters
- Toolamba Community Facebook page

Who:

- Broader community
- Community Advisors. Community Advisors are people held in high regard in the Toolamba and District community. Community Advisors were written to and asked to 'champion' the community plan review process and participate in Ideation Workshops.
- 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
- Toolamba and District Steering Committee members
- Representatives of community groups including:
 - Toolamba Cemetery Trust
 - Toolamba CFA
 - Toolamba Community Hall and Recreation Reserve Committee (Community Asset Committee)
 - Toolamba Lions Club
 - Toolamba Primary School
 - Toolamba Tennis Club

Consultation reach:

- Number of respondents to survey = 40
- Number of people at targeted Ideation workshops = Community Advisor Group (10 people)
- Number of people in Committee = 10
- Newsletter reach = 904 people
- Facebook post reach = 779 people
- Community Breakfast event notice reach = 1430 people

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
- Toolamba Growth Plan 2020 and associated amendments
- Greater Shepparton Public Health Strategic Plan
- Multicultural Strategy
- Our Climate Safe Future – Climate Emergency Action Plan
- Playspace Strategy

- Reconciliation Action Plan
- RiverConnect Strategic Plan
- Sport 2050 Strategic Plan
- Universal Access and Inclusion Plan
- Urban Forest Strategy
- Youth Strategy and Action Plan

Conclusion

The Toolamba and District Steering Committee present the draft *Toolamba and District Community Plan 2023-2027*.

The Committee are satisfied the Plan provides a good overview of the Toolamba and District Community, as well as encapsulating the broader community's goals and visions for the future.

Attachments

1. Toolamba and District Community Plan 2023-27 [10.1.1 - 24 pages]

11 Corporate Services Directorate

11.1 March 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 March 2023 Monthly Financial Report, as attached.

Executive Summary

The report presents the Council's actual financial performance compared to the budget for the nine months ended 31 March 2023.

Report Detail

The March 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 reflected in the income statement within the attachment. The year-to-date underlying operating position of \$8.73m is \$1.57m or 15% unfavourable compared to the Quarter 2 Forecast projected year-to-date position of \$10.29m, largely due to the impact of flood recovery and remediation works.

The projected full year underlying operating position of a \$19.10m deficit remains favourable compared to the Adopted Budget position of \$21.61m, however has deteriorated since the Quarter 2 Forecast Review of \$18.27m. This movement is reflective of the impact of the October 2022 Flood and resulting recovery and remediation works, for which the net cost to Council continues to be established (refer below and to the Operating Statement in the attachment for commentary). The current inflationary environment also continues to put pressure on Council's ability to deliver services to the community.

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 a sealed road condition assessment has been returned to enable programming of works, with approval required from the funding body prior to commencement.

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 \$46.80 million, with funding of \$24.1 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.

Year-to-date delivery of capital works is on track compared to the Quarter 2 Forecast year-to-date budget.

Renewal and upgrade expenditure as a percentage of depreciation is now forecast to be 103 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 159 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 31 March 2023.

Attachments

1. March 2023 - Monthly Financial Report [11.1.1 - 12 pages]

11.2 2022/2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review

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 revised forecasts identified by the 2022/2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review, as attached.

Executive Summary

This report presents the draft forecast financial performance for the 2022/2023 financial year compared to the 2022/2023 Adopted Budget and 2022/2023 Quarter 2 Forecast Review.

Report Detail

Under section 97 of the *Local Government Act 2020* the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a quarterly budget report is prepared and presented to the Council at a Council meeting.

Council’s actual financial performance compared to the budget is presented to Council on a monthly basis.

The budget review process involved Managers reviewing the adopted budget for their departmental areas compared to actual income and expenditure. Managers are to update forecasts to reflect the expected year end result. The Executive then undertake a detailed review to understand and confirm forecast variations. The review is then submitted to Council for consideration.

Council noted the 2022/2023 Quarter 2 Forecast Review at the February 2023 Council Meeting, which projected an accounting surplus of \$28.11 million, and an underlying operating deficit of \$18.28 million. The 2022/2023 Quarter 2 Forecast also provided for capital works of \$62.87 million.

The attached 2022/2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review presents Council’s revised budget forecasts based on current operating conditions and new funding.

Income Statement

Revenue

The 2022/2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review projects total revenue of \$170.10 million, a decrease of \$10.49 million on the 2022/2023 Quarter 2 Forecast. This variance is mostly due to reduced capital funding due to the deferral of the planned Knight and Hawdon Intersection and Strategic Cycling Corridor projects

Expenditure

The 2022/2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review notes total operating expenditure of \$157.02 million, an increase of \$4.57 million on the 2022/2023 Quarter 2 Forecast. This variance is largely related to expenditure associated with the October 2022 Flood Event and some favourable forecast adjustments to employee costs due to vacancies as noted in the report

Underlying Operating Result

Council adopted the use of the underlying operating position as a measure of financial sustainability in the 2021-2031 Financial Plan, with the aim of achieving a small underlying operating surplus. The underlying operating result is calculated by deducting asset related expenditure, including non-recurrent capital grants of \$21.11 million, \$940,000 of non-recurrent capital contributions, \$11.30 million of non-recurrent capital contributions and \$1.20 million loss on disposal of assets from the accounting result, to get a true operating position.

The Quarter 3 Forecast Review projected underlying operating position is a deficit of \$19.10 million. This is an improvement of \$2.51 million on Council's Adopted Budgeted underlying operating deficit of \$21.61 million, however reflects deterioration compared to the Quarter 2 Forecast of \$18.28 million, mostly due to the impact of the October 2022 Flood. It should be noted that the Adopted Budget unfavourable result is partially impacted by early receipt of 75 percent of the 2022/2023 Federal Financial Assistance grants (\$11.16 million) in April 2022

October 2022 Flood Event

The financial impact of the October 2022 Flood Event continues to be established as recovery activities progress, condition assessments are undertaken, approval for works under insurance and recovery funding programs is received and funding opportunities are established and confirmed.

The 2022/2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review reflects Council's best estimate of the financial impact based on works undertaken to date and known obligations. This includes additional materials expenditure and employee costs relating to responding to the flood event, running emergency relief centres, providing assistance to impacted individuals, undertaking emergency repairs to infrastructure and Council's insurance excess. Additional revenue is forecast as a result of Government funding, estimated successful insurance claims, and additional waste volumes that the State Government funded. Business losses continue to be established for Council's various impacted assets including Aquamoves, Riverlinks and the Victoria Lake Caravan Park.

Capital Works

The 2022/2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review projects \$46.80 million in capital works. This is a decrease of \$16.06 million on the 2022/2023 Quarter 2 Forecast Review. This variance is mostly due to the deferral of the planned Knight and Hawdon Intersection and Strategic Cycling Corridor projects into future financial years due to funding availability. Further variance commentary is provided in notes to the capital works statement in the attachment.

Renewal and Upgrade expenditure as a percentage of Depreciation expense in the 2022/2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review is 103%, exceeding the target of 100%. This indicator aims to illustrate whether Council is maintaining its assets as they deteriorate.

Balance Sheet

The 2022/2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review ending Working Capital (Current Assets as a percentage of Current Liabilities) is projected to be 159% compared to 125% in the 2022/2023 Budget. This indicates that Council is able to pay its current liabilities when they fall due.

The 2022/2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review ending Loans and Borrowings (Loans and Borrowings as a percentage of Rate Revenue) is projected to be 21.0%. This remains steady with the 2022/2023 Budget. This indicates low risk and shows Council’s level of debt is within the appropriate range in consideration of the size of Council’s activities. No additional borrowings for the 2022/2023 financial year have been adopted.

Environmental Upgrade Agreements – Quarterly Statement

No new environmental upgrade agreements have been entered into this quarter and one was completed.

There are currently six environmental upgrade charges in operation with a total value of \$3,751,477.69. Charges due this year total \$475,815.88, plus arrears \$47,753.92 and interest \$17,124.00. Total payments of \$118,059.42 fell due this quarter, with \$114,895.06 being paid.

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

Monitoring of performance against the 2022/2023 Adopted Budget as well as the forecast year-end position provides for prudent financial management and ensures that Council is made aware of any known or potential financial risks.

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Inability to achieve current budget due to income not reaching budgeted levels or costs exceeding budget exposing Council to a cash deficit.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Review detailed monthly financial reports and take necessary corrective action where forecast varies against budget.

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
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 indicators.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Linkage of budget setting and performance to the adopted Financial Plan.

Policy Considerations

The Quarter 3 Forecast Review has been prepared in accordance with accounting policies.

Financial Implications

The financial implications associated with this report are detailed in the attached 2022/2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review Pack.

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

External consultation has not occurred regarding the contents of this report. Consultation, however, has and will take place on certain specific items within the budget as and when appropriate.

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

Conclusion

The 2022/2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review presents the draft forecast financial performance for the 2022/2023 financial year compared to the 2022/2023 Adopted Budget.

Attachments

1. 2022-2023 Quarter 3 Forecast Review [11.2.1 - 19 pages]

11.3 2023/2024 Draft Budget

Author Manager Finance and Rates
 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. Endorse the 2023/2024 Draft Budget as presented for the purposes of section 94 of *The Local Government Act 2020* as attached;**
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to give public notice on the preparation of the 2023/2024 Draft Budget and stipulate that persons may make a written submission that must be received by no later than 5:00pm, Thursday 18 May 2023; and**
- 3. hold an Additional Council Meeting at a date to be determined to hear any person wishing to be heard in support of their written submission on any proposal contained in the 2023/2024 Draft Budget.**

Executive Summary

The 2023/2024 Draft Budget is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and is presented for Council to endorse for public submissions.

In resourcing the strategic objectives of the 2021-2025 Council Plan, the 2023/2024 Draft Budget delivers and accounting surplus of \$22.92 million and an adjusted underlying deficit of \$4.16 million.

Capital works of \$51.10 million is planned in the 2023/2024 Draft Budget, funded by grants of \$8.83 million, new borrowings of \$2 million and Council cash of \$40.24 million.

Following the public submission period and consideration of community feedback, the 2023/2024 Budget will be considered for adoption at the June 2023 Council Meeting.

Report Detail

Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council must:

- Prepare a budget for each financial year and the subsequent three financial years by June 30 – Section 94(1)
- Ensure the budget contains financial statements, a description of services and initiatives, the total amount that Council intends to raise by rates and charges, prescribed indicators of service performance and a statement as to how these will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives specified in the Council Plan required by the regulations – Section 94(2).
- Ensure the budget is developed in accordance with the financial management principles and its community engagement policy – Section 96(1)

Operating Budget

The 2023/2024 Draft Budget projects total revenue of \$175.49 million and operating expenditure of \$152.57 million, resulting and a \$22.92 million accounting surplus.

The 2023/2024 Draft Budget projects an adjusted underlying operating deficit of \$4.16 million as noted in section 4.1.1 of the budget document. This result removes capital related items from the income statement to give a true operating position.

The 2023/2024 Draft Budget underlying operating deficit position highlights financial sustainability challenges faced by Council in the current environment. The 2021-2025 Council Plan aims to achieve and maintain a true underlying operating surplus. While this proposed budget does not align with that target, it should be noted that Council's adopted 2021-2031 Financial Plan identifies the path to achieving an operating surplus by year ending 30 June 2027.

Operational budget key initiatives are detailed within section 2 of the budget document and are linked to the strategic objectives of the Council Plan.

Budget Influences

In preparing the Draft Budget, several internal and external influences have been taken into consideration as they impact significantly on the services delivered by the Council in the budget period and the resulting budget position.

Natural disasters have had an impact on Council's financial position since 2019/2020 through COVID and now the October 2022 Flood, due to changing operating requirements, restrictions on Council's ability to collect revenue through user fees, and the significant response and remediation efforts and resources associated.

Further budgetary pressure is felt as a result of the current inflationary environment, particularly where cost increases of materials and services Council procures far exceeds the Rate Cap of 3.5 per cent.

Capital Works

The proposed capital works budget of \$51.10 million is made up of \$42.94 million of new works for 2023/2024 and \$8.16 million of works re-budgeted from the 2022/2023 capital works program.

The program will be funded by \$8.83 million of grant funding, \$40.24 million of Council cash from operations, reserves and investments and \$2 million of new borrowings.

Informed by adopted Asset Management Plans, renewal and upgrade of existing assets form a substantial part of 2023/2024 Draft Budget. Council's asset renewal and upgrade as a percentage of depreciation is budgeted to be 97%.

The \$42.94 million of new works noted in section 4.5.2 of the 2023/2024 Draft Budget includes:

- Delivery of community projects including shade sails at Charles Park, Judd Park, Riviera Park and Ganaway Reserve, in addition to Youth Spot facilities in Kialla Lakes and Merrigum
- Upgrade of the Shepparton Resource Recovery Centre to enable best practice resource recovery
- Upgrade of the Margaret Street Pump Station in Tatura
- Renewal of assets informed by Council's Asset Management Plans
- Decarbonisation initiatives to facilitate Council's 2030 Net Zero target
- Continuation of Council's Path Connectivity program and investment in renewing existing footpath assets
- Delivery of projects relating to various Developer Contribution Plans (DCP's) as part of the municipality's continued growth

Borrowings

The 2023/2024 Draft Budget proposes \$2 million of new borrowings to fund capital works. These planned borrowings have been determined in line with Council's Borrowing Policy.

The Financial Performance Indicators reported in section 5 of the 2023/2024 Draft Budget include loans and borrowings as percentage of rates revenue and interest and principal repayments on loans and borrowings as a percentage of rates revenue, in line with the requirements of the Borrowing Policy. Council's Draft Budget indebtedness result (non-current liabilities as a percentage of own source revenue) of 33% remains within a low risk rating as per VAGO financial sustainability risk assessment criteria.

Rates and Charges

Overview

The 2023/2024 Draft Budget proposes a rate increase of 3.5 per cent, in line with the Rate Cap set by the Minister for Local Government. This will generate \$78.63 million in total rate revenue.

The proposed charges for the kerbside collection service considers the implementation of Stage 2 in Council's kerbside transition plan due to be rolled out in the second quarter of 2023/2024. In recognition that Kialla and Tatura have already transitioned there will be a rebate applied to reflect the reduced number of bin lifts, reduction in tonnages contributed to landfill and the associated costs of resource recovery.

A further \$899,347 in supplementary rates and \$200,000 in penalty interest is budgeted for 2023/2024 taking the total rates and charges figure to \$91.43 million. Note these items, along with the kerbside collection charges, do not form part of the rate cap.

Rating Differentials

The proposed rating structure for the 2023/2024 year has been informed by the Greater Shepparton City Council Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025.

Importantly, the elements of the plan determine only the share of revenue contributed by each property, not the total amount of rates collected by Council. No changes are proposed in the 2023/2024 Draft Budget on the following rating differentials:

Rating Differential	Rating Differential %
General	100%
Farm	90%
Commercial/Industrial	205%
Derelict	360%

Centralised Annual Valuations

Since 2019, the Valuer-General Victoria (VGV) is the sole valuation authority to conduct annual valuations for rating purposes.

The 2023/2024 Draft Budget includes preliminary valuation data for 2023/2024 with valuations as at 1 January 2023. All rating information contained within the budget, including rates in the dollars, are based on these updated valuations. However, the preliminary valuations are yet to be certified by the Victorian Valuer-General and are therefore subject to change prior to the budget adoption.

Current draft valuation data suggests an average increase across the municipality of 15 per cent. This does not mean Greater Shepparton City Council will generate 15 per cent additional rates revenue, rather it will influence how much of the total rates revenue, which is capped at 3.5 per cent, is contributed by each individual property.

Movements in individual property valuations (Capital Improved Value or CIV) will have an impact on individual rate notices and are difficult to communicate through the 2023/2024 Draft Budget document.

Section 4.1.2(f) of the 2023/2024 Draft Budget provides an indication of the valuation movements for each rating differential group, however, individual property valuation movements will not be advised until the 2023/2024 annual rates notices for each property are distributed.

Financial Performance Indicators

Section 5 of the 2023/2024 Draft Budget documents Council's current and projected forecast across a number of prescribed indicators. These indicators are useful for analysing Council's financial position and are further supported by the Financial Policy Statements adopted in Council's 2021-2031 Financial 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.

1.8 Good governance and sustainable financial management.

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.

4.8 Plan, prioritise and communicate asset maintenance and new asset delivery.

Risk Management

A well-planned budget will ensure Council can sustainably resource the strategic objectives of the Council Plan and deliver the services and infrastructure the community value and need.

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Budget not adopted within statutory timeframes	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Ensure budget timetable is adhered to
Budget adopted which results in deterioration of Council's financial position against the adopted 2021-2031 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 indicators.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	The Draft Budget is prepared with consideration of the adopted 2021-2031 Financial Plan.

Policy Considerations

The 2023/2024 Draft Budget has been prepared in accordance with the relevant accounting policies and the Borrowing Policy.

Financial Implications

Operating Budget

	2022/2023 Forecast ('000s) \$	2023/2024 Draft Budget ('000s) \$	Variance ('000s) \$	Comments
Revenue	\$170,080	\$175,492	\$5,412	Increases to User Fees following the impact of the October 2022 Flood, increases to operating grants reflective of 100% allocation of the Federal Financial Assistance Grants in 2023/2024, reduction to capital grants reflective of the non-recurrent nature of the capital works program and associated funding.
Expense	\$157,021	\$152,568	\$9,866	Increases to employee costs reflective of budgeting for a full staffing compliment compared to vacancies forecast in the current year forecast, reductions to materials and services as a result of the impact of the October 2022 Flood on the current year forecast.
Net Total	\$13,058	\$22,924	\$9,866	

Capital Budget

Total Expenditure ('000s) \$	Funding Sources			
	Grant Funding ('000s) \$	Contributions ('000s) \$	Council Cash ('000s) \$	Borrowings ('000s) \$
\$51,104	\$8,828	\$35	\$40,241	\$2,000

¹ Budgets are GST exclusive

Legal / Statutory Implications

The 2023/2024 Draft Budget has been prepared in accordance with Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Environmental / Sustainability Impacts

The 2023/2024 Draft Budget includes budget allocations relating to delivering Council's 2030 Zero Emissions Target Action Plan.

Social Implications

There are no social implications associated with this report. The 2023/2024 Draft Budget resources the strategic objectives of the 2021-2025 Council Plan, which outlines key social outcomes and initiatives to achieve these outcomes that the Draft Budget resources.

Economic Impacts

Similar to social implications, the 2023/2024 Draft Budget resources the strategic objectives of the Council Plan, which includes various initiatives to generate positive economic impact for the community. Additionally, the capital program encourages economic impact within the municipality.

Consultation

Community engagement was undertaken in November and December 2022 to gain an understanding of the community's priorities for the upcoming 2023/2024 Budget in accordance with the Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Engagement was undertaken via the Shaping Greater Shepparton website, social media advertising and flyers circulated to community groups. The Shaping Greater Shepparton website included information on the budget process, links to documents that influence the budget and a survey.

36 contributions were received through this consultation process, with the following key themes observed:

- Prioritisation of renewal and upgrade of community sport and recreation facilities
- Prioritisation of drainage projects
- Feedback in relation to Council's Kerbside Transition Plan and requests for Tip Vouchers

These submissions have been considered in preparation of Council's 2023/2024 Draft Budget, with regard given to the Asset Management Plans, the 2021-2031 Financial Plan and the various Strategies and Masterplans in place that support the Council Plan.

The 2023/2024 Draft Budget will be made available for public submission from Friday 21 April 2023 to Thursday 18 May 2023. The Shaping Greater Shepparton community engagement tool will also be utilised for community engagement.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- Nil

b) Other strategic links

- The 2023/2024 Draft Budget is the resourcing plan of the 2021-2025 Council Plan and connects to Asset Management Plans, the 2021-2031 Financial Plan and the 2021-2025 Revenue and Rating Plan.

Conclusion

The 2023/2024 Draft Budget is presented for Council to endorse for public review from 21 April 2023 to 18 May 2023.

Attachments

1. 2023/2024 Draft Budget [**11.3.1** - 136 pages]

11.4 Contracts Awarded Under Delegation - March 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 the contracts 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 March 2023 to 31 March 2023, and those that have been publicly advertised but are yet to be awarded as at 3 April 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
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	\$278,344.00	Infrastructure Solutions Pty Ltd

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 currently under evaluation

- CN 2282 Detailed Design Murchison Recreation Reserve Pavilion is no longer proceeding as all submissions received exceeded the allocated budget. Council Officers are now working with relevant stakeholders to provide an alternative solution.
- CN 2293 Construction of Block 5 Landscaping, McLennan Street Mooroopna is no longer proceeding as all submissions received exceeded the allocated budget. Council is proposing to re-scope these works and deliver in a future year.

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

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 March 2023 to 31 March 2023.

Attachments

Nil

12 Infrastructure Directorate

12.1 Skate Park Audit

Author Team Leader Landscaping and Native Open Spaces
 Approved by Director Infrastructure
 Purpose Information Only

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 note the results of the audit conducted on Council owned skate parks.

Executive Summary

At the Scheduled Council Meeting on 19 July 2022, Cr Spinks put forward the following Notice of Motion:

That Council Officers present a report to a Council Meeting, within 3 months, outlining:

- *The history and current status of all municipal skate parks*
- *All past and current community requests (either by individuals or committees) relevant to municipal skate parks including but not limited to safety, lighting and condition*
- *an example of infrastructure models that support a higher level of skate park skill attainment or participation*

Greater Shepparton City Council has a strong focus of ensuring residents and visitors are provided with a wide range of recreational and sporting activities and this also includes an offering pertaining to skate parks.

Greater Shepparton has four formal skate parks whilst Council has also supported the development of several 'Youth Spots' with skate elements.

Skate Park Assessments were conducted in 2017 by a consultant which outlined the condition of those respective Council owned skate parks. Works were later undertaken on those respective skate parks.

Report Detail

Greater Shepparton City Council has a strong focus on ensuring residents and visitors are provided with a wide range of recreational and sporting activities.

Greater Shepparton City Council has four formal skate parks:

- Shepparton Skate Park, Victoria Park Lake
- Mooroopna Skate Park, McLennan St
- Tatura Skate Park, Mactier Gardens
- Merrigum Skate Park, Morrissey St

In addition to the four main skate parks, Council has also supported the construction of 'Youth Spots' with associated skate elements.

The Youth Spots were constructed in response to the "Small Town Youth Recreational Spaces Strategy" conducted in 2016. The Youth Spots are located in:

- Toolamba
- Murchison
- Dookie

Skate Park Assessments

In 2017 an external consultant (Baseplate Design) was contracted by Council to assess Council owned skate parks. Each of the 4 main skate parks were rated on condition, safety and function. The findings and recommendations pertaining to each skate park were as follows;

Shepparton

"The Shepparton skate park is in good condition and in need of some basic repairs with the future opportunity to upgrade to represent its regional scale and heavy use through the further diversity of elements"

Mooroopna

"The Mooroopna skate park is in good condition and in need of some basic repairs with the future opportunity to upgrade to ensure that it caters for a wider range of skill levels. The existing bowl is in good condition, offers a lot of function and is unique to the other parks therefore it is important that any additions add more value to the facility which in turn will increase the use of the bowl"

Tatura

"The Tatura skate park is in poor condition and in need of some immediate basic repairs. These should be carried out immediately to remove potential hazards with a longer-term outlook of replacing all steel ramps with a permeant concrete skate park"

Merrigum

"The Merrigum skate park is in very good condition although offers limited function due to the shortage of decent ramps. The removal of the steel ramps and introduction of new concrete ones should be carried out soon to ensure continued and increase use of the space"

As a result of the Baseplate Design assessment, remediation works were carried out in 2018 on the Shepparton, Tatura and Mooroopna skate parks.

In addition to the external audit, Council’s Assets Department undertake routine inspections on all Council owned skate parks on a 6-month basis for obvious defects. A skate park Condition Survey is also undertaken every 4-5 years with the next to be completed in June 2023.

Trained Council assessors previously audited each element to determine a condition score. These scores were converted into an overall condition rating of Excellent 1-2, Good 3-4, Moderate 5, Poor 6-7, Very Poor 8-9 or Fail 10.

The results were as follows:

- **Shepparton Skate Park**
Rating 4 - Good
- **Mooroopna Skate Park**
Rating 4 - Good
- **Tatura Skate Park**
Rating 6.6 - Poor
- **Merrigum Skate Park**
Rating 3 - Good

Community Requests

Internal and external requests for maintenance are reported to Council officers via the ‘Confirm program’. Examples of maintenance requests received by the public are;

- Graffiti
- Broken Glass
- Damaged infrastructure
- Requested skate park upgrades i.e., lighting, redesign

A recent Confirm report showed that over the last 10 years, there were 45 maintenance requests from the Public directly related to skate parks. Of the 45 Requests, the vast majority (67per cent) were graffiti related. (Attachment 1)

Council officers all receive requests through other avenues such as the “Snap/Send/Solve” application, verbally and via the Council website. These requests are predominately around the lighting and upgrade to the existing facility.

Although Greater Shepparton City Council’s skate parks are dated, they are compliant and fit for purpose and offer users an array of elements to test and showcase their skills.

An Officer review has compared requirements under Skateboarding Victoria’s ‘Skate Facility Planning Guide’ and the ‘Skateboard Facility Certification rulebook’ to what is currently available at the Shepparton skate park (S-Cape) at the Victoria Park Lake.

The review found that “S-Cape” is categorised as a “Park Style” course as it is composed of interconnected radial transitions and banked walls, built at various declinations, depths, and heights, which are configured in a layout that provides athletes with the necessary amount of riding speed for consistent flow.

The S-Cape design also includes several integrated technical features providing athletes with a larger variety of trick options.

The “Skateboard Facility Certification Rulebook” states that S-Cape is deemed a Recreational (R-Class) course as it meets the following description:

“Identifies facilities, or sections of facilities, fit for skateboarding recreational and initiation activities by offering safe and functional areas for every level of skateboarding practice. While these facilities are essential to modern city life, they aren’t fit to run official World Skate-sanctioned events;”

In comparison to other regional skate parks, S-Cape is moderate in size and has comparable elements that support a high level of skill attainment and participation. It provides a protected area for junior participants to safely learn skating basics whilst still providing smaller elements that users can attempt and develop their skills on.

An example of a skate park that is regarded as one of the best skate parks in Melbourne that facilitates competitions is Baden Powell Skate park. There is a clear difference between its offering and what Greater Shepparton offers however the cost of introducing a skate park of a magnitude that allows for competition and significant skill development to prepare skaters for high level competition would be considerable. (Attachment 2)

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.

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

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.

4.8 Plan, prioritise and communicate asset maintenance and new asset delivery.

4.11 Develop and improve Community and recreation facilities.

Risk Management

There are no risks associated with this report.

Policy Considerations

There are no policy considerations relating to this report.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

It should however be noted that should a Skate Park upgrade/improvement program be developed, financial expenditure would be required given the expertise needed pertaining to skate parks.

Legal/Statutory Implications

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

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental/sustainability impacts associated with this report.

Social Implications

There are no social implications as a result of this report however it should be noted that skate parks in general support the physical and mental development of youth and assist with wellbeing and participation. Skate parks also facilitate socialising and assist with connecting the community to Greater Shepparton and its offerings.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts as a result of this audit. There is the potential to attract visitors from satellite towns to the region through Greater Shepparton's higher offering of skate park facilities.

Consultation

As the request was for a review pertaining to existing skate parks, no consultation has taken place.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- Recreation and Open Space

Conclusion

Shepparton's four skate parks were constructed approximately 20 years ago and whilst well maintained, they are becoming outdated.

The inclusion of skating in the Commonwealth Games has no doubt led to an increased interest in the sport within the municipality. This has presumably led to an increase in requests for additional maintenance and redesign of Council's facilities.

A review of the Shepparton skate park has revealed that whilst it contains the appropriate elements to foster the growth of the sport, its layout may need to be redesigned and updated in the future to support people wishing to pursue more competitive opportunities if Council is wishing to proceed in this direction.

If there is a desire to undertake a Skate Park upgrade/improvement program, financial expenditure would be required to undertake a feasibility study by an external consultant. This is an ever-changing niche industry that requires a level of expertise beyond what is currently offered within Council.

Attachments

1. Bayden Powell Skate Park Tarneit [12.1.1 - 2 pages]
2. Skate Park Maintenance Report [12.1.2 - 3 pages]

12.2 Bike Jumps Update

Author	Manager - Works
Approved by	Director Infrastructure
Purpose	Information Only

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 note the report on bike jumps.

Executive Summary

At the Scheduled Council Meeting on 21 March 2023, Council resolved the following Notice of Motion:

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.*

This report provides an initial response to the above Notice of Motion.

Report Detail

Greater Shepparton has a proud history of providing quality sport, recreation and tourism cycling related infrastructure to the region. During the Covid – 19 pandemic it was highlighted additional use of various cycling disciplines as people connect more with the great outdoors and get on their bikes and keep active.

A Cycling Reference Group was established in 2021, as a result of an environmental and safety decision by Council to remove the jumps near Lincoln Drive. Whilst these jumps were on public land, the ad-hoc and unauthorised development of these jumps creates a public safety risk and can result in significant public liability implications. Due to the nature of dirt bike activity, there is a real risk of serious injury to kids and adults who use them, particularly as they are in an uncontrolled environment and usually unsupervised. The

nature of some of these jumps puts the users, particularly the young, at real danger of severe and devastating lifelong injuries.

The establishment of this group led to a passion and interest from our Officers and local residents in determining a solution towards providing dirt bike jump offerings that were safe and appropriate.

An expression of interest process to form this group was undertaken with several applications received. The Reference Group consisted of Council Officers from various departments and 11 community representatives.

This group was meeting on a regular basis and through discussions within the Cycling Reference Group it was identified that a potential piece of land to cater to the interest in developing a dirt bike park was at KidsTown.

There was significant interest in the KidsTown site amongst the community representatives however it was determined by Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation that the land had culturally sensitive issues and unfortunately the land was not suitable for the proposed purpose of a formal pump track. Following this it was decided that the reference group be put on hold whilst Council Officers undertook further site investigations with the focus to be on developing a dirt bike park.

Council Officers further investigated other potential suitable site options and it was identified that unfortunately at this stage Council do not have any land that is owned or managed by Council that is suitable.

However, officers have since entered discussions with a local property owner in relation to the land being made available for either purchase or lease for a dirt bike park. As discussions at this stage are still progressing and an agreement has not been reached with the property owner, Officers hope to be able to update Councillors on a confirmed location in the near future.

Upon securing land that is fit for purpose, Council Officers will again instigate discussions with the Reference Group and involve them directly in the layout of the dirt bike park.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

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.

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.

4.8 Plan, prioritise and communicate asset maintenance and new asset delivery.

4.11 Develop and improve Community and recreation facilities.

Risk Management

There are no risks associated with this report. However, Council has an obligation as an owner/occupier of publicly accessible land to ensure the area is safe and appropriate for its use. With the increasing number of ad-hoc developed dirt jumps the need to implement reasonable measures to mitigate the risk must be taken. In the past this has been by way of demolition of all tracks. A purpose-built facility would potentially see a decrease in development of unsafe jumps. It should be noted that if Council take no action, and an incident was to occur, they would have essentially no defence to any resulting claim.

Policy Considerations

There are no policy considerations relating to this report

Financial Implications

Should Council proceed with the purchase/lease of suitable land and the construction of basic bike jump infrastructure for the facility, it will result in significant financial expenditure. Whilst the cost of purchasing/leasing of a site is currently unknown, it is estimated that current construction costs will be around \$220,000. Noting that this construction would only be of a basic nature and consist of dirt jumps, a shelter and seats. There is currently \$200,000 in the 2022/2023 Capital Works budget. This does not include the ongoing maintenance cost, purchase or lease of land costs including associated legal costs.

Legal/Statutory Implications

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

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

Whilst there are no environmental/sustainability impacts associated with this report there is potential impacts if a suitable site is not achieved. This is due to the nature of dirt bike activity and the environmental damaged caused by the ad-hoc development of dirt bike jumps that are built generally in undeveloped bushland and riverbanks.

Social Implications

There are no social implications as a result of this report however it should be noted that bike parks in general support the physical and mental development of youth and assist with wellbeing and participation. Bike parks also facilitate socialising and assist with connecting the community to Greater Shepparton and its offerings.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts as a result of this report. If the development of a dirt bike park was to occur there is the potential to attract visitors from satellite towns to the region to utilise the facility.

Consultation

A Cycling Reference Group was established in 2021, as a result of an environmental and safety decision by Council to remove the jumps near Lincoln Drive.

This group was meeting on a regular basis and through discussions within the Cycling Reference Group it was identified that a potential piece of land to cater to the interest in developing a dirt bike park was at KidsTown.

The KidsTown site was determined unsuitable and following this it was decided that the reference group be put on hold whilst Council Officers undertook further site investigations.

Upon securing land that is fit for purpose, Council Officers will again instigate discussions with the reference group and involve them directly in the layout of the dirt bike park.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

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

b) Other strategic links

- Play Space Strategy 2020-2030

Conclusion

Once the KidsTown site was determined unsuitable it was decided that the Reference Group be put on hold whilst Council Officers undertook further site investigations.

Upon securing land that is fit for purpose, Council Officers will again instigate discussions with the Reference Group and involve them directly in the layout of the dirt bike park.

Attachments

Nil

13 Sustainable Development Directorate

13.1 Adoption of Amendment C242gshe to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme

Author Graduate Strategic Planner (Amendments)
 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 that Amendment C242gshe to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme received 12 submissions;**
2. **note the Delegate's Report for Amendment C242gshe, which outlines Council officers' responses to the concerns raised in submissions, as attached;**
3. **adopt Amendment C242gshe to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme with post-exhibition changes in accordance with Section 29 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987; and**
4. **submit Amendment C242gshe to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme to the Minister for Planning for approval in accordance with Section 31 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.**

Executive Summary

Council has prepared proposed Amendment C242gshe to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme. The proposed Amendment applies to approximately 602 hectares of land to the north and east of Tatura, generally bound by the Midland Highway and Pyke Road to the north; Dhurringile and Bayunga Roads to the east; Cussen Park, Pyke Road and Murton Road to the south; and Dhurringile and Tatura-Undera Roads to the west.

The land is included within the Tatura settlement boundary, which is identified in the *Tatura Framework Plan* at Clause 11.01-1L *Settlement - Urban growth and consolidation* of the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme.

The proposed Amendment rezones the majority of the yet-to-be developed land within the settlement boundary zoned Farming Zone, Low Density Residential Zone, and Rural Living Zone to the Urban Growth Zone to safeguard the land for future development as strategic residential growth corridors. The Amendment also amends Clause 11.01-1L *Settlement - Urban growth and consolidation* to update the *Tatura Framework Plan*.

The Amendment was exhibited from 19 January to 20 February 2023 in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act). Council received 12 submissions to the Amendment. 4 submissions were received that either objected to or requested changes to the Amendment. The remaining 8 submissions were received from referral authorities or landowners that supported or did not object to the Amendment.

Council officers have considered all submissions to the Amendment and engaged with all submitters that requested changes to the Amendment to resolve these concerns. As a result, Council officers resolved all submissions post-exhibition and have determined that an Independent Planning Panel is not required to consider all submissions to the Amendment.

To address concerns raised in submissions, Council officers are proposing a post-exhibition change to the Amendment to update the explanatory report to modify the indicative staging plan to change the development timing of some parcels of land. Council officers are also proposing a second post-exhibition change to remove the Development Plan Overlay (DPO1) from the land north of Pyke Road as this is now a redundant planning control.

Council is now required under Section 29 of the Act to consider submissions, adopt the Amendment with post-exhibition changes, and to submit the Amendment to the Minister for Planning for approval under section of the Act.

Report Detail

Greater Shepparton City Council has prepared Amendment C242gshe to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme. The proposed Amendment applies to approximately 602 hectares of land to the north and east of Tatura, generally bound by the Midland Highway and Pyke Road to the north; Dhurringile and Bayunga Roads to the east; Cussen Park, Pyke Road and Murton Road to the south; and Dhurringile and Tatura-Undera Roads to the west (see Figure One).

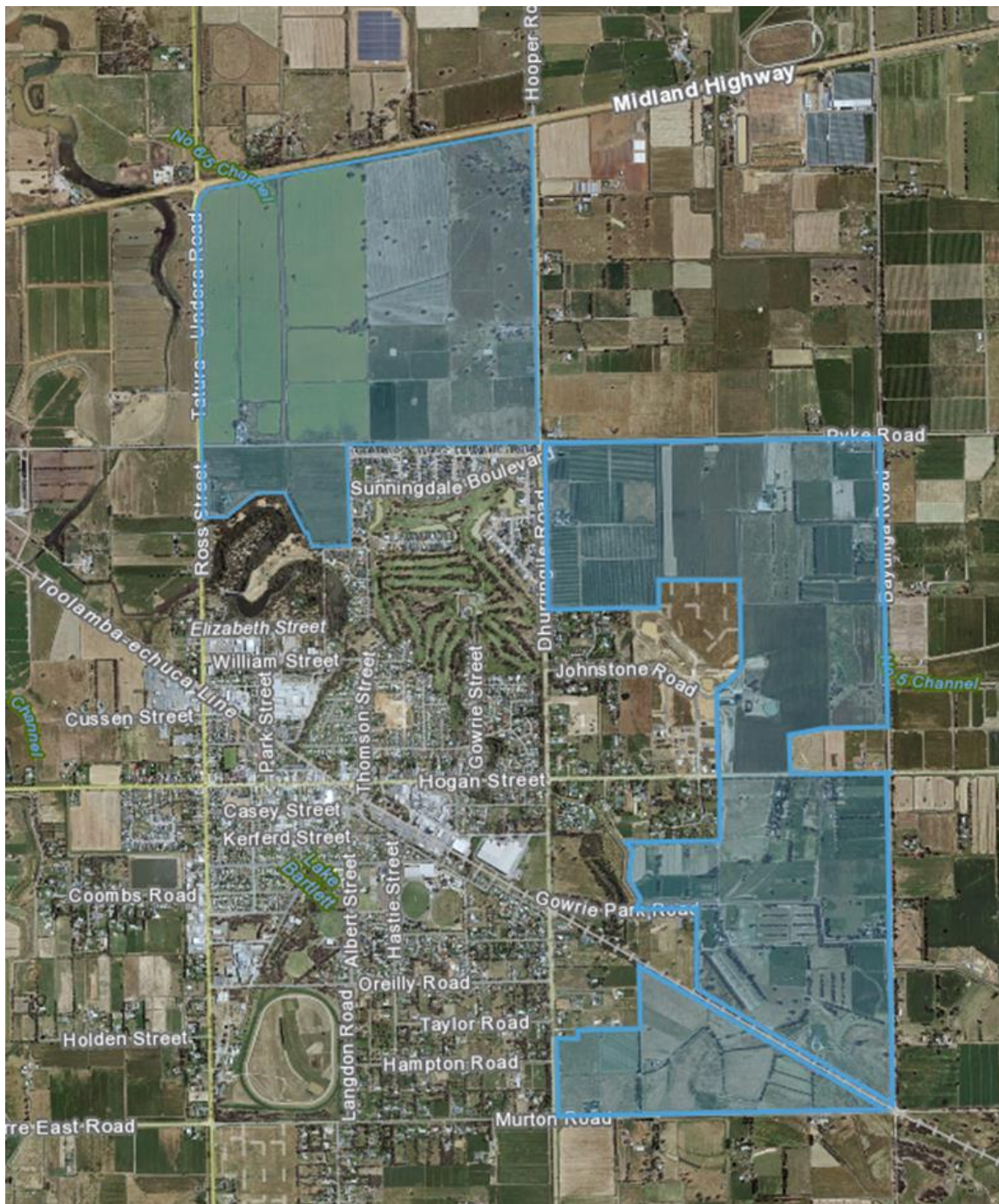


Figure One – Land affected by the Amendment is outlined and shaded in blue.

The land is included within the Tatura settlement boundary, which is identified in the *Tatura Framework Plan* at Clause 11.01-1L *Settlement - Urban growth and consolidation* of the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme.

The Tatura Framework Plan has been informed through the preparation of the *Greater Shepparton Housing Strategy 2011* (GSHS), which guides the long-term identification and provision of residential land within the City of Greater Shepparton. The findings of the GSHS were implemented into the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme in 2012 through Amendment C93. The Amendment incorporated framework plans in the Planning Scheme that identified land that may accommodate future development following detailed investigations. Such investigations seek to better understand the ability of the land to be developed for residential purposes and at what density.

The *Greater Shepparton Townships Framework Plan Review 2019* updated the Tatura Framework Plan following a review of the extent of future standard density residential and low-density residential development identified within the settlement boundary. It was implemented into the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme through Amendment C212gshe on 4 June 2020.

The *Residential Land Supply & Demand Assessment, Greater Shepparton January 2022* found that undeveloped broad hectare land stocks are effectively depleted within Tatura with no future supply of undeveloped greenfield land that is not pre-sold or currently under construction. The Assessment recommends that Council increase the stock of zoned broad hectare land in Tatura in the short term.

Council has been proceeding with the investigations for land identified for land within Tatura's settlement boundary as the Tatura Structure Plan project, which must be completed before any additional land can be rezoned for residential purposes. The structure plan will guide the future development of all land yet-to-be-rezoned for residential purposes and it will identify all infrastructure required to support the future development of the land.

Council is implementing the Tatura Structure Plan utilising a two-stage process. The first stage (Part A), via Amendment C242gshe, formally identifies the land for urban development by rezoning the land to the Urban Growth Zone (Part A) and seeks to safeguard the land from any development that could prejudice its long-term urban development potential by using the Part A provisions of the Urban Growth Zone.

The second stage (Part B) is for the preparation of a precinct structure plan, which will serve as a master plan for the growth corridors, and a development contributions plan, which will ensure that developers in the growth corridors pay their equitable share for infrastructure to support any future residential development.

When the Tatura Structure Plan is completed later in 2023, and if it is adopted by Council at a future Ordinary Council Meeting, it will be implemented into the Planning Scheme through a separate Planning Scheme Amendment as a schedule to the Urban Growth Zone and given effect through the Part B provisions of the Urban Growth Zone.

Amendment C242gshe

Amendment C242gshe seeks to rezone the majority of the yet-to-be developed land within the settlement boundary zoned Farming Zone, Low Density Residential Zone, and Rural Living Zone to the Urban Growth Zone to safeguard the land for future development as strategic residential growth corridors.

The extent of land being rezoned to the Urban Growth Zone is as follows:

- Farming Zone: 506.71 hectares;
- Rural Living Zone: 52.53 hectares; and
- Low Density Residential Zone: 42.76 hectares.

The Amendment makes the following changes to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme:

- rezones land to the Urban Growth Zone;
- amends Planning Scheme Map Nos. 6, 7, 8 and 10; and
- amends Clause 11.01-1L *Settlement - Urban growth and consolidation* to update the *Tatura Framework Plan*.

Exhibition and Submissions

The Amendment was exhibited in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) from Thursday, 19 January 2023 to Monday, 20 February 2023 and the following notice was provided:

- letters sent to landowners and occupiers on 16 January 2022;
- letters sent to relevant referral authorities on 17 January 2023;
- letters sent to prescribed ministers on 17 January 2023;
- notice in the Shepparton News on 20 January 2023;
- notice in the Victoria Government Gazette on 19 January 2023;
- notice on Greater Shepparton City Council website;
- notice on Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning website; and
- a copy of the exhibition documentation was placed in the foyer of the Council offices at 90 Welsford Street, Shepparton, and on Greater Shepparton City Council website.

Council received 11 submissions to the Amendment during the exhibition period, plus one late submission received after exhibition. Of the submissions received, six were from referral authorities which did not object to the Amendment. This included submissions from;

- APA Group;
- Department of Transport and Planning;
- Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority;
- Goulburn Murray Water;
- Goulburn Valley Water; and
- Powercor Australia

Council received two submissions which supported the Amendment. Council received four submissions that requested changes to the Amendment. Most of these submissions related to the indicative staging plan that had been included in the explanatory report to the Amendment, with requests to have the development timings on properties changed, and requests to have the indicative staging plan removed from the explanatory report.

Council officers note that the indicative staging plan in the explanatory report provides an indication of how Tatura could be developed over a 30-year period, but it does not bear any relation to the rezoning of the land to the Urban Growth Zone. The staging plan is not included in any of the planning controls that have been exhibited as part of this Amendment. However, Council officers are unable to remove the indicative staging plan from the explanatory report as its inclusion in the explanatory report was a condition imposed by the Department of Transport and Planning as part of the authorisation of the Amendment.

The other submission requested a change to the Amendment that Council remove a drainage basin that had been identified in the draft Tatura Structure Plan, and that Council undertake further investigations to consider an alternative proposal for the design of the drainage basin at a different location. Council officers note that the Tatura Structure Plan is not being considered as part of this Amendment as the proposed Amendment only seeks to rezone the land into the Urban Growth Zone. Council is still in the process of finalising the Tatura Structure Plan, which is expected to be completed later in 2023.

Council officers responded to all the concerns raised in submissions and were able to resolve all exhibitions post-exhibition. As a result, Council officers have determined that an Independent Planning Panel is not required to consider all submissions to the Amendment. Council officers' response to submissions can be found in Attachment One: *Greater Shepparton Amendment C242gshe Delegate's Report – March 2023*.

Post-Exhibition Changes

To respond to comments that were raised in submissions, Council officers are proposing two post-exhibition changes to the Amendment. The first post-exhibition change is to update the explanatory report to modify the indicative staging plan to change the development timing of some parcels of land. This includes changing the timing for the land at 250 Bayunga Road, Tatura, from long term (10+ years) to medium term (5 – 10 years), 506 Bayunga Road, Tatura, from short term (0 – 5 years) to long term (10+ years), and adding a long term (10+ years) timing to a section of Lot 1 at 100 Dhurringile Road, Tatura.

The second post-exhibition change involves the removal of the Development Plan Overlay (DPO1) from the land on the north side of Pyke Road. DPO1 was applied to the land to safeguard it from inappropriate development until all investigations have taken place. No development plan has been approved on the land and the control is now redundant given the provisions of the Urban Growth Zone, which will achieve the same outcome by requiring that a future precinct structure plan and development contributions plan be prepared to guide the future development of the land.

The Independent Planning Panel for Amendment C239gshe supported the removal of DPO1 for land within Investigation Area 2 in Kialla that was proposed to be rezoned to the Urban Growth Zone for the reasons outlined above. It is therefore prudent for Council to remove DPO1 from the land given that no development plan has been approved for the land, and to be consistent with the Panel's previous recommendations. The changes to the Amendment can be found at Attachment Two: *Greater Shepparton Amendment C242gshe Explanatory Report Adoption*.

Council is now required under Section 29 of the Act to consider submissions and the Amendment. If Council resolves to adopt the Amendment with post-exhibition changes, the Amendment must be submitted to the Minister for Planning for approval under Section 31 of the Act.

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.

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

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

A risk associated with the proposed Amendment is not meeting the timelines required by Ministerial Direction No. 15 "The Planning Scheme Amendment Process". This Ministerial Direction requires each stage of the planning scheme amendment process to be undertaken within set timeframes.

In accordance with Ministerial Direction No. 15, under Section 29 of the Act, Council must decide to either adopt or abandon the proposed Amendment within 60 business days of the closing date for submissions if a panel has not been appointed.

Policy Considerations

The Amendment is consistent with the findings of the *Greater Shepparton Housing 2011*, the *Greater Shepparton Townships Framework Plan Review 2019*, and the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme. The Amendment applies to land within the settlement boundary within Tatura that has been identified for future residential development.

Financial Implications

The Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016 sets the statutory fees for the preparation, exhibition, and adoption of planning scheme amendments.

All costs of the proposed Amendment must be met by Council. A fee of \$496.90 must be paid for the Minister for Planning to consider a request to approve an Amendment.

The costs are included in the adopted 2022/2023 budget.

The resolution of submissions has avoided the need for an independent planning panel that would create a significant cost and resource impost on Council.

Legal/Statutory Implications

The procedures associated with this Amendment comply with the legislative requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The proposed Amendment will not have any significant detrimental environmental impacts. The provision of the Urban Growth Zone includes planning permit triggers for the removal of native vegetation that apply under the Rural Living Zone. The planning scheme provides protection for native vegetation under Clause 52.17 – Native Vegetation. The Amendment will not change the provisions of Clause 52.17.

Detailed precinct structure planning is required prior to the land being made available for residential development. Future development will have environmental effects, including possible development of land which is affected by the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay and the Floodway Overlay, significant earthworks, soil contamination, and the potential removal of native vegetation. The preparation of a precinct structure plan for the land will seek to minimise environmental impacts of future development and will incorporate the most up-to-date planning controls that address flood, fire, and vegetation protection controls.

Social Implications

The proposed Amendment will have positive social effects by ensuring that the strategic vision for the land is clearly articulated to the community. It will enable community participation in the preparation of the precinct structure plan that will seek to facilitate detailed planning for the future residential development of the Growth Corridors. The preparation of the precinct structure plan will reflect the most up-to-date planning controls and provide the community with increased flood and fire protection.

Economic Impacts

The proposed Amendment will have positive economic effects by acknowledging that the land is designated for future residential development. This will provide certainty for landholders within the Growth Corridors.

Consultation

The Amendment was exhibited between 19 January 2023 and 20 February 2023 in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. The following notice was provided:

- letters sent to landowners and occupiers on 16 January 2022;
- letters sent to relevant referral authorities on 17 January 2023;
- letters sent to prescribed ministers on 17 January 2023;
- notice in the Shepparton News on 20 January 2023;
- notice in the Victoria Government Gazette on 19 January 2023;
- notice on Greater Shepparton City Council website;
- notice on Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning website; and
- a copy of the exhibition documentation was placed in the foyer of the Council offices at 90 Welsford Street, Shepparton, and on Greater Shepparton City Council website.

12 submissions were received to the Amendment from referral authorities and landowners. Council officers resolved the four submissions that requested changes to the Amendment, and an Independent Planning Panel was not required to consider the Amendment and submissions.

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

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- To provide for sufficient suitable land for urban growth until 2030.
- To contain urban growth to identified growth areas to protect higher quality and intact agricultural areas and achieve a more common compact built-up area.
- To provide for a broader range of dwelling densities and types of housing to meet current and future community needs and differing lifestyle.

b) Other strategic links

- Greater Shepparton Housing Strategy 2011.
- Greater Shepparton Townships Framework Plan Review 2019.

Conclusion

Council officers have prepared proposed planning scheme amendment C242gshe, which will rezone approximately 602 hectares of yet-to-be-developed land in Tatura to the Urban Growth Zone to safeguard the area for future development as a strategic residential growth corridor. The Amendment also amends Clause 11.01-1L *Settlement - Urban growth and consolidation* to update the *Tatura Framework Plan*.

The Amendment was exhibited between 19 January and 20 February 2023 in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, and 12 submissions were received. Council officers resolved four submissions that requested changes to the Amendment and were not required to refer the Amendment to an independent planning panel for the consideration of the Amendment and submissions.

Council officers are proposing two post-exhibition changes to the Amendment; the first to update the explanatory report to modify the indicative staging plan to change the development timing of some parcels of land. The second post-exhibition change is to remove the Development Plan Overlay (DPO1) to land north of Pyke Road as this is now considered to be a redundant planning control given the provisions within the Urban Growth Zone.

Council is now required to decide on Amendment C242gshe. Council officers recommend that Council adopt Amendment C242gshe with post-exhibition changes and submit the Amendment to the Minister for Planning for approval. In the meantime, Council officers will continue with the preparation of the future precinct structure plan and development contributions plan for the growth corridors, which is expected to be completed later this year.

Attachments

1. Greater Shepparton Amendment C242gshe Delegate's Report – March 2023 [13.1.1 - 9 pages]
2. Greater Shepparton Amendment C242gshe Explanatory Report Adoption [13.1.2 - 8 pages]

13.2 Kialla, Mooroopna, Shepparton North, and Shepparton South Community Infrastructure Needs Assessments

Author Graduate Strategic Planner (Amendments)
 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 adopt:

1. The Kialla Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment March 2023, as attached.
2. The Mooroopna Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment March 2023, as attached.
3. The Shepparton North Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment March 2023, as attached.
4. The Shepparton South Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment March 2023, as attached.

Executive Summary

Greater Shepparton City Council has completed Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment's (CINA's) for the urban areas of Shepparton, Mooroopna, and Kialla. Council recognises the importance of community infrastructure in supporting and strengthening local communities, providing spaces for interaction and community events, and facilitating participation and engagement in public life. The availability of a range of social, educational, sporting, and recreational activities provides a foundation for social connection and belonging, reducing the risk of social isolation and the development of associated issues.

The objectives of the CINA's are to identify the demand for community infrastructure generated by future urban development in the context of the broader development of Greater Shepparton, identify the capacity of existing and planned infrastructure to cater for this demand; and analyse the gaps in infrastructure provision and how these gaps could be addressed in the areas of Greater Shepparton.

The CINA's undertook a quantitative and qualitative analysis of existing and planned community infrastructure within Greater Shepparton and benchmarked these against increased population growth and urban development. The recommendations of the CINA's confirm the extent of expanded and new community infrastructure that is required to meet future demand. The four CINA's looked at the areas of Kialla, Mooroopna, Shepparton North, and Shepparton South.

The findings of the CINA's will be incorporated into Council's strategic planning program for Council's urban growth areas identified in the *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050 Regional City Growth Plan*, and township structure plans, and will guide where community facilities can be included in the structure plans.

Report Detail

The Shepparton, Mooroopna, and Kialla urban areas are projected to experience significant population growth over the next three decades because of new residential development. This population growth will increase demand for local and district level community infrastructure (e.g., early years facilities, community meeting spaces, playing fields, parkland) and sub-municipal, municipal and regional level community facilities (e.g., hospitals, performing arts centres, museums, aquatic facilities).

The *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050 Regional City Growth Plan (2050 Growth Plan)* contains nine growth corridors that will cater for most of the residential growth in Greater Shepparton. At full development, it is estimated that these growth corridors could yield up to 10,575 additional residential lots within the Shepparton, Mooroopna, and Kialla urban areas, and accommodate a population of 25,380 people.

To cater for this increase in population, Council needs to understand the extent of community infrastructure required to serve these new residents and provide a range of social, educational, sporting, and recreational activities. Community infrastructure is defined as health, recreation, education, cultural and community support facilities provided by government agencies, community organisations, local government, and private organisations.

Council commissioned ASR Research Pty Ltd to undertake numerous Community Infrastructure Needs Assessments (CINA's) for the Shepparton, Mooroopna, and Kialla urban areas where the bulk of future urban growth will take place. CINA's are documents that provide a cohesive understanding of community infrastructure needs based on population growth, policy, and standard/benchmarks.

The objectives of the CINA's are to identify:

- the demand for community infrastructure generated by future urban development in the context of the broader development of Greater Shepparton;
- the capacity of existing and planned infrastructure to cater for this demand; and
- the gaps in infrastructure provision in and how these gaps could be addressed in the areas of Greater Shepparton.

The CINA's undertook the following methodology in assessing the needs of community infrastructure;

- undertake a literature review of planning and policy documents developed by Council and other organisations which have relevance to community infrastructure provision in Greater Shepparton;
- identify existing and planned community infrastructure that caters for or will cater for areas within Greater Shepparton;

- an assessment of the capacity of existing and planned infrastructure within Greater Shepparton to provide for increased demand generated by residential development and population growth;
- a quantitative analysis of the future demand for community infrastructure generated by urban development and population growth;
- discussion with officers from Council and other relevant organisations involved in the provision of community infrastructure about existing and future community infrastructure provision within Greater Shepparton;
- a qualitative assessment of community infrastructure needs based on the findings of the literature review, infrastructure audit, quantitative assessment, and consultation process; and
- confirmation of future community infrastructure needs and how these needs could be addressed.

The CINA's provide undertook an analysis on the following types of community infrastructure and services;

- early years, child services and youth;
- education facilities – primary and secondary;
- adult education and community learning spaces;
- libraries;
- aged and disability services;
- community health facilities and medical services;
- community meeting spaces and arts facilities; and
- active recreational facilities.

Council is undertaking multiple CINA's for the urban areas and townships around Greater Shepparton. To date, the first four that have been completed are;

- Kialla;
- Mooroopna;
- Shepparton North; and
- Shepparton South.

Kialla

The 2050 Growth Plan confirmed multiple future residential growth corridors in the Kialla area to accommodate future residential growth. This includes the:

- Kialla North Growth Corridor;
- Kialla West Growth Corridor;
- Kialla Central Growth Corridor; and
- Kialla South Growth Corridor.

A key action from the 2050 Growth Plan is for Council to implement the Kialla North Growth Corridor as a short-term priority (1 - 5 years), implement the Kialla West Growth Corridor and Kialla South Growth Corridor as medium-term priorities (5 - 10 years), and implement the Kialla Central Growth Corridor as a long-term priority (10+ years). Council is currently progressing with the detailed planning for the Kialla North, and Kialla West growth corridors, which are expected to accommodate approximately 3,000 new residents once completed. Council is also progressing with the investigation of the Waterbird Creek Precinct.

The Kialla CINA will assist in the preparation of these five growth corridors and guide the development of future community facilities and infrastructure to support future residential populations within these growth corridors and the wider Kialla area.

The Kialla CINA recommends the following new and upgraded facilities for Kialla;

- a new children's/community centre with four kindergarten rooms, two consulting rooms and activity rooms in Kialla North;
- a new children's/community centre with two kindergarten rooms and an activity meeting room in Kialla West;
- upgrade of Kialla Park as per the 2015 masterplan and an additional playing field as per the 2022 masterplan review;
- a new static library of 700 – 800sqm, to be in a prominent location in the existing Kialla township;
- upgrade of St Anne's College playing field (surface upgrade, lights, changerooms)
- possibly, a new government primary school; and
- local passive open space and pathways.

Mooroopna

A key action from the 2050 Growth Plan is for Council to develop a Mooroopna Structure Plan as a short-term priority (1 – 5 years) to identify housing needs, supporting infrastructure, connections, and opportunities for change and urban renewal within the township. The majority of Mooroopna's future growth will take place within the Mooroopna West Growth Corridor, which was gazetted by the Minister for Planning under Amendment C75 in July 2010, and will take 30 years to fully realise. The Mooroopna West Growth Corridor is expected to support an additional 3,840 residents on 1,600 lots, and already has two growth fronts underway.

The Mooroopna CINA will assist in the preparation of the future Mooroopna Structure Plan and update the Mooroopna West Growth Corridor as to the levels of community infrastructure required to support development. It also takes into consideration the recent impacts of the October 2022 flood event.

The Mooroopna CINA recommends the following new facilities in Mooroopna:

- a new children's centre with three kindergarten rooms, consulting room, and activity spaces; and
- local passive open space and pathways.

Furthermore, the Mooroopna CINA recommends the following expansion of existing facilities in Mooroopna:

- upgrade and reconfiguration of the Mooroopna library;
- upgrade of the Mooroopna Recreation Reserve; and
- upgrade of the Mooroopna Pool.

Shepparton North

Shepparton North is currently experiencing strong population growth and significant investment in infrastructure, particularly planning for arterial road projects and stormwater drainage infrastructure, in recent years. Council is currently undertaking several strategic projects to accommodate this growth including the recently-adopted Shepparton North Activity Centre Structure Plan, and the implementation of growth corridors contained in the 2050 Growth Plan.

Council recently completed the Shepparton North East Precinct Structure Plan, which was gazetted by the Minister for Planning under Amendment C118gshe on 4 October 2019. The North East Precinct will have a lot yield of 1,500 lots to accommodate a population of 4,000 people. The *Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan* also identifies the former Radio Australia Site as a long-term growth corridor, which has the potential to yield 1,725 lots which will accommodate a population of 4,140.

The Shepparton North CINA recommends the following new facilities for Shepparton North;

- a new three-room kindergarten and community centre in the North East Precinct;
- a new four room kindergarten and community centre at the Radio Australia site;
- a new community building in the Shepparton North Activity Centre, consisting of a library of 300sqm, activity rooms, and consulting rooms; and
- possibly, a new government primary school to be located at the Radio Australia Site.

Furthermore, the Shepparton North CINA recommends the following expansion of existing facilities around Shepparton North;

- two ovals and associated infrastructure at the Shepparton Sports City; and
- upgrade of facilities at the Shepparton Sports City as per the Shepparton Sports City Masterplan.

Shepparton South

The Shepparton South CINA was originally conducted in 2009 and investigated the community infrastructure needs of the South Shepparton area, which also included sections of Kialla. The Assessment recommended that community infrastructure be aggregated across five sites in South Shepparton, including Vibert Reserve, the drive-in reserve (now the Harvey Norman site), the South East Growth Corridor, Kialla South, and Vibert Reserve.

The Shepparton South CINA was reviewed and updated in 2011 and identified several limitations and gaps in the provision of community infrastructure in the South Shepparton area and recommended that three more development sites be added; which included McGuire College/Wilmot Road Primary School, vacant land adjacent to Vision Australia, and St Georges Road Primary School.

The Shepparton South CINA was updated in 2022 to reflect the changes in population in the Shepparton South area, and to inform the preparation of the Shepparton South East Precinct Structure Plan, which is identified as a growth corridor in the *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan*. It is projected that the Shepparton South East Precinct will have a lot yield of 2,500 lots to accommodate a population of 6,000 people.

The Shepparton South CINA recommends the following new facilities for the Shepparton South East Precinct Structure Plan;

- a multipurpose children's/community centre located adjoining a primary school site with three playrooms, a two-room maternal and child health centre, and activity spaces;
- one senior size football field adjoining a school site with lights, pavilion, playground, and ancillary facilities;
- two senior size soccer fields adjoining school site with, lights, pavilion, and ancillary facilities;
- local passive open space and pathways; and
- playgrounds.

Furthermore, the Shepparton South CINA recommends the following provision of new facilities, and expansion of existing facilities around the Shepparton South area;

- new children's centre at Wilmot Road Primary School with 2-3 kindergarten rooms, consulting room, and activity room;
- either an upgrade of the Colliver and Leslie Gribble Kindergartens, or closing both facilities in favour of a new consolidated two-room kindergarten facility;
- expansion of Vibert Reserve Pavillion/Community Centre (pas per the Stage 3 masterplan);
- expansion/upgrade of Ducat Reserve play space; and
- relocation of Colliver and Leslie Gribble Kindergartens to a new facility at Wilmot Road Primary School.

Broader recommendations for Shepparton

All of the four completed CINA's contained recommendations for municipal and regional level infrastructure that was not specific to a single geographical area;

- redevelopment of the Eastbank venue as two distinct facilities – theatre and function centre;
- expansion of Shepparton Stadium;
- expansion/redevelopment of Aquamoves;
- upgrade redevelopment of municipal level facilities at Shepparton Sports City.

The delivery of new or upgraded community infrastructure will be the responsibility of multiple service providers, including Council, state government agencies or authorities, or private organisations. Council will need to account for the provision of community infrastructure in a future budgetary process if the responsibility for implementation lies with Council. Many of the recommendations within the CINA's have been attributed to population growth, and can be partially, or fully funded, through the implementation of development contribution plans associated with the growth corridors. This will ensure that developers pay their equitable share for community infrastructure to support future residential development.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

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.

2.8 Support for families and children at all stages of their learning and development.

2.9 Community members are supported to achieve and sustain physical, emotional, and creative wellbeing.

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.

3.7 Expanded educational opportunities.

3.8 Maximise utilisation and investment return on Council assets.

Risk Management

There are no risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

Policy Considerations

The CINA's have been informed by, and are consistent with, Council policy documents that inform the location of population growth and the provision of community infrastructure within Shepparton. This includes the Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050 Regional City Growth Plan, the South Shepparton Community Infrastructure Needs Assessments, various reserve masterplans in Kialla and Mooroopna, and township community plans.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with adopting the recommendations of this report. However, there is significant cost in delivering the recommendations contained within the CINA's and will need to be accounted for in a future budgetary process if the responsibility for implementing them lies with Council. These projects will require funding for development and scoping such projects. Several recommendations have been attributed to

population growth within the growth corridors, and can be partially, or fully funded through the implementation of development contributions plans, which will ensure that developers in the growth corridors pay their equitable share for community and other infrastructure to support any future residential development.

Legal/Statutory Implications

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

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental or sustainability impacts associated with the recommendations with this report.

Social Implications

The CINA's provide recommendations for the provision of community infrastructure in line with population growth. This will result in positive social implications by providing a range of social, educational, sporting, and recreational activities which will provide a foundation for social connection and belonging and reduce the risk of social isolation and the development of associated physical and mental health issues.

Economic Impacts

The recommendations for the provision of community infrastructure within the CINA's will result in improved community wellbeing for existing and future residents within Shepparton. This will result in positive economic impacts through less expenditure on health services within the community through improved physical and mental health.

Consultation

The preparation of the CINA's have undergone stakeholder consultation, including with internal Council departments within the Strategic Planning, Sports Development and Strategic Planning, and Early Years teams, and external stakeholder consultation with Victorian Government departments and providers of social services. Council officers believe that appropriate stakeholder consultation has occurred, and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- To provide an equitable and efficient distribution of community facilities and services.
- To encourage and implement activities that will strengthen community spirit.
- To ensure that facilities, services, and policies are accessible and inclusive, and appropriate to the sporting and recreation needs of the community.

b) Other strategic links

- Kialla Park Redevelopment Masterplan 2015.
- Mooroopna West Growth Corridor Structure Plan 2009.
- Mooroopna Recreation Reserve Masterplan
- Mooroopna Community Plan 2022-2026
- RiverConnect Paths Masterplan 2015
- Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050 Regional City Growth Plan.
- Shepparton North East Precinct Structure Plan 2019
- Shepparton North East Development Contributions Plan 2019

Conclusion

The CINA's provide a cohesive understanding of community infrastructure needs based on population growth within Shepparton to ensure the provision of social, educational, sporting,

and recreational activities. Council recognises the importance of community infrastructure in supporting and strengthening local communities to provide a foundation for social connection and belonging, reducing the risk of social isolation and the development of associated issues.

The findings of the CINA's will be incorporated into Council's strategic planning program for Council's urban growth areas identified in the Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050 Regional City Growth Plan, and township structure plans and guide where community facilities can be included in the structure plans.

Attachments

1. Kialla Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment March 2023 [13.2.1 - 49 pages]
2. Mooroopna Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment March 2023 [13.2.2 - 45 pages]
3. Shepparton North Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment March 2023 [13.2.3 - 54 pages]
4. Shepparton South Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment March 2023 [13.2.4 - 61 pages]

14 Confidential Management Reports

14.1 Designation of Confidentiality of Information - Reports

The following report and 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 14.3 Greater Shepparton Cultural Heritage Awards 2023

These documents contain information, which is consistent with the Local Government Act 2020, definition of 'Council Business information, being information that would prejudice the Councils position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released'.

14.2 Close Meeting to Members of the Public

RECOMMENDATION

That pursuant to section 66(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, resolve that the Council meeting be closed to members of the public for consideration of the following confidential item:

- **Item 14.3 Greater Shepparton Cultural Heritage Awards 2023**

15 Documents for Signing and Sealing

Nil Received.

16 Councillor Reports

16.1 Councillor Activities

16.1.1 Councillor Activities - March 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 March 2023 to 31 March 2023, some or all of the Councillors have been involved in the following activities:

- Launch - 2023 Fairley Leadership Program
- Shepparton South Community Centre | Open Day & Launch of the Heart & Soul Book
- Goulburn Valley Grammar School | Dollars & Sense - Year 9 Students
- Shepparton Education Plan - Advisory Board Meeting
- Greater Shepparton | Youth Leading the World Congress
- Greater Shepparton LGBTIQ+ Advisory Meeting
- Tatura Park Advisory Committee Meeting
- Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting
- Regional Cities Victoria | Property Council - Geelong Outlook 2023
- Launch - Climate Emergency Action Plan
- Launch - Greater Shepparton Lighthouse Project - OLLY (Opportunity and Life Links for Youth)
- Commonwealth Games Australia | Regional Familiarisation Tour in Shepparton
- Greater Shepparton City Council | International Women's Day
- Soroptimist International of Shepparton | International Women's Day Celebration
- Doutta Gala Harmony Village | Aged Care Services & Retirement Living
- Disability Advisory Committee Meeting
- Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Meeting
- Launch - Australian Jordanian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (AJCCI)
- Ardmona Resource Recovery Centre | Kerbside Collection Waste Inspection

- Cricket Shepparton | Presentation Night
- Greater Shepparton City Council | Citizenship Ceremony
- Recycling Victoria Regional Visit- Goulburn Valley
- Converge on the Goulburn – Festival
- HussIn Auto Show Tatura – 13th Birthday Car Show
- The George Nelson - Shepparton Gift 2023
- Shepparton Albanian Moslem Society | Harvest Festival
- Committee for Greater Shepparton | Annual General Meeting
- All Saints Anglican School | Sod Turning - Photo Opportunity
- Acknowledgement of Ramadan | Lunch with Cultural Leaders
- 2023 GV Harmony Cup | All Abilities Cricket
- Launch - Friends of the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton | 'Sign of the Times'
- Saleyards Advisory Committee Meeting
- Commonwealth Games 2026 | Organising Committee - Regional Engagement Forum
- Harmony Week - Grahamvale Primary School
- Welcome Event - Country Fire Authority (CFA) and Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria (VFBV) - State Firefighter Championship 2023
- Shepparton Greyhound Racing Club | CKH Painting Shepparton Cup 2023
- Albanian | Ramadan Interfaith Iftar Dinner - "Breaking the Fast Together"
- Soccer Event | GV Suns & Beaumaris SC
- Eat Up 10 Year Sandwich Making Event
- Development Hearing Panel
- Optus Business Plus Roadshow – Shepparton
- Fairley Leadership Program | Cultural Training
- Bachar Houli Foundation | Ramadan Iftar Dinner
- Greater Shepparton City Council | Citizenship Ceremony
- Launch - RiverConnect Strategic Plan 2023-2028
- Public Sector Gender Equality Commissioner

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. Councillor Briefing 2 August 2022 [**16.1.1.1** - 2 pages]
2. Councillor Briefing 9 August 2022 [**16.1.1.2** - 2 pages]
3. Councillor Briefing 16 August 2022 [**16.1.1.3** - 1 page]
4. Councillor Briefing 23 August 2022 [**16.1.1.4** - 3 pages]
5. Councillor Briefing 6 September 2022 [**16.1.1.5** - 2 pages]
6. Councillor Briefing 13 September 2022 [**16.1.1.6** - 3 pages]
7. Councillor Briefing 20 September 2022 [**16.1.1.7** - 2 pages]
8. Councillor Briefing 27 September 2022 [**16.1.1.8** - 3 pages]
9. Councillor Briefing 4 October 2022 [**16.1.1.9** - 2 pages]
10. Councillor Briefing 11 October 2022 [**16.1.1.10** - 2 pages]
11. Councillor Briefing 8 November 2022 [**16.1.1.11** - 1 page]
12. Councillor Briefing 15 November 2022 [**16.1.1.12** - 3 pages]
13. Councillor Briefing 22 November 2022 [**16.1.1.13** - 4 pages]
14. Councillor Briefing 29 November 2022 [**16.1.1.14** - 2 pages]
15. Councillor Briefing 6 December 2022 [**16.1.1.15** - 3 pages]
16. Councillor Briefing 13 December 2022 [**16.1.1.16** - 2 pages]
17. Councillor Briefing 31 January 2022 [**16.1.1.17** - 3 pages]
18. Councillor Briefing 7 February 2022 [**16.1.1.18** - 1 page]
19. Councillor Briefing 14 February 2022 [**16.1.1.19** - 1 page]
20. Councillor Briefing 28 February 2022 [**16.1.1.20** - 3 pages]

21. Councillor Briefing 7 March 2023 [**16.1.1.21** - 2 pages]
22. Councillor Briefing 14 March 2023 [**16.1.1.22** - 2 pages]
23. Councillor Briefing 21 March 2023 [**16.1.1.23** - 1 page]
24. Councillors Catch Up 28 March 2023 [**16.1.1.24** - 1 page]
25. CEO Councillors Catch Up 7 March 2023 [**16.1.1.25** - 1 page]
26. CEO Councillors Catch Up 14 March 2023 [**16.1.1.26** - 1 page]



16.2 Council Committee Reports

Nil Received.

17 Notice of Motion, Amendment or Rescission

17.1 Notice of Motion 4/2023 Avenue of Flags

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

Cr Dobson has given notice of intent to move:

RECOMMENDATION

Greater Shepparton City Council recognises and acknowledges Indigenous, migrant and refugee communities who have all contributed to the growth of the Goulburn Valley.

In particular, Council notes the cultural, economic, social and religious influences that they have contributed towards the growth of our region.

Council now considers that this recognition be acknowledged in a formal manner.

That the Council:

1. provide a report to seek the endorsement of that recognition, by way of an Avenue of Flags in an appropriate location within the municipality.
2. The report should include the financial implications, together with a plan to seek assistance from embassies representing the nominated countries, the Victorian Multicultural Agencies, Indigenous Agencies, the Victorian State Government and the Federal Government; and
3. The report be placed before Council on or before the September 2023 Scheduled Council Meeting.

17.2 Notice of Motion 5/2023 CEO Remuneration Committee

Author Administration Officer 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:

- prepare an officer report that outlines the risks and benefits of reviewing the Chief Executive Officer Remuneration Policy, with a view of disbanding the CEO Remuneration Committee and;
- identifies alternative means of assessing the performance of the CEO, including options for full Councillor involvement during all considerations and the omission of external representation.

18 Urgent Business not Included on the Agenda

Nil Received.

19 Close of Meeting