

PYRENEES
— S H I R E —



6:00PM

Ordinary Meeting of Council

20TH FEBRUARY 2018

Council Chamber

**5 Lawrence Street
BEAUFORT**



COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 20TH 2018

Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father, we ask you to give your blessing to this Council, direct and prosper its deliberations to the advancement of your glory, and the true welfare of the people of the Pyrenees Shire.

Amen

Indigenous Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the people past and present of the Wadawurrung, Dja Dja Wurrung, and Djab Wurrung tribes, whose land forms the Pyrenees Shire.

We pay our respect to the customs, traditions and stewardship of the land by the elders and people of these tribes, on whose land we meet today.

Apologies

6.00 pm Open Council Meeting Welcome Members of Public

Notice of Disclosure of Interest by Councillors and Officers:

Confirmation of Minutes: Ordinary Minutes of Council held on January 23rd 2018
Closed Minutes of Council held on January 23rd 2018

Amendments:

Public Question Time and Submissions on Agenda Items:

Public Representation:

Question Time:

Business Arising:

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ITEMS FOR NOTING

ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES - PLANNING

1. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Shannon Meadows - Manager Planning and Development

File No: 66/02/02 – 08/02/02 – 50/24/02 – 46/02/02

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council on activities, project and compliance issues in Regulatory Services during October 2017. This report includes four parts:

- Part A: Planning
- Part B: Building
- Part C: Environmental Health
- Part D: Local Laws

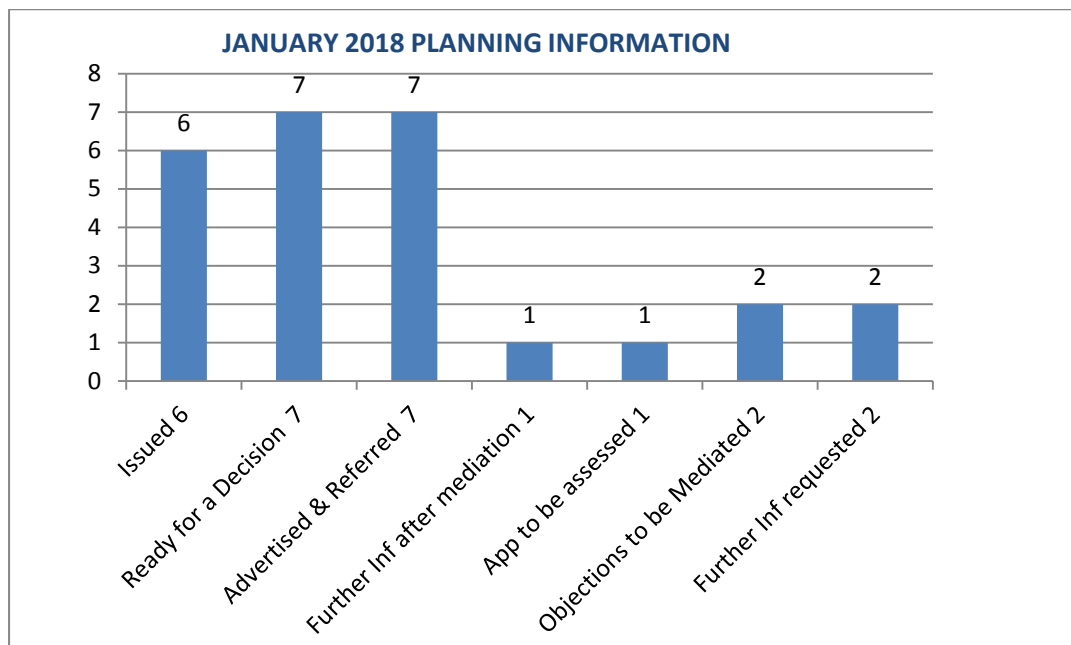
PART A: PLANNING

The planning activity statistics for December and January are summarized in the table below:-

Month	Applications received	Applications determined
December 2017	11	11
January 2018	4	6

The following chart identifies the total number and phase of permit applications within Council’s planning system including applications received in January 2018 and where in the planning system each application sits:

STATUS OF PLANNING PERMITS JANUARY 2018



KEY PROJECTS

During February, Council's Planning staff has conducted a community workshop and meetings as part of Pyrenees Futures work in Waubra. Draft Framework Plans are now being prepared for Avoca and Raglan based on community engagement conducted through November, December and January in these towns.

Over February and March, planning staff will conduct community engagement in Moonambel, Landsborough and Amphitheatre. Summaries of community engagement in each town will be released progressively, before the whole Pyrenees Futures draft strategy is presented to Council for public exhibition during autumn.

STATUTORY PLANNING

During January, Council issued a permit for a Telecommunications Facility north of Landsborough that is funded by the Australian Government as part of the Telecommunications Black Spot Program. Victorian planning provisions exempt telecommunications facilities funded under the Black Spot Program from any public notice requirements.

Council has also placed on public exhibition an application to remove a reserve designation and apply for a planning permit for a dwelling on a block of land in Snake Valley. The land is an unused reserve, surrounded by land zoned Rural Living. Following the public notice period, Council's Planning department will assess the proposal along with any submissions that are received. Should objections be received, the matter would proceed to mediation in line with conventional Council processes.

As per the Subdivision Act 1998, should a permit be granted to remove the reserve designation, proceeds from the sale of the land are required to be reinvested into public facilities or public open space projects. Should the reserve designation be removed and the land be sold, this provides the option for Council to use those proceeds as funding for Council recreation priorities.

OTHER MATTERS

Council's Planning department is working through compliance proceedings to address a number of land use and amenity issues in Beaufort's industrial estate, as well as a number of other ongoing enforcement proceedings.

PLANNING SUMMARY

1. Council continues to receive increasingly complex planning permit applications. Despite this, Council continues to perform above the state regional local government average for permit application turn-around times.
2. Council will be starting community engagement as part of Pyrenees Futures in Moonambel, Amphitheatre and Landsborough in coming weeks.
3. Council is continuing to conduct a major planning compliance and enforcement exercise in the Beaufort Industrial Estate to address a number of breaches of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme relating to land use and amenity. This will be a long-term undertaking for Council.

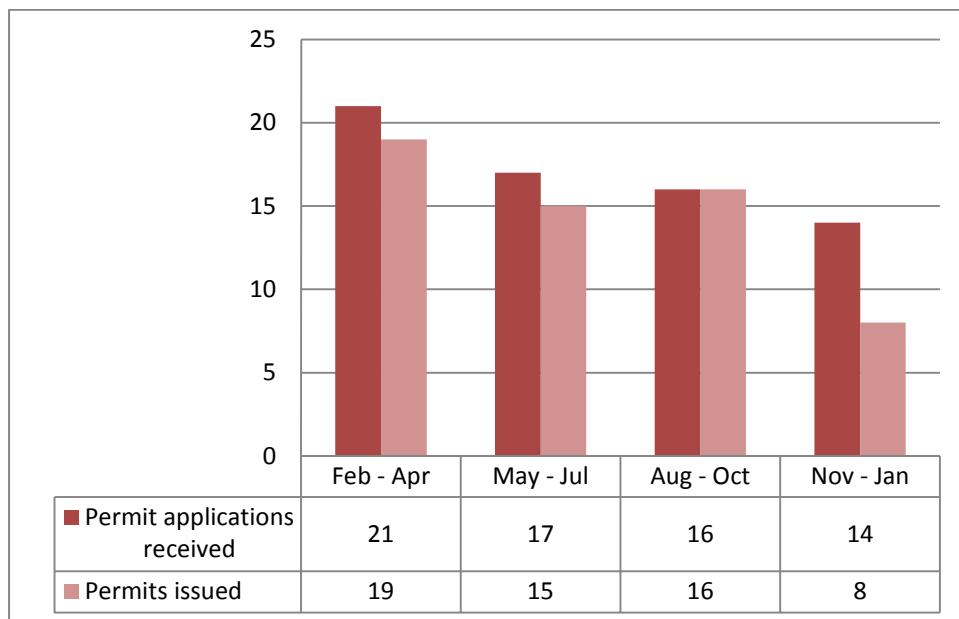
PART B: BUILDING

ACTIVITY

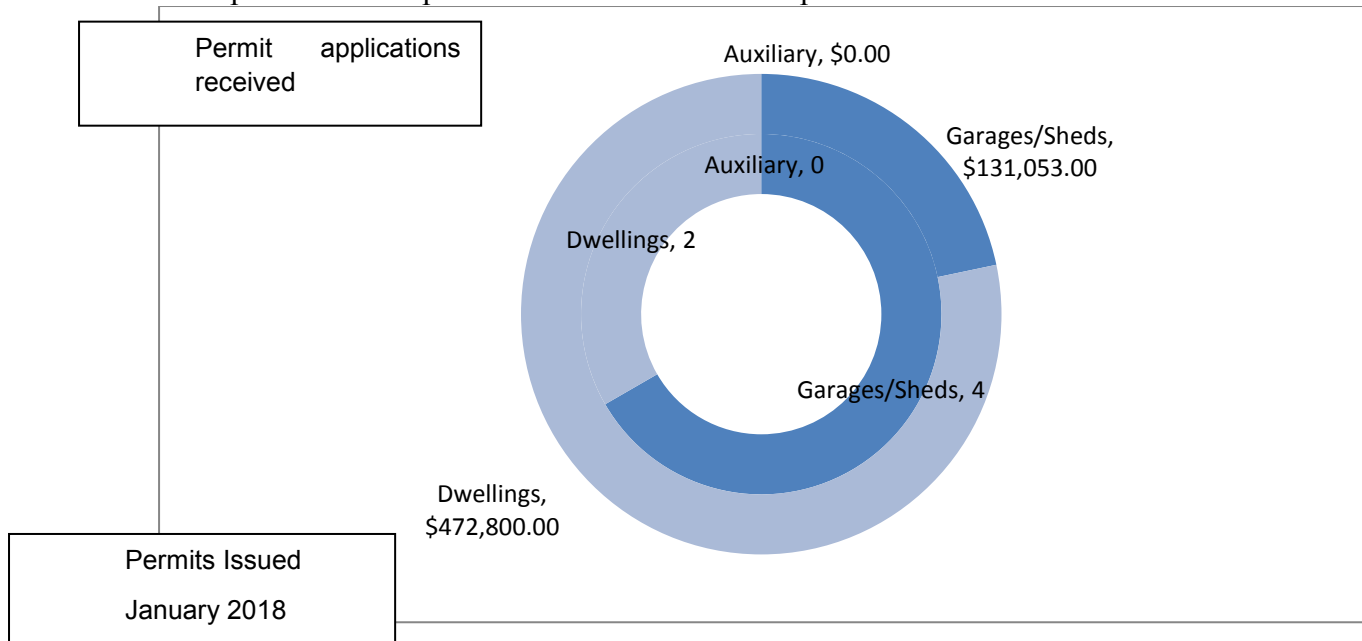
The building activity statistics as at 31 January 2018 are summarised in the table below:

CATEGORY	NUMBER	COMMENT
Permits issued by Council	3	Total value \$69,931.00
Permits issued by private Building Surveyor	3	Total value \$95,245.00
New applications made to Council	6	Total value \$603,853.00
In process	29	These applications (inclusive of new January applications) are pending receipt of further information requested from the applicants to achieve a National Construction Code compliant application for full assessment by the Municipal Building Surveyor.

The following graph represents monthly building activity (applications received by and issued by Council) over the last 12 months.



A more in depth look at the past month's issued/received permits follows.



KEY PROJECTS & COMPLIANCE

Rory Thompson has commenced employment as a Building Inspector in Council's Building Department. Two consultant Building Surveyors are to be retained on reduced hours for the next 6 month period to enable a smooth and efficient transition of responsibilities and roles.

In January 2018 Council issued a Place of Public Entertainment (POPE) permit for the Rainbow Serpent Festival. The POPE addressed a range of emergency management, site operations and traffic management issues.

Council's Municipal Building Surveyor and Building Inspector made a number of inspections during the event to establish compliance with the POPE permit. The main issue during the event was a significant grass fire as a result of a lightning strike. While a debrief with the emergency management team is pending, it is apparent that emergency services were implemented in a timely manner. The Festival constructed a new access track which was very successful in eliminating congestion on the Beaufort Lexton Road.

Changes to Part 4 of the Building Act 1993 commenced on 31 January, 2018. Some of these changes have implications on Council's Building Department which include property owner acknowledgements, development and maintenance of new registers and documents in relation to Notice of Entry compliance investigations.

Council will continue to investigate reports of illegal and/or non-compliant swimming pools including inflatable pools. In Victoria, the design, construction and installation of swimming pools, spas and their safety barriers are subject to strict building requirements under the [Building Interim Regulations 2017](#) (the Regulations).

The Municipal Building Surveyor attended a house fire in Snake Valley on 1 January 2018. The house was totally destroyed in the fire and the Municipal Building Surveyor is currently in discussions with the owner to ensure the site is cleanup in a timely and compliant manner.

The Municipal Building Surveyor will attend a court Mention Hearing in relation to the failure to comply with a works order for the demolition of illegal buildings. Legal enforcement has now initiated as it is considered to be the only remaining avenue to achieve compliance.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

- Council Plan 2013-2017
- *Building Act* 1993
- Building Interim Regulations 2017

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The Municipal Building Surveyor must have regard to any relevant guidelines under the *Building Act* 1993 or subordinate regulations. The building services department must ensure that a responsive service is provided that meets the demand of the building industry within the municipality.

BUILDING SUMMARY

1. In January Council received six applications and issued three permits.
2. A number of complex compliance matters are proceeding to prosecution owing to non-compliance by landowners.

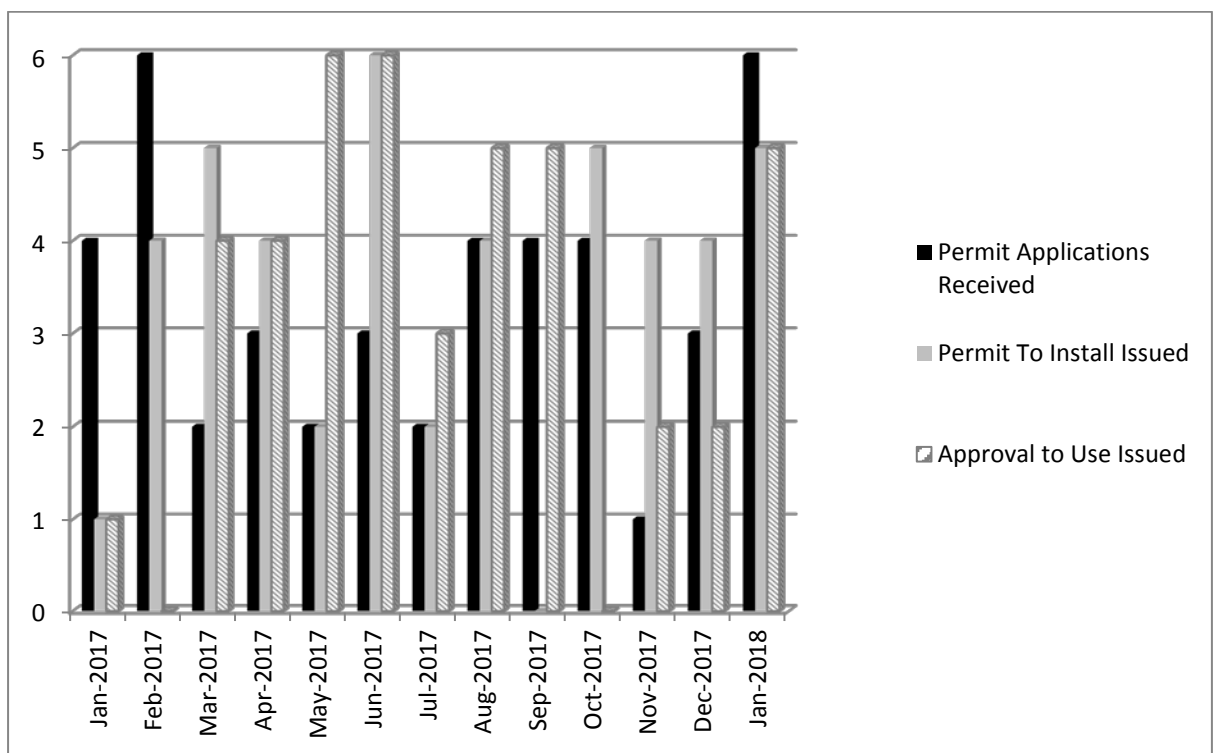
PART C: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

ACTIVITY: WASTEWATER

Wastewater activity statistics for January 2018 are summarised in the tables below:

Period - 1st - 31st January 2018	
Applications to Install New or Alter Existing Septic Tanks Received	6
Permits to Install Issued	5
Approval to Use Issued	5
Fees Paid	\$2,090

The below graph displays the monthly wastewater activity (applications received, permits to install and approval to use issued) over the last 12 months (January 2017 to January 2018).



The following table shows inspection data for Wastewater related Inspections conducted by the Environmental Health Officer in January 2018.

Period	Septic Tank Inspections	Domestic Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP) Inspections
1st - 31st January 2018	5	0

Domestic Wastewater Service Agent's Reports received (below).

Period	Service Reports Received
1st - 31st January 2018	3

Of the Domestic Wastewater Service Agent's reports received in January, 2 were in relation to service conducted in September 2017 and 1 for service in December 2017.

ACTIVITY: FOOD & HEALTH PREMISES

Food Act 1984 and *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* Premises activity statistics for January 2018 are summarised in the table below:

Period – 1st to 31st January 2018	
New Premises Registered/Transferred	2
Inspections/Assessments Conducted	0
Complaints Received	0
Food Recalls Applicable	0
Registration / Renewal/ Transfer Fees Paid	\$16,857.48

Mobile and Temporary Food Premises in the Shire (Streatrader)

At 31 January 2018, Pyrenees Shire had 43 premises registered, 64 low risk notifications and 116 current Statements of Trade (SOT). The Rainbow Serpent Festival near Lexton in late January attracted 52 Mobile and Temporary Food Vendors.

Period – 1st to 31st January 2018	
Inspections / Assessments Conducted	52
Registration / Renewal Fees Paid	\$5,600

ACTIVITY: IMMUNISATIONS

Council's Immunisation service is currently subject to review following the appointment of an Environmental Health contract services provider.

The Immunisation activity statistics for January 2018 summarised below represent opportunistic services performed by the Shire's Maternal Child Health Nurse:

Period	Infant to Preschool	Primary/Secondary School	Adult
Number of Clients	23	0	0
Number of Vaccines Given	47	0	0

KEY PROJECTS

The implementation of the Domestic Wastewater Management Plan continues with a review of existing records and the setup of electronic records on our health software for all properties within declared potable water catchment areas. Inspections of high risk properties have also begun.

COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Registration renewals were due on 31 December 2017 for all Food, Accommodation and Health Premises trading in the Shire. Overdue notices were sent out to the premises that had not renewed by mid-January.

Compliance action is being initiated for any premise that remains unregistered after 2 February 2018.

Other minor issues are being monitored with registered food premises with current non-compliance issues in regard to not keeping regular temperature records, ongoing cleaning issues and not having an accredited Food Safety Supervisor.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

- Council Plan 2013-2017
- Domestic Wastewater Management Plan 2015-2018
- Food Act 1984
- Public Health & Wellbeing Act 2008
- Environment Protection Act 1970
- Code of Practice for Septic Tanks

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The Environmental Health Officer (EHO) must work with regard to various legislative requirements with respect to Food Safety (*Food Act 1984*), Public Health (*Public Health & Wellbeing Act 2008*, *Environment Protection Act 1970*) and Wastewater (*Environment Protection Act 1970*, *Domestic Wastewater Management Plan*, *Code of Practice for Septic Tanks*).

It is necessary for the EHO to adapt to any changes in regulations whilst still providing a service that both meets the demands of residents within the municipality and complies with legislation.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SUMMARY

1. Mobile and Temporary food vendors trading at the Rainbow Serpent Festival were all inspected during the festival. A number of minor issues were resolved, primarily relating to interstate traders not having their Food Safety Program on-site.
2. Any Food Premise Registration that has not been renewed by 2 February 2018 will be subject to compliance action.

PART D: LOCAL LAWS AND ANIMAL CONTROL

KEY PROJECTS

- Council's Local Law Review project is progressing, with briefing material and instructions provided to Council's legal team.
- A number of business improvement projects are underway to strengthen local law administration.
- Fees for Local Law Permits are being reviewed, with likely increases in the 2018-19 budget across all application types.
- Council is partnering with the RSPCA on a range of complex animal keeping matters.

STATISTICS

As of 31 January 2018:

	December 2017	January 2018
Cats impounded (month)	2	4
Dogs impounded (month)	4	-
Stock impounded (month)	-	4
Domestic animal registrations	629 cats 2538 dogs	626 cats 2546 dogs
Infringements issued (month)	0	1
Prosecutions	1	0

LOCAL LAW REVIEW PROJECT

Council's Local Law team has handed over detailed briefing documentation to its legal team to enable the drafting of new Local Laws. Once draft Laws are received by Council, extensive community consultation will commence, including a one-month informal consultation period; and a formal notification period under section 223 of the Local Government Act.

COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Council continues to monitor a complex compliance matter relating to an animal keeping and breeding establishment in Lexton, where Council has served a Notice on the landowner for breaches of the Domestic Animal Act. Council officers recently met Inspectorate staff from RSPCA to discuss a joint approach to compliance monitoring.

Council Rangers continue to proactively investigate properties where unregistered domestic animals are being kept, in breach of the Domestic Animal Act. These properties were initially identified in the Domestic Animal Audit completed early this year.

Council's suite of Local Law permit fees is being reviewed in preparation for the 2018-19 budget. A number of new fee classes will be added in-line with permit requirements being established under the Local Law review project.

New administrative processes are also being established, including: a range of template permit application forms; checklists that identify minimum application requirements for all permits; internal referrals; standard conditions; and scheduled auditing of issued permits. Fees will be applied to all Local Law types.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

- Council Plan 2013-2017
- *Domestic Animals Act* 1994
- Domestic Animal Management Plan 2012-2016
- Council Local Laws No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4

LOCAL LAWS AND ANIMAL CONTROL SUMMARY

1. Council continues to investigate a number of complex compliance matters across the Shire relating to public safety, roadside signage and unregistered domestic animals, and is cooperating with RSPCA on various issues.
2. New internal processes are being developed to strengthen Council's administration of its Local Laws.

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

2. CUSTOMER ACTION REQUESTS – JANUARY 2018

Evan King - Director Corporate and Community Services

File No: 16/08/04

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council on our Customer Action Request System (CARS) for the month of January 2018.

BACKGROUND

Council has operated an electronic Customer Action Service Request system (CARS) for a number of years enabling residents to lodge service requests. Requests can be lodged in person, via telephone, via Council's website or by using a smartphone "Snap Send Solve" application.

Since December 2012, CARS has been promoted on a regular basis in Council's Public Notices published in the Pyrenees Advocate.

Predominantly, service requests have been for maintenance issues – potholes, road condition, drainage, signage, slashing and overhanging branches. Council receives between 400 and 700 service requests per annum.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

As at the 31st January 2018 the status of CARS was as follows:

- No change in 2016 Outstanding CARS
- 20% Decrease in 2017 Outstanding CARS
- 11% Increase in total CARS outstanding
- 55% Increase in CARS received
- Of the 167 outstanding CARS 58 relate to natural disasters
- For the month of January 60 CARS were closed

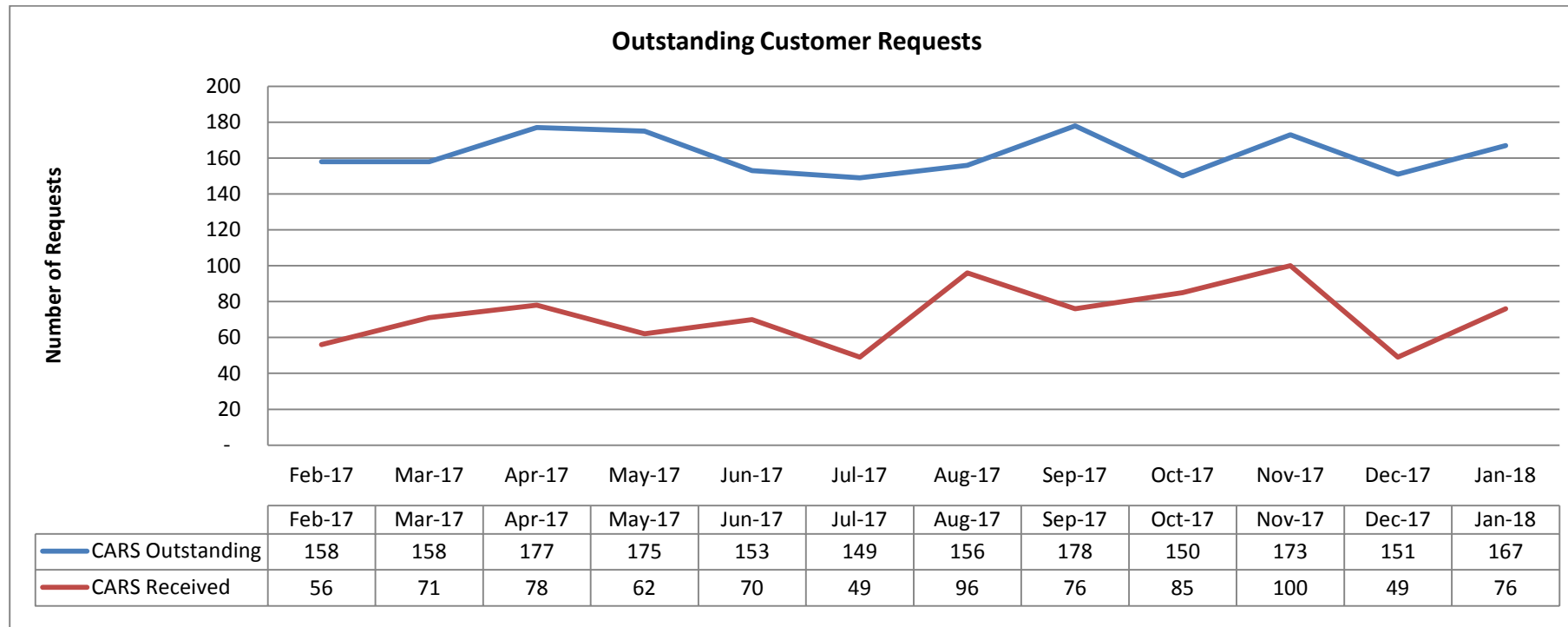
A CARS working group has been set up to undertake a complete review of the CARS system. Three meetings have been held with a number of recommendations in the process of being implemented.

Additional services have been added to the CARS system including pools, local laws, building maintenance and compliance.

To enable better analysis of outstanding CARS and the ability to identify CARS related to natural disaster a report has been created that categorises CARS by request type.

A detailed review of the 38 2016 outstanding CARS will be conducted during February 2018

Total Outstanding Cars Requests													
Year	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17	Jan-18	% Change
2015	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2016	114	98	86	78	64	59	57	54	53	53	38	38	0%
2017	44	60	91	97	89	90	99	124	97	120	113	90	-20%
2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	3899900%
Total	158	158	177	175	153	149	156	178	150	173	151	167	11%
Total Received	56	71	78	62	70	49	96	76	85	100	49	76	55%



Open Requests - Type	
Roads	11
Streetlights	2
Drainage	12
Footpaths/K&C/PL(VR)	5
Roadside Vegetation	15
Environmental Health	1
Planning	1
Building Maintenance	28
Parks & Reserves	2
Local Laws	8
Building Compliance	2
Road Maintenance	12
Roads - Unsealed	2
Road Maintenance - Unsealed	6
Natural Disasters	58
Design & Assets	1
GIS	1
Total	167

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 1 - Leadership

1.1 - Communicate the Council's decisions, policies and activities and the reasons behind them, in a form relevant to ratepayer needs and expectations in accordance to Council's communication strategy.

ATTACHMENTS

2.1 CARS Analysis – January 2018

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report

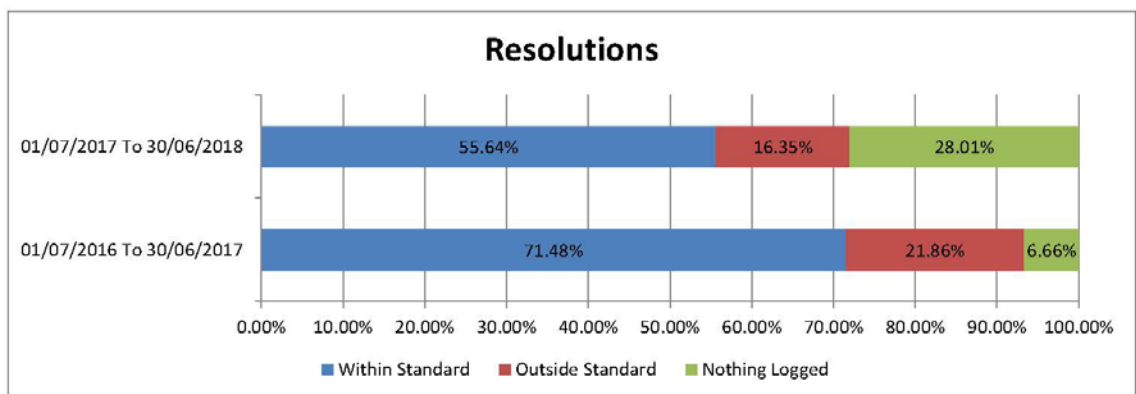
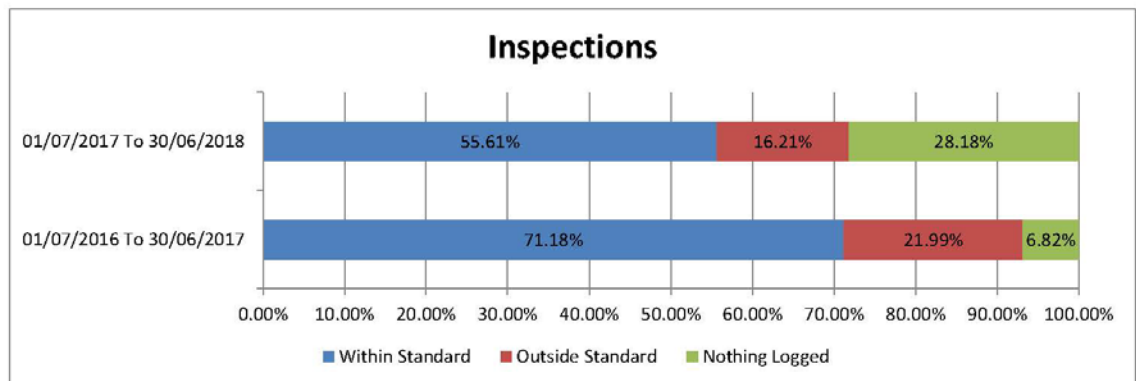
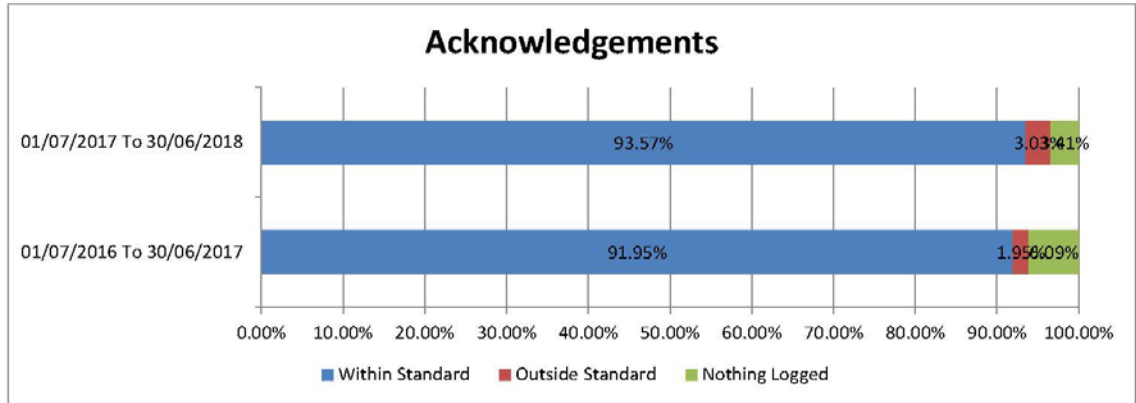
CONCLUSION

There has been continued improvement demonstrated in resolution, inspection and acknowledgement of customer requests. Further focus and effort is required to reduce the level of outstanding requests.

That Council note this report



Acknowledgement:	Within Standard	Outside Standard	Nothing Logged
01/07/2016 To 30/06/2017	91.95%	1.95%	6.09%
01/07/2017 To 30/06/2018	93.57%	3.03%	3.41%
Inspection:			
01/07/2016 To 30/06/2017	71.18%	21.99%	6.82%
01/07/2017 To 30/06/2018	55.61%	16.21%	28.18%
Resolution:			
01/07/2016 To 30/06/2017	71.48%	21.86%	6.66%
01/07/2017 To 30/06/2018	55.64%	16.35%	28.01%



3. YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Michelle Richards – Community Wellbeing and Grants Co-ordinator

File No: 36/20/08

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.
this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation Leadership Project.

BACKGROUND

The Western Bulldogs Community Foundation works closely with the club and utilises the Bulldogs brand as a platform to engage a wide range of participants and positively influence their lives. The Foundation works with the community for the community and delivers services to over 5,000 people across four streams annually.

Of those four streams, the Western Bulldogs Leadership Program is a dynamic Youth Leadership Program delivered by the Western Bulldogs Football Club Community Foundation in Partnership with councils. The program uses the Western Bulldogs Football Club as a vehicle to inspire, educate and mentor leaders for social change in Victoria's West by providing nominated young people with an exciting range of life, civic and sport experiences in which they can learn and develop from. The program is delivered over eight months and includes an opening and closing camp.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Currently, there are limited leadership development opportunities available to youth in the Pyrenees Shire, and external funding is not readily available for Council to deliver a similar program. The program is designed to be flexible with the needs of the community and specifically targets youth who are not currently engaged in standard leadership roles. Specifically the program search for:

- Young people between 14-16
- Males and females
- Emerging leaders
- Representative from a cross section of the community

The primary outcomes of the project are:

- To develop social leaders
- Increase the self-esteem, self-worth and self-awareness of participants
- Foster a strong sense of group identity
- Demonstrate increased engagement within the local community

During the course of the program participants will work as part of a group to deliver a community project.



COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 2 - Community

Strategic Objective 3 - Community Connection and Wellbeing. We will engage with communities to provide responsive, efficient services that enhance the quality of life of residents and promote connected, active and resilient communities.

3.3 - Community Development - Supporting communities to build connections, capacity and resilience.

ATTACHMENTS

3.1 Western Bulldogs Community Foundation Leadership Project Flier

3.2 Signed Partnership Agreement Between Western Bulldogs Community Foundation and Pyrenees Shire Council

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

In January 2018, the Foundation approached Council with a proposal for Pyrenees Youth to undertake the program in conjunction with neighbouring LGA's at the reduced cost of \$3,000 plus \$1,000 per participant. In January 2018 Council participation was confirmed with \$10,000 allocated from Council's Community Wellbeing budget towards the 2018 program which will fund seven places. Further place sponsorship will be sought from other interested organisations.

CONCLUSION

Council is supporting the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation to deliver the Western Bulldogs Leadership Project to Youth in the Pyrenees Shire.

That Council note this report

4. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

Cr Ron Eason – Avoca Ward		
January	Activity	Location
18th	Maryborough and District Health Service	Avoca
23rd	Council Meeting	Beaufort
26th	Australia Day	Beaufort
Cr David Clark – Ercildoune Ward		
January		
4th	Pyrenees Store Cooperative Meeting	Lexton
9th	CVGA Chair and EO meeting	Waubra
12th	VLine rail crossings update	Beaufort
23rd	Council meeting	Beaufort
26th	Australia Day	Beaufort
29th	Opening of Maryborough Ararat Rail line	Avoca
31st	DEWLP Waste Strategic workshop	Ballarat
February		
2nd	MAV Board Meeting	Melbourne
Cr Robert Vance – DeCameron Ward		
January		
19th	RCV	Melbourne
23rd	Council Meeting	Beaufort
26th	Australia Day	Beaufort
February		
7th	Resource Centre	Landsborough
9th	RCV	Melbourne
13th	Councillor Briefing	Snake Valley
Cr Tanya Kehoe		
December		
12th	Future Planning and briefing	Beaufort
12th	Council Meeting	Beaufort
14th	Snake Valley Primary School presentations	Smythesdale
17th	Ecumenical Carols	Snake Valley
18 th	SV Progress Network Christmas Party	Snake Valley
Jan		
23rd	Council Briefing and Meeting	Beaufort
26th	Australia Day	Beaufort
Feb		
13th	Councillor Briefing	Snake Valley
20th	Council Meeting	Beaufort



5. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

Meeting Information			
Meeting Name / Type	Councillor Briefing		
Meeting Date	23 rd January 2018 commenced at 2.00pm and closed at 5.55pm		
Meeting Location	Council Chamber Beaufort		
General Business	1. Visit Ballarat Performance Review 2. Grants Register 3. Agenda Review 4. CEO Jim Nolan - Review		
Attendees			
Councillors	Mayor David Clark Cr Michael O'Connor Cr Tanya Kehoe Cr Ron Eason Cr Robert Vance arrived at 3.35pm		
Apologies	Nil		
Staff	Mr Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer Mr Evan King – Director Corporate and Community Services Mr Douglas Gowans – Director Asset and Development Services Mr Ray Davies – Manager Economic Development and Tourism – Item 1 Ms Michelle Richards – Community Wellbeing and Grants Coordinator – Item 2		
Visitors	N/A		
Conflict of Interest Disclosures			
Matter No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting
Item 19 Council Agenda	Cr Eason	Disclosure of Interest (s.77B) - of the Local Government Act, 1989 Lease of Amphitheatre Post Office.	??

RECOMMENDATION

That the items for noting be received.

ITEMS FOR DECISION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

6. RV FRIENDLY TOWN

Ray Davies – Manager Economic Development and Tourism

File No: 62/22/06

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the status of the Council initiatives in developing Beaufort as an RV Friendly town.

BACKGROUND

The establishment of an RV free camp site and dump point at Beaufort are recognised as a priority project in Council Plan, Council's Growth and Development Strategy, and Tourism Strategy.

At the council meeting of 15 September 2015 Council endorsed a motion:-

- That Council establish Beaufort as an RV Friendly town.
- That Council proceed with a twelve month trial of a free RV camp site at Beaufort, at a location to be determined.
- Consult with the community and businesses as to a suitable location for the trial.
- Report back to Council with a recommended trial location no later than the November 2015 Council meeting and to demonstrate that the town is compliant with RV Friendly Guidelines.
- Report back to Council regarding the success of the operation after six months of the trial.

At its November 2015 meeting Council received a subsequent report detailing the option of five sites for consideration. These locations were:-

1. The former Beaufort Primary School Site
2. Adjacent to the Beggs St Playground
3. Adjacent to the former goods shed where Lake Goldsmith Steam Preservation Association have established the steam museum
4. Council owned land at 10 Audas Lane
5. Raglan Recreation Reserve

Upon receiving this report Council passed a motion:-

1. That Council proceed with an application for a planning permit to establish a trial free camp site adjacent to the new Apex and Croquet club facilities at 10 Audas Lane Beaufort.
2. That Council work together with the Apex and Croquet Clubs towards a mutually suitable arrangement for this site.

The officer report included the following details:-

“Councils’ Planning Department have been consulted on each of the four selected sites and advised that an application for planning permit is required in each instance. This process would include part of Councils consultation process, which enables neighbours, business and the community at large to provide submissions on the proposal.

Initial consultation has been undertaken with representatives of the Beaufort Apex and Croquet Clubs and both have indicated they are willing to consider it as an option subject to further feedback by their broader membership base.

Business for Beaufort has also indicated support for Councils decision to make Beaufort RV Friendly.

Should planning permission be obtained, and the site established for a trial, further consultation is also planned to obtain feedback regarding the trial from the broader community through an online forum on Councils web site which will be promoted through:-

- 1. Media release and Councils public notices*
- 2. Community newsletter or letter drop*
- 3. Councils Facebook page”*

An Application for Planning Permit was lodged 10 August 2016 and Council issued a notice of decision to issue a planning permit on 20 April 2017, following mediation with an objector to the proposal. The conditions established in the planning permit were satisfied and relevant plans endorsed as at 15 January.

A group of Beaufort residents subsequently convened a meeting with Cr O’Connor, the CEO and Manager Economic Development and Tourism on 25 January 2018 to express their concerns about the Audas Lane site and their preference for the former Beaufort Primary School oval as a more suitable location for a free camp.

Their concerns for the Audas Lane site were:

1. Too far from town (approx. 600m to supermarket)
2. Isolated
3. Lack of security / lighting – people will feel unsafe
4. Accessibility – one way in and out – difficult to manoeuvre
5. Need to cater for a variety of vans (including big rigs up to 19.5m)
6. No toilet facilities (while not a CMCA criteria, experience has shown there is potential for misuse of a site without a toilet)
7. No water

The group considered that it would not be in Beaufort’s interest to implement a trial at Audas Lane as it would result in negative publicity on social media (esp. wiki camps) due to the lack of desirability / suitability to RV campers, and that would be detrimental long term.

The group argued that the former primary school site would be their preferred site due to:

1. Proximity to shops
2. Visibility / not isolated
3. Toilets and BBQ across the road
4. Caters for young and old

5. Street lighting
6. Accessibility (could be made with in and out)
7. Proximity to proposed dump point and water
8. Security – no need to unhitch rig to drive to town.

The lobby group would prefer therefore to defer access to a free camp site to ensure the best outcomes are achieved in the long term.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

There are a number of considerations to be taken into consideration following the recent meeting regarding the free camp site.

1. Local Law No 1 – Section 8.5.1 (b) provides the following instruction regarding Councils ability to rescind a motion, in this case Councils endorsement of a motion to proceed with the trial site at Audas Lane. The provisions of the relevant Local Law are provided as follows:-

8.5 DIVISION 5 - NOTICE OF AMENDMENT OR RESCISSION

8.5.1 PROCEDURE

- (a) A Councillor may propose a motion to amend or rescind a decision of the Council provided:
 - (i) the previous motion has not been acted upon, and
 - (ii) a notice is delivered to the Chief Executive Officer outlining;
 - the decision proposed to be amended or rescinded; and
 - the meeting and date when the decision was made
 - (b) A decision will be deemed to have been acted upon once its details have been formally communicated to persons affected by or reliant on the resolution or where a statutory procedure has been carried out as a result of that decision.
 - (c) No action will be taken to implement a resolution on which notice to rescind or alter the resolution has been given.
2. The State Government Process for preparing the former Beaufort Primary School site for disposal is currently unfolding. One of the requirements for this to occur is for the land to be rezoned, and Council's Planning Department will be making a submission to the government regarding this process when the consultation period is announced by DELWP. It is important to note the final decision on any planning controls that may apply to the site in future will rest with the Minister for Planning and this will influence potential future uses for the site. Council acknowledges there is likely to be significant community interest and a range of local views regarding the site's future. Council will play a role in encouraging community involvement in the state-run consultation process to ensure the breadth of local interest is reflected.

Other steps overseen by the Department of Treasury and Finance for disposal of the land include the preparation of a survey plan, valuation, and native title clearance.

3. Council has not made any decision to acquire the former primary school site for any public purpose, and any decision to do so would require a range of matters to be considered further.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 5 - Development and Environment. We will undertake forward planning, and facilitate growth in our local economy while protecting key natural and built environmental values.

5.4 - Increase the visitor economy by implementing the Pyrenees Shire Council Tourism Strategy.

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Council has made a financial commitment to the RV camping trial site at Audas Lane. This includes officer time to proceed with planning approvals as outlined in this report, funds invested in developing the design of the free camp which were required as a condition of the planning approval, and made budgetary allocations for physical works to commence.

CONCLUSION

That Council proceeds with the trial site in terms of the Council motion in November 2015

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:-

- a) proceeds with the trial free camp site at Audas Lane which is to be subject to a review after six months and
- b) continues to consult with the broader community on the matter, and
- c) encourages community participation in the state run consultation process for the rezoning of the former Beaufort Primary School land to ensure the breadth of local interest is reflected

ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – PLANNING

7. USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAND FOR INDUSTRY (ASPHALT BATCHING PLANT – TRAWALLA) – PA2665/17

Shannon Meadows – Manager Regulatory Services

File No: 402000240P

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to determine a planning permit application (PA2665/17) to use and develop land on the Western Highway, Trawalla (Part of Lot 3, PS 712969V) for Industry (Asphalt batching plant).

BACKGROUND

Council has received a planning application to use and develop land in Trawalla for an asphalt batching plant, which is defined as “Industry” under the Pyrenees planning Scheme.

The application has been advertised to surrounding land owners. Two objections were lodged, and these objections remained following a mediation session held between the applicant and objectors in December 2017.

The site is a 2ha portion on the eastern point of an 8.52ha section of a lot severed by previous Western Highway duplication works. This portion of the lot comprises a construction compound formerly used for duplication works on the Western Highway. This compound is surrounded with a 2.1m high security fence and has an existing gravel surface. Infrastructure associated with the asphalt plant would in turn take up a small portion of this compound, and includes:

- Portable office, toilet and lunch room buildings
- Stone and rock stockpiles
- Plant equipment including a conveyer belt, batching equipment and a hopper for loading bitumen on to trucks. This batching machinery includes a 8m high chimney that would emit steam from the process of combining heated stone with bitumen. This equipment is mobile.

The application received two objections. A mediation session was held in December 2017 involving the applicant and objectors. Neither objection was withdrawn after the session, during which the applicant provided further information on the proposed management of the site. Issues raised in the objections are analysed in Attachment 1 to this report, along with a detailed assessment of the proposal against the provisions of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme.

SITE CONTEXT

The site is an irregular triangular-shaped 8.52ha section, fronting the Western Highway in the south and Rodgers Road in the north. The proposed asphalt plant would be on a 2ha portion at the eastern tip of the lot, which has been used as a construction depot in association with the Western Highway duplication works. The construction depot site has existing hard stand and gravel surface, is currently fenced with 2.1m high security fencing, and includes an existing access point with a 10m wide gate fronting on to Rodgers Road at the north-eastern corner of the site.

The site slopes gently upward to the east. The southern boundary to the site, fronting the Western Highway, includes a 2.5m high earth bund planted with eucalypts, with another planted earth bund forming the southern side of the highway. The northern boundary fronting Rodgers Road is flat, with scrubby vegetation. Land surrounding the site is in the Farming Zone, with smaller lots ranging from 3ha-15ha to the west and larger agricultural lots to the south, east and north.

The Trawalla Primary School is on the western border of the property. The school's eastern boundary is 540m away from the western edge of the compound containing the section of the site proposed to be used as an asphalt plant. The nearest dwelling in separate ownership is 1.5km south-east of the site, and the Trawalla Hall is 450m north-west of the section of the site proposed to be used for the asphalt plant.

The site is covered by the Bushfire Management Overlay, which relates to areas of remnant pine plantation on and south of the site.

SITE OPERATION

Under the proposal, the existing fencing, surface and site footprint of the construction depot would be leased. The applicant proposes to produce up to 400 tonnes of asphalt per week, with a production rate of up to 50 tonnes per hour, meaning the facility would operate for less than 10 hours per week with operation to be less intense to coincide with reduced road construction work during winter.

The operation would include eight daily truck movements: four bringing in raw material (chiefly gravel) and four bringing out formed asphalt. The trucks are proposed to travel from the west, via Rodgers Court. Site access would be via an existing gate that fronts on to Rodgers Road at the north-eastern end of the site. The proponent has proposed that movements to the site would generally be limited to 6am-8am, with asphalt trucks leaving the site before 8:30am and a possible second load between 11am-2pm.

As part of the production process, aggregate would be trucked in and stored in covered stockpiles on the site. The aggregate would be fed into a rotary dryer drum where they are heated to 180 degrees, with steam produced emitted from an 8m high stack above the site.

Bitumen is added to the hot aggregates and mixed, before the asphalt is then transported via a covered conveyor belt to a hopper, from which it is released to trucks waiting below for loading. The conveyer belt is covered to mitigate potential odours, and a flexible hood is lowered from the hopper to manage odour from the transfer of asphalt to the trucks. Loads are then covered and trucked from the site.

REFERRALS AND NOTICE

Council referred the application to the following authorities under Section 55 of the Planning and Environment Act:

- Environmental Protection Authority, which did not object to the proposal subject to conditions. It should be noted that, should a planning permit be granted for this proposal, the applicants would be required to secure a Works Approval through EPA before commissioning the operation.
- VicRoads, which did not object to the proposal subject to one condition.
- The CFA, which did not object subject to one condition.

In accordance with requirements under Section 52 of the Planning and Environment Act, surrounding property owners were notified of the proposal via direct mail. Two objections were received, one from a nearby land owner and one lodged on behalf of the Trawalla Primary School. These objections both raise legitimate planning issues, including:

- Potential air quality, odour and noise emissions
- Impacts on surrounding agricultural activity
- Truck movements to the site, including near the Primary School
- Impacts on the amenity of the area
- Potential for the use to expand beyond the existing footprint.

In brief, these issues can be managed through conditions on the permit that maintain the proposed scale of production and set in place site management requirements. These are covered and assessed in detail in Attachment 1 to this report.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The main considerations for Council in assessing this application are:

- Potential impacts on surrounding land uses (including the Primary School and adjacent farming land).
- Whether potential emissions from the site can be managed acceptably.
- Access to the site.
- The productive potential of the site, given its severance by the Western Highway.
- Whether bushfire risk can be appropriately managed.
- Whether an appropriate balance can be struck between economic benefits from the proposal and amenity considerations.

SUMMARY

The planning assessment of this application demonstrates that the proposal makes appropriate use of existing infrastructure. Due to the scale and nature of the operation, any impacts on the amenity of the area or agricultural activity on surrounding sites can be managed through appropriate permit conditions, as recommended in this report.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

This report supports Council in meeting its obligations as Responsible Authority for assessing applications under the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Planning Scheme assessment.
2. Copy of planning permit application.
3. Copies of objections.

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

A planning determination made by Council may be the subject to an appeal for review at VCAT.

As this application is exempt from third party advertising, only the proponent has the right to appeal a decision made by Council, including conditions imposed on any permit issues.

Should Council's decision be appealed, Council will incur costs in the preparation and presentation of its case at the Tribunal.

CONCLUSION

The application to Use and Develop land for Industry (Asphalt Batching Plant) is considered to meet the requirements of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme, including the requirements of the applicable State and Local Planning Policies, Farming Zone and Bushfire Management Overlay.

That Council, having considered all the matters required under Section 60 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, decides to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit under the provisions of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme for the Use and Development of land at Western Highway, Trawalla (Part of Lot 3, PS 712969V) for Industry (Asphalt batching plant) , subject to the following conditions:

1. Site Layout and construction

- a) The layout of the site and nature of structures must be generally in accordance with the approved plans, unless otherwise authorised by the responsible authority.
- b) The maximum height of the batching plant chimney must be limited at 8m and be in line with the endorsed plans, unless otherwise authorised by the Responsible Authority.
- c) The plant equipment on site may not be expanded, unless otherwise authorised by the Responsible Authority.

2. Operating hours

The plant machinery may only operate for up to ten hours per week, between the hours of 6am-5pm weekdays and 7am-3pm Saturdays.

3. Site operation

The site must operate in accordance with the Site Management Plan and Bushfire Emergency Management Plan as submitted. These documents are endorsed and will become part of the permit.

4. Lighting

External lighting must be designed, baffled and located so as to prevent any adverse effect on adjoining land to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

5. Non-reflective materials

The exterior colour and cladding of the building(s) must be of a non-reflective nature to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

6. VicRoads conditions

Prior to the commencement of the use, the access is to be constructed (as per the Standard Drawing 2064 attached) to the satisfaction of, and at no cost to, VicRoads.

7. CFA Conditions

The Bushfire Management Plan (prepared by Southern Cross Town Planning Pty Ltd, *Bushfire Management Statement – Part of Lot 3, Plan of Subdivision 712969V, Western Highway Trawalla – Attachment 5, dated 18 October 2017*) must be endorsed to form part of the permit and must not be altered unless otherwise agreed in writing by the CFA and the responsible authority.

8. EPA conditions

- a) The proponent must apply for and be issued with a works approval licence from the Environment Protection Authority or written confirmation that a works approval is not required with respect to H02 Bitumen (asphalt) batching, prior to any works beginning.
- b) Offensive odours must not be discharged beyond the boundaries of the premises.
- c) Nuisance dust and/or airborne particles must not be discharged beyond the boundaries of the premises.
- d) Effective noise levels from the use of the premises must not exceed the recommended levels as set out in Noise from Industry in Regional Victoria (NIRV; EPA Publication 1411, 2011) or as amended.
- e) Stormwater contaminated with waste must not be discharged beyond the boundary of the premises.

9. Site decommissioning

Should the approved use cease, all plant, materials, debris and structures associated with the use must be removed from the site, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

10. Amenity

The use and development must be managed so that the amenity of the area is not detrimentally affected, through the:

- a) transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land;
- b) appearance of any building, works or materials;
- c) emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil;
- d) presence of vermin or otherwise;

In the event of any nuisance being caused to the neighbourhood by activities related to the use and development the Responsible Authority may direct, in writing, such actions or works, as deemed appropriate, to eliminate or mitigate such nuisance be undertaken.

Site deliveries

Deliveries to and from the site (including waste collection) must only take place between 6am and 3pm Monday to Friday, and 7am and 3pm Saturday; unless otherwise authorised in writing by the Responsible Authority.

Visual screen

Should the plantation to the west of the compound be removed, the site operator must:

- a) Submit a Landscape Plan to the Responsible Authority's satisfaction that includes understorey and screening vegetation to create a visual screen to the west of the compound. The plan will include a schedule of species including species/botanical names, sizes at maturity, pot sizes and maintenance arrangements.
- b) Following the approval of the Landscape Plan, complete and maintain all plantings, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Time for starting and completion

This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:

- The development is not started within two years of the date of this permit;
- The development is not completed within four years of the date of this permit.

The Responsible Authority may extend the period for starting the development if a request is made in writing before the permit expires, or within six months afterwards. The Responsible Authority may extend the timeframe for completing the development (or any stage of it) provided the development has been lawfully started before the permit expires, and the request for an extension is made within 12 months after the permit expires.

Notes:

Building approval

The buildings and works hereby permitted shall accord with the requirements of the Building Act 1993, Building Interim Regulations 2017, National Construction Code 2016 and all other relevant acts, regulations and codes.

APPENDIX TO PA2667/17 – (102028500P)

PLANNING SCHEME ASSESSMENT

Under the *Planning and Environment Act* (1987), Council must assess applications against current planning policy in the Pyrenees Planning Scheme.

Council must make an assessment of this application against the requirements of the applicable policy contained in the State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF), the Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF), the Particular Provisions, and the Decision Guidelines contained at Clause 65 of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme.

Because the site is located in the Farming Zone and covered by the Bushfire Management Overlay, the permit triggers for this proposal are:

- Clause 35.07 – Use of land for Industry (Section 2 use)
- Clause 35.07-4 – Buildings and works associated with a Section 2 use
- Clause 44.06-1 – Use of land for Industry.

POLICY ASSESSMENT

Clause 35.07 – Farming Zone

The purpose of the Farming Zone includes three points relevant to this proposal:

- To encourage the retention of productive agricultural land.
- To ensure that non-agricultural uses, including dwellings, do not adversely affect the use of land for agriculture.
- To encourage the retention of employment and population to support rural communities.
- To encourage use and development of land based on comprehensive and sustainable land management practices and infrastructure provision.

The Farming Zone includes a series of decision guidelines relevant to this application, including:

- The capacity of the site to sustain agricultural use.
- The potential for the use or development to limit the operation and expansion of adjoining and nearby agricultural uses.
- The impact of the siting, design, height, bulk, colours and materials to be used on the natural environment, major roads, vistas and water features, and the measures undertaken to minimise any adverse impacts.

Clause 44.06 – Bushfire Management Overlay

This clause requires that a *bushfire hazard site assessment*, *bushfire hazard landscape assessment* and *bushfire management statement* be provided to detail how bushfire risk would be managed on site, and to detail any potential bushfire hazards within 150m of the proposed development. The statements provided have been referred to the CFA, which has not expressed any objection.

Further to this information, the applicant has also provided a Bushfire Emergency Management Plan that includes a number of risk management measures.



Clause 52.10 – Uses with adverse amenity potential

Clause 52.10 of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme identifies a series of activities as having adverse amenity potential, and nominates a threshold distance from “any part of the land of the proposed use or building and works to land...in a residential zone...(or)...land used...for an education centre”. In this case, Clause 52.10 sets a minimum threshold that must be met between the *boundary of the compound used for the asphalt plant* and the boundary of the school.

Clause 52.10 sets a minimum threshold distance of 500m between these two points, which this proposal meets.

Response

The site is a severed lot that currently includes a disused construction compound, and a pine plantation. Its size and current infrastructure limit the potential for productive agricultural activity. This proposal involves using existing on site infrastructure and taking advantage of proximity to the Western Highway to transport raw materials and asphalt.

Surrounding areas include a mixture of productive grazing land, particularly to the north, south and east; and smaller-lot rural development to the west with dwellings and community facilities. An important test for the proposal is whether amenity impacts from the proposed activity can be managed so as not to affect the amenity of the Trawalla Primary School, or the surrounding agricultural uses.

The site meets threshold requirements at Clause 52.10 for bitumen production, and it should be noted that the scale of production proposed is relatively small and can be limited through permit conditions. It should also be noted that the industrial estate in Beaufort is limited in its ability to accommodate development of this nature, due to the 500m setback requirement from residential-zoned land and health/education facilities mandated at Clause 52.10.

In addition, the Bushfire Emergency Management Plan indicates the site will not operate on days of Code Red or Extreme Fire Danger, which is considered appropriate. Defendable space as required under the Bushfire Management Overlay around all portable buildings on the site can be met on the site and in adjacent road reserves.

STATE AND LOCAL PLANNING POLICIES

Council must consider the State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF) and Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF), including the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS), in its assessment of this application.

Relevant SPPF clauses are now highlighted:

Clause 11.08-2 – A Diversified Economy

This Clause includes an objective “to strengthen the region’s economy so that it is more diversified and resilient”, along with an accompanying strategy to “recognise the need for new employment opportunities in Ballarat’s peri-urban settlements to promote sustainable growth”.

Clause 13.04-1 – Noise abatement

This Clause includes an objective “to assist the control of noise effects on sensitive land uses”.

Clause 13.04-2 – Air quality

The Clause includes a strategy to “ensure, wherever possible, that there is suitable separation between land uses that reduce amenity and sensitive land uses”.

Clause 13.05-1 – Bushfire Planning

This Clause includes a strategy, “not approving development where a landowner or proponent has not satisfactorily demonstrated that the relevant policies have been addressed, performance measures satisfied or bushfire protection measures can be adequately implemented”.

Clause 14.01-1 – Protection of Agricultural Land

This Clause includes the following strategy: “In assessing rural development proposals, planning and responsible authorities must balance the potential off-site effects of rural land use proposals (such as degradation of soil or water quality and land salinization) which might affect productive agricultural land against the benefits of the proposals”.

Response

The SPPF indicates a need to balance the economic benefits of the proposal, with impacts on surrounding agricultural and community activity. Given the site has been used as a construction depot, the scale of the proposal is small with limited periods of plant operation and air quality emissions will be limited to steam, this proposal appropriately balances those considerations pending the scale of the proposal being limited through conditions on any planning permit that may be issued.

The application demonstrates that appropriate site design and operational procedures are in place to manage bushfire risk. It should also be noted that, due to setback distances from residential-zoned land mandated at Clause 52.10 of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme, Council’s current industrial land in Beaufort is unable to accommodate a facility of this nature.

Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) and Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF)

Clause 21.01– Pyrenees Shire Key Influences and Issues

The MSS at clauses 21.01-2 and 21.01-3 identifies the following key issues and local influences that relate to this application:

- The presence of small lot subdivision north of Beaufort and extending to Raglan and Trawalla.
- The responsible use and management of inappropriately subdivided rural land.

Clause 21.05-2 – Sustainable agricultural land use

This clause of the MSS includes an objective, “to promote the effective management of rural land”, and an accompanying strategy, to “encourage sustainable resource management and the protection of agricultural land within the shire”.

Response

The MSS reiterates relays the challenges around managing small lots in rural areas around Trawalla. In this case, a larger lot has been severed by upgrade works to the Western Highway, leaving a small portion that includes an existing construction depot and timber plantation. This proposal is considered to make responsible use of the existing construction depot on site, without prejudicing surrounding agricultural or community activity. The remainder of the site, to the west of the depot boundary, currently remains in plantation and there is no scope for this proposal's footprint to be extended into that area.

OBJECTIONS

Council has received two objections to this proposal, which both raise legitimate planning issues as follows:

- Potential air quality, odour and noise emissions
- Impacts on surrounding agricultural activity
- Truck movements to the site, including near the Primary School
- Impacts on the amenity of the area
- Potential for the use to expand beyond the existing footprint.

Council held a mediation session involving the objectors and applicant in December 2017, following which the applicant provided further material by way of a Site Management Plan that was circulated to the objectors and reviewed by planning staff. This plan provided further clarity on operational aspects including odour mitigation and truck movements to the site. Neither of the objections were withdrawn as a result of the mediation.

The issues raised in objections are addressed as follows:

Potential odour and noise emissions

Emissions emanating from the plant will mainly comprise steam during the production of asphalt. This will be produced through the mixing of heated rocks with bitumen, and exhausted through an 8m tall smoke stack.

Likewise, noise will be limited to the operation of plant machinery during the production process. EPA's referral response required noise to comply with levels specified in the publication *Noise Levels from Industry in Regional Victoria* (2011). These levels measured at the *receptor location* (in this case, the school and nearby dwellings) would be limited to 45dB during the day (after 7am and before 6pm) and 35dB at night (before 7am).

Compliance with these requirements would be mandated via conditions on any planning permit issued.

The application details a comprehensive array of measures to mitigate odours, which would only be produced during the operation of the asphalt plant. The main potential point of odour production is the transfer of asphalt into trucks, which is the only point in the production process where asphalt would be uncovered and exposed to air for a brief period.

Traffic Impacts

The site is located along the Western Highway, and would be accessed via Rodgers Road, which forms a section of the old Western Highway. Truck movements would comprise eight per day during peak production, typically involving a “truck and dog” type vehicle bringing four loads of raw material to the site, and leaving with four loads of formed asphalt.

The application proposes that trucks would access the site via Rodgers Road from the west, via an off-ramp from the Western Highway, and then depart via the Western Highway travelling east. This would involve a limited number of truck movements travelling along the northern boundary of Trawalla Primary School, mostly limited to the hours of 6am and 8am.

It is considered these limited truck movements are acceptable.

Impacts on surrounding agricultural activity

Lots to the north and east of the site in particular are in agricultural production, with a focus on grazing. These are large lots of typically more than 100ha. Given the proximity of the site to the Western Highway, limited scale of the plant and production; and measures proposed to control emissions, it is considered that existing agricultural activity in the area will not be prejudiced.

Potential for the use to expand beyond the existing footprint.

This proposal is to use a limited area of a severed portion of an existing lot. Any further expansion to the physical footprint and scale of plant equipment that may cause material detriment to surrounding properties would require another planning permit process to be undertaken.

Impacts on the amenity of the area

Amenity impacts will be mitigated by the topography of the site, and the small scale of production. View lines from the south into the plant are shielded from the south by roadside plantings and a berm in the Western Highway road reserve, and from the primary school to the west by a semi-mature plantation. Views from the north are more open, with some shielding from roadside plantings. Infrastructure associated with the plant will cover a small portion of the compound site, and the proposed scale of production will limit actual plant operation.

ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

8. LAND EXCHANGE - PACIFIC HYDRO SPINGFLAT ROAD CROWLANDS

Doug Gowans – Director Assets and Development

File No: 66/22/06

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider a land exchange to enable legal windfarm access for the Crowlands Windfarm Project.

BACKGROUND

Council officers were contacted by representatives of Pacific Hydro in the latter half of 2017 with an access issue at the end of Spring Flat Road, Crowlands to enable wind farm contractors to legally access their works compound. In order to make the access legal, Pacific Hydro has requested that, pursuant to Section 207E of the Local Government Act 1989, Council consider a land exchange with the current track alignment and the existing road reserve. Council officers engaged legal representation to formalise the proposal.

The parcels of land in question are:-

- part of an unused road at the north eastern corner of CA31, Section H Parish of Eversley, being part of the land more particularly described in Certificate of Title Volume 3485 Folio 801; and
- part of an unused road centrally located on CA36B and CA36C, Section H Parish of Eversley, being the land more particularly described in Certificate of Title Volume 4988 Folio 478.

The proposals were advertised in the Pyrenees Advocate on 22nd December 2017 seeking public submissions, in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989. Written submissions were to be lodged no later than 6th February 2018. No submissions were received.

On 11 December 2017 the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning confirmed the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change has consented to the proposed land exchange and road deviation.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

There is currently a track to access the site across private property that does not follow the existing road reserve alignment due to topography issues. By undertaking the proposed land exchange this will enable ongoing legal access and minimise any potential disputes. It is understood by Council officers that the land subject to this exchange is owned by a participating landowner.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 1 - Roads and Townships. We will plan, manage, maintain and renew infrastructure in a sustainable way that responds to the needs of the community.

1.1 - Ensure local roads are maintained and renewed in line with adopted plans and strategy to provide a safe transport network and meet community needs.

ATTACHMENTS

8.1 Aerial

8.2 Plan of CA31, Section H, Parish of Eversley

8.3 Plan of CA36B and CA36C, Section H, Parish of Eversley

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Council should not have any financial or risk implications as the section of road in question will be managed and maintained by the windfarm operators.

CONCLUSION

As the implications of the land exchange are negligible it is recommended that Council support the land exchange proposal.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

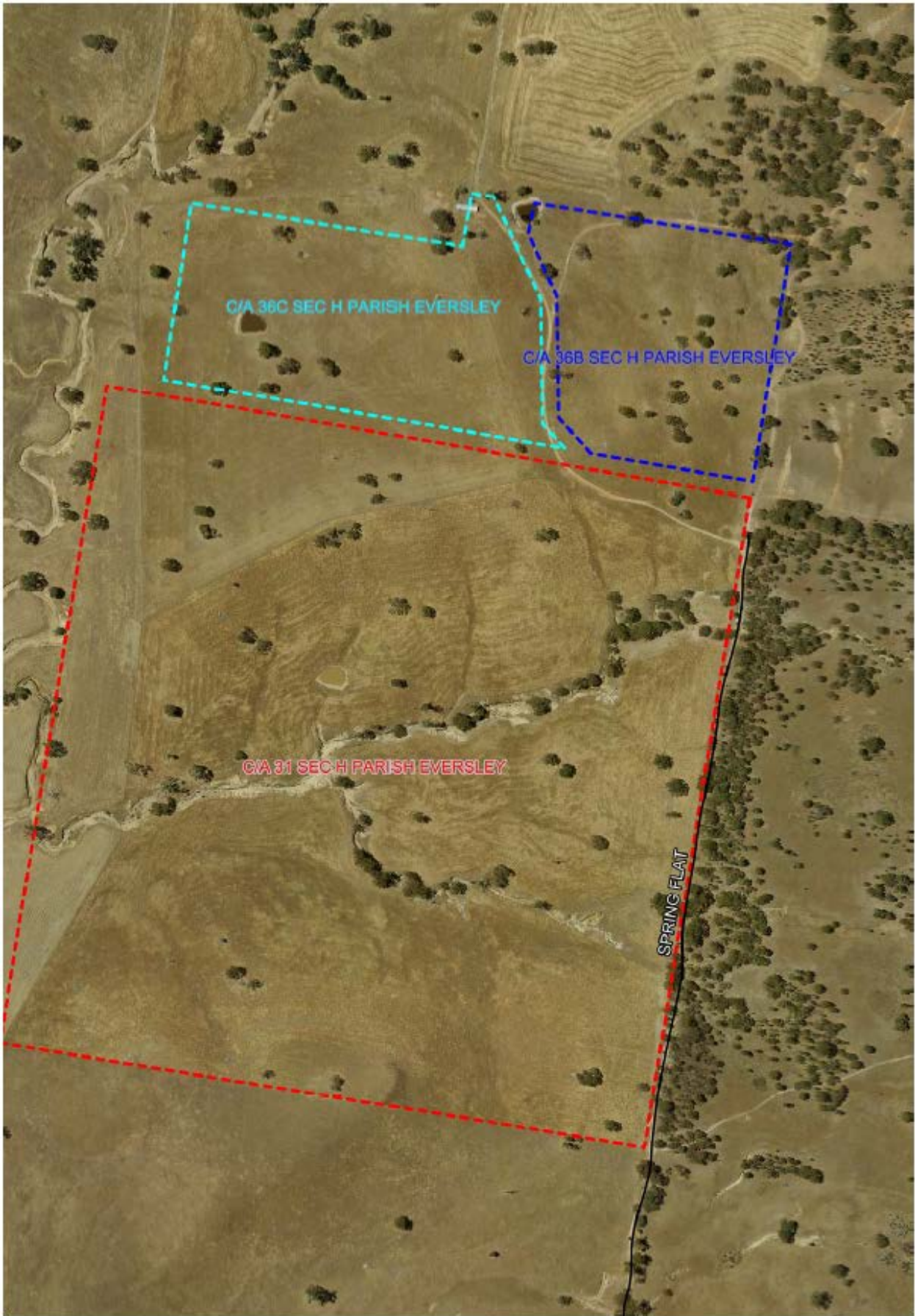
That Council:

With respect to CA 31 Section H Parish of Eversley:

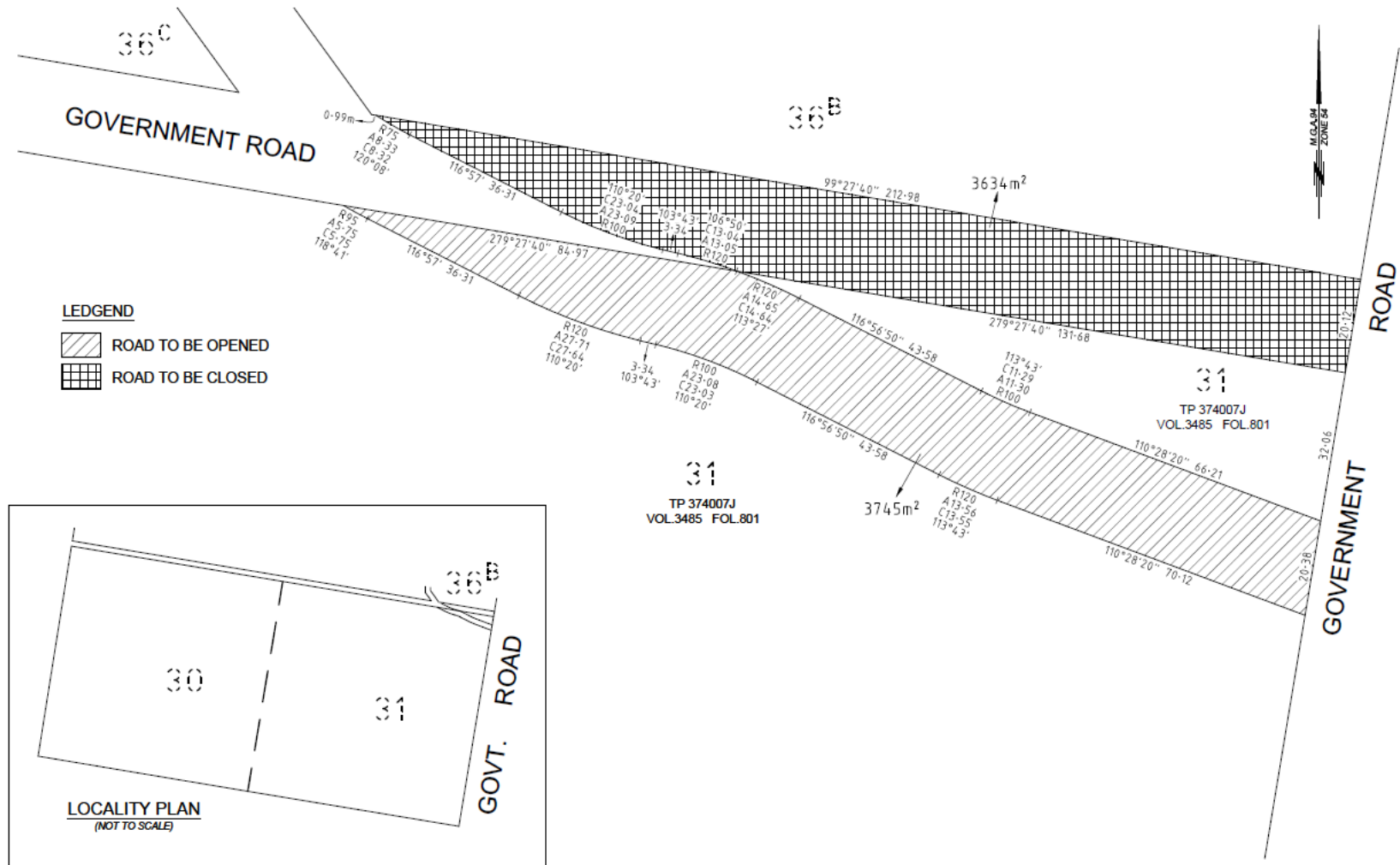
1. having given public notice and invited and considered submissions received in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act"), pursuant to Section 207E and Clause 2 of Schedule 10 of the Act resolve to deviate the part of the existing road cross hatched on the plan of CA 31, Section H Parish of Eversley more particularly described in Certificate of Title Volume 3485 Folio 801 and exchange the part of the existing road cross hatched with part of the land hatched on the plan of CA 31, Section H Parish of Eversley and create the road hatched on the plan; and
2. pursuant to Clause 2 (3) of Schedule 10 of the Act resolve to publish a notice in the Victorian Government Gazette describing the deviation.

With respect to CA 36B and CA 36C, Section H Parish of Eversley:

3. having given public notice and invited and considered submissions received in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act"), pursuant to Section 207E and Clause 2 of Schedule 10 of the Act resolve to deviate the parts of the existing road cross hatched on the plan of CA 36B and CA 36C, Section H Parish of Eversley more particularly described in Certificate of Title Volume 4988 Folio 478 and exchange the parts of the existing road cross hatched with the parts of the land hatched on the plan of CA 36B and CA 36C, Section H Parish of Eversley and create the road hatched on the plan; and
4. pursuant to Clause 2 (3) of Schedule 10 of the Act resolve to publish a notice in the Victorian Government Gazette describing the deviation.



20TH FEBRUARY 2018 – PYRENEES SHIRE COUNCIL – ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
 AGENDA – ATTACHMENT 8.2



PLAN FOR GAZETAL PURPOSES
 CROWLANDS WIND FARM
 PYRENEES SHIRE COUNCIL

9. DEMOLITION OF TOILET BLOCK FACILITY AT THE GOLDFIELDS RECREATION RESERVE

Robert Rowe – Manger Assets and Engineering

File No: 523046200

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to demolish the grey brick toilet block situated adjacent to the tennis and netball courts at the Goldfields Recreation Reserve in Beaufort.

BACKGROUND

The grey brick toilet structure has been located in the reserve for a lengthy period of time, estimated to be in excess of 60 years. Signage on the front of the structure indicates that it was a project of the Lions Club of Beaufort. No records have been located that can indicate an exact date of construction.

In July 2014, an inspection of the facility was undertaken by the Assets Manager and the Building Maintenance Officer. This inspection revealed that the brick structure was in serviceable condition for its age. The concrete roof, spouting, associated fittings and fixtures were all damaged or in a very poor state of repair and cement sheet lining contained asbestos. The facilities are not compliant under the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA). Members of the public and users groups using these facilities were exposed to an unacceptable level of risk and a significantly diminished level of service. It was deemed necessary to decommission the facility immediately. Gates were installed and padlocks fitted to both the male and female entrances to the facility. The toilet block remains locked to this day.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council has recently received correspondence from two user groups and one other interested party supporting a request re-open the facility siting that hundreds of people would benefit, especially during game days and training nights.

Other sporting/recreation reserves in the municipality offer the public and user groups either toilets in the main complex or up to one other external toilet facility. The Goldfields Recreation Reserve has toilets located within the main facility and also on the opposite side of the oval. There are no Council controlled reserves that offer a level of service in excess of this.

To rejuvenate or renew the facility would require connection to the sewerage system, DDA compliance, authorised removal of asbestos sheeting, secure and repoint cracked brickwork, renewal of plumbing fixtures and fittings, drainage improvement including floor releveling, fitting of new doors and jambs, treatment of mouldy brickwork and concrete floor, removal of the concrete roof and construction of a new roof structure.

The facility is not currently connected to the sewerage system. The exact location, integrity and effectiveness of the septic system is unknown to both plumber contractors and the Caravan Park caretaker who had previously undertaken cleaning operations at the toilet facility.

Refurbishment of a building requiring considerable work such as this would not be efficient use of funds. Similar projects have found that it would be more economical to build a new replacement facility. The issue is further compounded considering there are other adequate toilet facilities in close proximity.

If a new facility was deemed to be more viable, it would then need to be determined if this new level of service for a toilet facility required the facility to be open to the public and reserve user groups 24/7. Other options would include the consideration of a limited use facility open only on competition, training or show days. Maintenance, control and cleaning obligations for these various scenarios would need to be determined and costs apportioned. The extent that this new level of service is applicable to other communities throughout the municipality also needs to be carefully considered.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 1 - Roads and Townships. We will plan, manage, maintain and renew infrastructure in a sustainable way that responds to the needs of the community.

1.2 - Maintain and renew Council's facilities and built assets in line with community service needs.

ATTACHMENTS

9.1 Photo of toilet block

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Currently there is no provision in the budget to demolish this facility. The cost to demolish the structure, including removal of asbestos and site clean-up is estimated to be in the vicinity of \$12,000.

If it is determined that an additional toilet facility is required, funding options would be communicated to the Committee of Management. A new Initiative Proposal for the 2018/19 year be developed that will include demolition and options would be presented to Council at a future date.

CONCLUSION

Demolition of the toilet facility is the preferred option due to the age and condition of the presently unserviceable facility. This would ensure consistency with the services levels provided at other recreation reserves within Pyrenees Shire.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. Approves the demolition of the decommissioned toilet block located at the Goldfields Recreation Reserve subject to a funding allocation being considered as part of the budget deliberations for the 2018/19 financial year or at such a time as funding is available.



10. WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RECYCLING REPORT

Chief Executive Officer

File No: 68/10/06

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council about matters impacting on the recycling industry which have possible implications for Pyrenees Shire Council.

BACKGROUND

At the time of preparing reports for this agenda, issues are emerging regarding markets for recyclable materials which may have serious long term financial implications for Pyrenees Shire along with all Victorian Councils. Further information will be provided on the matter to Council ahead of the meeting on the matter for Council consideration.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

An information update on the matter has been provided to Council from the Grampians Central Waste Resource Recovery Group and a copy is provided by separate circulation to Councillors.

While the matters are being investigated, there are currently no proposed or foreseeable changes planned for the recycling service in the Pyrenees Shire.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 5 - Development and Environment. We will undertake forward planning, and facilitate growth in our local economy while protecting key natural and built environmental values.

5.5 - Protect our environment by providing efficient and effective waste management.

ATTACHMENTS

nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

There is a risk that global markets may impact on the cost of recycling in the Pyrenees Shire which could impact on Council budget. The extent of the impact (if any) is still to be determined.

CONCLUSION

Issues are emerging regarding markets for recyclable materials which may have serious long term financial implications for Pyrenees Shire along with all Victorian Councils. Further information will be provided on the matter to Council for consideration.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council

- 1 considers any further information or action that may be needed on matters relating to recycling in the Pyrenees Shire
- 2 endeavours to keep the community informed about developments on the matter

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

11. COUNCIL PLAN PROGRESS REPORT - 2ND QUARTER 2017

Evan King – Director Corporate and Community Services

File No: 16/20/06

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a progress report on actions taken in relation to the initiatives identified in the Council Plan from 1st October 2017 to 31st December 2017

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 125 (1) of the *Local Government Act (1989)* (the Act), Council is required to prepare a Council Plan within 6 months of a Council election.

Council adopted the current Council Plan 2017-2021 at its Ordinary Meeting on the 13th June 2017.

The Council Plan 2017-2021 is framed around five Strategic Objectives:

1. Roads and Townships

We will plan, manage, maintain and review infrastructure in a sustainable way that responds to the needs of the community.

2. Relationships and Advocacy

We will build and maintain effective relationships with community, government and strategic partners, and advocate on key issues.

3. Community Connection and Wellbeing

We will engage with communities to provide responsive, efficient services that enhance the quality of life of residents and promote connected, active and resilient communities.

4. Financially Sustainable, High-performing Organisation

Our organisation will respond to community needs, attend to our core business, and strive for excellence in service delivery in an ethical and financially responsible manner.

5. Development and Environment

We will undertake forward planning, and facilitate growth in our local economy while protecting key natural and build environmental values.











ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The Council Plan 2017-2021 is structured as follows:

- Five Strategic Objectives
- Twenty-five Strategies
- Seventy-six Initiatives

The Council Plan 2017-2021 Initiatives Progress Report for the period 1st October 2017 to 31st December 2017 reports on the progress to date on the seventy-two initiatives identified for action during the 2017/18 financial year.

The Report has been structured to provide a clear unambiguous update on the initiative progress year to date. The Progress Update Report utilises symbols and brief commentary to provide a snapshot of progress.

Symbol	Progress	No Initiatives
	0%	1
	25%	6
	50%	21
	75%	4
	Complete	11
	Funding Required	0
	Information Required	0
	Ongoing	32
	On Hold	0
	Cancelled	0
Total		75

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 1 - Leadership

1.1 - Communicate the Council's decisions, policies and activities and the reasons behind them, in a form relevant to ratepayer needs and expectations in accordance to Council's communication strategy.

In accordance with the Section 125 of the *Local Government Act (1989)*, Council adopted its 2017-2021 Council Plan at its June 2017 Council Meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

11.1 Council Plan Progress Report for the second quarter ending 31st December 2017.

CONCLUSION

The Council Plan Progress Report for the period 1st October to 31st December 2017 describes the range and level of initiatives undertaken by the Pyrenees Shire Council during the 2017/18 financial year. The Report continues to reinforce the importance of good working relationships and project partnerships between community, Council and other levels of government.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

<p>That Council receives the Council Plan Progress Report for the period 1st October to 31st December 2017.</p>

12. MID YEAR BUDGET REVIEW

Evan King – Director Corporate and Community Services

File No: 32/08/30

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update of the operating and capital financial performance for the 6 months to 31 December 2017 against the budget adopted by Council on 13th June 2017. The report also compares the current budget against year to date actuals for each operating program and for all capital works. The review of year to date performance provides Council with the necessary financial information to conduct a formal Mid-Year Budget Review.

BACKGROUND

Council at its Meeting on 13 June 2017 adopted the budget for the 2017/18 financial year. The budget was adopted based on projected completion of projects and capital works at 30 June 2017 and information available at that time.

Council, at the September 2017 Council meeting, considered a report on the 2016/17 year-end financial position. At this meeting Council approved the carryover of certain projects that remained incomplete at 30 June 2017. These projects have now been added to the original budget amounts to form the current budget.

The midyear budget review looks at year to date expenditure and income compared with the year to date current budget. Based on this comparison a year end forecast is created which estimates what the year end result will be as at 30 June 2018.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The financial reports are prepared in consultation with senior managers and reviewed by the Senior Management Team.

The following attachments form part of this financial report:

- Summary Finance Report by Strategic Objective
- Working capital report
- Detailed Finance Report by Strategic Objective
- Capital works report
- Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Cash Flow Statement

The operating reports show variations against the current budget.

Income Statement

Income

- Total YTD Income is \$2.306 million above YTD current budget. This variance is driven by:

- Additional rates & charges - \$215k
 - Receipt of full year R2R funding - \$715k over YTD budget
 - Additional Non Recurrent Operating Funding - \$208k:
 - Beaufort Bypass - \$30k
 - Beaufort Framework - \$30k
 - Community Resilience - \$32k
 - Roadside Weeds & Pests Commonwealth - \$40k
 - Waubra Oval - \$20k
 - Beaufort Golf & Bowls - \$13k
 - Beaufort Men's Shed - \$16k
 - Fire Track Access - \$10
 - Flood Reimbursements \$1.966 million offset by non-receipt of recreation funding for projects.
-
- Total YTD Expenditure is \$1.375 million above YTD current budget. This variance is driven by \$2.733 million in flood expenditure which is partially offset by under spend in operations of \$1.358 million.
 - The \$1.358 million underspend in operations is driven by:
 - Leadership - \$220k
 - Salary savings – non replacement & delayed replacement
 - Timing of IT licences
 - Timing of projects
 - Community - \$180k
 - Timing of building maintenance
 - Timing of Snake Valley Sewerage installations
 - Timing of Engage and FReeZA events
 - Roads - \$304k
 - Sealed & Unsealed road maintenance seasonality
 - Timing of footpath and shared walkway expenditure
 - Commerce - \$185k
 - Community Wellbeing & Grants Officer – Delayed Appointment
 - Timing of promotions and events
 - Timing of projects
 - Environment - \$250k
 - Timing of Pyrenees Futures Project
 - Savings in Building Department Salary & Wages
 - Timing of invoices for slashing program
 - Carry forward emergency management
 - Timing of roadside weed and pest management
 - Timing of waste invoices

 - Forecast income is \$11.592 million higher than current budget. This variance is driven by:
 - September & October 2016 Flood Event, April 2017 Flood Event and November 2017 Flood Event reimbursements:

- Road Infrastructure \$11.109 million
 - Insurance claims reimbursement \$172k
 - Stage 3 Correa Park sales \$241k
 - Miscellaneous movements in income as identified in the detailed finance report
- Forecast expenditure is \$11.492 million higher than current budget. This variance is driven by :
 - September & October 2016 Flood Event, April 2017 Flood Event and November 2017 Flood Event reimbursements:
 - Road Infrastructure \$11.109 million
 - Insured asset rectification expenditure \$172k
 - Miscellaneous movements in expenditure as identified in the detailed finance report

Capital Expenditure

- Capital expenditure has increased by \$139k, which is driven by:
 - \$100k for the Waubra toilets
 - \$20k increase in forward design budget due to planned projects for next year

Working Capital Position

- At this stage of the financial year Council's overall financial result is projected to be a surplus of \$1,739,000 at 30th June 2018. This is a decrease of \$100k due to the inclusion of the replacement of the Waubra toilet in the year end forecast.

Balance Sheet

Assets:

- Cash and investments at 31st December 2017 total \$6.752 million and include \$2.183 million for the Long Service Leave and Annual Leave provisions.
- Trade debtors were \$7.824 million. Debtors are being monitored and regular follow up action taken. Council is generally owed money for the GST input tax credit and BAS's are lodged monthly. All legislative requirements are being met.

Liabilities:

- Creditors balance is \$90k
- Loan Liability at 31st December is Nil
- Employee provisions are \$2.183 million

Cash Flow

- Cash and investments at 31st December 2017 is \$6.752 million which includes \$2.183 million for the Long Service Leave and Annual Leave provisions.
- Cash has increased from the start of the financial year by \$952k

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 1 - Leadership

1.1 - Communicate the Council's decisions, policies and activities and the reasons behind them, in a form relevant to ratepayer needs and expectations in accordance to Council's communication strategy.

Under Section 138 of the Local Government Act 1989, at least quarterly a report comparing expenses and revenue to budget must be presented to the Council.

ATTACHMENTS

12.1 Finance Report 1 July 2017 to 31 December 2017. *Circulated separately to this report*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

All financial implications have been dealt with in the report.

CONCLUSION

The finance report for the period 1 July 2017 to 31 December 2017 has been reviewed by managers and the Senior Management Team. At this stage of the financial year Council's overall financial result is projected to be a working capital surplus of \$1,739,000 at 30th June 2018.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the Finance Report for the six month period July 2017 to December 2017 including the mid-year budget review and 30 June 2018 forecast.

13. REVIEW OF THE S11 INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION

Kathy Bramwell – Manager Governance, Risk & Compliance

File No: 16/20/08

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider a review of the S11 Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation.

BACKGROUND

The *Local Government Act (1989) (Section 98)* requires Council to regularly review all delegations, appointments and authorisations that are in force or have been made by Council under this section.

Council is advised by Maddocks Lawyers in preparation of Instruments of Delegation. Advice is received after each sitting of Parliament on the changes to legislation affecting local government.

In addition, reviews are undertaken when changes in personnel occupying Authorised Officer roles occur.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

S11 Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation

The S11 Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation has been revised and updated to reflect the following changes in officer titles and incumbents within specific roles:

- Appointment of new role - Limited Building Inspector
- Change in officer title and officer in role – Manager Governance, Risk & Compliance
- Change in officer title – Manager Assets & Engineering
- Removal of role – Manager Municipal Engineering
- Removal of officers in roles – EHO; BS and ABS

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Under Section 98 of the *Local Government Act (1989)* Council is required to regularly review all delegations, appointments and authorisations that are in force or have been made by Council.

ATTACHMENTS

13.1 S11 Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation - January 2018 *Circulated separately to this report.*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

It is a requirement under the *Local Government Act (1989)* for Council to regularly review all delegations, appointments and authorisations that are in force or have been made by Council.

CONCLUSION

In order to legally allow staff other than the Chief Executive Officer to enforce provisions of legislation, Council must review its Delegations at regular intervals throughout the year, or when significant changes occur.

Amended Delegations once approved by Council will remain in force until further reviews are conducted following ongoing legislation changes.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

In the exercise of the powers conferred by section 224 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) and other legislation referred to in the attached S11 Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (the instruments), Pyrenees Shire Council (Council)

RESOLVES THAT -

- The members of Council staff referred to in the Instrument be appointed and authorised as set out in the Instrument.
- The Instrument come into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the Instrument, and remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it.
- Council affix the Common Seal to the Instrument.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

14. FEDERAL ELECTORAL BOUNDARY REVIEW

Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer

File No: 34/02/08

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council about the Federal Electoral Boundary Review and to seek direction in respect of whether a submission be made into the review once the draft boundaries are released by the Australian Electoral Committee (AEC).

BACKGROUND

The redistribution of federal electoral divisions in Victoria commenced in September 2017 undertaken by an independent Redistribution Committee.

The process is being undertaken in stages, which initially involved a stage inviting public suggestions and a further stage inviting comments on the suggestions.

The public suggestions invited submissions about:

- where the new electoral division should be located,
- names of federal electoral divisions,
- boundaries of federal electoral divisions, or
- the names and boundaries of federal electoral divisions.

67 public submissions were made containing suggestions.

The next stage invited comments to be submitted up until December 2017 about:

- one or more suggestions,
- where the new electoral division should be located,
- names of electoral divisions,
- boundaries of electoral divisions, or
- the names and boundaries of electoral divisions.

58 public submissions were made at this stage providing comment on the suggestions.

Once the Redistribution Committee has considered all the submissions received, it intends to prepare a report containing the proposed redistribution boundaries and release it to the public around April 2018. At this time there will be a call for any objections to be made.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The Pyrenees Shire Council currently falls entirely within the Wannon electorate.

While the recommendations by the National, Liberal and Labor parties all recommended that Pyrenees remain entirely within the Wannon electorate, several other submissions suggested that Pyrenees be split between Wannon and the electorate of Mallee.

While the seat of Wannon held by Liberals Dan Tehan since 2010 is considered a fairly safe seat, the seat of Mallee held by is Nationals Andrew Broad since 2013 and is considered a safe seat.

Council may wish to consider the merits of being split between two electorates and part or all of the shire being contained in the safe seat of Mallee, as compared with the status quo which has in the main served Council well.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 2 - Relationships and Advocacy. We will build and maintain effective relationships with community, government and strategic partners, and advocate on key issues.

2.3 - Maintain strategic partnerships, and participate with peak bodies for support and to enhance advocacy.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

It could be argued that there is a financial risk to the shire that being part of a safe electoral seat may make the shire less attractive for government funding for Council priority projects.

CONCLUSION

Should the proposed redistribution boundaries when released not show the Pyrenees shire entirely within the seat of Wannon, then not Council may wish to consider lodging an objection.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

lodges an objection to the proposed redistribution of federal electoral boundaries Redistribution Committee only if the proposal (when it is released) shows a change for the Pyrenees Shire.

15. **ADVOCACY**

Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer

File No: 44/06/12

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council and to seek endorsement on matters relating to advocacy.

BACKGROUND

Advocacy to other levels of government is an important Council activity to ensure the interests of the Pyrenees citizens and the needs of our communities are well understood by funding agencies and at the political level. In the past, strong advocacy has resulted in important funding on key issues and projects for the Pyrenees Shire and the Central Highlands Region.

Council participates with bodies including the Central Highlands Councils Victoria (CHCV) Mayors and CEOs group, Rural Councils Victoria (RCV), and the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) on matters relevant to the sector, the region and to rural councils in particular in order to get better access to political decision makers and to maximise the advocacy opportunities.

In addition, Council, and in particular the Mayor and CEO actively seek to build relationships with, and to meet with Members of Parliament, political candidates and representatives from ministerial offices and government agencies in order to represent and advocate for the interests of the citizens of the shire and the needs of our communities.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

During 2018, there is a particular opportunity for advocacy ahead of the Victorian state election to meet with a range of government officials and politicians to advocate on funding, key projects and issues important to the Pyrenees Shire Council including:

- Local Roads and bridges

- Western Highway upgrade and Beaufort bypass

- Transformation of Beaufort as a bypass town

- Communications

- Moonambel Water project

- East Grampians Water Project

- Grampians Pyrenees Development Project

- Lexton Community Hub

- Activation of Avoca

- Snake Valley Community Park

- Community development and community infrastructure

- Opportunities to grow the local economy and to support key industry sectors including agriculture, wine, tourism and renewable energy

- Sustainability of small rural councils and communities

- Community Home Support Program funding

- Small town development

It is proposed that the Mayor and CEO seek to meet with relevant Members of Parliament, political candidates and representatives from ministerial offices and government agencies over the coming months. Meetings have been arranged initially for this to occur in the second February sitting week of Victorian Parliament with both the government and opposition.

Given the Victorian State election to be held later in 2018, it is proposed that invitations be issued to candidates for the seat of Ripon to meet with Council over the coming months leading up to the election.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 2 - Relationships and Advocacy. We will build and maintain effective relationships with community, government and strategic partners, and advocate on key issues.

2.3 - Maintain strategic partnerships, and participate with peak bodies for support and to enhance advocacy.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

There will be some cost incurred for travel, meals and accommodation for the Mayor and CEO depending on where appointments are held, but generally cost is minimal for appointments held in Melbourne or within the shire.

CONCLUSION

It is proposed that the Mayor and CEO participate in a delegation with the CHCV to Canberra to advocate for Commonwealth investment in key regional projects.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. supports the proposed attendance of the Mayor and CEO to the Victorian Parliament House and endorses the range of advocacy matters outlined in this report
2. seeks to meet with candidates for the seat of Ripon over coming months ahead of the Victoria State election.



16. COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND GENERAL BUSINESS

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

17. CLOSURE OF MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

That pursuant to the provisions of Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989, the meeting be closed to the public in order to consider:

- Contractual matters

RECOMMENDATION

That the meeting be closed to members of the public under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989, to consider a personnel matter specifically the following:

19. CEO Annual Performance Review



19. CLOSE OF MEETING

Meeting closed at

Minutes of the meeting confirmed

2018

Mayor