

PYRENEES
— S H I R E —



MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of Council

6:00pm Tuesday 11 June 2019

**Council Chambers
BEAUFORT**

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PRESENT

Mayor: Cr Robert Vance

Councillors: Ron Eason, David Clark, Tanya Kehoe, Damian Ferrari

IN ATTENDANCE

Director Asset and Development Services: Douglas Gowans

Director Corporate and Community Services: Kathy Bramwell

EA to CEO and Councillors: Jane Bowker (Minute Taker)

Mayor Cr Robert Vance welcomed the gallery and press, read the opening prayer and indigenous acknowledgement.

APOLOGIES

CEO Jim Nolan

NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS

Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

CR EASON / CR KEHOE

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 21 May 2019 and the Closed Meeting of Council held on 21 May 2019 (as previously circulated to Councillors) be confirmed as required under Section 93 (2) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Trevor Davey

Mr Davey's question related to the 'Welcome to Pyrenees' sign on the Western Hwy. He was wondering when VicRoads found the plan around re-erecting the sign?

Douglas Gowans thanked Mr Davey for his question and advised that he will follow up with VicRoads about the graphic information that was provided and what the status of the sign is. He advised Mr Davey he would provide him with an answer.

Cr Vance added that he may have the opportunity at the Rural Roads Victoria meeting on Wednesday to raise the question.

Irene Eastick

Ms Eastick thanked Council on behalf of the Garden Club for the grant of \$5K for the commissioning of two bronze figures in the Memorial Park.

Cr Vance responded with thanks.

Cheryl Johnston

Ms Johnston thanked Council on behalf of Business 4 Beaufort for the grant for the radio station equipment. It was very much appreciated.

Cr Vance responded with thanks and that the radio station provides a great community service and Council is only too happy to provide support where they can.

Gwenda Philips

Ms Philips advised that she attended the art show in the Beaufort Hall on Saturday and was asked a lot where the ladies toilets are. She advised that the sign can't be seen in the foyer and could something be done to rectify this. Ms Philips also raised at the close of the meeting that the disabled toilet door in the hall doesn't have a sign.

Cr Vance advised that the question has been taken on notice.

ITEMS FOR NOTING

ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

1. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Katie Gleisner – Manager Planning and Development

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

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

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on activities within Planning, Development and Regulatory Services, during May 2019.

This report includes four parts:

- Part A: Planning
- Part B: Building
- Part C: Environmental Health
- Part D: Community Safety and Amenities

PART A: PLANNING

The planning activity statistics for April and May 2019 are summarised in the table below:-

Month	Applications received	Applications completed	Number of referrals	Requests for further information	Estimated cost of works
April 2019	13	9	1	7	
May 2019	10	9	2	4	\$1.8million

General Enquiries for May 2019	
Enquiry Type	Number
Pre purchase enquiry	36
Pre application enquiry	59
Existing permit enquiry	27
Current application enquiry	42
All other enquiries	59
Total Enquiries	223

Key projects

Highway Service Centre

A notice of refusal has been issued to the highway service centre applicants following Council's May resolution to not issue a permit. The applicants have 60 days from the date of the decision to apply to the Victorian Civil and Administrative tribunal for a review of Council's decision.

Statutory planning

A matter of planning non-compliance that was heard at VCAT in 2016 was appealed in the County Court this month. The judge upheld the previous conviction of *failing to comply with an order of the tribunal, contravening a planning permit and contravening the planning scheme* and issued a series of fines totalling \$17,580.

Strategic issues

Pyrenees Futures

Avoca's draft Framework and Main Street Plan was placed on public exhibition in May. Two well attended 'drop on' information sessions were held at the Avoca Resource Centre where officers heard from locals on a range of matters relating to the plan. Themes discussed by attendees included the introduction of pedestrian crossings, the creation of Cambridge Street central square and tree planting. A strong point of discussion related to the alteration of High Street where it is proposed to reduce the road carriage way from two lanes down to one.

Council will continue to receive and respond to submissions on the plans for a period of four weeks and are working with designers to adjust the plans based on community feedback.

PART B: BUILDING

Activity

The building activity statistics as at 31/05/2019 are summarised in the table below:

CATEGORY	NUMBER	COMMENT
Permits issued by private Building Surveyor	16	\$1,773,659 (estimated cost of works)
'Property Information Certificates' prepared and issued	15	
'Report and Consent' issued	4	
Notices issued	5	Notice 2, Order 2, Emergency Order 1
Building permit inspection undertaken	9	Council issued permits prior to July 1 2018
Council issued permits finalised	9	Council issued permits prior to July 1 2018

Key projects & compliance

Council's Municipal Building Surveyor attended a structure fire at Warrenmang Winery at the request of CFA. The fire destroyed the reception centre and restaurant however the accommodation buildings were not affected. An Emergency Order was issued to the property owners, which required a safety barrier to be installed around the swimming pool. A Minor Works Order was issued to have any fire affected structures removed by the end of June 2019.

The Victorian Building Authority has introduced a new Building Permit numbering system that will come into effect on the 1st July 2019. This will not a directly concern Council but will impact builders and proponents, who will now pay all Building Levies directly to the State.

Council plan / legislative requirements

- Council Plan 2013-2017
- *Building Act* 1993
- Building Regulations 2018

Financial / risk implications

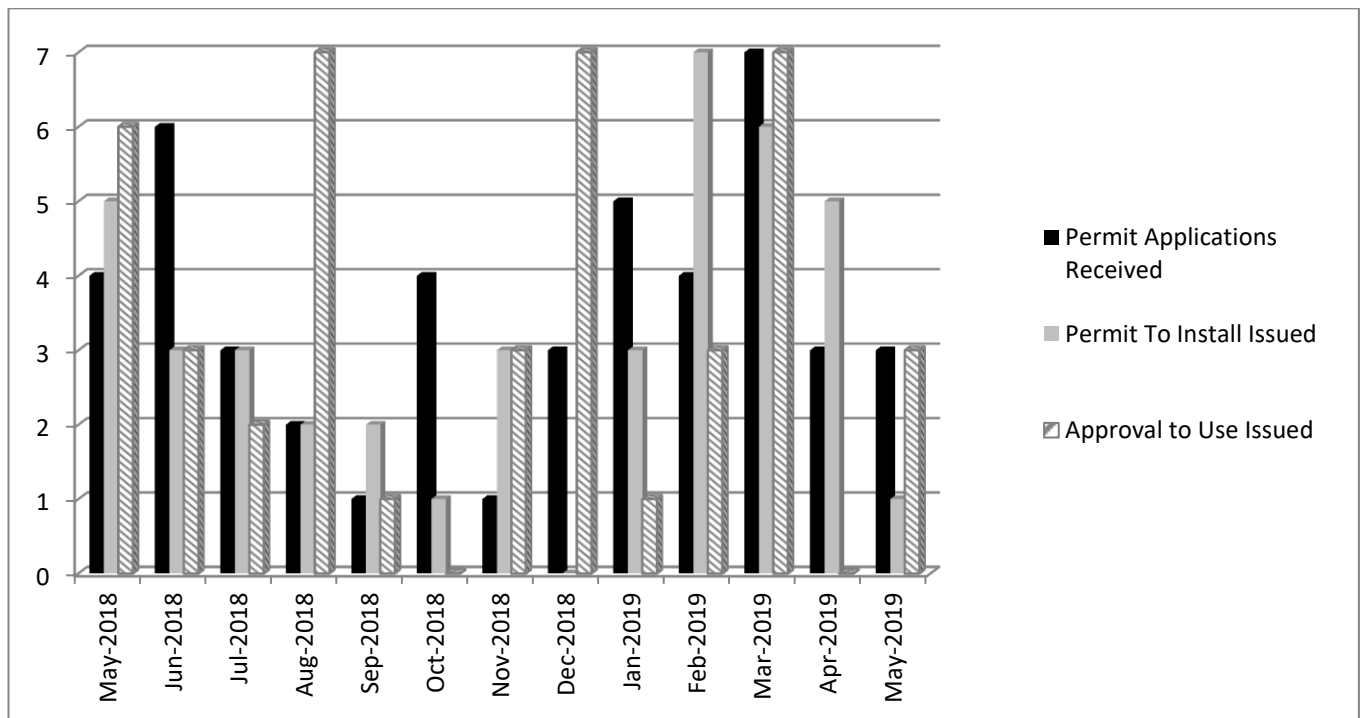
The Municipal Building Surveyor must have regard to any relevant guidelines under the *Building Act* 1993 or subordinate regulations. The building services department must ensure that a responsive service is provided that meets the demand of the building industry within the municipality.

PART C: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Activity: wastewater

Period	Applications to Install New or Alter Existing Septic Tanks Received	Permits to Install Issued	Approval to Use Issued	Fees Paid
1st – 31 st May 2019	1	3	3	\$760

Wastewater activity statistics for May 2019



Monthly wastewater activity (May 2018 to May 2019)

Wastewater related tasks for May 2019	
Septic Tank Inspections	7
Domestic Wastewater Management Plan Inspections	8
Domestic Waste Water Service Agent Reports	8

Activity: food, health & accommodation premises

Food Act 1984 and Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 Premises activity statistics for May 2019 are summarised in the table below.

Period	New Premises	Routine Inspections and Assessments	Follow Up Inspections	Complaints Received about Registered Premises	Food Recalls	Fees Paid
1st–30st May 2019	1	12	1	0	0	\$300

Mobile and Temporary Food Premises in the Shire (Streatrader)

Period	New Mobile or Temporary Premises	New Class 4 Notifications	Routine Inspections and Assessments	New Statements of Trade (SOT)	Fees Paid
1st -31st May 2019	3	0	0	9	\$67

At 31st May 2019, Pyrenees Shire had 37 current registrations with 41 premises registered, 76 low risk notifications and 157 current Statements of Trade (SOT).

Activity: immunisations

Immunisation sessions were conducted in Beaufort and Avoca whilst the opportunistic immunisations performed by the Maternal Health nurses continued. 69 Council staff received the influenza vaccine through a staff immunisation program.

Session Type	Number of Clients & Vaccines	2 Month - 4+ Yr Old	Secondary School	Adult
MCHN Opportunistic	Clients	17	1	10
	Vaccines	32	1	10
Beaufort Sessions	Clients	4	5	46
	Vaccines	10	10	46
Avoca Session	Clients	11	0	13
	Vaccines	21	0	13

Immunisation activity statistics for May 2019

Compliance issues

Council has identified a number of tourism related business that advertise and provide overnight accommodation without complying with requirements of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*. A program is being developed to further identify such businesses and work with operators to ensure that they understand their legislative obligations and that all required permits are being obtained.

Council plan / legislative requirements

- Council Plan 2013-2017
- Domestic Wastewater Management Plan 2015-2018
- Food Act 1984
- Public Health & Wellbeing Act 2008
- Tobacco Act 1987
- 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*), Tobacco (*Tobacco Act 1987*) 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 meets the demands of residents within the municipality and complies with legislation.

PART D: LOCAL LAWS AND ANIMAL CONTROL

ACTIVITY

	April 2019	May 2019
Cats impounded	14	9
Dogs impounded	7	5
Stock impounded	2	2
Infringements issued	6	23
Prosecutions	1	0

Impoundment and infringement statistics

- As at 31st May, there were **544 cats** and **2160 dogs** registered within the municipality. Property inspections have commenced and owners of unregistered pets will be issued with an infringement.
- Three separate dog attacks occurred in May which resulted in the death/injury of 22 sheep and one pet corella. An infringement notice was issued for one of the matters and a brief is being prepared for another to be heard in court.
- Local Law clean up notices continue to be sent to property owners who have been identified as having unregistered vehicles, car parts, derelict machinery, shipping containers and other material that have a detrimental impact on the amenity of an area. Most property owners have been very accepting of the notices and worked well with Council officers to clean up their properties.
- Five (5) shipping containers were removed from the shire during May as a result of property owners complying with notices.

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. New internal processes are being developed to strengthen Council's administration of its Local Laws.
2. Council continues to investigate matters of non-compliance across the Shire.

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

2. CUSTOMER ACTION REQUESTS – MAY 2019

Kathy Bramwell – Director Corporate and Community Services

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

File No: 16/08/04

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council on our Customer Action Request System (CARS) for the month of May 2019.

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.

Service requests are received for operational issues regarding maintenance (e.g. potholes, road conditions, drainage, signage, slashing and overhanging branches) plus pools, local laws, building maintenance and compliance matters. The system is also now used for missed telephone calls and messages.

Council formerly received up to 1000 requests per year. This figure has now increased due to the inclusion of outstanding telephone calls needing response.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

303 CARS were received in May 2019, 100 more than the previous month. The number of CARs received has increased due to the use of the system for missed telephone calls that need a response, which is reflected in the largest grouping statistics detailed below. Inclusion of missed telephone calls improves the ability to monitor service provided to the community in the response and resolution of telephone enquiries.

288 requests were closed in during the month resulting in 205 outstanding, an 8% increase in outstanding requests.

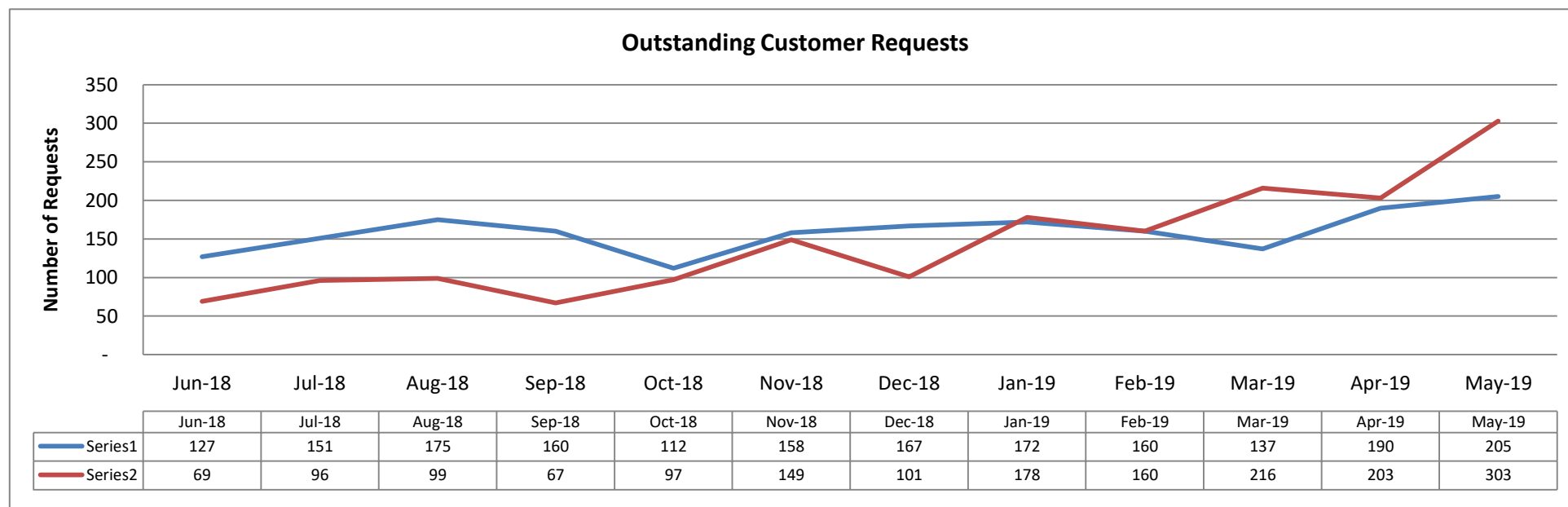
As at the 31st May 2019 the status of CARS was as follows:

- No change in 2017 outstanding CARS
- 23% decrease in 2018 outstanding CARS (a reduction from 22 to 17)
- 8% increase on total CARS outstanding (an increase from 190 to 205)
- For the month of May 288 CARS were closed

The largest groupings of open CARS requests relate to: Local Laws (34), Roads (32); Missed Phone Calls (32) and Road Maintenance (23).

Reports detailing outstanding CARS are detailed below:

Total Outstanding Cars Requests													
Year	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	% Change
2016	24	24	23	21	3	3	2	1	1	-	-	-	0%
2017	32	31	30	29	18	12	10	6	4	3	2	2	0%
2018	71	96	122	110	91	143	155	105	65	36	22	17	-23%
2019								60	90	98	166	186	12%
Total	127	151	175	160	112	158	167	172	160	137	190	205	8%
Total Received	69	96	99	67	97	149	101	178	160	216	203	303	49%



31 May 2019 - Open Requests - Type			
	Apr-19	May-19	Change
Roads	25	32	-7
Streetlights	0	0	0
Drainage	8	15	-7
Footpaths	4	3	1
Roadside Vegetation	23	13	10
Environmental Health	1	0	1
Planning	0	0	0
Bld maintenance	8	11	-3
Park & Reserves	9	5	4
Local Laws	34	34	0
Fire Hazard	0	0	0
Bld Compliance	0	0	0
Road Maintenance	21	23	-2
Waste Management	0	0	0
Roads Unsealed	3	6	-3
Road Maintenance Unsealed	10	8	2
Cats	2	4	-2
Natural Disasters	0	1	-1
Pools	0	0	0
Council Cleaning	0	1	-1
EPA - Litter	1	0	1
Design & Assets	0	0	0
GIS	0	0	0
Dogs	11	14	-3
Livestock Act	3	2	1
Parking	0	0	0
Missed Phone Calls	27	32	-5
Council Cleaning	0	1	-1
Total	190	205	-15

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 – May 2019

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

Ongoing focus and effort continues with regard to resolution of customer requests and to improve status and follow-up notes to create more transparency on actions undertaken prior to final closure.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Customer Action Request update for May 2019.

3. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

Cr David Clark – Ercildoune Ward		
May		
Mon 06	Highlands LLEN, Annual General Meeting	Ballarat
Tue 07	Upper Loddon & Avoca Landcare Network	Clunes
Tue 14	Pyrenees Community Safety Advisory Group launch	Beaufort
Tue 14	Councillor Cuppa and Briefing Session	Beaufort
Thu 16	Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Board meeting, tour of solar PV farm	Kerang
Fri 17	MAV State Council	Melbourne
Tue 21	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 21	Council Meeting	Beaufort
Fri 24	Trawalla Hall Committee of Management volunteer award	Trawalla
Mon 27	Highlands LLEN, Committee of Management	Ballarat
	Upper Mount Emu Landcare Network meeting	Stoneleigh
Thu 30	Ron Davis Poppy exhibition	Beaufort

Cr Robert Vance – De Cameron Ward		
May		
Wed 01	Moonambel Thank You Afternoon Tea	Moonambel
Thu 02	AMES Morning Tea	Beaufort
Mon 06	Moonambel Tennis Reserve CoM meeting	Moonambel
Thu 09	Timber Towns Victoria Meeting	Melbourne
Fri 10	RCV Committee meeting	Melbourne
Tue 14	Pyrenees Community Safety Advisory Group - Public Launch	Beaufort
Tue 14	Councillor Cuppa and Briefing Session	Beaufort
Wed 15	Official Launch Skipton Hospital Straw Heating Project	Skipton
Tue 21	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 21	Council Meeting	Beaufort
Thu 30	Launch of Battlefield Blue Poppy Exhibition	Beaufort

Cr Ron Eason – Avoca Ward		
May		
Tue 14	Councillor Cuppa and Briefing Session	Beaufort
Fri 17	Strategic planning	Avoca
Tue 21	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 21	Council meeting	Beaufort
Wed 29	Racecourse AGM	Avoca

Cr Tanya Kehoe - Mount Emu Ward		
May		
Wed 01	Moonambel Thank You Afternoon Tea	Moonambel
Thu 02	AMES Morning Tea	Beaufort
Sat 04	Steam Rally	Lake Goldsmith
Thu 09	Beaufort Secondary College to address assembly	Beaufort
Tue 14	Launch of Pyrenees Community Safety Advisory Group.	Beaufort
Tue 14	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Wed 15	Official Launch Skipton Hospital Straw Heating Project	Skipton
Tue 21	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 21	Council Meeting	Beaufort
Wed 29	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee Meeting	Beaufort

Cr Damian Ferrari - Beaufort Ward		
May		
Thu 02	AMES morning tea	Beaufort
Fri 03	Dementia Awareness breakfast	Beaufort
Fri 03	Viewing of the wind turbine blade	Beaufort
Fri 03	Meeting with constituents regarding Beaufort Cricket Nets	Beaufort
Fri 03	Meeting with constituents regarding Correa Park recreation area	Beaufort
Sun 05	Lake Goldsmith Steam Rally	Lake Goldsmith
Thu 09	Launch of Beaufort Walkability Project with Dan Tehan MP	Beaufort
Thu 09	Beaufort Secondary College to address assembly	Beaufort
Tue 14	Launch of Pyrenees Community Safety Advisory Group.	Beaufort
Tue 14	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 21	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 21	Council Meeting	Beaufort

4. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING INFORMATION			
Meeting Name	Councillor Briefing Session		
Meeting Date	14 May 2019 commenced at 2.00pm and closed at 5.55pm		
Meeting Location	Beaufort Council Chambers - 5 Lawrence Street, Beaufort		
Matters Discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning Application – Waterloo 2. Planning Application – Waterloo 3. Planning Application – Waterloo 4. Proposed Service Station 5. Agenda Review 6. Visit Ballarat Quarterly Update 7. Delegations 8. 3rd Round of Community Grant Applications 		
ATTENDEES			
Councillors	Mayor Cr Robert Vance Cr Ron Eason Cr Tanya Kehoe	Cr Damian Ferrari Cr David Clark	
Apologies	Nil		
Staff	Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer) Douglas Gowans (Director Asset and Development Services) Kathy Bramwell (Director Corporate and Community Services) Katie Gleisner (Manager Planning and Development) – Items 1, 3 and 4 Helen Swadling (Statutory Planning and Building Services Coordinator) - Items 1, 3 and 4 Claire Pepin (Planning Officer) – Items 1, 3 and 4 Ray Davies (Manager Economic Development and Tourism) – Item 6		
Visitors	Judy O’Connor – Item 2 Jim Bainbridge – Item 2 Stuart Simmons (Visit Ballarat Customer Service Manager) – Item 6 Lucy Ibrahim (Visit Ballarat Head of Marketing) – Item 6 Selma Kajan (Visit Ballarat Marketing and Communications Assistant) – Item 6		
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES			
Matter No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting
Nil			

MEETING INFORMATION			
Meeting Name	Councillor Briefing Session		
Meeting Date	21 May 2019 commenced at 2.00pm and closed at 5.30pm		
Meeting Location	Beaufort Council Chambers - 5 Lawrence Street, Beaufort		
Matters Discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation by Consultants for Proposed Service Centre 2. Proposed Service Centre 3. 2019/20 Re-Valuation Presentation by VGV and Chris Barrett 4. Consideration of Planning Matters 5. Agenda Review 		
ATTENDEES			
Councillors	Mayor Cr Robert Vance Cr David Clark Cr Ron Eason	Cr Tanya Kehoe Cr Damian Ferrari	
Apologies	Nil		
Staff	Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer) Douglas Gowans (Director Asset and Development Services) Kathy Bramwell (Director Corporate and Community Services) Katie Gleisner (Manager Planning and Development) – Items 1, 2 and 4 Helen Swadling (Statutory Planning and Building Services Coordinator) - Items 1, 2 and 4 Claire Pepin (Planning Officer) – Items 1, 2 and 4 Shana Johnny (Manager Finance) – Item 3 April Ure (Manager Governance, Risk & Compliance) – Item 3 Janette Haines (Property Revenue Officer) – Item 3 Amanda Priest (Property Revenue Administration Officer) – Item 3		
Visitors	Jarrah Lukjanov (Human Habitats) – Item 1 Gabrielle Brennan – Item 2 Tim Jess – Item 2 Therese Molony – Item 2 Chris Barrett (VRC Property) – Item 3 Terry McGuire (VRC Property) – Item 3 Barry Walder (VRC Property) – Item 3		
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES			
Matter No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting
Nil			

CR CLARK / CR KEHOE

That the items for noting be received.

CARRIED

ITEMS FOR DECISION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

5. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING - BALLARAT REGIONAL TOURISM (TRADING AS VISIT BALLARAT)

Ray Davies – Manager Economic Development and Tourism

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

File No: 62/10/08

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek council's endorsement of continuing its partnership with Ballarat Regional Tourism under a new Memorandum of Understanding upon expiry of the current agreement on 30 June 2019.

BACKGROUND

Council decided to enter into an agreement with BRT following a detailed review of council's tourism options in late 2015.

During this process consultation was undertaken with:-

- Council and Council officers
- Tourism Victoria, Grampians Tourism and Ballarat Regional Tourism (BRT),
- Twenty four tourism businesses,
- Three business associations,
- Participants at tourism industry workshops at Avoca and Beaufort.

Throughout the consultation process it became evident that industry stakeholders felt that developing an MOU with BRT would be the most beneficial option to them.

A discussion paper was presented to Council at its December 2015 briefing following the industry workshops.

Council subsequently entered into a MoU with Ballarat Regional Tourism as at 1 July 2016.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The partnership with BRT has been well received over the past three years by tourism industry stakeholders across the Shire.

During the term of the 2016 three year MoU, BRT has been the lead organisation to access two Wine Growth Fund grants to:-

1. Develop a regional wine and culinary tourism marketing masterplan for the Grampians and Pyrenees wine regions and
2. Appoint a project manager to deliver the priority actions identified in the masterplan

A third application for funding via WGF round three which was also submitted by BRT has recently been approved to continue to deliver on actions identified in the masterplan.

The above three initiatives involve a partnership by Council and BRT with Grampians Tourism, Grampians Winemakers, Pyrenees Grapegrowers and Winemakers Association and three other neighbouring LGA's.

BRT has also provided support to Council with marketing into Ballarat, its tourism operators and visitors to the city from Melbourne and other destinations. This includes a Pyrenees exhibit at the Ballarat Visitor Information Centre and inclusion of the visitor centre volunteers in familiarisation tours of the Pyrenees.

The current MOU with BRT supports council's tourism objectives as follows:-

- Access to BRT marketing professionals who have included the Pyrenees in regional marketing programs.
- Quarterly Council briefings by BRT staff on tourism marketing and membership activities etc.
- Council staff meetings with BRT staff on a monthly basis to discuss marketing programs, tourism operator workshops, membership matters and occasional advocacy issues.
- The ability to contribute to strategic regional tourism matters through the inclusion of a Pyrenees Shire Council representative on the BRT board
- Direct liaison between Council's CEO and the CEO of BRT

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.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The annual financial contribution of \$42,000-(excluding GST) for the MoU, which is included in the draft 2019/20 budget, is consistent with annual payments (allowing for CPI increases) made during the first three years of the partnership.

CONCLUSION

Tourism industry stakeholders across the Shire remain supportive of maintaining this relationship.

Continuing Council's agreement with BRT allows council continued access to:-

- Marketing expertise of the Visit Ballarat (BRT) team
- A broader marketing reach particularly through digital platforms and also including national print media
- Leveraging promotion into the Ballarat and Melbourne markets
- Advocacy to State government agencies on tourism related matters
- A broad range of tourism industry expertise
- The ability to contribute to the strategic direction of BRT through representation on the board

CR EASON / CR FERRARI

That Council:

1. enters into a Memorandum of Understanding with Ballarat Regional Tourism for one year commencing on 1 July 2019.
2. delegates the negotiation and signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding with Ballarat Regional Tourism to the Chief Executive Officer.

CARRIED

ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – PLANNING

6. LOCAL LAWS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Katie Gleisner – Manager Planning and Development

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

File No: 46/06/10

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update on the planned implementation of the new General Local Law 2019.

BACKGROUND

Pyrenees Shire Council at its meeting on 19 February 2019 resolved to adopt the *General Local Law 2019* and sought a further report from Council officers regarding an implementation plan which specifically addressed:

- a) Consideration of appropriate times and places where alcohol consumption could be permitted in public places;
- b) Proposed fees associated with the local law permit;
- c) A framework for a public education program where there are significant changes to the new local law; and
- d) Any other relevant matter

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Since adoption of the *General Local Law 2019* in February, Council officers have continued to enforce elements of the law that did not significantly vary from the former local law. This has included addressing matters of dangerous and unsightly land, shipping containers, open air burning, animal keeping and waste and recycling.

Officers have also been working on a strategy to rollout elements of the *General Local Law 2019* that vary from the former local law or have not previously been enforced by Council. These include footpath trading and signage and the consumption of alcohol in public places.

The permit fees associated with *General Local Law 2019* are detailed in Council's proposed 2019/2020 budget and not discussed as part of this report.

Officers have been in discussion with Victoria Police regarding the consumption of alcohol in declared public places. A process for managing alcohol consumption has been drafted in consultation with Victoria Police and seeks to clarify the legislated powers and operational arrangements that Officers will work under whilst enforcing Council's Local Laws.

To ensure that the *General Local Law 2019* effectively meets the needs of Council and the community, officers are collating a list of potential amendments. Such amendments will include applying an exemption for apiary activities which are being undertaken in accordance with the industries code of practice and event permit requirements on private land.

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.

5.7 - Develop and enforce appropriate Local Laws and policies to protect amenity and environmental values which are reflective of community expectations.

ATTACHMENTS

6.1 Draft Implementation Strategy for General Local Law 2019 – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONCLUSION

Council officers have prepared a Draft Implementation Strategy for General Local Law 2019. The strategy addresses the potential impacts of the new local law and provides a method to guide the development of operational policies and guidelines, education material and themed implementation. The plan also provides for the ongoing evaluation of the Local Law's effectiveness and relevance. The plan will guide amendments and ensure that the laws remain contemporary and meet the needs of the community and Council.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the direction of the draft Implementation Strategy for Council's Local Law 2019.

CR CLARK / CR FERRARI

1. That Council approves the direction of the draft Implementation Strategy for Council's Local Law 2019.
2. That for footpath and street trading, Council:
 - a. Endorse a 50% fee for all permits for 2019/20.
 - b. Endorse an amnesty period ending 31 December 2019

CARRIED

ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

7. EXTENSION TO THE KERBSIDE COLLECTION OF PUTRESCIBLE WASTE, COMINGLED RECYCLABLE MATERIAL, GREEN WASTE, STREET LITTER BINS AND MANAGEMENT OF THE TRANSFER STATIONS

Phil Diprose – Project Coordinator

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

File No: C2013/005

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to extend the current waste contract for a year one (1) year period in accordance with Annexure A of the Contract and for Council to consider the extension to the service in three geographic areas.

BACKGROUND

The kerbside collection of putrescible waste, comingled recyclable material, green waste, street litter bins and management of the transfer stations was awarded to Four Seasons in 2013. The contract is for five (5) years with three (3) one (1) year extensions.

The Grampians Central West Waste and Resource, Recovery Group are preparing tender documents for a new waste collection contract being prepared to start on the 1st July 2020 on behalf of the eight (8) Councils participating within the group. The new contract will commence from 1st July 2020 so the existing contract, if extended, will provide the waste and recycle street collection and the management of the Transfer Stations until then.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

In compliance with Item 11 Annexure A to extend the Contract for a further one (1) year term.

The one (1) year extension will also capture the new street collection for three (3) areas, Crowlands, Church Road area and Hurleys Road area.

The expansion of the service is compliant with B.2.1 Expansion of Service.

B.2.1 Expansion of Service

The following provides information on the Service to be provided under this Contract and modifications to the current service.

Modification to Current Service

The bin sizes and collection cycles for both urban and rural areas remain the same as currently provided.

The collection areas for both urban and rural Garbage, Recycling and Greenwaste services have been slightly modified.

It must be noted that whilst the areas have increased, this will not necessarily result in an increase in the number of collections. All approved Serviced Tenements within the Declared Waste Areas must only be collected under this contract.

The Declared Waste Areas may be further expanded, and the contractor will be required to collect additional Serviced Tenements in the expanded area where it complies with the following criteria:

- a minimum of three houses within a 5 km distance of the defined collection boundary.*
- a minimum of five houses within a 10 km distance of the defined collection boundary.*

Maps showing the new collection areas for waste collection services are shown in the Attachments.

The table below shows households who have indicated that they are willing to join the service and other potential households in the area.

	Church Road Area	Hurleys Road Area	Crowlands Area
Households indicated yes by letter to join a street collection	9	5	8
Potential Households total	24	6	25

The one (1) year extension will also allow Council to prioritise the management of the four Transfer Stations. The new Collaborative Contract from July 2020 will not include transfer Stations within the tender so this extension will allow Council to get a better understanding of:

- E Waste collection volumes and disposal costs.
- Streamline its E Waste storage and disposal arrangements.
- Allow time for the Recycling industry to stabilise and possible introduction of a Re-use Recycling Facility to be established.
- To allow time for a Transfer Station tender to be prepared or.
- To Manage the Transfer Stations in house from the end of the approved extension period.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 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.

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

ATTACHMENTS

- 7.1 Annexure A
- 7.2 Crowlands area map
- 7.3 Church Road area map
- 7.4 Hurleys Road area map

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Council's waste contractor, Four Seasons, has indicated that the additional cost for the handling of the E Waste material and collecting the data required would be \$870 per month for the Beaufort, Avoca and Snake Valley Transfer Stations. This is based on an extra hour labour per day for each of the Transfer Stations that will collect the E Waste.

It has previously been reported to Council that the addition of new areas to the existing contract incur an initial cost of bin purchase and then the fee for pick up. The three areas that have been included in the one year extension to the contract (Crowlands, Church Road and Hurleys Road) have allowances that are covered in the draft budget and waste charge.

General Management and servicing costs will not increase outside agreed the CPI index.

CONCLUSION

The one (1) year extension will allow time for procurement of the waste collection and disposal tender to be completed, advertised and awarded.

The extension will also provide time to collect data on the type, quantity and cost for the collection and disposal of E Waste to provide a more informed choice on its storage, handling and transportation requirements for the next Contract.

CR KEHOE / CR EASON

That Council:

1. Extends the kerbside collection of putrescible waste, comingled recyclable material, green waste, street litter bins and management of the transfer stations, including the addition of e-waste collection, for one (1) year.
2. Extends the kerbside collection areas to include Crowlands, Church Road and Hurleys Road.

CARRIED

8. PRELIMINARY FLOOD STUDY – WAUBRA, LEXTON AND RAGLAN

Renee Robinson – Flood Study Project Co-ordinator

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

File No: 20/06/02

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on flood studies currently planned across the shire. The report also seeks endorsement from Council to publicly release the results of the 2018 Preliminary Flood Studies for Lexton, Raglan and Waubra.

BACKGROUND

In 2018 Pyrenees Shire Council commissioned preliminary flood studies for the towns of Lexton, Raglan and Waubra to determine if a detailed flood study would be required in each of these towns.

The studies determined that Raglan on the Fiery Creek would need a more detailed flood study. Council successfully applied for funding under the Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme (NDRGS) for full flood studies for both Raglan and the Upper Avoca River (incorporating townships of Natte Yallock, Avoca and Amphitheatre). Tenders for these studies are currently open for submissions.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The results of the Preliminary Flood Studies indicated that:

- In Waubra there is a relatively low risk to property, with one property identified with a high likelihood of above floor flooding. The study concluded that the flood impact did not warrant a full flood study. There also appeared to be limited scope for flood mitigation works within the town.
- In Raglan there is a relatively significant risk to property, with four dwellings currently at high risk of above floor flooding in a 1% AEP (Annual Exceedance Probability) event, and an additional seven properties with some chance of above floor flooding. The results also indicated a number of residential parcels are located within the floodplain – some of which are undeveloped. The lack of flood intelligence and planning controls in the township could result in inappropriate development of these parcels. The most significant area of risk, along Dawes Lane, could potentially be mitigated by constructing a levee running along the northern side of the Raglan-Elmhurst Rd just upstream of Dawes Lane. The study concluded that the flood impact warranted a full flood investigation.
- In Lexton there is a relatively minor risk to property, with two properties with a high likelihood of above floor flooding in a 1% AEP (Annual Exceedance Probability) event and an additional three properties with above floor flooding if flows were 20% higher. There appeared to be limited scope for flood mitigation works within the town, although flood detention basins upstream of the town could potentially reduce flooding.

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.

1.5- Prepare and implement township framework plans to guide future development in Beaufort, Avoca, Snake Valley, Lexton, Waubra / Evansford, Landsborough, Moonmabel, Amphitheatre, and Raglan, and then consider extending the planning to include other towns

ATTACHMENTS

- 8.1 Preliminary Flood Study Raglan and Lexton – *circulated separately*
- 8.2 Preliminary Flood Study Waubra – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Council has cumulatively allocated \$133,000 over the last 4 budgets (including the 2018-19 financial year). Council successfully applied for NDRGS grants for full flood studies at Raglan (\$104,000) and for the Upper Avoca River (\$160,000).

These funds allow the following to be undertaken:

1. Proceed with the Upper Avoca River Flood Investigation
2. Proceed with the Raglan Flood Study
3. Employ a 0.6 EFT Flood Study Project Coordinator up until June 2020
4. Fully update the MFEP with the additional flood study data
5. Review of the shire's flood warning system
6. Update of flood planning schemes on the towns of Amphitheatre, Avoca, Natte Yallock, and Raglan.
7. Present a list of recommended flood mitigation activities.
8. Apply for an additional NDRGS grant to implement recommended mitigation works arising out of the project findings.

CONCLUSION

Flood planning work is essential for the future growth of townships within Pyrenees Shire and helps mitigate current risks. This work is essential if the objectives of Council Plan Strategic Objective 1.5 are to be achieved.

CR EASON / CR KEHOE

1. That Council endorses the Preliminary Flood Studies for Waubra, Lexton and Raglan.
2. That the preliminary flood studies for Waubra, Lexton and Raglan be made available on Council's website.

CARRIED

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

9. DRAFT CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARTER

Kathy Bramwell – Director Corporate and Community Services

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

File No: 16/24/17

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council adoption of a revised Customer Service Charter.

BACKGROUND

Council's Policy – Customer Service Charter, implemented in 2015, is due for review in 2019. A comprehensive review was undertaken in early 2019.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

A review was undertaken of Council's Customer Service Charter. The review examined response timeframes with a view to providing a realistic and achievable expectation for our communities, whilst ensuring compliance to legislative obligations.

The format of the Charter has been revised to a booklet format, which can easily be provided to members of the public and displayed on front counters. A quotation for printing of the booklet is currently awaited and will be executed once final approvals are received.

The Charter has been split into business functions to make information more easily found and is more specific and comprehensive in the information provided, detailing target response timeframes for telephone calls, messages, and enquiries relating to specific business functions.

Extensive consultation was undertaken with internal stakeholders to ensure that commitments are achievable. No significant changes in service are proposed.

A copy of the draft Customer Service Charter booklet is attached to this report and Council adoption is requested.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

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.

3.4 - Community Services - Increasing the liveability of our communities through the provision of efficient and responsive services.

ATTACHMENTS

9.1 Draft Customer Service Charter Booklet – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Significant reputation risk exists when community expectations and Council deliverables do not align. The draft charter revision seeks to address this risk.

CONCLUSION

The existing Customer Service Charter was due for review in 2019. The Charter has been revised into a clearer, booklet format and requires Council adoption before publication.

CR CLARK / CR KEHOE

That Council adopts the revised Customer Service Charter booklet.

CARRIED

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

10. LEXTON HUB FUNDING STRATEGY

Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer

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

File No: 406020700

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the remaining funding requirements for the proposed Lexton Community Hub.

BACKGROUND

In 2015 Council facilitated the completion of a feasibility study for a Community hub facility in Lexton. The study identified that 79% of residents supported the hub to be located at the recreation reserve with the view that it would replace existing outdated building assets. The proposal recommended was a multi-purpose community hub managed by the Crown Land appointed committee of management.

Concept plans were prepared in consultation with the community and user groups, and there have been several iterations of the concept plans to ensure they meet the various community and user needs, as well as meeting current design standards for sporting facilities.

In order to attract government funding for the project, it has been necessary for Council to invest in a business case, a quantity surveyors report and a detailed costing of the project.

Several grant applications were submitted by Council, and in August 2018, the Victorian Treasurer announced \$800,000 towards the project.

Then in March 2019 Council was advised that the project was successful in attracting \$1,000,000 funding through the Commonwealth Building Better Regions Fund.

Both bids were based on community contributions of \$200,000 (of which \$120,000 is committed).

Council has also allocated the following amounts of Council funds to the project comprising:

Amount	
\$72,000	(budget 17/18) carried forward
\$100,000	(WCS allocated Feb 2018) carried forward
\$100,000	(budget 18/19) from recreation strategy allocation
\$149,000	(from 18/19 budget redirected from hard court renewal program)
\$421,000	Total allocated by PSC

Funding Summary:

Source of funds	Amount	Status
Victorian Government	\$800,000	secured
Commonwealth Government	\$1,000,000	secured
Pyrenees Shire Council	\$421,000	secured
Community	\$200,000	120,000 committed
Balance	\$339,000	To be sourced
Total Project Cost	\$2,760,000	

In order to secure the Commonwealth funding, Council resolved to underwrite the project if remaining funds could not be sourced from elsewhere.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

It is intended that further work be undertaken to secure additional funding for the project, and opportunities are currently being explored.

Given the commitment to deliver the project as part of the funding agreements with the state and commonwealth, it has been necessary to commence preconstruction planning work based on an approved project plan.

While some of the timing elements are still being negotiated, Morton Dunn Architects has been engaged to further refine the plans before proceeding to tender stage.

An internal steering committee has been established to oversee the project and a Community Reference Committee is proposed.

If the balance of funds is not able to be sourced for the project, it will be necessary for Council to use its own funds to complete the project. Alternatively, Council could consider a loan which is in line with Council's Treasury Management Policy.

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.

1.4 - Maintain, develop and renew the public amenity of our townships in consultation with our communities.

3.2 - Physical activity - Ensure our residents have access to facilities and programs that allow them to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

If the balance of funds is not able to be sourced for the project, it will be necessary for Council to use its own funds to complete the project. Alternatively, Council could consider a loan which is in line with Council's Treasury Management Policy.

CONCLUSION

Council is committed to deliver a Community Hub facility in Lexton. \$339,000 is still required to be sourced to fund the entire project, and the community has committed \$120,000 of the \$200,000 community contribution.

CR CLARK / CR EASON

That Council:

1. Continue to seek to secure the remaining funds required to fully fund the Community Hub in Lexton.
2. Seek a commitment from the community to fund \$200,000 towards the project.
3. Reinforce its commitment to underwrite the project from Council funds or through borrowings should the remainder of funds not be secured.

CARRIED

11. MEASURING COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer

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

File No: 32/02/10

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information which compares the financial performance of Pyrenees Shire Council with other small rural councils, and to have regard to the information when reviewing its long term financial plan.

BACKGROUND

Pyrenees is one of the “small rural councils” grouping of 18 Victorian councils comprising Alpine, Ararat, Benalla, Buloke, Central Goldfields, Gannawarra, Hepburn, Hindmarsh, Indigo, Loddon, Mansfield, Murrindindi, Northern Grampians, Pyrenees, Queenscliff, Strathbogie, Towong and Yarriambiack.

Each year, councils are required to provide audited financial reports as part of their annual report and to make the information publicly available.

Ct Management has been engaged to benchmark Pyrenees performance against that of the other councils in the grouping by extracting information from the relevant annual reports and compiling a meaningful set of graphs in the form of financial ratios.

The report is made available to the public as a measure of Council's transparency.

A copy of the report is attached, and some of the key observations re outlined below.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Some of the key observations from the 2018 results include:

- Pyrenees is one of a small number of Councils that is debt free.
- Pyrenees asset renewal rate of 80% of depreciation demonstrates an ongoing renewal gap consistent with others in the group.
- The average rates per assessment for Pyrenees is among the lowest in the group, and the average rates per capita is below the group average.
- Pyrenees performs well in the recovery of outstanding rates with the outstanding rates being 4% of total rates.
- Pyrenees received above the group average in recurrent grants as a percentage of total revenue, and well above the group average in total grants as a percentage of total revenue
- Pyrenees' fees and charges revenue as a percentage of total revenue is among the lowest in the group.
- Pyrenees' rate revenue represents around 40% of total revenue which is among the lowest in the group.
- Pyrenees expenses per assessment are above the group average reflecting a dispersed population and higher servicing costs.
- Pyrenees employee costs as a percentage of total expenses is the lowest in the group.
- Pyrenees' expenditure on capital works as a percentage of rate revenue is above the group average,
- Pyrenees has the highest percentage of renewal expenditure as a percentage of total capital expenditure with 80% of capital expenditure being spent on renewing existing assets.

- Pyrenees' total liabilities per capita are amongst the lowest in the group.
- Pyrenees total assets per capita are above the group average.
- Pyrenees underlying result is the lowest in the group demonstrating the heavy reliance on government grants.

The information contained in the graphs is for Council's consideration when reviewing its long term financial plan.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 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.

ATTACHMENTS

11.1 Financial Ratios and Data Analysis 2018 – CT Management Group – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

This report is for information and future reference.

CONCLUSION

The information contained in the attached graphs demonstrates that Council is continuing to be financial responsible as shown in several of the measures.

The underlying financial results highlight that Pyrenees sustainability is heavy reliant on direct funding from government.

CR KEHOE / CR EASON

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the sound financial performance of Pyrenees when compared with other small rural councils as demonstrated in the Financial Ratios and Data Analysis 2018 report.
2. Considers the information contained in the report when it next reviews its long term financial plan.
3. Continues to work with others to advocate to government for ongoing and increased direct funding for small rural councils to ensure their long term sustainability.

CARRIED

12. RENEWABLE ENERGY POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer

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

File No: 32/20/04

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider participation in a Renewable Energy Power Purchase Agreement for Local Government.

BACKGROUND

Over the past year the Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA) has been working with other Victorian alliances of councils to investigate a long term renewable energy based electricity contract for councils. 39 councils have committed to the business case stage and the final business case has just been completed. A decision to proceed to tender stage will be required by councils before the 26th of July.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The concept of a Renewable Energy Power Purchase Agreement is not a new one. Recently a consortium of Melbourne based organisations lead by the City of Melbourne went to tender to purchase renewable energy power and the winning tender was Pacific Hydro and the Crowlands Windfarm. Other Australian companies have done likewise. The model has been tested and shown to be sound.

There are several objectives including improved environmental outcomes from purchasing renewable power instead of coal based electricity.

The consortium is led by the City of Darebin, and other participating councils in the CVGA region include Ballarat, Bendigo, Buloke, Central Goldfields, Gannawarra, Hepburn, Macedon Ranges, Mildura and Mount Alexander.

There has been a considerable amount of work done as part of the business case to identify and assess the risks and to forecast energy pricing. It would appear that there are no unreasonable risks and that there is an opportunity to realise a cheaper electricity price than what is forecast for conventional electricity.

The tender is structured so that councils under existing electricity contracts can switch across at the expiration of that contract where necessary.

Should Council choose not to participate, it is unlikely that there will be another opportunity to participate in a local government consortium of this size in the foreseeable future.

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.

2.2 - Work with other LGAs to develop strategy for the delivery of Shared Services.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The financial benefits of participation will be known once the tender process has been completed. A business case has been prepared which has identified and assessed the relevant risks.

CONCLUSION

The CVGA is working with other Victorian Councils to tender for the purchase of electricity generated by Renewable Energy sources. Pyrenees has an opportunity to participate along with at least 39 other councils. Apart from positive environmental outcomes, it is anticipated that the tender process will result in improved electricity pricing.

CR CLARK / CR KEHOE

That Council supports the participation in the Renewable Energy Power Purchase Agreement for Local Government.

CARRIED

13. CRIME STATISTICS

Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer

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

File No: 36/28/05

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council about the current crime statistics for the Pyrenees Local Government Area and to seek support to actively engage in crime prevention activity.

BACKGROUND

Crime statistics are publically available and can be obtained by visiting the following website:

<https://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/explore-crime-by-location>

A summary of the Pyrenees Crime Statistics is attached to this report for information.

Pyrenees crime statistics show a general downward trend in total crimes over the last three years decreasing from 391(in 2016) to 340 (in 2018).

In comparison with neighbouring Local Government Areas, Pyrenees statistics for 2018 (number of crimes per 100,000 population) are as follows:

Ararat	7648
Ballarat	7525
Central Goldfields	7400
Northern Grampians	6721
Pyrenees Shire Council	4601
Hepburn	3803
Corangamite	3381
Golden Plains	2205

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council has an important role in supporting the Victoria Police and other agencies and in creating communities in which citizens feel safe.

On 14 May 2019 the Victoria Police launched the Pyrenees Community Safety Advisory Group. The purpose of the group is to coordinate and collaborate with stakeholders and make a genuine and lasting change on areas of community safety and perceptions of safety in the Pyrenees area, and the group will continue to meet across the shire for this purpose and make observations and recommendations for the Victoria Police and potentially Council.

As Council is responsible for a range of assets in the community, there is an opportunity for Council to monitor and improve public safety in the public realm of our townships. Measures that are commonly considered involve public lighting, security fencing, entry restrictions, and streetscape design.

The state government has made available Public Safety Infrastructure grants for councils to seek funding for safety measures. Information on the program can be obtained from the following link:

<https://www.crimeprevention.vic.gov.au/grants/public-safety-infrastructure-fund>

The township Framework plans being prepared for a range of communities through the Pyrenees Futures Project identify opportunities to improve the town streetscapes for amenity and for community safety. It is intended that funding be sought through the fund for measures identified in the Avoca Framework plan which meet the eligibility criteria of the fund and which make a significant contribution to public safety. The attached documents show that crime in Avoca has risen in recent years.

Applications for the current round of funding close on Friday 2 August 2019.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

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

13.1 Pyrenees Crime Statistics

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Projects funded under the Public Safety Infrastructure Fund require a minimum co-contribution of 10% of the total project cost.

CONCLUSION

Having regard to Council's interest in community safety, the following recommendations are made.

CR FERRARI / CR EASON

That Council:

1. Notes the Crime Statistics for the Pyrenees Shire as presented in this report.
2. Continues to work with and monitor the activities of the Pyrenees Community Safety Advisory Group.
3. Supports the application for funding under the Public Safety Infrastructure Fund for appropriate measures which seek to improve community safety.

CARRIED

COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Kehoe

- Attended the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee meeting. Reviewed a number of response arrangements and roles so it was quite a detailed meeting. One important note from a Council perspective was the importance of MOUs with neighbouring Councils for cross border resource sharing when there is an emergency.
- One incident recently was the Warrenmang fire and the owners are hoping to rebuild.
- The biggest incidents of late are the single house fires which are alarming but what is even more alarming is the fact that many of these houses aren't insured. The Department of Health and Human Services are promoting the need to have insurance.
- Council is improving at notifying emergency services when there is a road closure.
- Attended the 2nd last meeting of the Snake Valley resilience project which focussed on cyber safety. Cyber safety will be pitched to adults as students receive a lot of education about cyber safety through school. The final planning meeting will be held on Monday 24 June. It has been such a wonderful project which has brought the community together. Talks are underway as to which township the resilience project will go to next. The community of Snake Valley are very thankful for the work Gillian Matthews has done.
- This Sunday the Skipton community is holding a landscape art display.
- The wind turbines are rapidly going up.
- The recent rain has been wonderful.

Cr Ferrari

- Attended a meeting at the Beaufort Secondary College and continue to be impressed with their direction and what they are doing. The new facilities are great and the municipality is very lucky to have a secondary college such as this.
- Attended a number of constituent meetings.
- Having a number of discussions with Victoria Police and Department of Justice in relation to installing a fixed camera at the intersection of Neill St and Lawrence St. It has been on the agenda for quite some time but it is a long process.
- Attended the Waste Committee meeting and e-waste is a big topic of discussion. Waste is an issue for all Councils across the state not just in our area. The Pyrenees community is good at processing their waste however it is something that the community needs to continue to be proactive.

Cr Eason

- Attended the AGM for the Avoca Racecourse. Again, this is an example of a great group of people who come together to support an organisation in the town that needs volunteers. They put their hands up for roles. We rely heavily on volunteers.
- Victoria Police has provided a report back to the community following their community consultation. Victoria Police is an integral part of the community.
- The plans for the new Avoca streetscape are out on public display. There is 1 major element that has not been received very kindly which is reducing the dual lane to one lane. It seems to be overriding all the good things that are in the plan. Members of the community have been

commenting that the writing on the plans is too small. Cr Eason requested that the information on the plans is printed in a size that is legible.

Cr Clark

- Attended the regular meetings ie. Highlands LLEN and the Langi Kal Kal Community Action Group.
- Privileged to attend the Poppy Exhibition by Ron Davies at the Beaufort Library which was fantastic and is well worth a look.
- The community cuppa in Waubra was fantastic.
- There will be a community dinner at the Waubra hub on Thursday evening.

Cr Vance

- Victoria Police attended the community safety session in Landsborough which was very well attended. It was a great opportunity to get to know the officers.
- Attended a meeting with Steph Ryan, Shadow Minister for Water last week with the CEO to advocate for the Moonambel water supply. Will keep advocating for funding for this project.
- It was disappointing and hard to understand that the largest crime in Pyrenees is assaults against women. The other larger crime in this area is farm theft.
- It was a privilege to attend the Beaufort Art Show opening on Friday. Have to reiterate Cr Eason's comments on the importance of volunteers. The hours' volunteers put in to run an exhibition such as the art show is amazing. There were 435 individual pieces on display plus the photography. Comments received from artists who had work in the show say this show is very well known and near on rates as the best. The whole show was outstanding.
- Attended the MAV's Rural Forum with Cr Clark.
- Opened the Lead Poppy exhibition by Ron Davies. It was absolutely brilliant.
- Pyrenees Shire Council is about to lose Matt Novacevski , one of the planners, as he is moving on.

CR VANCE / CR EASON

That an official letter of thank you is sent to Matthew Novacevski for his hard work and dedication to Pyrenees Shire Council.

CARRIED

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

14. 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 and personal matters.

CR CLARK / CR EASON

That the meeting be closed to members of the public under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989, to consider reports on the:-

15. CEO Employment Contract



15. RE-OPENING OF MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

CR FERRARI / CR KEHOE

That Council, having considered the confidential item, re-opens the meeting to members of the public.

CARRIED

CLOSE OF MEETING

Meeting closed at 7.25pm

Minutes of the meeting confirmed

2019

Mayor