



Pyrenees
Shire Council

Agenda

Ordinary Meeting of Council

6:00 pm Tuesday 19 April 2022
Supper Room
Avoca Town Hall
Rutherford Street, Avoca

Dja Dja Wurrung Country

Members of the public may view the meeting virtually via the livestream

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1. WELCOME

2. STREAMING PREAMBLE

As the meeting Chair, I give my consent for this Open Council Meeting to be streamed live, recorded and published online. Anyone who is invited to read out a question or a presentation will be recorded and their voice, image and comments will form part of the livestream and recording.

The Chair and/or the CEO have the discretion and authority at any time to direct the termination or interruption of livestreaming. Such direction will only be given in exceptional circumstances where deemed relevant. Circumstances may include instances where the content of debate is considered misleading, defamatory or potentially inappropriate to be published.

The stream will stop prior to the closed section of the meeting and will recommence for the conclusion of the meeting.

The public is able to view this livestream via our website at www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au. Should technical issues prevent the continuation of the stream, a recording will be made available on our website.

3. 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

4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the people past and present of the Wadawurrung, Dja Dja Wurrung, Eastern Maar and Wotjobaluk 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.

5. APOLOGIES

6. NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS

7. CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the:

- Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 15 March 2022; and
- Closed Meeting of Council held 15 March 2022,

as previously circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

8. BUSINESS ARISING

Ian Murdoch

Question 1:

In early October 2021 I presented a petition which was delivered to Council in the October 19th general meeting. Council directed the CEO Jim Nolan for a response which he duly provided to Council in the November 16th general meeting. I was heartened to see, via youtube streaming, Council's concerned response, including the motioned Cr Kehoe/Clark's response, as per minutes item 13.4.3. I was further heartened by personal exchanges with Councillors Kehoe & Clark, and CEO Jim Nolan and others at the December 7 'Cuppa' at Snake Valley Community Hall.

Despite Council's declared intent to seek "the views of the author of the petition" regarding an intended review of council's community engagement practices, I am left wondering when I can be expected to be contacted regarding this proposed action?

Response:

CEO Jim Nolan thanked Ian Murdoch for the question and provided the following response:

'Council has committed to seek the views of the author of the petition that came before Council and Council would undertake to get in touch within the next two weeks.'

Action:

CEO Jim Nolan met with Ian Murdoch on Monday 28 March 2022.

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Question Time

- Members of the public are encouraged to ask questions of Council at Ordinary Council Meetings.
- Members of the public may attend the meeting in person to verbally ask a question. All attendees must register by midday on the day of the meeting to ensure Council adheres to the number of attendees permitted under its COVID-Safe Plan. To register either call 1300 797 363 or visit <https://www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au/About-Pyrenees-Shire-Council/Council-Meetings/Council-Meeting-Attendance>
- Members of the public who are unable to attend in person can participate in question time by submitting their questions in writing either online through Council's website, by mail or hand delivered.

- A person can ask a maximum of two questions at any one meeting on any topic and the question(s) and responses shall not exceed five minutes.
- Questions are to be received by 12noon on the day of the meeting.
- Questions are read by the Chairperson during Public Participation.
- The Chairperson or Councillor or Council officer to whom a question is referred may:
 - Immediately answer the question;
 - Take the question on notice for the next Ordinary meeting;

Public Submissions

- Members of the public may present a submission to Council in the period immediately following public question time.
- Members of the public may attend the meeting in person to verbally make a submission. All attendees must register by midday on the day of the meeting to ensure Council adheres to the number of attendees permitted under its COVID-Safe Plan. To register either call 1300 797 363 or visit <https://www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au/About-Pyrenees-Shire-Council/Council-Meetings/Council-Meeting-Attendance>
- Members of the public who are unable to attend in person to make a submission on an agenda item may do so in writing either online through Council's website, by mail or hand delivered.
- The Chair will allocate a maximum of five (5) minutes to each person who wishes to address Council.
- Submissions are to be received by 12noon on the day of the meeting.
- There will be no discussion or debate with the public attendees however Councillors may ask questions for clarification of the attendee.

10. ITEMS FOR NOTING

10.1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

10.1.1. VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS WORLD HERITAGE BID

Presenter: Jim Nolan - Chief Executive Officer

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

Report Author: 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: 62/12/10

PURPOSE

To update Council on the Central Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Bid project.

BACKGROUND

The Central Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Bid is a collaborative project involving the thirteen local government areas that comprise the 1850's Central Victorian goldrush area. The project has been evolving for many years and is being led by City of Ballarat, Greater City of Bendigo and the Victorian Goldfields Tourism Executive.

The intention of the project is to seek a UNESCO World Heritage listing of the Central Victorian Goldfields region to generate a transformative impact on tourism, jobs, public and private investment.

The municipalities involved include Ararat Rural City Council, Central Goldfields Shire Council, City of Ballarat, City of Greater Bendigo, Golden Plains Shire Council, Hepburn Shire Council, Loddon Shire Council, Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Moorabool Shire Council, Mount Alexander Shire Council, Northern Grampians Shire Council and Pyrenees Shire Council.

Former Premiers the Hon John Brumby AO and the Hon Dennis Napthine AO are patrons for the project.

Funding of \$500,000- has been applied for from the Victorian Government to enable identification of proposed World Heritage sites and to build an investment ready masterplan for World Heritage journeys throughout the region (not just World Heritage sites).

Contributions to date of \$100,000- received from local government funding from the 13 Council's and \$166,000- from regional, state and federal bodies have enabled the project team to start building the bid and identifying investment needs to strengthen the region.

A current funding ask of \$39.5 million is currently being sought to undertake the following priorities:

- A masterplan, schedule and business case ready for fast-track investment and stage delivery throughout the region; \$500,000- (plus \$75,000 from LGA partners and \$50,000- from the Victorian Goldfields Tourism Executive)
- Develop a series of tourism routes; \$3M

- Creation of World Heritage Tourism Experience Centres, to provide exciting experiences for international and domestic visitors; \$10M (stage1)
- Development of world class tourism infrastructure across the region for all visitors and includes conservation and restoration works; \$5M
- Placemaking; \$20M:
 - Interpretation and story telling strategy
 - Streetscape transformations and revitalization of towns and villages
 - Opportunities for creative connection
- Capacity Building \$500K:
 - Targeted capacity development
 - World Heritage ready Quality Assurance
 - Cultural and environmental stewardship
- Marketing and Promotion \$500K; Develop brand implementation strategy and cooperative marketing strategy in partnership with regional tourism organisations, local government and industry

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 4 - Economy

4a. Support our local businesses and help to strengthen key industries.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

No additional funds have been sought from Council at this time

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the report

10.1.2. BUSINESS SUPPORT - ECONOMIC RECOVERY FROM COVID19 PANDEMIC

Presenter: Jim Nolan - Chief Executive Officer

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

Report Author: 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: 22/02/02

PURPOSE

To update Council on the impact of the pandemic on small business and support that is currently being facilitated through the Business Concierge Program

BACKGROUND

Council's Business Support Officer has been funded by the Victorian Government under the Business Concierge Program.

The BSO has been working closely with small businesses across the Pyrenees since December 2020. This includes visits to business premises, follow up emails and phone conversations and regular electronic mail outs (at least monthly) to a database of over 500 businesses.

There have been numerous business support packages announced throughout the pandemic by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments and support is also available from various other agencies like the Rural Financial Counselling Service, Ballarat Regional Tourism and Commerce Ballarat.

To understand the impacts of the pandemic on local small businesses in more detail a short survey was recently conducted to provide a snapshot of the current business situation and what support businesses were seeking. 21 Businesses responded to the survey.

The findings of the survey were:

- Two thirds of the organisations responding have had a decline in turnover of generally between 30 to 40%
- Staffing levels:
 - Reduced for 29% of respondents
 - Remained unchanged for 43%
 - Increased for 9%
 - The remaining 19% of respondents do not employ staff
- Just over half of the businesses surveyed were looking to recruit staff and were finding it difficult to find them. The tourism sector and particularly those in hospitality are reporting it to be very challenging to access staff
- One third of the businesses accessed JobKeeper assistance with 19% of those surveyed not employing staff and some others being ineligible
- 29% of respondents had received assistance through other government programs from either the state or federal government
- 9% advised they were ineligible for support they enquired about
- 86% advised they would like to see the "Play in the Pyrenees" series of events over summer continue, with some very positive comments in support of this program

- The survey asked what other support would assist with the recovery:
 - 9% advised face to face mentoring
 - 9% developing a marketing strategy
 - 0% business planning
 - 0% confidential and professional financial counselling to develop a business recovery strategy (free services are available)
 - 14% requested support with social media training
 - 33% suggested other support measures
- The survey asked “On a scale of 1 to 5 how confident are you of the future of your business where 1 means not very confident at all and 5 means very confident?” The average of all responses was 3.76 indicating a strong level of confidence for the future by a majority of respondents.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The Business Support Officer role has been integral to providing a broad range of support during the pandemic.

Activities undertaken during this time have included:

- Regular face to face contact with businesses particularly with those most in need of assistance
- Referrals to agencies like the Rural Financial Counselling Service. The RFCS provides confidential, independent, local and free business and wellbeing support and advocacy for business owners impacted by the pandemic
- Linking businesses to government support programs. At present the Victorian Government has the “Entertainment and Dining Program” where consumers can claim back 25% on dining and entertainment experiences when they spend more than \$40-. Full details of the program are available at <https://business.vic.gov.au/news-and-updates/2022/victorian-dining-and-entertainment-program>
- Informing businesses about their Covid Safe compliance responsibilities and keeping them up to date with current settings mandated by the Victorian Government
- Identifying businesses in need of assistance and assessing where support may be available
- Regularly updating businesses through direct contact and regular electronic newsletters
- Supporting the roll out of the Outdoor Dining Activation program under the banner of “Play in the Pyrenees”

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 4 - Economy

4a. Support our local businesses and help to strengthen key industries.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

This report is for information purposes

CONCLUSION

The role of the Business Support Officer has been significantly important throughout the pandemic and very well received. It has allowed Council to understand the issues confronting the small business sector locally in great detail and to provide guidance to business owners on where support is available and how it can be accessed.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes this report

10.2. ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

10.2.1. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT - QUARTERLY ACTIVITY 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

This report provides Council with a summary of the Planning and Development Department's regulation activity during January, February and March 2022.

BACKGROUND

The Planning and Development team is responsible for administering a range of regulatory functions identified within the following Acts, Regulations, Codes and Standards:

- *Local Government Act 2020*
- *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- *Planning and Environment Regulations 2015*
- *Building Act 1993*
- *Building Regulations 2018*
- *National Construction Codes*
- *Environment Protection Act 2017*
- *Water Act 1989*
- *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*
- *Food Act 1984*
- *Tobacco Act 1987*
- *Domestic Animals Act 1994*
- *Domestic Animals Regulations 2015*
- *Country Fire Act 1958*
- *Impounding of Livestock Act 1994*
- *Road Safety Act 1986*
- *Protection of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986*
- *General Local Law 2019*

The following statistics represent activity undertaken in Q3 of the 2021-22 financial year.

Planning

	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Financial YTD Total
Planning Permits				
Applications received	8	10	15	55
Applications completed	11	15	17	102
Request for further information	9	12	13	79
Estimated cost of works (\$)	316,000	364,700	1,087,681	5,222,911
60-day time frame met (%)	100	93.33	100	97.09
Number of enquiries	124	177	147	1544
Secondary Consents	2	2	2	18
Time Extensions	2	2	3	28
Planning Information Controls	10	11	13	72

Enquiries				
Pre-purchase enquiries	40	43	52	419
Pre-application enquiries	26	32	38	419
Current planning application enquiries	13	20	26	241
Existing planning permit enquiries	5	5	7	122
All other enquiries	37	43	59	341
Total Enquiries	121	138	182	1,542

Strategic Planning – Place Making

Part “A” of the Covid Outdoor Activation program has now been delivered with all initiatives implemented. Activities funded through this program have included a number of free music events, street activations, premises entertainment and an intensive marketing campaign. The marketing campaign “Play in the Pyrenees” reached over 84,000 users.

Design elements for Part “B”, which involves the activation of the western end of Cambridge Street, Avoca, are being finalised. Procurement of delivery will occur in the coming weeks.

Building

	Jan-2022	Feb-2022	March-2022	Financial YTD Total
Permits issued by private Building Surveyor	10	18	21	156
‘Property Information Certificates’ prepared and issued	17	24	21	186
‘Report and Consent’ issued	2	4	4	17
Building Notices	1	3	3	12
Building Order	4	3	1	24
Resolved Building Notices	1	1	2	5
Resolved Building Orders	3	2	1	14
Building Inspections	20	14	12	103
Place of Public Entertainment permits issued	0	0	0	0

The Building Department has continued to encourage swimming pool registration compliance, with all known privately owned pools and spas set to be registered and compliant by the end of the financial year.

Essential Safety Measure work is continuing for publicly accessible buildings.

A number of incomplete and/or expired building permits have been followed up by relevant building surveyors and the Victorian Building Authority where necessary.

Environmental Health

	Jan-2022	Feb-2022	Mar-2022
Wastewater			
Application to Install or Alter system	0	7	2
Permit to Install or Alter issued	0	10	3
Approval to Use issued	2	1	5
Wastewater inspections	3	0	5
Domestic Wastewater Management Plan inspections	27	3	7
Domestic Wastewater Service Agent reports	3	19	13
Wastewater related complaints	0	0	1
Fees Paid	\$ -	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 900.00
Public Health			
New Premises or Transfers	1	1	1
Registration Renewals	24	0	4
Premises Closures	0	1	0
Routine and Follow Up Inspections	4	15	14
Complaints about Registered Premises	0	0	1
Food Recalls	3	6	1
Mobile/Temporary Food Applications	1	9	7
Mobile/Temporary Food Inspections	7	6	5
Mobile/Temporary Food Statements of Trade	6	9	18
Fees Paid	\$ -	\$ 331.50	\$ 504.00

The Environmental Health Department has completed all food sampling for 2022. Except for a small number of potable water carters, all samples returned satisfactory and compliant results. Officers are working with water carters to ensure compliance with the Drinking Water Guidelines.

Penalty Infringement notices were issued to two takeaway premises, due to an ongoing demonstrated failure to renew their food registrations, which were due in December 2021. Despite Council waiving the renewal fees for 2022, and multiple reminder notices being provided (including via hand delivery) one business continues to trade without registration and will be subject to further enforcement action.

Community Safety and Amenity

Item	Jan-2022	Feb-2022	Mar-2022	Financial YTD
Animal Registrations				
Cats Registered	581	580	584	-
Dogs registered	2356	2369	2388	-
Animal collections				
Cats impounded	11	1	8	44
Cats reclaimed	4	0	0	14
Cats Euthanised	3	0	8	27
Dogs impounded	3	0	1	26
Dogs Reclaimed	3	0	1	24

Dogs Euthanised/surrendered	0	0	0	0
Stock impounded	0	0	0	25
Infringements				
Domestic Animals Act	2	2	4	33
Local Laws	0	1	0	12
Road Safety Act	0	1	3	6
Environment Protection Act	0	0	0	1
Impounding of Livestock Act	0	0	0	0
CFA Act	31	0	0	43
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Infringements Issued	33	4	7	95
Prosecutions	0	0	0	1

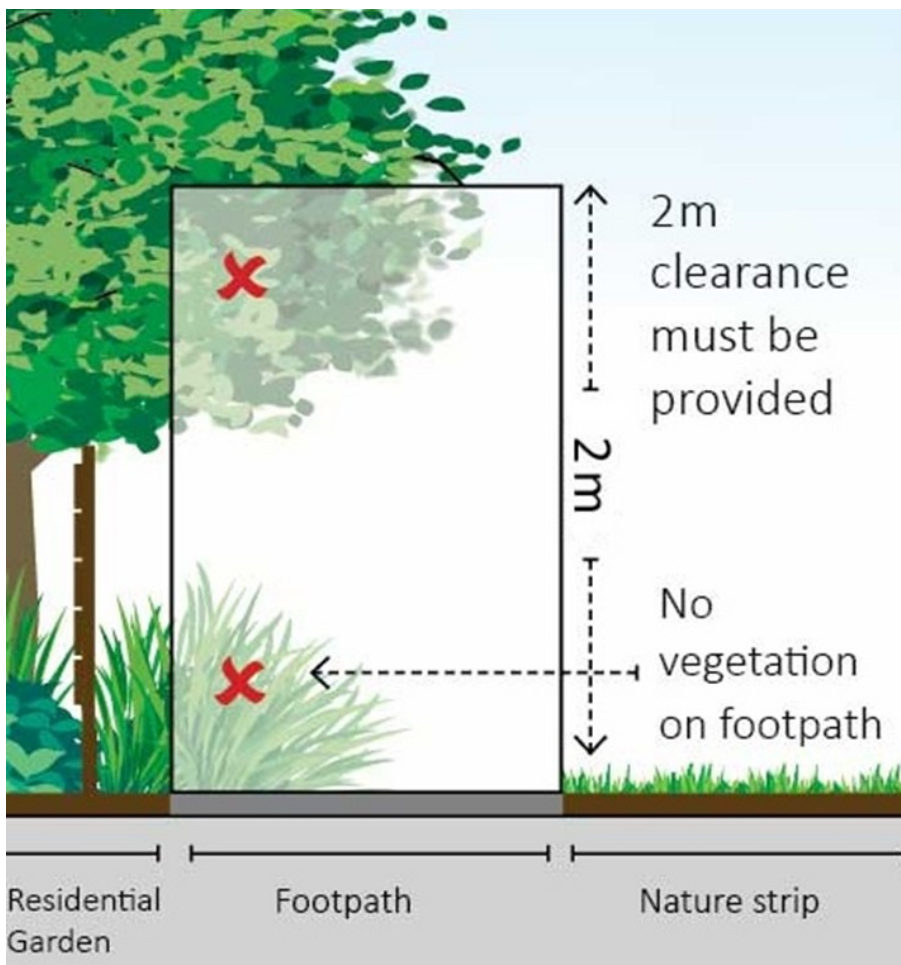
Shipping Container

Following a shipping container focus in Snake Valley and Redbank, officers have commenced a review of shipping containers in and around the Waterloo area. As a result, 12 notices have been issued, requiring landowners to remove the containers or obtain the required permits within 3 months.

Overhanging / Protruding Vegetation - March

In response to community feedback, Council's Community Safety and Amenity Department Officers have commenced an 'overhanging vegetation' education campaign for properties within the Beaufort Township. This campaign has included writing to landowners whose gardens overhang onto footpaths, and appealing to them to reduce any obstructions.

Below is an excerpt from the information shared with landowners. Properties will be re-inspected in April to confirm that works have been completed.



COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 1 - People

- 1a. Prepare for emergencies and ensure community safety.
- 1b. Support a vibrant community arts, culture and heritage environment.
- 1c. Improve accessibility and inclusivity.
- 1d. Promote health, wellbeing, engagement and connection.
- 1e. Improve social outcomes.

Priority 2 - Place

- 2a. Sustain and enhance unique character of our communities.
- 2b. Enhance the liveability and resilience of our communities.
- 2c. Promote responsible development.

Priority 4 - Economy

- 4a. Support our local businesses and help to strengthen key industries.

Enabling Principles

- a. Motivate and inspire community involvement

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the activities of the Planning and Development Department from January to March 2022.

10.3. CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

10.3.1. CUSTOMER ACTION REQUESTS MARCH 2022 UPDATE

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 the Council on requests made through the Customer Action Request System (CARS) for the month of March 2022.

BACKGROUND

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

Service requests are received for operational issues regarding maintenance, pools, local laws, building maintenance and compliance matters. The system is also used for internal telephone messaging and case management of some matters (primarily local laws, dogs, and cats), although efforts continue to reduce this use.

Work commenced in late 2021 to identify complaints that may have been input as a customer action request and process them accordingly, to ensure appropriate and timely responses to our community.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

431 CARs were logged in February 2022, 34 more than the previous month. Of these requests 267 related to telephone messages.

445 CARs were closed in the month, leaving a total of 253 outstanding, of which 50 related to telephone messages.

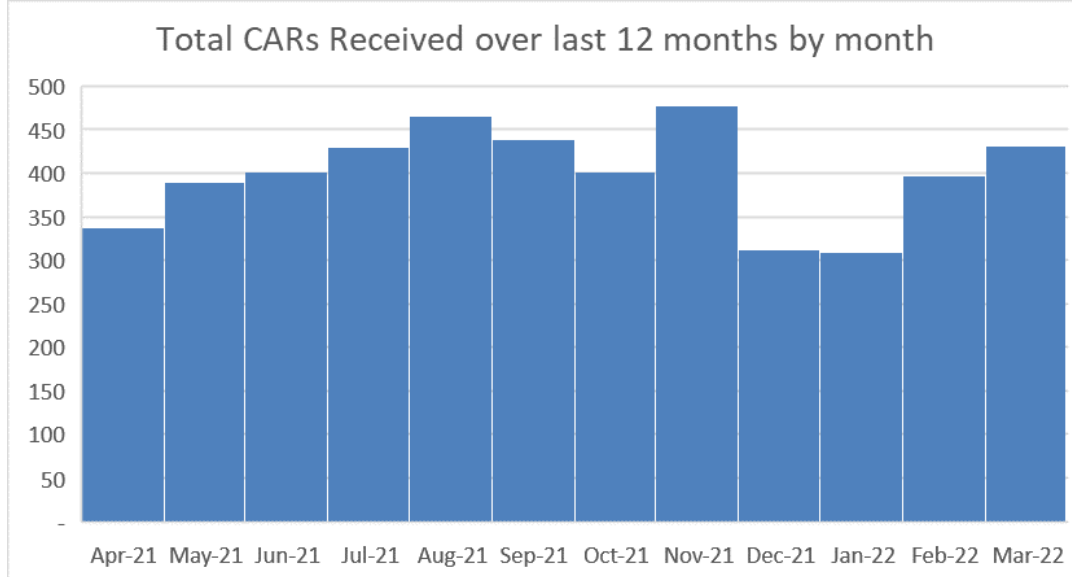
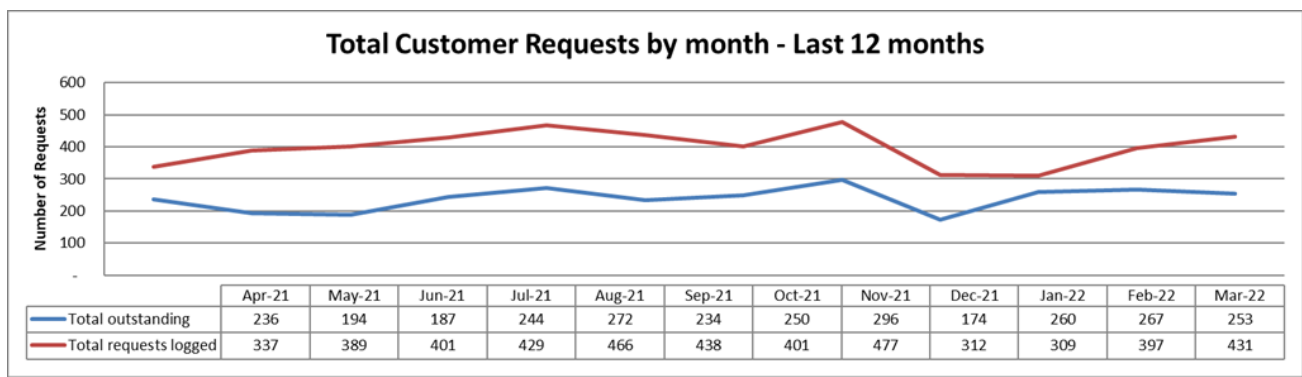
Of the non-telephone call requests received, the following represents those received and still outstanding at the end of the last month by Ward:

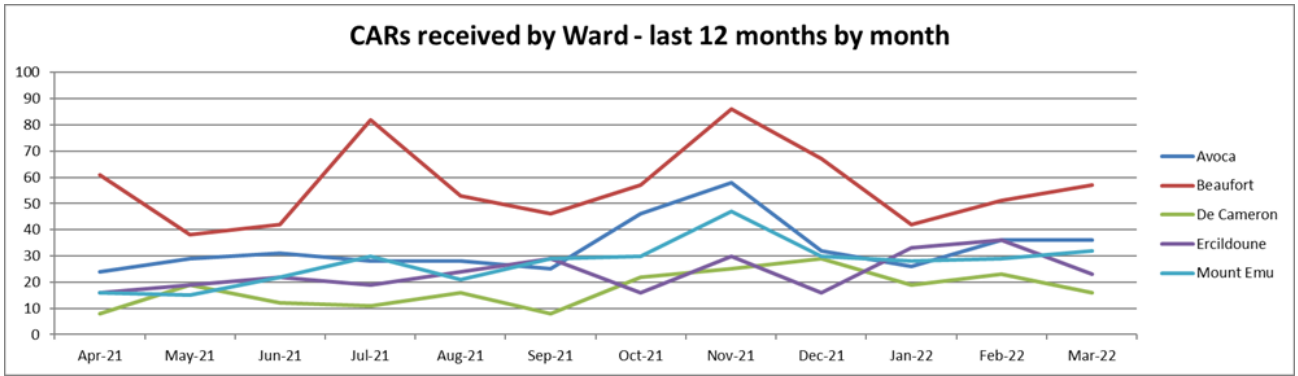
	Avoca Ward	Beaufort Ward	DeCameron Ward	Ercildoune Ward	Mt Emu Ward
Number of requests received in March 2022 (previous month).	36 (36)	57 (51)	16 (23)	23 (36)	32 (29)
Requests received in March and closed in the same month (% of total received).	25 (69%)	39 (68%)	11 (69%)	17 (74%)	25 (78%)
Requests received in March outstanding.	11	18	5	6	7
Outstanding requests from 2020.	0	2	0	0	0
Outstanding requests from 2019.	1	0	0	0	0
Total outstanding requests as at the end of March 2022 (previous month).	56 (53)	60 (59)	21 (21)	46 (44)	34 (33)

Analysis:

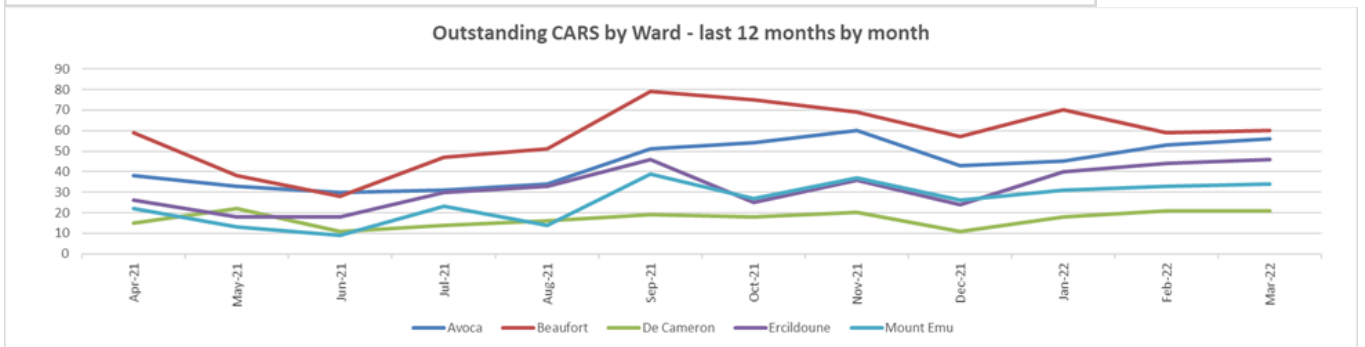
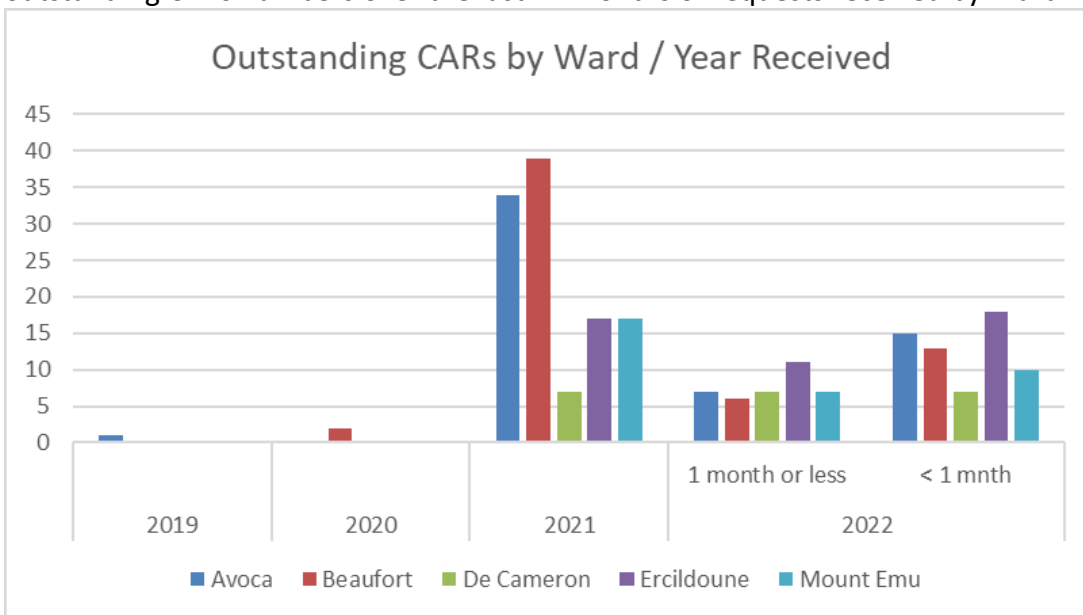
- At 253, outstanding CARs numbers remained below the target to maintain the total number of outstanding CARs below 300.
- 1 request remains outstanding from 2019 and 2 from 2020, all of which relate to long-term drainage issues.
- Checks of requests made during March identified the following that will be registered and monitored as service complaints -
 - Resident dissatisfaction on drainage works undertaken in Back Raglan Road, Beaufort.
 - Several calls from a resident awaiting a call-back on crown allotment information – Lexton.
 - Resident dissatisfaction regarding a failed culvert and remediation works in Stoneleigh.

The following graphs display requests received by Ward/month and totals received for the last 12 months.





The following charts display outstanding cars by Ward/year received and the trend lines of outstanding CARs numbers over the last 12 months of requests received by Ward.



The following table provides greater detail of the areas where outstanding requests remain, showing the functional areas and numbers of requests still outstanding, as of 28 February 2022.

Open Requests Type			
	Feb-22	Mar-22	Change
Roads & Rd Maint.	58	55	-3
Streetlights	2	2	0
Drainage	29	31	2
Footpaths / Kerb&Channel	12	10	-2
Park & Reserves	9	7	-2
Roadside Veg	62	54	-8
Environmental Health	4	6	2
Planning	5	9	4
Bld maint	12	12	0
Local Laws	3	3	0
Cats	4	0	-4
Dogs	2	1	-1
Livestock Act	0	0	0
Parking	1	0	-1
Fire Hazard	2	3	1
Bld Compliance	1	1	0
Waste Management	0	0	0
Natural Disasters	0	0	0
Pools	0	0	0
Council cleaning	1	1	0
EPA - Litter	0	3	3
Design & Assets	2	3	1
GIS	0	0	0
Community Wellbeing	1	1	0
Rural Addressing	0	0	0
Road Naming	2	1	-1
Telephone messages	55	50	-5
Total	267	253	-14

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 1 – People

1c. Improve accessibility and inclusivity.

Priority 2 - Place

2b. Enhance the liveability and resilience of our communities.

Priority 3 - Environment

3a. Continue being an environmentally progressive organisation.

Priority 4 - Economy

4b. Invest in road infrastructure to improve connectivity for commerce and community.

4c. Encourage and invest in assets and infrastructure for commerce and community.

Enabling Principles

b. Provide transparency and accountability

c. Use resources efficiently and effectively

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Financial and reputation risks apply with the receipt and timely resolution of customer action requests. Financial because of the need to address requests from the community where resource and budget capacity allows, reputation because of the adverse reaction within the community when it is perceived that insufficient attention or priority is provided to such requests – e.g., where a timely response is not received or where a request is not recognised as a complaint.

CONCLUSION

The customer action request system remains an integral part of Council’s reactive identification of issues that need attention. 2022 sees ongoing review of how the system is used, including finding proactive ways to improve speedier resolution and reporting against progress. This report provides a statistical overview of requests received and actions during March 2022.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes this report.

10.3.2. QUARTERLY PROJECT UPDATE

Jerry van Delft – Project Management Facilitator

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

File No: 16/21/04

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the Council with an update on the progress of projects that are:

- o Externally funded projects, or
- o Projects with a budget >\$50 000, or
- o Projects with significant stakeholder interest as deemed by the ELT, or
- o Any internal change management resulting in organisational structure change or the overhaul of organisational processes that impact >50% of staff, or
- o Emergency recovery projects for major events funded to \$50k or more in the current financial year.

BACKGROUND

There are currently 35 active projects (30 community projects and 5 internal council projects) worth \$10.9m across the municipality ranging from road and bridge upgrades, including the \$1M Bridge 139 on the Raglan Elmhurst Road and the \$3.8M Lexton Community Hub project. 18 of the 35 projects are due for completion in the 2022/23 financial year.

The LRCIP Round 3 projects have been progressively added to the dashboard (\$2.79m) as they commence project design. Progress against milestones is updated monthly on the Project Management Dashboard. A detailed list of current projects is attached.

The Dashboard is also showing that 18 projects have been completed this financial year. Some of the projects successfully completed since the last report in January include the Gender Equality Action Plan Development, road upgrade at Wright St, Crowlands, and the Stockyard Hill Road improvements covering 1.3km.

The dashboard can be found at <https://dashboard.pyrenees.vic.gov.au/public-dashboard>.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

There are currently 35 projects in progress (as reported on the Project Dashboard). Most projects are on track to meet the Milestones. There are 2 projects which have not achieved milestones and requests for variations with the funding bodies have been submitted. These projects are:

1. The Lexton Hub which continues to face delays resulting from issues relating to wastewater management. The application for a permit is currently with the EPA. Subject to that approval, the revised target date for completion of the WWTS is June 2022 with an intended official opening in August. Officers are working with the project manager and contractor to enable access to parts of the facility to be accessed by clubs and the community to transition across from the old facilities.
2. The Beaufort Cricket nets are now in the final design phase. The delay in the design is due to the Council restructuring the project as the quotes received were above the grant allocation. It was decided to outsource the design phase to M2M Design. The nets and shed are planned to be available for the 22/23 cricket pre-season.

Implementation of the Project Management Policy continues with the implementation of the 3 project working groups, Capital Works, Internal / Change Management, and Community, Economic and Emergency Projects, which have met monthly, since July 2021, to update the dashboard, review project progress and resolve issues. The working groups report to the Steering Committee which also meets monthly. The resulting improved communications and information sharing has helped to ensure that most projects are completed on time and within budget.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Enabling Principles

c. Use resources efficiently and effectively

ATTACHMENTS

1. 20220407Current Projects [10.3.2.1 - 3 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

All risk implications have been included in the body of the report.

CONCLUSION

It is anticipated that all projects due for completion this financial year will be completed.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes this report.

11. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

11.1. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS - MARCH 2022

Cr Tanya Kehoe – Mount Emu Ward		
Tue 1	Special Council Meeting	Virtual
Tue 8	Councillor Cuppa	Carranballac
Tue 8	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 15	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 15	Council Meeting	Beaufort
Sun 20	Brass on the Grass Event	Beaufort
Mon 28	Rotary Club Excellence Awards Evening	Beaufort

Cr Robert Vance – De Cameron Ward		
Tue 1	Special Council Meeting	Virtual
Sat 5	Glenpatrick Recreation Reserve Committee of Management Meeting	Glenpatrick
Tue 8	Councillor Cuppa	Carranballac
Tue 8	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 15	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 15	Council Meeting	Beaufort
Tue 22	National Timber Councils Association AGM	Virtual
Thu 24	Meeting with Landsborough Assets Committee re proposed Landsborough Store	Landsborough
Fri 25	Rural Councils Victoria Committee Meeting	Virtual

Cr Ron Eason – Avoca Ward		
Tue 1	Meeting with Stuart Grimley (Member for Western Victoria)	Avoca
Tue 1	Special Council Meeting	Virtual
Mon 6	Central Highlands Councils Victoria Meeting	Virtual
Tue 8	Councillor Cuppa	Carranballac
Tue 8	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Wed 9	Meeting between Council and ASU to discuss rate capping	Virtual
Fri 11	Central Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Bid Information session	Virtual
Tue 15	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 15	Council Meeting	Beaufort
Sat 19	Opening of Petanque Tournament	Avoca
Thu 24	Meeting with Landsborough Assets Committee re proposed Landsborough Store	Landsborough

Cr David Clark – Ercildoune Ward		
Tue 1	Special Council Meeting	Virtual
Tue 1	MAV – State Digital Strategy	Virtual
Thu 3	MAV – Housing / Planning Advisors Meeting	Virtual
Thu 3	Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance farewell for Rob Law	Castlemaine
Fri 4	MAV - Board Meeting	Virtual
Mon 7	MAV – Minister Leane	Virtual
Mon 7	MAV – Transport Advocacy Strategy	Virtual
Mon 07	UMEC Landcare – Skipton Group Strategy Day	Skipton
Tue 8	Councillor Cuppa	Carranballac
Tue 8	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Wed 9	MAV – Corangamite Shire meeting	Melbourne
Thu 10	MAV – Rules Review	Virtual
Thu 10	Meeting with Vicky Hancock Beaufort Community Bank	Beaufort
Thu 10	MAV – Western Region Meeting	Footscray
Thu 10	MAV – Western Region Forum	Yarraville
Mon 14	Marshalling – Begonia Festival Parade	Ballarat
Tue 15	MAV – Advocacy Update	Virtual
Tue 15	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 15	Council Meeting	Beaufort
Thu 17	MAV – Revitalising Melbourne	Melbourne
Thu 17	MAV – CEO KPIs to June 2023	Melbourne
Thu 17	MAV – Rural North East Regional Meeting	Virtual
Mon 21	MAV - Audit & Risk Committee Meeting	Melbourne
Mon 21	MAV – Launch Victorian Aboriginal Local Government Strategy	Melbourne
Wed 23	MAV – Greenhouse Alliances Meeting	Virtual
Thu 24	ALGA - March Board Meeting	Canberra
Fri 25	MAV - Insurance Board Meeting	Virtual
Mon 28	MAV - Special Board Meeting	Virtual
Tue 29	MAV – Meeting with WRGG Chairs	Virtual
Tue 29	MAV – Advocacy Update	Virtual
Wed 30	MAV - Rules Review Committee Meeting	Virtual
Thu 31	MAV – Meeting with Yarra Mayor Sophie Gale	South Melbourne
Thu 31	MAV – Meeting with Morland Mayor Mark Riley	Coburg

Cr Damian Ferrari – Beaufort Ward		
Tue 1	Special Council Meeting	Virtual
Tue 8	Councillor Cuppa	Carranballac
Tue 8	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 15	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 15	Council Meeting	Beaufort
Sun 20	Brass on the Grass Event	Beaufort
Mon 28	Rotary Club Excellence Awards Evening	Beaufort

12. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

12.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS - MARCH 2022

MEETING INFORMATION			
Meeting Name	Councillor Briefing Session		
Meeting Date	8 March 2022 commenced at 2.00pm and closed at 5.45pm		
Meeting Location	Council Chambers, 5 Lawrence Street, Beaufort		
Items Discussed	1. Audit & Risk Committee Annual Performance Review 2. Community Care 3. Road and Bridge Asset Assessment 4. Agenda Review 5. CEO Review		
ATTENDEES			
Councillors	Mayor Cr Ron Eason Cr Damian Ferrari Cr Tanya Kehoe	Cr David Clark Cr Robert Vance	
Apologies	Nil		
Staff	Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer) – Items 1 - 4 Douglas Gowans (Director Assets and Development Services) – Items 1 - 4 Kathy Bramwell (Director Corporate and Community Services) – Items 1 – 4 Michelle Richards (Manager Governance, Risk & Compliance) – Item 1 Tim Day (Manager Assets) – Item 3		
Visitors	Rob Croxford – Item 5		
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES			
Item No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting
Nil			

MEETING INFORMATION			
Meeting Name	Councillor Briefing Session		
Meeting Date	15 March 2022 commenced at 1.00pm and closed at 5.15pm		
Meeting Location	Council Chambers, 5 Lawrence Street, Beaufort		
Items Discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Western Victoria Transmission Network Project 2. Budget Update 3. Aged Care 4. Councillors Authentication on Computers 5. Central Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Bid 6. Agenda Review 		
ATTENDEES			
Councillors	Mayor Cr Ron Eason (1.55pm) Cr Damian Ferrari (1.15pm) Cr Tanya Kehoe		Cr David Clark Cr Robert Vance
Apologies	Kathy Bramwell (Director Corporate and Community Services)		
Staff	Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer) Douglas Gowans (Director Assets and Development Services) Martin Walmsley (A/Director Corporate and Community Services) – Virtual Glenn Kallio (Manager Finance) – Item 2 Tim Day (Manager Assets) – Item 3 Michael Lacey (Information and Communications Technology Officer) – Item 4 Shaun Elliott (Information Systems Officer) – Item 4		
Visitors	Tanya Waterson and Michael Willis (AusNet) – Item 1 Ty Lockwood (ASU) – Virtual - Item 3 Susan Fayad and Trevor Budge - Virtual – Item 5		
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES			
Item No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting
1	Cr Clark	Cr Clark is an affected landowner in respect of Item 1 – Western Victorian Transmission Network Project, and has an interest in common with the significant number of landowners in the vicinity of the proposed transmission line	No

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the items for noting in Sections 10, 11 and 12, be received.

13. ITEMS FOR DECISION

13.1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

13.1.1. SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION - BEAUFORT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Presenter: Jim Nolan - Chief Executive Officer

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

Report Author: 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: 32/13/06

PURPOSE

To seek Council's approval of a sponsorship application received from Beaufort Progress Association to support the monthly town markets in Avoca and Beaufort.

BACKGROUND

The Beaufort Progress Association has coordinated the Beaufort Town Market since September 2019 and more recently added coordination of the Avoca Town Market in late 2021.

BPA have applied to Council for sponsorship of \$5,000- per year over a period of three years commencing from 1 July 2022 to support the two markets.

These funds will be used to continue to build on and enhance the markets at Avoca and Beaufort with the support of a dedicated market manager which BPA pay for.

The markets are held on the fourth weekend of each month with Beaufort being held on Saturday and Avoca Sunday.

The markets are attended by around 300 people at Beaufort and 500 at Avoca with each market having between 30 to 40 stall holders. Around two thirds of people attending the markets are from outside of the Shire with attendances and visitor percentages being higher during public holidays and long weekends.

The monthly markets encourage visitors to stay over weekends and go shopping at local small businesses and wineries which is especially important following the impacts of the pandemic. Restaurants at cellar doors are regularly booked out on Riverside Market weekends.

The markets also provide fund raising opportunities for local community groups and social benefits and opportunities for Pyrenees residents as part of these monthly outings.

The sponsorship application also indicates plans by BPA to introduce youth programs at both markets which will be trialed at Avoca during winter of 2022.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The monthly markets provide important socio-economic benefits by attracting visitors to the Pyrenees, stimulating economic activity and providing residents with an opportunity to support local businesses and socialize in their community.

BPA have been provided Council assistance for the town market previously including:

- \$250 for town entry signage for the Beaufort Town Market (paid in 2019)
- \$250 for town entry signage for the Avoca Town Market
- \$5,000- from the 2021-22 Kick Starting Events fund for engagement of a paid market coordinator
- Community Grant of \$750- in June 2021 for the Beaufort Town Market
- Community Grant of \$1,000- in October 2021 for signs, banners and sandwich boards for the Avoca Town Market.

The sponsorship currently sought by BPA from Council will assist with the costs and ongoing support of a market manager. BPA is a small volunteer organization with limited manpower, and the engagement of the market manager supports the ability of BPA to continue to hold markets in the two towns.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 4 - Economy

4a. Support our local businesses and help to strengthen key industries.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Council's annual sponsorship budget will need to be increased by \$5,000- to accommodate this request, and therefore requires Council consideration in context of a financially constrained budget.

CONCLUSION

The Avoca and Beaufort Town Markets are important events for both economic and social reasons. They make an important contribution to economic activity on weekends including overnight stays and dispersal of visitors to local wineries and other attractions in the Pyrenees.

Providing funding of \$5,000- per year over three years will assist this relatively small volunteer organization to engage professional support integral to its ability to host the monthly markets in Avoca and Beaufort.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Approves sponsorship of \$5,000- per annum over three financial years commencing 1 July 2022.
2. Increases its annual sponsorship budget by \$5,000- to accommodate this request.

13.2. ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

13.2.1. PA21114 DEVELOPMENT OF DOMESTIC OUTBUILDING - AVOCA

Presenter: Douglas Gowans - Director Asset and Development Services

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

Report Author: Katie Gleisner – Manager Planning and Development Services

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

File No: 214020450

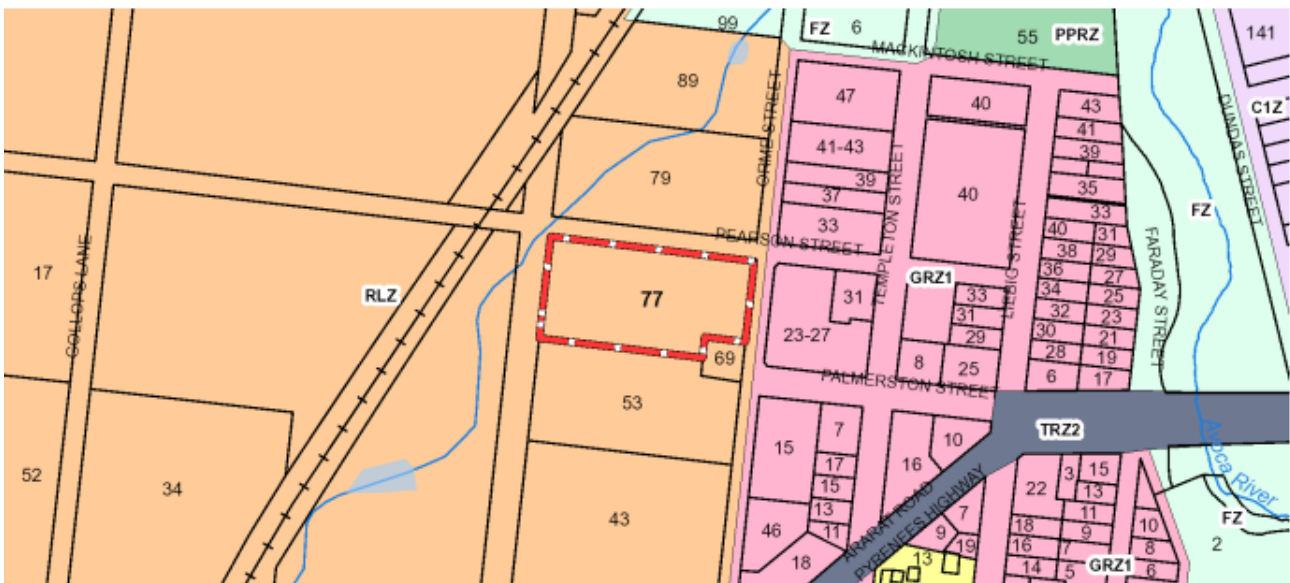
PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information on State and Local Planning Policy that is relevant to making a determination on Planning Permit Application PA21114 for the Development of a Domestic Shed at 77 Orme Street, Avoca being Lot 1 on Title Plan 385421L (Vol: 03386, Fol: 122)

BACKGROUND

A planning permit application has been received for the development of a domestic shed that is required to store 4 tractors, 2 Bailers, 2 mower conditioners, 1 Combine Harvester, 11 Collectable cars and 3 toolboxes for a workspace with a workbench. The applicant proposed to locate the shed to the south of the existing dwelling for ease of access to power and water, and for security.

The site is within the Rural Living Zone and not subject to any overlays.



Proposed site

Location:	77 Orme Street, Avoca being Lot 1 on Title Plan 385421L (Vol: 03386, Fol: 122)
Land size:	Subject lot: 1.2ha Entire property: 3.9ha
Current use:	Residential
Existing Structures:	Existing dwelling and associated infrastructure
Access:	Accessible via Orme Street

The application was advertised to eleven surrounding neighbours, with no objections received.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The proposed shed is 18m x 30m x 6.3m (54m²) and will be entirely clad with zincalume.

The Rural living Zone provides for outbuildings normal to a dwelling to be treated as a section 1 (permit not required) use. However, due to the size, scale and nature of use of the proposed shed, it cannot be considered an outbuilding normal to a dwelling, and therefore is defined as a “store”.

Under the zone, a store is only permitted (section 2 use – permit required) in the instance that it is a building, not a dwelling, and used to store equipment, goods, or motor vehicles used in conjunction with the occupation of a resident of a dwelling on the lot.

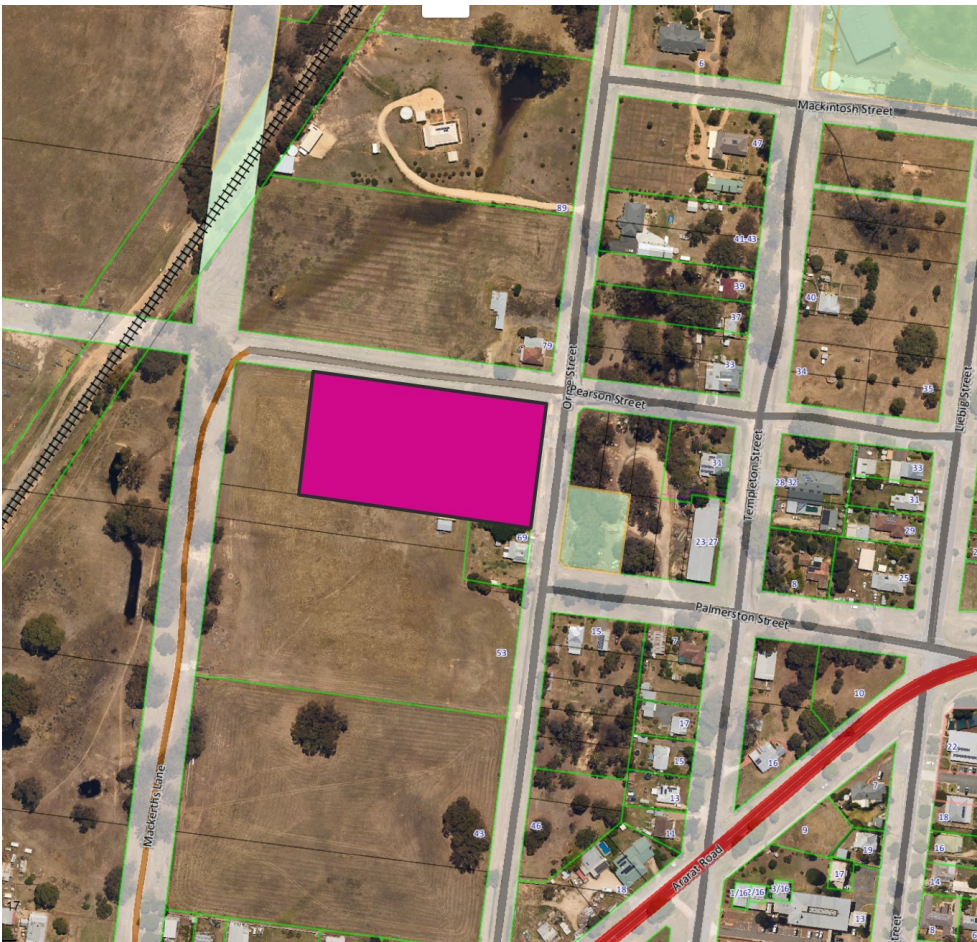
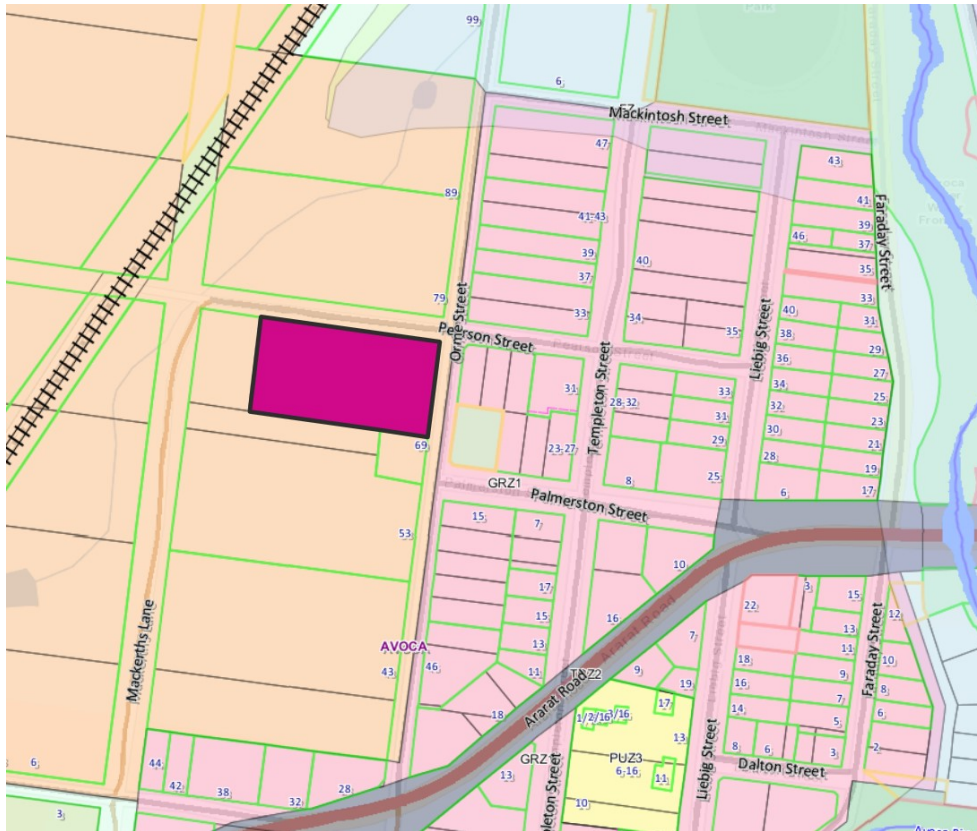
Based on the description of use provided, officers are satisfied that the store will be used to support the occupation of the resident.

In considering this application, Council is required to have regard for state, regional and local policy, which include understanding:

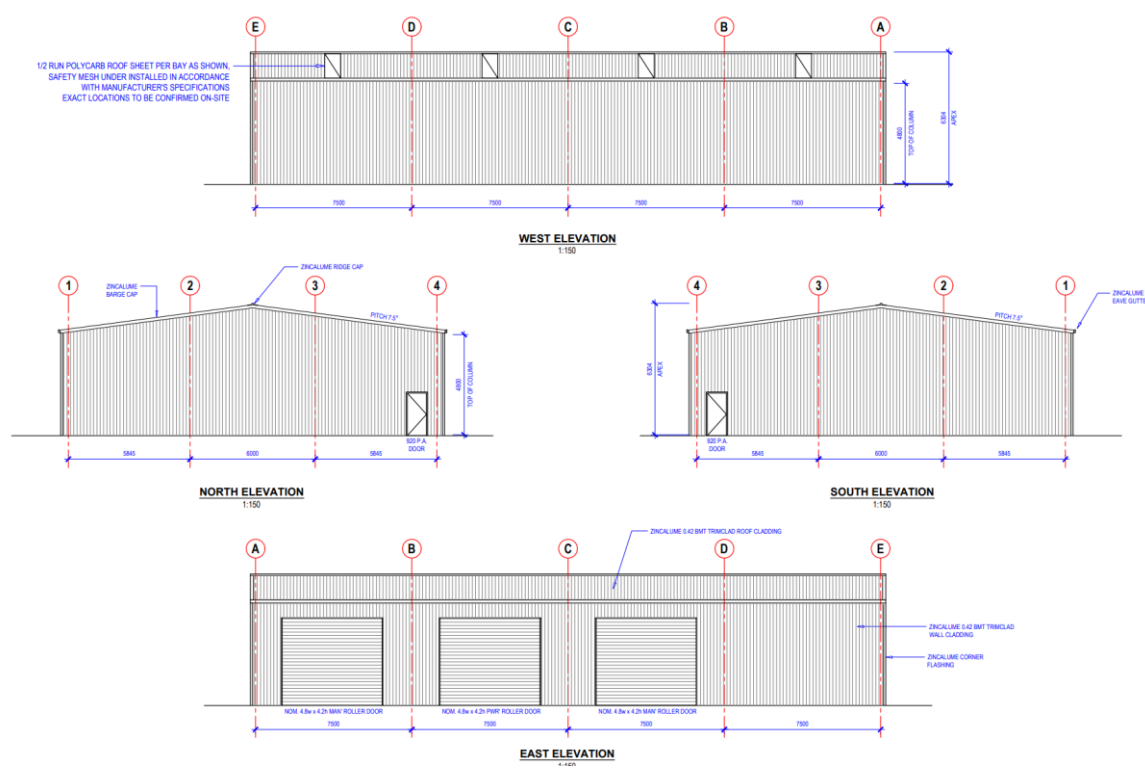
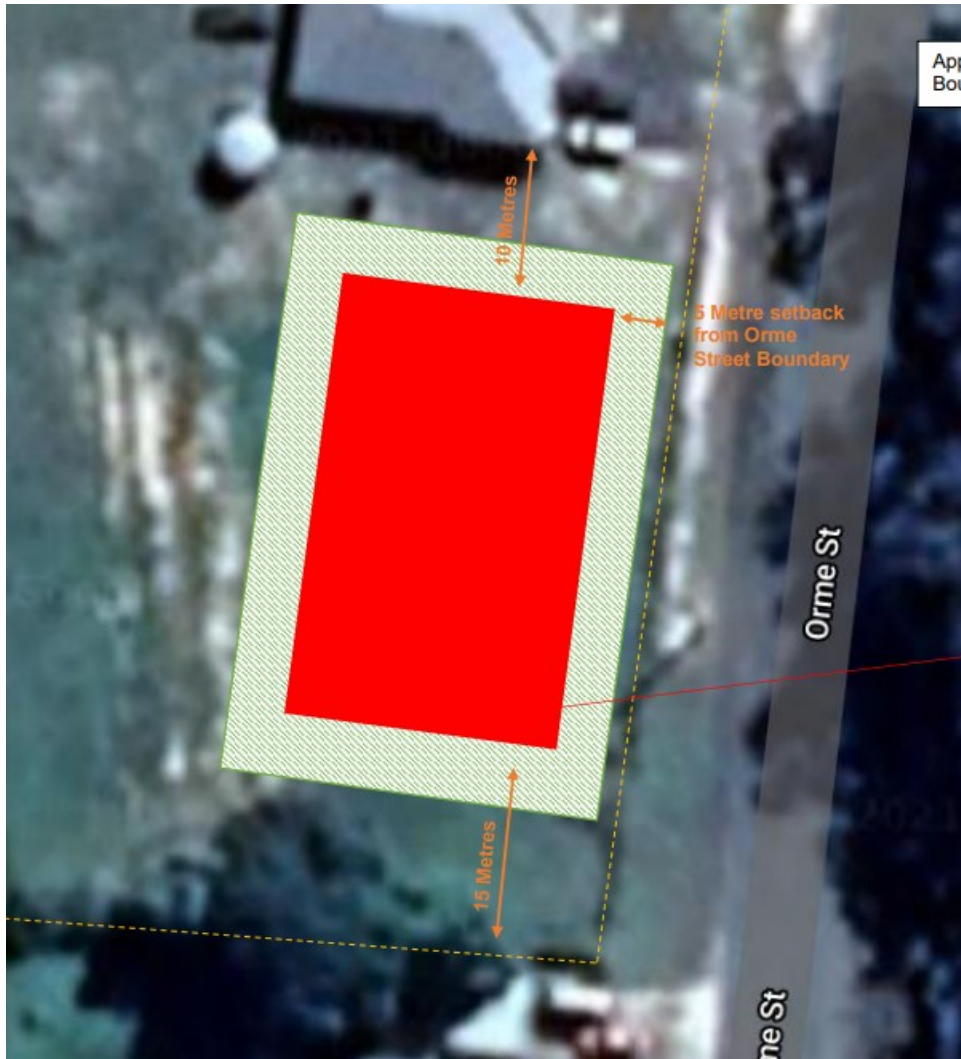
- Whether the site is suitable for the use and development and whether the proposal is compatible with adjoining and nearby land uses.
- The impact of the siting, design, height, bulk, colours and materials of the proposed development on the natural environment, and measures to be undertaken to minimise any adverse impacts.
- The potential for the future expansion of the use or development and its impact on adjoining and nearby land uses.

Specifically, clause 02.03-1 of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme seeks to accommodate conventional residential lots within the rural living area west of the Avoca township.

This strategic objective is further supported by the Avoca Framework Plan which seeks to see the land west of Orme Street used to facilitate additional lot supply within walkable distance to the town centre.



The above images indicate the current pattern of lot development in area and demonstrates the capacity for residential density in the General Residential Zone east of the subject land.



The Rural Living Zone seeks to provide for land uses which do not adversely affect the amenity of the surrounding area. The proposed shed is intended to be located within 5 meters of the property boundary (as shown above), compared to the approximate 10.5m setback of the existing dwelling.

Further, the East elevation indicates that three roller doors will face onto Orme Street. Due to there only being a 5-metre setback, it is reasonable to expect that the landowner will require vehicular access to all three doors from Orme Street, as well as the two existing vehicle crossovers that service the dwelling. This will result in at least 30.5 meters of the 80-meter frontage being taken up with vehicle crossovers.

The siting of the proposed shed which obscures sightlines to the dwelling, along with the expense of vehicle crossovers required, will in turn change the amenity of the land from residential to semi-industrial.

Officers have corresponded with the landowner and consultant in an attempt to address amenity concerns relating to the siting, design, height, bulk, colours and materials of the proposed development, however these efforts have not resulted in the proposal being amended.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 2 - Place

- 2a. Sustain and enhance unique character of our communities.
- 2c. Promote responsible development.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Application P A 21114 Redacted [13.2.1.1 - 13 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

An application determined by Council or under delegation of Council and which is subject to appeal rights at VCAT, may incur costs in the form of representation (consultant) fees and staff resources.

CONCLUSION

Clause 65 of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme states that 'Because a permit can be granted' does not imply that a permit should or will be granted. The responsible authority must decide whether the proposal will produce acceptable outcomes in terms of the decision guidelines of this clause.' As required by the Pyrenees Planning Scheme and the Planning and Environment Act 1987, officers cannot be reasonably satisfied that the proposed development is an appropriate planning outcome.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the objectives and strategies of the Local and State Planning Policy Framework and the Municipal Strategic Statement of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme.
2. Having considered all matters required under Section 60 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and the provisions of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme, determines to issue a Notice of Refusal to Grant a Planning Permit under the provisions of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme for the Development Domestic Shed at 77 Orme Street, Avoca being Lot 1 on Title Plan 385421L (Vol: 03386, Fol: 122) as the proposed development does not accord with the objectives of Clauses 02.03-1 and 35.03-5 of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme.

13.2.2. PA21094 SEVEN (7) LOT SUBDIVISION - SNAKE VALLEY

Presenter: Douglas Gowans - Director Asset and Development Services

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

Report Author: Katie Gleisner – Manager Planning and Development Services

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

File No: 710024300

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information on State and Local Planning Policy that is relevant to making a determination on Planning Permit Application PA21094 for the Subdivision of Land (7 Allotments) at Crown Allotment 15 Section 31 Parish of Carngham (Vol: 08158, Fol: 482) Snake Valley-Mortchup Road, Snake Valley.

BACKGROUND

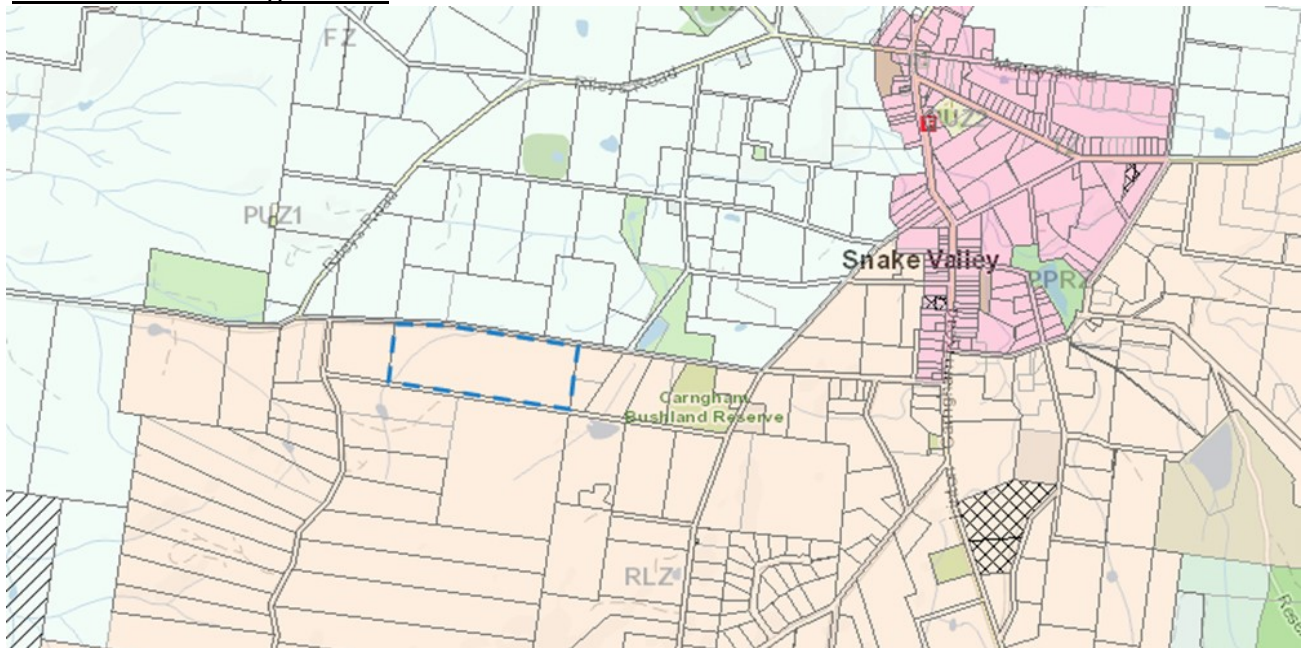
Council has received a planning permit application for the Subdivision of Land (7 Allotments) in Snake Valley.

The site falls within the Rural Living Zone and is partly subject to the Bushfire Management Overlay.

The proposed subdivision is subject to a planning permit in accordance with:

- Clause 35.03-3 (Rural Living Zone) of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme – which specifies that a permit is required to subdivide land.
- Clause 44.06-2 (Bushfire Management Overlay) of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme, which specifies that a permit is required to subdivide land.

Site and surrounding context

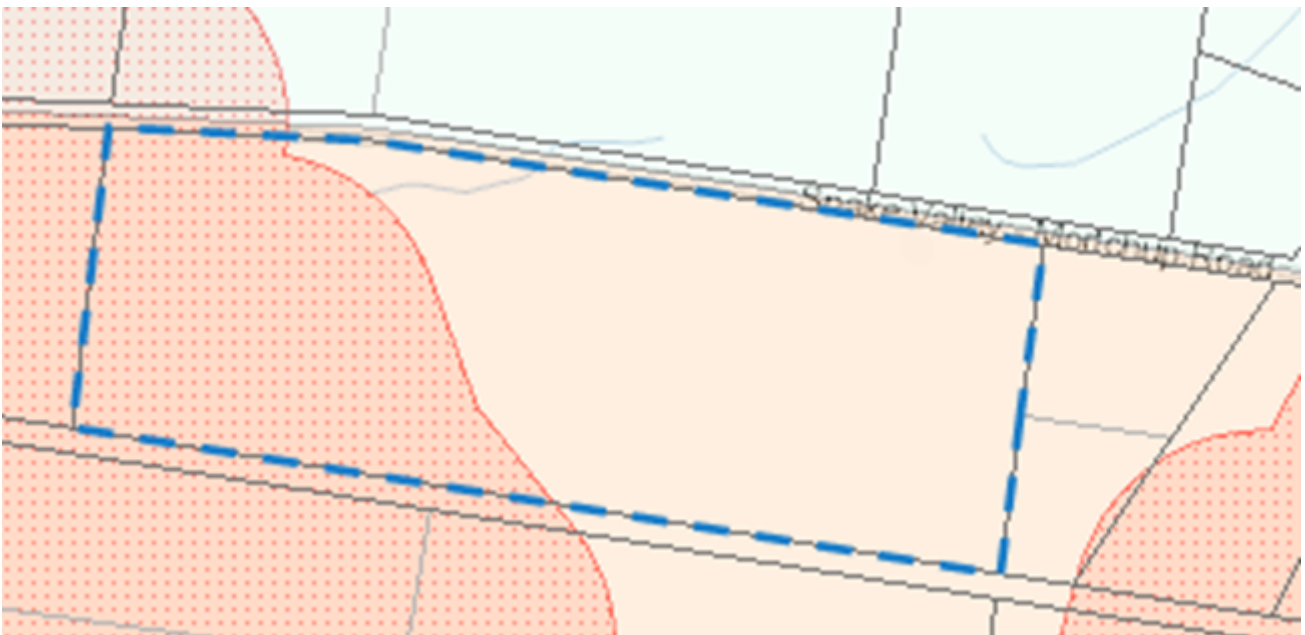


Site location

Location:	Crown Allotment 15 Section 31 Parish of Carngham (Vol: 08158, Fol: 482) Snake Valley-Mortchup Road, Snake Valley
Land size:	37.90ha
Current use:	Vacant
Existing Structures:	Nil
Access:	Accessible via the Snake Valley-Mortchup Road (collector class)



Aerial view of site



Bushfire Management Overlay

The application is proposing the development of 7 Allotments. As part of the application there will be native vegetation removal.

- Lot 1 will be 2.335 ha
- Lot 2 will be 4.828 ha
- Lot 3 will be 2.696 ha
- Lot 4 will be 2.023 ha
- Lot 5 will be 2.012 ha
- Lot 6 will be 2.002 ha
- Lot 7 will be 2.003 ha



REFERRALS AND NOTICE

Under Section 55 of the *Planning & Environment Act 1987* (The Act), the application was referred to Central Highlands Water, the Country Fire Authority and Powercor, who did not object subject to a range of conditions.

Under Section 52 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (The Act), notice was sent to Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority and to seven (7) adjoining landowners. Public notice was also provided through Council’s website.

The application was subject to an internal referral to Council’s Environmental Health Department and Engineering Department, who do not oppose the proposed subdivision subject to conditions.

SUBMISSIONS

Four submissions have been received by three adjoining landowners. A summary of the objections has been provided below:

Submission: Road infrastructure – an increase in traffic and road use, resulting in damage to the existing and inadequate road, and an increase in dust due to the unsealed road.

Officer response: The application was referred to Council's Engineering Department who has not objected to the proposal subject to conditions. In considering the application, Council's engineers have had regard for the capacity to construct vehicle cross-overs as well as the Snake Valley-Mortchup Road's capacity to accommodate additional traffic. The subject road is identified as a 'collector road' in Councils Road Management Plan and has been built to accommodate higher volumes of traffic.

Submission: Size of proposed blocks, development is not in keeping with quiet neighbourhood and effect on Rate values.

Officer response: The Rural Living Zone (which this site is subject to) allows for the subdivision of land to a lot size of no less than 2ha. The proposed subdivision identifies lots that range from 4.8ha to 2ha.

There are a number of existing lots within the area of Rural Living Zone (specifically adjoining Rowler's Road and Haighs Lane) that accommodate lot sizes that range between 2 and 7ha.

The land to the north of the subject land is within the Farming Zone and subject to different provisions within the planning scheme. As such, it cannot provide an example of neighbourhood character for consideration in this instance.

The commercial value of land is not a value that the planning scheme allows for consideration of, and therefore the potential impact on property rates has not been considered in the assessment of this application.

Submission: Impact on native vegetation and wildlife.

Officer response: The application has been supported by a comprehensive response to c152.17 where it has been satisfactorily demonstrated that there will be no net loss to biodiversity as a result of the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.

Lot boundaries, dwelling envelopes and driveways has been located to minimise the requirement to remove native vegetation. A small patch of vegetation and 4 large trees are required to be removed; however, 0.146 general habitat units of native vegetation will be offset in accordance with Department of Environment Land Water and Planning requirements.

Submission: Concern that and stormwater drainage from the site will exacerbate existing failures on the Snake Valley-Mortchup Road

Officer Response: Council's Engineering Department require a range of planning permit conditions that will manage the drainage and stormwater requirements of the site.

The applicant provided written responses to each of the objections.



Existing Vegetation



Vegetation to be removed

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The Responsible Authority is required, under Section 60 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, to consider a range of matters including:

- the Pyrenees Planning Scheme; and
- the objectives of planning in Victoria; and
- all objections and other submissions which it has received, and which have not been withdrawn; and

- any decision and comments of a referral authority it has received; and
- any significant effects which the responsible authority considers the subdivision may have on the environment or which the responsible authority considers the environment may have on the subdivision; and
- any significant social effects and economic effects which the responsible authority considers the subdivision may have.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The application demonstrates accordance with the objectives of the Rural Living Zone, as it will provide for residential use in a rural environment, whilst protecting and enhancing the natural resources, biodiversity and landscape values of the area.

The proposal satisfactorily demonstrates the site's capacity to accommodate requirements of the Bushfire Management Overlay and provide for the onsite treatment of wastewater, whilst minimising and offsetting the impact on native vegetation and habitat.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 2 - Place

2a. Sustain and enhance unique character of our communities.

2b. Enhance the liveability and resilience of our communities.

2c. Promote responsible development.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Application P A 21094 Redacted [**13.2.2.1** - 145 pages]
2. P A 21094 Redacted Submissions [**13.2.2.2** - 39 pages]
3. Planning Considerations 1 [**13.2.2.3** - 5 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

An application determined by council or under delegation of council and which is subject to appeal rights at VCAT, may incur costs in the form of representation (consultant) fees and staff resources.

CONCLUSION

It is the assessing officer's opinion that the proposed subdivision is an acceptable planning outcome as it will support further residential development within a zone that is set aside for rural residential purposes, whilst minimising and offsetting the impact on native vegetation and habitat.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Having considered all matters required under Section 60 of the Planning & Environment Act 1987 and the provisions of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme determines to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit for the Subdivision of Land (7 Lots) at Crown Allotment 15 Section 31 Parish of Carngham (Vol: 08158, Fol: 482) Snake Valley-Mortchup Road, Snake Valley subject to the following conditions:

Plans

1. The formal plan of subdivision lodged for certification must be generally in accordance with the endorsed plan and must not be modified except to comply with statutory requirements or with the further written consent of the Responsible Authority.
2. The plan of subdivision must show building and effluent envelopes as per endorsed plans.

Mandatory Conditions

Provision of Services

3. The owner of the land must enter into agreements with the relevant authorities for the provision of water supply, drainage, sewerage facilities, electricity, gas and telecommunication services to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in accordance with the authority's requirements and relevant legislation at the time.

Easements

4. All existing and proposed easements and sites for existing or required utility services and roads on the land must be set aside in the plan of subdivision submitted for certification in favour of the relevant authority for which the easement or site is to be created.

Referral of Plan of Subdivision

5. The plan of subdivision submitted for certification under the Subdivision Act 1988 must be referred to the relevant authority in accordance with Section 8 of that Act

Native vegetation permitted to be removed, destroyed or lopped

6. The native vegetation permitted to be removed, destroyed or lopped under this permit is 0.146 general habitat units including four large trees, with a strategic biodiversity value score of 0.485.

Native vegetation offsets

7. To offset the removal of 0.146 general habitat units of native vegetation, the permit holder must secure a native vegetation offset in accordance with [Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation \(DELWP 2017\)](#), the permit holder must secure the following offsets:
 - A general offset of 0.146 general habitat units which must be:
 - located within the Glenelg Hopkins Management Authority (CMA) or Pyrenees Shire Council municipal area; with a minimum strategic biodiversity value of at least 0.485.
8. Prior to Statement of Compliance and before any native vegetation is removed, evidence that the required offset has been secured must be provided to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. This evidence must be a credit extract(s) allocated to the permit from the Native Vegetation Credit Register.
 - i. A copy of the offset evidence must be approved and endorsed to form part of the planning permit to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

9. Within 30 days of endorsement of the offset evidence, a copy of the endorsed offset evidence must be provided to Planning Approvals at the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Grampians regional office.

Notification of permit conditions

10. Before works start, the permit holder must advise all persons undertaking the vegetation removal or works on site of all relevant permit conditions and associated statutory requirements or approvals.

Vegetation protection works

11. The following vegetation protection works shall be undertaken during any site works for the subdivision:
- a) No stockpiling around the base of any vegetation;
 - b) No excavation works shall be carried out within the drip line of any tree canopy;
 - c) No damaging roots greater than 50mm in diameter;
12. Weeds around the construction area are to be removed and controlled.
13. All vegetation protection works shall be undertaken to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
14. No trees are permitted to be removed other than those marked as part of the Native Vegetation Condition above to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority

Powercor Conditions

15. The plan of subdivision submitted for certification under the Subdivision Act 1988 shall be referred to the Distributor in accordance with Section 8 of that Act.
16. The applicant shall provide an electricity supply to all lots in the subdivision in accordance with the Distributor's requirements and standards.

Notes: Extension, augmentation or rearrangement of the Distributor's electrical assets may be required to make such supplies available, with the cost of such works generally borne by the applicant.

17. The applicant shall ensure that existing and proposed buildings and electrical installations on the subject land are compliant with the Victorian Service and Installation Rules (VSIR).

Notes: Where electrical works are required to achieve VSIR compliance, a registered electrical contractor must be engaged to undertake such works.

18. The applicant shall establish easements on the subdivision, for all existing Distributor electric lines where easements have not been otherwise provided on the land and for any new powerlines to service the lots or adjust the positioning existing easements.

Notes:

- Existing easements may need to be amended to meet the Distributor's requirements
- Easements required by the Distributor shall be specified on the subdivision and show the Purpose
- Origin and the In Favour of party as follows:

Easement Reference	Purpose	Width (metres)	Origin	Land Benefited/In Favour of
	Power Line		Section 88 – Electricity Industry Act 2000	Powercor Australia Ltd

Central Highlands Water Authority Conditions

9. Any plan lodged for certification will be referred to the Central Highlands Region Water Corporation pursuant to Section 8(1)(a) of the Subdivision Act.
10. A reticulated water supply must be provided to each lot by the owner of the land (or applicant, in anticipation of becoming the owner) to the satisfaction of the Central Highlands Region Water Corporation. This will include the construction of works and the payment of major works contributions by the applicant.

Country Fire Authority Conditions

Mandatory Condition – 173 Agreement

11. Before the statement of compliance is issued under the Subdivision Act 1988 the owner must enter into an agreement with the responsible authority under Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987. The agreement must:
 - I. State that it has been prepared for the purpose of an exemption from a planning permit under Clause 44.06-2 of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme.
 - II. Incorporate the plan prepared in accordance with Clause 53.02-4.4 of this planning scheme and approved under this permit.
 - III. State that if a dwelling is constructed on the land without a planning permit that the bushfire protection measures set out in the plan incorporated into the agreement must be implemented and maintained to the satisfaction of the responsible authority on a continuing basis.
12. The land owner must pay the reasonable costs of the preparation, execution and registration of the Section 173 Agreement

Endorsement of Bushfire Management Plan

13. Before the development starts, the Bushfire Management Plan Figure 10 Bushfire Management Plan, Version D, 9/11/2021 on last page of Bushfire Management Statement, Lot 1 Snake Valley Mortchup Road Snake Valley, in report Ref No.21.30, prepared by Regional Planning & Design Pty Ltd must be endorsed by the Responsible Authority. Once endorsed the plan must not be altered unless agreed to in writing by CFA and the Responsible Authority.

Environmental Health Conditions

14. Before the development starts, the areas set aside for the waster envelope and purposes of distribution and absorption of wastewater must be protected to prevent soil disturbance during construction of the proposed development to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

15. Before the development is occupied, all sewage and sullage wastewater from the proposed development must be discharged into a new EPA approved on-site wastewater treatment system to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
16. Before the development is occupied, all sewage and sullage wastewater from the proposed development must be retained within the property boundaries of the subject land to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Engineering Conditions

17. Prior to the commencement of the development, each lot must be provided with a standard swale drain rural vehicle crossing on Snake Valley – Mortchup Road to be built to Pyrenees Shire Council (Ref. Cross Over Detail - SD255). Any redundant vehicle crossings must be removed, and nature strip reinstated to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. A vehicle crossing permit must be taken out for the construction of the vehicle crossing.
18. Prior to the issue of a Statement of Compliance for the development, each lot must be provided with a drainage system constructed to approval by the Responsible Authority, and must ensure that:
 - I. The development as a whole must be self-draining.
 - II. Volume of water discharging from the development in a 10% AEP storm shall not exceed the 20% AEP storm prior to development. Peak flow must be controlled by the use of a detention system located and constructed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
 - III. Each lot must be provided with a stormwater legal point of discharge at the low point of the lot, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
19. Sediment discharges must be restricted from any construction activities within the property in accordance with relevant Guidelines including Construction Techniques for Sediment Control (EPA 1991).
20. Unless otherwise approved by the Responsible Authority there must be no buildings, structures, or improvements located over easements on the property.

Vehicle Access

21. Vehicle access to the each of the lots must be constructed at an approved location to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
22. A Road Excavation Permit will be required for any works to install or upgrade a driveway.
23. All vehicle access works must be completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority prior to the Statement of Compliance being issued.

Note: Please contact Council's Engineering Department as the construction or altering of a vehicle crossing, footpath and/or any other works or alterations within a road reserve or any other Council asset may require either a Road Excavation Permit (which includes a driveway and new crossover), or other approval to be obtained from the Pyrenees Shire Council. This Planning Permit does not constitute such approval. Failure to obtain an appropriate permit or damaging Council infrastructure, including footpaths, kerbs, drains, street trees, nature strips etc. or failing to remove redundant crossings and reinstate the kerb, drain, footpath, nature strip or other part of the road is a breach of the Pyrenees Shire Council development requirements.

Time for starting and completion

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

- a. The plan of subdivision is not certified within two (2) years of the date of this permit.
- b. The plan of subdivision is not registered at Land Registry within five (5) years of the certification of the subdivision.

The Responsible Authority may extend the periods referred to if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or within six months afterwards. There is no provision to grant an extension of time for a Certified Plan.

Notes:

Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority

A Designated Waterway passes through the property on proposed lots 1 & 2. Any works in, on or around a designated waterway require a licence from the Glenelg Hopkins CMA. An application form can be found on their website at www.ghcma.vic.gov.au.

13.2.3. TRANSFER STATION REVIEW

Presenter: Douglas Gowans - Director Asset and Development Services

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

Report Author: Philip Diprose – Waste and Contracts Administration Officer

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

File No: C2021-008

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to extend contract C2021-008 for Transfer Station Operations for one additional year. The extension will enable Council to better understand the waste trends for the community.

BACKGROUND

An investigation of visitation rates was undertaken to confirm the quantity of visitors to the Transfer Stations since the introduction of household street collections that commenced in July 2021. The information received will aid in providing the best value service to residents.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Visitations to the Avoca and Beaufort Transfer Stations increased during June 2021 to February 2022 but have recently returned to last year's visitation rates. The Landsborough and Snake Valley Transfer Station visitation rates have stayed level during the year.

The acceptance of Landfill and Recycle material at the Transfer Stations since the introduction of the expanded household street collection has changed. There is a lower amount of material being accepted at the transfer stations with landfill material dropping from 813 Tonnes in 2019-2020 financial year to approximately 700 Tonnes expected this financial year 2021-2022.

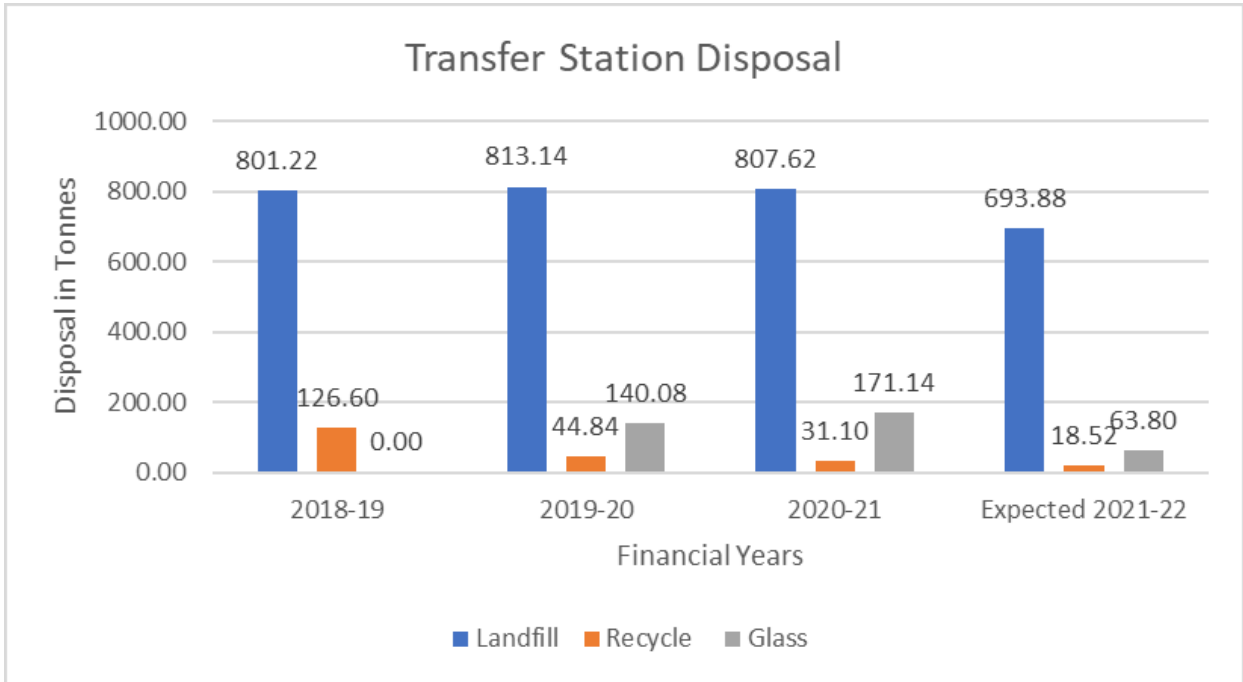
The Commingle Recycling tonnage prior to the glass being removed from the recyclable material was 127 Tonnes in 2018-2019. Commingle material accepted at the Transfer Stations for this financial year is 18 Tonnes compared with 45 Tonnes from 2019-2020.

Glass disposal through the Transfer Stations and skips located at several townships has increased from 140 tonnes in 2019-2020, to 171 Tones the following year 2020-2021 and is expected to be 64 Tonnes for 2021-2022, the reduction is reflective of the glass household street collection introduction in November 2020.

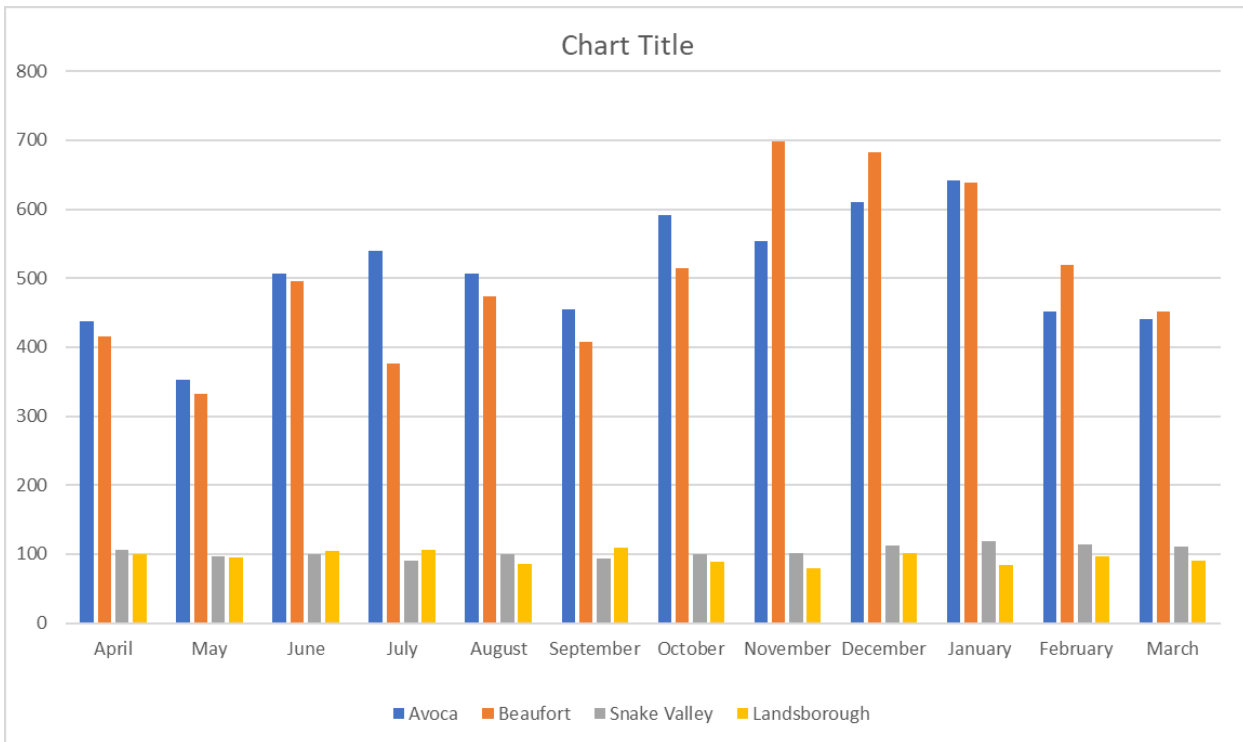
The graph below shows the tonnages of material received at the Transfer Stations since the 2018-2019 financial year. The 2021-2022 tonnages have been extrapolated from volumes received in the first part of the year to provide an expected tonnage. The tonnage is shown for each waste stream accepted at the Transfer Stations.

A glass collection service was introduced in November 2020 and was collected through skips at several locations included in the Transfer Stations for this review all glass skip collections are recorded through the Transfer Stations.

The glass household collection was introduced to households late in 2021, it is clearly identified in the drop in tonnages during the 2021-2022 financial year.



The graph below shows the visitation from households at Transfer Station over the previous 13 months from April 2021. July was the introduction of the expanded household waste collection service.



The performance of Four Seasons Waste Pty Ltd in managing the Transfer Stations over the last year have been favourable. The monitoring of the service will continue to ensure that Four Seasons Waste Pty Ltd service levels are maintained.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 3 - Environment

3d. Improve waste management to reduce landfill and reduce harm to the environment.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The contract cost will increase in line with CPI. The continued service will provide a minimal risk to Council in the safe storage and transportation of putrescible waste disposal and the recycling of commingle material.

CONCLUSION

The data gathered on household waste delivered to the Transfer Stations shows a continued reduction of waste material received. It also shows a continued visitation rate to the Transfer Stations indicating an ongoing reliance by the community for this service.

The Transfer Stations should be monitored for future trends in either reduced receivable waste material or visitation rates to the Transfer Stations.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Awards a one-year extension to Four Seasons Waste Pty Ltd for the Contract C2021-008 based on the tender price received in 2021.
2. Continues to monitor transfer station waste disposal to inform future service level provision at the Municipal Transfer Stations.

13.3. CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

13.3.1. CHILD SAFE POLICY AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Presenter: Kathy Bramwell - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

Author: 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: 16/25/02

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to request the Council's adoption of a revised Child Safe Policy and Child Safe Code of Conduct for Councillors and Staff.

BACKGROUND

In 2015 the Victorian Government introduced minimum compulsory Child Safe Standards for organisations that have regular and direct contact with children or young people to create and maintain child-safe environments, including local government.

New Child Safe Standards will be introduced on 1 July 2022 with which the Council must now progress towards compliance.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The current Child Safe Standards commenced in Victoria in January 2016. After five years, changes are being made to make the Standards stronger. The Council will need to comply with new Standards by 1 July 2022.

Although similar to Victoria's current Child Safe Standards, key changes include new requirements:

- To involve families and communities in organisations' efforts to keep children and young people safe.
- For a greater focus on safety for Aboriginal children and young people.
- To manage the risk of child abuse in online environments.
- In relation to governance, systems, and processes to keep children and young people safe.

There are eleven new Child Safe Standards:

1. Organisations establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and young people are respected and valued.
2. Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance, and culture.
3. Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.
4. Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.
5. Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.

6. People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.
7. Processes for complaints and concerns are child focused.
8. Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.
9. Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.
10. Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved.
11. Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

In preparation for the new Standards, Council officers are reviewing the existing Child Safe Framework to ensure it continues to meet the requirements of the eleven Standards. Council officers also participate in Victorian networks to ensure that processes and priorities are aligned across the local government sector, and to develop guidelines focused on local government needs. A training module has been developed which has been made available to councils for a minimal sum.

As the first part of the review into the Council's Child Safe Framework, Council officers reviewed and updated the following documents:

- Child Safe Policy
- Child Safe Code of Conduct for Councillors and Staff

These documents have been provided to Councillors for their consideration for adoption.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 1 - People

1a. Prepare for emergencies and ensure community safety.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Child Safe Policy 2022 [**13.3.1.1** - 3 pages]
2. PSC Child Safe Code of Conduct 2022 [**13.3.1.2** - 5 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Non-compliance with Standards or schemes introduced by the *Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005* exposes Council as an organisation to financial penalties and reputational risk, and individuals to criminal prosecution and potential for imprisonment, fines, and reputational damage.

CONCLUSION

The attached documents have been reviewed and updated to meet the obligations imposed by the new Child Safe Standards and are attached for Council consideration and adoption.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Approves the revised draft *Child Safe Policy* and for this to be implemented within the organisation.
2. Approves the revised draft *Child Safe Code of Conduct for Councillors and Staff* and for this to be implemented through the organisation, including with volunteers and contractors.

13.3.2. PROPOSED BUDGET 2022/23

Presenter: Kathy Bramwell - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

Report Author: Glenn Kallio – Manager Finance

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

File No: 32/08/18

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present Council with the Pyrenees Shire Council draft Budget for the 2022/23 financial year, and the draft 10-year Financial Plan covering the years 2022/23 to 2031/32.

This report includes a recommendation that the Council, in accordance with sections 55,91,94, and 96 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) endorses the release of the 2022/23 draft Budget and draft 10-year financial plan.

It is recommended that Council, in accordance with its Community Engagement Policy, advertise the draft Budget 2022/23 and draft 10-year financial plan for public comment, invite public submissions and provide for those who wish to speak to their submission, the opportunity to do so before Council. Council is required to consider all submissions prior to adopting the draft Budget and draft 10-year financial plan in June 2022.

BACKGROUND

The Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) provides a Council:

- Must prepare and adopt a Budget for each financial year and the subsequent three years by 30 June each year – Section 94(1)(a)
- Must develop or review the Financial Plan – Section 91(4)
- Must develop the Budget, any Revised Budget and 10-year Financial Plan in accordance with its Community Engagement Policy – Section 96(1)(b)
- Must develop the Budget, any Revised Budget and 10-year Financial Plan in accordance with the financial management principles – Section 96(1)(a)

If endorsed for consultation, the 2022/23 Draft Budget and draft 10-year financial plan will be made publicly available, and Council will invite written submissions from 25 April 2022 until 9.00am Monday 23 May 2022. The document will be made available at Council's customer service centres and via Council's website.

Members of the community who prepare a written submission can request to be heard in support of their submission at an unscheduled meeting of Council to be held at 6.00pm Tuesday 7 June 2022. Following the completion of the community engagement, including consideration of submissions, Council may adopt the draft Budget and draft 10-year Financial Plan. Council must adopt the 2022/23 Budget by 30 June 2022.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The Draft Budget for 2022/23 and draft 10-year Financial Plan has been prepared taking into consideration the latest economic factors, including the rate cap set by the Victorian State Government, set at 1.75%.

The rate cap applies to the overall general rate revenue raised across all property types in the municipality. However, the change in the level of rates charged for individual properties may vary from the 1.75% rate cap, based on the movement in the valuation of individual properties because of the yearly revaluation of properties as determined by the Victoria State Government.

This budget has been prepared considering the financial viability of the Council over the life of the 10-year Financial Plan. Both the capital works program and service delivery have been set at a sustainable level.

The Draft Budget for 2022/23 has been prepared within the following parameters:

- Inflation of: 3.5%
- Rate cap of: 1.75%
- Waste charge of: No change
 - Improved Properties \$202
 - Properties with Kerbside collections \$498
 - Unimproved Properties \$68

The Draft Budget document will be circulated by separate circulation to Councillors.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Enabling Principles

- b. Provide transparency and accountability
- c. Use resources efficiently and effectively

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

All financial implications associated with this report have been accounted for within the 2022/23 Draft Budget.

CONCLUSION

This report presents the draft Budget for 2022/23 and draft 10-year Financial Plan based on the ongoing delivery of current services and service levels. The draft 2022/23 Budget and draft 10-year Financial Plan as tabled provide guidance on how Council intends to deliver its strategic objectives over the next twelve months and maintain financial sustainability over the next 10 years.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Gives Public Notice in accordance with sections 55 and 96 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) of Council's intention to adopt, at a Council meeting to be held at 6.00pm Tuesday 14 June 2022, the draft 2022/23 Budget prepared in accordance with section 94 of the Act.
2. Gives Public Notice in accordance with sections 55 and 96 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) of Council's intention to review and adopt, at a Council meeting to be held at 6.00pm Tuesday 14 June 2022, the draft 10-year Financial Plan prepared in accordance with section 91 of the Act.
3. Gives public notice seeking submissions on the proposals contained in the 2022/23 draft Budget. Written public submissions will be accepted for 28 days ending 9.00am Monday 23 May 2022.
4. Gives public notice seeking submissions on the proposals contained in the draft 10-year Financial Plan. Written public submissions will be accepted for 28 days ending 9.00am Monday 23 May 2022.
5. Gives public notice that any person who wishes to be heard in support of a submission received by Council should indicate in the written submission that he or she wishes to be heard. Any person requesting that he or she be heard in support of a submission is entitled to appear before a meeting of the Council either personally or by a person acting on their behalf at a Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday 7 June 2022 at 6.00pm.

13.3.3. COMMUNITY GRANTS - ROUND 2 2021/22

Presenter: Kathy Bramwell - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

Report Author: Martin Walmsley – Manager Community Wellbeing and Development

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

File No: 32/14/35

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council consideration and awarding of Community Grant applications received for Round 2 of the 2021/22 Program.

BACKGROUND

Council allocates funding in its annual budget for Community Grants to recognise the importance of providing financial assistance to community groups, services and organisations located or operating within the Pyrenees Shire, and the support that these groups give to our residents.

Grants are allocated under the following schemes:

- Grants of up to \$2,000 for programs, projects, or equipment
- Grants of up to \$1,000 for events
- Grants of up to \$1,500 for programs or projects aimed at increasing awareness or facilities for minority groups or gender equality
- Grants of up to \$1,000 for events focused on our youth
- Grants of up to \$7,000 for capital works or infrastructure projects

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council allocated \$84,000 in the 2021/22 budget to fund the Community Grants Program. After allocating funding in Round 1 2021/22, funding of \$34,582 remains for Round 2 2021/22.

Round 2 of the 2021/22 program was open for applications throughout the month of March and a total of 24 applications were received seeking funding of \$54,450.

In summary,

- 1 application for a youth event
- 2 applications for an event
- 14 applications for programs, projects, and equipment
- 6 applications for capital works and infrastructure

At a Council Briefing on the 12th of April, Council discussed all applications and provisionally allocated funding to a range of applicants as per the Attachment. Council is now requested to confirm funding allocations and allocate the remaining funding of \$5,636.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 1 - People

1d. Promote health, wellbeing, engagement, and connection.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Round 2 2021 22 Community Grants [**13.3.3.1** - 8 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

N/A

CONCLUSION

Round 2 of the Community Grants program for 2021/22 was open for applications during the month of March 2022. 24 applications for funding were received. Council is now recommended to consider applications and award grant funding.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Confirms funding allocations as per Attachment.
2. Considers allocation of the remaining Community Grants program funding of \$5,636.

13.4. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

13.4.1. RECONCILIATION

Presenter: Jim Nolan - Chief Executive Officer

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

Report Author: Jane Bowker – Executive Assistant to the CEO and Councillors

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

File No: 16/19/04

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide a progress update on Council's journey of reconciliation and seek commitment from Council for ongoing action towards reconciliation and Aboriginal self-determination through the implementation of the Reconciliation Plan.

BACKGROUND

Pyrenees Shire Council's reconciliation journey began formally in early 2000. Since this time, Council has produced several reconciliation plans and been involved in various programs and activities that support reconciliation, including regularly supporting the NAIDOC week schools program and more recently embedding reconciliation on Council practices, holding awareness training, holding more Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremonies at events and engaging with Traditional Owners on projects.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Reconciliation Plan

Council produced its first Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in 2019 and is now working through actions detailed in the Reconciliation Plan (2021-2024) in consultation with our Reconciliation Advisory Committee. Of the 31 actions in the plan, 3 actions have been complete, 22 are in progress and 6 have not yet commenced.

A copy of the Reconciliation Plan Progress Report March 2022 is attached to this report which details the progress so far.

Reconciliation Advisory Committee

The Reconciliation Advisory Committee was formed in early 2021 and the purpose of the Committee is to support the successful implementation of Pyrenees Shire Council's Reconciliation Plan 2021-2024 by committing to reconciliation and aspiring to be a leader within the broader community to advance reconciliation locally with other stakeholders.

The Committee has met on two occasions to date and will be meeting again in May. The Committee is committed to be involved in more advocacy for wider truth telling efforts which is identified in the Reconciliation Plan. The issue of truth telling is currently at a state level with the Yoorrook Justice Commission being formally announced. Yoorrook was set up by agreement between the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria and the Victorian Government (independent of the Assembly and of Government) and is the first formal truth-telling process into historical and ongoing injustices experienced by first peoples in Victoria.

An opportunity for Council in this space, initiated by the Reconciliation Advisory Committee, would be to seek that a First Peoples' Assembly consider holding an event / meeting in our municipality.

First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria

The First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria is the independent and democratically elected body to represent Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Victoria.



The First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria is the voice for Aboriginal communities across the state, representing them in the next phase of the Treaty process. Traditional Owners of Wadawurrung, Dja Dja Wurrung, Wotjabuluk have representation on the Assembly.




The work of the Assembly includes governance, providing a voice to elders, self-determination, authority and interim dispute resolution, treaty negotiation, funding and truth-telling.

Victorian Aboriginal and Local Government Strategy

The Victorian Government has prepared the new Victorian Aboriginal and Local Government Strategy which was launched by the Local Government Minister on Monday 21 March 2022.

The Strategy is a roadmap towards self-determination for Aboriginal Victorians, local councils and the Victorian Government and is framed around seven strategic pillars and recommended actions, which are detailed below. The Strategy is a reference document for local councils to cross check, progress and evolve existing reconciliation plans.

OUR STRATEGIC PILLARS	OUTCOMES	TO SUCCEED, WE MUST:
 <p>Culture, respect and trust</p>	<p>Genuine partnerships between Aboriginal Victorians, local councils, and the Victorian Government that celebrate, understand, and embed Aboriginal cultural heritage and foster trust and respect.</p>	<p>Create and maintain broad awareness, understanding, and embedding of Aboriginal culture fostering continual reflection.</p>
		<p>Celebrate and embed Aboriginal culture, languages, and customs in local businesses.</p>
		<p>Empower Aboriginal Victorians and local councils to tackle discrimination and racism together through shared understanding, truth, respect, and care.</p>
 <p>Awareness and engagement</p>	<p>Open, proactive, and ongoing dialogue between Aboriginal Victorians and local councils that is understanding, purposeful, meaningful, thoughtful, and mutually beneficial.</p>	<p>Ensure all parties working together know how to best apply the Strategy.</p>
		<p>Share information and best practice efforts for all parties' easy access.</p>
		<p>Identify and enact regular communication and engagement opportunities between all parties.</p>
 <p>Accountability and direction</p>	<p>Clarity and genuine ownership and accountability that recognises the critical role Aboriginal Victorians, local councils, and the Victorian Government each play in progressing self-determination.</p>	<p>Recognise Aboriginal Victorians, local councils, and the Victorian Government's roles in progressing self-determination.</p>
		<p>Enshrine shared purpose and ownership between all parties, clearly defining roles and responsibilities. Embed Aboriginal perspectives and participation in local council processes.</p>
		<p>Develop a locally based, mutually agreed approach to shared reporting and accountability.</p>
 <p>Governance and participation</p>	<p>Aboriginal cultural values, voices, knowledge, and rights are embedded into the work local councils perform in creating vibrant local communities.</p>	<p>Aboriginal cultural values, voices, knowledge, and rights are embedded into local councils' work.</p>
		<p>Embed Aboriginal perspectives, goals and aspirations in local council processes.</p>
		<p>Use self-determination principles to establish shared decision-making processes.</p>

OUR STRATEGIC PILLARS	OUTCOMES	TO SUCCEED, WE MUST:
 <p>Economic participation</p>	<p>Aboriginal people are actively participating in the state economy through employment and business ventures.</p>	<p>Procure the services of local Aboriginal businesses.</p>
		<p>Increase the number of Aboriginal employees through career pathways that are diverse and inclusive, and that lead into senior positions with pay parity.</p>
		<p>Remunerate Aboriginal Victorians for their expertise when engaging and partnering.</p>
 <p>Health and wellbeing</p>	<p>Genuine partnerships between Aboriginal Victorians including the Aboriginal Community Controlled sector, local councils, regional self-determining structures including Dhelk Dja and the Victorian Government that improve the health and wellbeing outcomes of Aboriginal Victorians.</p>	<p>Design local Aboriginal health and wellbeing policies and services in partnership with Traditional Owners, the Aboriginal Community Controlled sector, and Aboriginal community.</p>
		<p>Prioritise self-determined solutions that promote culture, connection, and community strengthening.</p>
		<p>Ensure the preservation of Aboriginal culture by supporting Aboriginal Elders, and empowering the next generation of proud, strong, and thriving Aboriginal people to continue their culture.</p>
 <p>Resourcing and funding</p>	<p>Effective and sustainable funding models that support Aboriginal Victorians and local councils and enable the Strategy.</p>	<p>Establish sustainable resourcing and funding models that encourage locally led collaboration, prioritisation, and resource sharing.</p>

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 1 - People

- 1b. Support a vibrant community arts, culture and heritage environment.
- 1c. Improve accessibility and inclusivity.
- 1e. Improve social outcomes.

Priority 2 - Place

- 2b. Enhance the liveability and resilience of our communities.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. PSC Reconciliation Plan 2021-2024 - Progress Report March 2022 - without officers [13.4.1.1 - 11 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report. There are financial outlays for implementing actions in the Reconciliation Plan which is provided in Council’s budget.

CONCLUSION

Council's Reconciliation Plan reaffirms and commits us to actions for advancing reconciliation. We are proud to make a commitment to fully support reconciliation within our organisation and to influence reconciliation across the municipality. In the Plan, we speak of partnership, recognition and empowerment and we commit to a truth-telling process to be honest about our past to support healing.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the work undertaken by staff and the Reconciliation Advisory Committee to implement the Reconciliation Action Plan as outlined in the report
2. Continues to have regard to the Victorian Aboriginal Local Government Strategy to inform and guide council activities that seek to improve Aboriginal self-determination, and
3. Liaises with the relevant Traditional Owners within Pyrenees with the view to seeking to host a meeting of First Peoples Assembly in the Pyrenees municipality if appropriate.

13.4.2. GENDER EQUALITY ACTION PLAN (GEAP)

Presenter: Jim Nolan - Chief Executive Officer

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

Report Author: Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer

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

File No: 16/20/40

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council about the completion and submission of the Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) and to seek a commitment from Council to adequately resource the implementation of the plan.

BACKGROUND

The Pyrenees Shire Council GEAP was submitted to the Commissioner for Gender Equality on 31 March 2022 in accordance with the Gender Equality Act 2020 (The Act). The Commission website provides the following summary of the provisions of the Act:

“The Act promotes gender equality by:

- *Requiring the Victorian public sector, local councils and universities to take positive action towards achieving workplace gender equality.*
- *Requiring these organisations to consider and promote gender equality in their policies, programs and services.*
- *Establishing the Public Sector Gender Equality Commissioner to provide education, support implementation and enforce compliance.*

What is a defined entity?

The Act applies to certain organisations that have 50 or more employees, including the public sector, universities and local councils (‘defined entities’). Defined entities will have obligations under the Act.

What are defined entities’ obligations?

Defined entities are required to:

- *develop and implement a [Gender Equality Action Plan](#), which includes:

 - *results of a [workplace gender audit](#)*
 - *strategies for achieving workplace gender equality**
- *publicly [report on their progress](#) in relation to workplace gender equality*
- *[promote gender equality](#) in policies, programs and services that impact the public*
- *complete [gender impact assessments](#)*

Intersectionality

For many Victorians, gender inequality may be compounded by other forms of disadvantage or discrimination that a person may experience due to other characteristics, such as:

- *race*
- *Aboriginality*
- *religion*
- *ethnicity*

- *disability*
- *age*
- *sexual orientation*
- *gender identity*

The Act requires organisations to consider these when developing strategies and measures to promote gender equality”

The Pyrenees GEAP provides the following background:

“The Gender Equality Act 2020 requires each council to address its obligations to promote gender equality in the workplace, consider gender equality when developing policies and programs and delivering services to the public.

Gender equality is an important social and economic goal. Societies with greater gender equality have lower rates of violence towards women and children, and better outcomes for women in terms of social, political, and economic participation.

Pyrenees Shire Council understands its pivotal leadership role to advance gender equality within the organisation and within the community and in the design and delivery of Council’s services and programs.

Council recognises that improving gender equality for women is an important issue and has endorsed the development of Council’s first Gender Equality Action Plan, which will guide actions over the next four years. The Gender Equality Action Plan 2021 – 2025 is an internal Council document that will provide an integrated whole-of-Council approach to increase gender equality for women within the Council. The Plan guides initiatives to address gender equality across Council.

Pyrenees Shire Council will achieve its objectives through promoting, auditing, delivering on action plans, conducting gender impact assessments, and reporting to the Gender Equality Commission every two years.

Under section 46 (4) of the Local Government Act 2020, the Chief Executive Officer also has obligations to develop and maintain a Workforce Plan. The overarching principle of workforce planning is to ensure that the Pyrenees Shire Council has assessed, planned, and reviewed its current state and future requirements to deliver on our Council Plan and strategy commitments.

Council has already been active in the space of gender equality in the past. It is a member of the “Communities of Respect & Equality Alliance” (CORE) through Women’s Health Grampians and participated in the Act@Work program as well as the “Listen, Learn, Lead” initiative by the Victorian State Government. The council has also embedded gender equality initiatives in strategic plans such as the Health and Wellbeing plan.

The Council also provides a culturally safe workplace through acknowledgement of country, implementation of Reconciliation Action Plan and participation in “Walk in my shoes” and “Harmony Day” activities.

The work under the Gender Equality Act and the Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) will build and extend on the previous work.”

Following the submission of the GEAP, the Commission has advised that it will now be assessed for compliance with the Act.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The implementation of the GEAP will require considerable internal work and commitment by the organisation ongoing. The specific actions are detailed in the plan.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 1 - People

1c. Improve accessibility and inclusivity.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Gender Equality Action Plan Mar 2022 Final (1) [13.4.2.1 - 21 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

While the cost to implement the GEAP is difficult to determine as it requires several existing staff to incorporate actions into their ordinary work practices. Approximately \$40,000 has been provided in the draft budget for 2022/23 for associated activities including staff training.

CONCLUSION

The Gender Equality Act 2020 requires Council to address its obligations to promote gender equality in the workplace, consider gender equality when developing policies and programs and delivering services to the public.

A Gender Equality Action Plan was submitted to the Commissioner on 31 March 2022 in accordance with the Act. The GEAP sets out actions for Council to deliver on its obligations, and a commitment from Council is sought to ensure the implementation is appropriately resourced.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council provides an appropriate level of resourcing to implement the Pyrenees Gender Equality Action Plan.

14. COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND GENERAL BUSINESS

15. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

CLOSURE OF MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

That, pursuant to the provisions of Section 4.1.1(c) of Council's Governance Rules, and Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020, the meeting be closed to the public in order to consider confidential items.

RECOMMENDATION

That the meeting be closed to members of the public in accordance with Section 4.1.1(c) of Council's Governance Rules, and Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020, in order to discuss the confidential report listed below:

15.1 - CEO Review

16. CLOSE OF MEETING

Meeting closed at

Minutes of the meeting confirmed _____

2022

Mayor Cr Ron Eason