



**Pyrenees**  
Shire Council

# Agenda

## Ordinary Meeting of Council

6:00 pm Monday 15 September 2025

Council Chambers

Beaufort Council Offices

5 Lawrence Street, Beaufort

*Wadawurrung Country*

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

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## 1. WELCOME

Welcome to this meeting of the Pyrenees Shire Council. Councillors will today deliberate and decide on a range of matters relevant to the work of Council in its communities for the welfare of the people of the Pyrenees Shire.

## 2. STREAMING PREAMBLE

- As the meeting Chair, I give my consent for this Ordinary Council Meeting to be streamed live, recorded and published online. Anyone who is invited to read out a question or make a submission will be recorded and their voice, image, and comments will form part of that 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 appropriate, that may include where the content of debate is considered misleading, defamatory or potentially inappropriate to be published.
- The live 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](http://www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au).
- Should technical issues prevent the continuation of the live stream, the meeting will continue as long as a quorum can be maintained and, where possible, a recording of the meeting will be published on Council's website. Where a quorum cannot be maintained, the meeting will be adjourned until the issue is resolved or the meeting postponed to another time and date in accordance with Council's Governance Rules.

## 3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the people past and present of the Wadawurrung, Dja Dja Wurrung, Eastern Maar, Wotjabaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk Nations, whose lands and waters the Pyrenees Shire operates on. We pay our respects to their Ancestors and Elders, and recognise and respect their customs, stewardship and continuing connection to Country.

## 4. APOLOGIES

## 5. NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS

## 6. CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the:

- Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 18 August 2025; and
  - Closed Meeting of Council held on 18 August 2025,
- as previously circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

## 7. BUSINESS ARISING

Questions taken on notice at the previous ordinary Council meeting on 18 August 2025.

### **Cr Ferrari**

Cr Ferrari requested an update on the outstanding Customer Action Request (CAR) in the Beaufort Ward from 2023 as reported in item 11.2.2 Customer Contact 2024-25 report.

### **Cr Tol**

Cr Tol requested an update on the outstanding Customer Action Request (CAR) in the Ercildoune Ward from 2021-22 as reported in item 11.2.2 Customer Contact 2024-25 report.

## 8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

### Public Participation

- Members of the community are encouraged to participate in public Ordinary Council Meetings by asking questions or presenting a submission.
- This can be done by attending in person or by submitting in writing, prior to 12.00 noon on the day of the meeting, online through Council's website, by mail or hand-delivered.
- If a question or submission is submitted in writing, this will be read by the Chair during public participation, stating the person's name and township.
- Question time will be held first, followed by public submissions.
- 30 minutes is allowed for the total period of public participation. Time extensions may be allowed at the discretion of the Chair subject to the provisions of the Governance Rules.
- A person may ask a maximum of two questions at any one meeting.
- The Chair will allocate a maximum of five (5) minutes to each person who wishes to address Council or ask question(s).
- The Chair, Councillor, or Council officer to whom a question is referred may immediately answer the question or take the question on notice for answering at a later date.
- There will be no discussion or debate with public attendees however Councillors may ask questions of the attendee for clarification.

## 9. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

### 9.1. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS - AUGUST 2025

<b>Cr Tanya Kehoe – Mount Emu Ward</b>		
1 August	Rural Councils Victoria Forum	Yarrowonga
4 <sup>th</sup> August	Meeting with Women’s Health Grampians	Beaufort
4 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
5 <sup>th</sup> August	Southern Wimmera and North East Pyrenees Water Supply Project Briefing	Virtual
5 <sup>th</sup> August	Meeting with RDA Grampians Chair	Beaufort
8 <sup>th</sup> August	Official Opening – Beaufort Lakeside Caravan Park	Beaufort
8 <sup>th</sup> August	Official Opening – Commencement of Regional Worker Accommodation Project	Beaufort
11 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
13 <sup>th</sup> August	WRL Consultation Session	Lexton
17 <sup>th</sup> August	Beaufort Day Out – Thriving Together in Tough Times	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial Service	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Site Visit – Old Beaufort Primary School	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Meeting	Beaufort
24 <sup>th</sup> August	Official Launch of Scarred by Hugh Patrick Carroll	Cave Hill Creek
25 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Virtual

<b>Cr Simon Tol – Ercildoune Ward</b>		
4 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
11 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Site Visit – Old Beaufort Primary School	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Meeting	Beaufort
25 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Virtual
26 <sup>th</sup> August	Waubra Hub AGM	Waubra

<b>Cr Megan Phelan – De Cameron Ward</b>		
4 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Virtual
7 <sup>th</sup> August	Elmhurst WRL (Ausnet)	Elmhurst
9 <sup>th</sup> August	Landsborough Hub	Landsborough
11 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Virtual
14 <sup>th</sup> August	WRL Information Session	Amphitheatre
17 <sup>th</sup> August	WRL Information Session	Landsborough
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Site Visit – Old Beaufort Primary School	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Meeting	Beaufort
24 <sup>th</sup> August	Official Launch of Scarred by Hugh Patrick Carroll	Cave Hill Creek
25 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Virtual

<b>Cr Rebecca Wardlaw – Avoca Ward</b>		
4 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
7 <sup>th</sup> August	Avoca Recreation Reserve Meeting	Avoca
11 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
14 <sup>th</sup> August	WRL Information Session	Amphitheatre
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Site Visit – Old Beaufort Primary School	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Meeting	Beaufort
25 <sup>th</sup> August	Meeting with Siltforce	Avoca
25 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Virtual

<b>Cr Damian Ferrari – Beaufort Ward</b>		
4 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
8 <sup>th</sup> August	Official Opening – Beaufort Lakeside Caravan Park	Beaufort
8 <sup>th</sup> August	Official Opening – Commencement of Regional Worker Accommodation Project	Beaufort
11 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
17 <sup>th</sup> August	Beaufort Day Out – Thriving Together in Tough Times	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Site Visit – Old Beaufort Primary School	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Beaufort
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Meeting	Beaufort
25 <sup>th</sup> August	Council Briefing	Virtual

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council notes this report.

**10. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS**

**10.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS - AUGUST 2025**

<b>MEETING INFORMATION</b>			
Meeting Name	Council Briefing		
Meeting Date	4 <sup>th</sup> August 2025 commenced at 4.00pm and closed at 7.15pm		
Meeting Location	Council Chamber, Beaufort		
Items Discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Councillor Only Discussion</li> <li>2. Council Plan Initiatives – continued</li> <li>3. Lexton Flood Study</li> <li>4. Strategic Issues Raised by Councillors</li> <li>5. CEO &amp; Councillors</li> </ol>		
<b>ATTENDEES</b>			
Councillors	Mayor Cr Tanya Kehoe Cr Damian Ferrari Cr Rebecca Wardlaw		Cr Simon Tol Cr Megan Phelan (virtual)
Apologies	Nil.		
Staff	Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer) Douglas Gowans (Director Assets and Development Services) - 4.45pm to 5.26pm, Items 2 and 3 Jacinta Erdody (Director Corporate and Community Services) - 4.45pm to 5.26pm, Items 2 and 3		
Visitors	Nil.		
<b>CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES</b>			
Item No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting
Nil			

<b>MEETING INFORMATION</b>			
Meeting Name	Council Briefing		
Meeting Date	11 <sup>th</sup> August 2025 commenced at 4.00pm and closed at 7.15pm		
Meeting Location	RTC Room, Avoca		
Items Discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Councillor Matters</li> <li>2. Avoca Caravan Park Lease</li> <li>3. Western Renewable Link / Victorian Transmission Plan</li> <li>4. PA25042 – Planning Application – Use of land for a rooming house - Avoca</li> </ol>		
<b>ATTENDEES</b>			
Councillors	Mayor Cr Tanya Kehoe Cr Damian Ferrari Cr Rebecca Wardlaw	Cr Simon Tol Cr Megan Phelan (virtual)	
Apologies	Nil.		
Staff	Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer) Douglas Gowans (Director Assets and Development Services) Jacinta Erdody (Director Corporate and Community Services) Rachel Blackwell (Manager Planning & Development Services) – items 3 and 5 Virginia McLeod (Planning Services Lead) – item 5		
Visitors	Senior Constable Michael Leger (item 5) Anthony Gollop (item 5) Carol Warr (item 5) Simon Davidson (item 5) Chris Noble (item 5) Peter Buckley (item 5) Sharon Buckley (item 5) Leanne Redpath (item 5) Anthony Allan (item 5) Mark Baldwin (item 5) Johann Westin (item 5) Marilyn Devlin (item 5) Max & Wendy Robertson (item 5) Erin Kitchingman (item 5) Jessica Moschetti (item 5)		
<b>CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES</b>			
Item No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting
Nil			



<b>MEETING INFORMATION</b>			
Meeting Name	Council Briefing		
Meeting Date	19 <sup>th</sup> August 2025 commenced at 4.00pm and closed at 5.50pm		
Meeting Location	Council Chamber, Beaufort		
Items Discussed	1. Site Visit – Old Beaufort Primary School 2. Old Beaufort Primary School - Discussion 3. Planning Application - PA25042 – 63 Rutherford Street, Avoca 4. Agenda Review		
<b>ATTENDEES</b>			
Councillors	Mayor Cr Tanya Kehoe Cr Damian Ferrari Cr Rebecca Wardlaw	Cr Simon Tol Cr Megan Phelan	
Apologies	Nil.		
Staff	Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer) Douglas Gowans (Director Assets and Development Services) Jacinta Erdody (Director Corporate and Community Services) Rachel Blackwell (Manager Planning and Development Services) – items 3 and 4 Virginia McLeod (Planning Services Lead) – items 3 and 4		
Visitors	Nil.		
<b>CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES</b>			
Item No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left / returned meeting
3	Cr Rebecca Wardlaw	Indirect – perceived bias by public and officials.	Left - 5.10pm Returned - 5.47pm

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council notes this report.

## 11. ITEMS FOR DECISION

### 11.1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

### 11.2. ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

#### 11.2.1. JAMES SCULLIN MEMORIAL PARK MANAGEMENT

**Presenter:** Rachel Blackwell - Manager Planning & Development Services

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

**Report Author:** Douglas Gowans – Director Assets and Development

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

**File No:** 909009451

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider being the appointed land manager of the James Scullin Memorial Park.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The James Scullin Memorial Park is situated in the heart of Trawalla and borders the Mount Emu Creek and is directly opposite the Trawalla Primary School. The park currently has an entrance gate and plaque commemorating James Scullin whose family history is traced back to Trawalla. James Scullin was the 9<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister of Australia.

The Park is generally undeveloped but does have a number of picnic tables and grassed informal recreation areas. Council has been maintaining the grass through regular mowing at this location for many years.

In early July 2025, Council officers received contact from the Beaufort Historical Society proposing a project to recognize the birthplace of Australia's 9<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister James Scullin.

As the site is Crown Land, Council contacted the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) to ensure they were comfortable with the proposed project. During this process it was clarified that management responsibility has never formally been transferred to the Pyrenees Shire Council.

#### **ISSUE / DISCUSSION**

In August 2025, Council received correspondence from DEECA regarding the James Scullin Memorial Park and the Beaufort Historical Society's proposal for a memorial within the park. In this letter, DEECA advised that for the proposed project to be considered, they require an ongoing land manager to manage and maintain the reserve.

According to the correspondence received from DEECA they state that Council has previously requested management of the site due to the significance and location within the Pyrenees Shire however this has not been actioned. Regardless of the formal land management status, Council has continued to maintain the grounds on behalf of the community.

There is a significant risk of losing sight of local identities of historical importance if the associate dedicated memorial land management is abandoned. Notably, James Scullin a former Prime Minister of Australia was born and raised in Trawalla and studied at the Trawalla Primary School. It is important that this connection is formally recognized and preserved. Local management would help ensure that his legacy, and the broader historical significance of the James Scullin Memorial Park, are appropriately honoured and remembered within the community.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action has reconsidered this previous request and found that the Pyrenees Shire Council is the best placed land manager of the reserve and has formally requested if Council would consider becoming the appointed manager of the James Scullin Memorial Park.

**COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE**

Pillar 1 - People

1d. Foster partnerships, support volunteers and build capacity.

Pillar 5 - Community-Centric

5b. Work constructively and in partnership to solve issues early and deliver outcomes building trust.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES**

Council officers have maintained regular contact with the Beaufort Historical Society since early 2023 and have, on numerous occasions, formally submitted various requests to government departments on their behalf.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. 0505584 - James Scullin Memorial Park Request to Install Monument - Co M Request Pyrenees Shire [11.2.1.1 - 1 page]

**FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Council has continued to maintain the grounds at the James Scullin Memorial Park in support of the Pyrenees Shire community. Therefore, the risk implications of managing the land from a cost perspective are unchanged.

**CONCLUSION**

The James Scullin Memorial Park is a culturally and historically important site. If Council decides to be the land manager this will enable the successful delivery of the proposed memorial project and the long-term protection of this meaningful community asset.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Agrees to becoming the appointed land manager of the James Scullin Memorial Park.
2. Writes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change to seek formal appointment as the land manager of the James Scullin Memorial Park.
3. Continues to work with the Beaufort Historical Society to support their proposed project.
4. Continues to maintain the grounds of the James Scullin Memorial Park.

**11.2.2. ROAD MANAGEMENT PLAN (JUNE 2025) - PUBLIC CONSULTATION SUBMISSION REVIEW**

**Presenter:** Rachel Blackwell - Manager Planning & Development Services

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

**Report Author:** Douglas Gowans – Director Assets and Development

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

**File No:** 58/02/12

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider adoption of the reviewed Road Management Plan (June 2025 review) taking into account the submissions received.

**BACKGROUND**

In a report presented at the April Council meeting, the required steps for reviewing and adopting the Pyrenees Shire Council Road Management Plan (RMP) were outlined. This report also informed Council of the requirement to update the RMP to the Municipal Association of Victoria's template for consistency and to address the following factors:

- Ensure all important content/information is included, and wording of key content/information is in line with current best practice and legal advice.
- Enable Councils to adopt a clear and measurable set of standards such that compliance can be clearly monitored and, when necessary, demonstrated through records of respective activities, and
- Ensure Councils remain able to determine their own standards respective of resources, within a range that has been determined to be reasonable through benchmarking analysis and comprehensive legal advice.

Council Officers transferred the existing RMP to the new template, which reflected the information in Council's Road Management Plan adopted in 2017. The draft Road Management Plan was then presented to Council at its June 2025 meeting seeking Council's endorsement to publicly display the Road Management Plan (June 2025 review) for public consultation.

**ISSUE / DISCUSSION**

Council officers displayed the Road Management Plan (June 2025 review) on Council's website and made hard copies available at all Council sites including the Shire offices in Lawrence Street, Beaufort, the Beaufort Resource Centre, and the Avoca Information Centre. The RMP public consultation period was open for submissions from 11 July 2025, and submissions closed at 5.00pm on 15 August 2025. Submissions were able to be received through various means including electronically via a QR code presented on posters printed and displayed at the Lawrence Street office, the Beaufort Resource Centre, and the Avoca Information Centre and via the links on Council's website, as well as written submissions via post or in person at Council offices.

At the close of the submission period, Council officers received two (2) submissions. One of which was an internal submission received from a Council Officer requesting minor amendments and updates to inspection frequencies.

One public submission was received and is provided below.

*'The council's Road Management Plan seems logical in terms of prioritizing the work that needs doing. I was able to identify my road through the descriptions and therefore my maintenance priority. I see Planned Inspections and Proactive Inspections are the primary mechanism to determine the relative priority of works. I live not far from the Homebush Road. I note it is already the highest priority according to the Plan. Clearly, your inspection schedules work. The Homebush road is well maintained, despite the number of double and triple truck trailers that rumble up and down the road.'*

Council Officers have updated the reviewed Road Management Plan to include the amendments, and the report is presented in its final form for Council adoption.

**COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE**

Pillar 1 - People

1b. Community safety and wellbeing.

Pillar 4 - Infrastructure

4a. Plan, build and maintain essential infrastructure.

Pillar 5 - Community-Centric

5d. Deliver high quality services with continuous improvement focus.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES**

Pursuant to Section 54 of the Road Management Act 2004, any person has a right to make a written submission on any matter contained in the draft Road Management Plan. The draft Road Management Plan (June 2025 review) was put on public exhibition seeking submissions for 35 days.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

**FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Updating the Road Management Plan to the Municipal Association of Victoria’s template ensures consistency and that all important content aligns with current best practice and legal advice. The updated Road Management Plan enables Council to adopt a clear and measurable set of standards so that compliance can be clearly monitored and ensures Council remain able to uphold standards with the current resources at its disposal.

**CONCLUSION**

The Road Management Plan is an important requirement that provides the community with a stated service level in how the Pyrenees Shire will maintain and what the expected repair time commitments are.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Adopt the Road Management Plan incorporating the minor amendments recommended through the submissions.
2. Publish the adopted Road Management Plan on Council’s website and provide hard copies at key customer service centre locations in Beaufort and Avoca.



### 11.3. CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

#### 11.3.1. WAUBRA RECREATION RESERVE MASTER PLAN - FINAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

**Presenter:** Jacinta Erdody - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

**Report Author:** Baylie Lang – Recreation Development Co-ordinator

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

**File No:** 16/16/24

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to place the Draft Waubra Recreation Reserve Master Plan on public exhibition for final community feedback.

#### BACKGROUND

The Waubra Recreation Reserve is a key asset for the Waubra and district community, serving as the primary location for sport, recreation, social connection, and community events.

Council has worked with community members, user groups, and stakeholders to develop a draft Master Plan that provides a long-term vision to guide the future development, governance, and activation of the reserve.

A comprehensive engagement process has been undertaken to inform the plan's development. This included more than 80 direct engagements through community surveys, stakeholder meetings, school workshops, and community drop-in sessions to ensure the plan is grounded in community priorities.

#### ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Officers have prepared a Draft Waubra Recreation Reserve Master Plan based on community feedback and data received.

The plan establishes a long-term framework to guide future development, and operational priorities. It reflects our community and supports a balance between sporting, social, and passive uses for all community members.

The plan has been focused on building participation in community life and leisure opportunities, with the current and new spaces and assets as an enabler. The Action Plan is structured around 4 key themes:

- **People** - builds action to support the capability of the individuals and groups who use and benefit from the Reserve.
- **Participation** - focuses on improving current and developing new programs, activities, and opportunities that drive use, active engagement and community connection.
- **Place** – considers place making in Waubra, and improved pride of place through better infrastructure, accessibility, and overall functionality. This is represented as a Development Plan contained within the Master Plan document.
- **Partnership** - addresses governance, collaboration, and the strategic relationships required to support and sustain the Reserve.

The next step is to place the draft on exhibition to invite final community feedback. The final round of engagement aims to:

- Provide transparency and build trust and excitement within the Waubra community.
- Allow all stakeholders to review the draft plan and contribute final input.
- Ensure that the final version of the Master Plan reflects community needs and aspirations before being adopted by Council.

The exhibition period will include 28 days of both online and direct engagement opportunities, targeting individuals and groups who were previously engaged in the process, including residents, user groups, schools, and local service providers.

### **COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE**

Pillar 1 - People

1d. Foster partnerships, support volunteers and build capacity.

Pillar 4 - Infrastructure

4a. Plan, build and maintain essential infrastructure.

Pillar 5 - Community-Centric

5a. Foster values driven inclusive culture, which is responsive, accountable and aligned to priority.

5b. Work constructively and in partnership to solve issues early and deliver outcomes building trust.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES**

The Draft Master Plan has been informed by a multi-phase engagement process including:

- Four open community drop-in sessions.
- Online community survey (30 complete responses).
- Stakeholder meetings with the Community Asset Committee (CAC), Waubra Primary School, and Kindergarten.
- Direct invitations for written submissions from sporting clubs.
- Direct engagement with peak sporting associations and funding bodies.

Community input highlighted key themes such as governance, safety, functionality, inclusivity, and asset upgrades, all of which have been addressed in the draft plan.

A workshop was held with the Waubra Reserve and Community Hub Assets Committee on 19 August 2025. As the day-to-day manager of the Reserve, their support to advance to the public exhibition stage, provides confidence in both the directions of the Plan and ability of partners to support the Plan's implementation.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Waubra Recreation Reserve Master Plan - Draft ( CAC Edits) [**11.3.1.1** - 40 pages]
2. Complete Draft - Waubra Community Engagement Summary Report [**11.3.1.2** - 31 pages]

### **FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications associated with placing the draft Master Plan on public exhibition. The plan itself will help guide future capital planning and funding applications.

There is minimal risk in proceeding with public exhibition, as it supports transparency and shared ownership of the plan's outcomes.

## **CONCLUSION**

Placing the Draft Waubra Recreation Reserve Master Plan on public exhibition is a critical step in ensuring the final plan is informed by community voice and reflects shared priorities.

It is recommended that Council approve the exhibition of the draft plan for a period of four weeks (28 days), supported by targeted engagement activities.

## **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Endorses the Draft Waubra Recreation Reserve Master Plan to be placed on public exhibition for a period of four weeks, as presented at Attachment One; and
2. Notes the Community Engagement Report, as presented at Attachment Two, for awareness of community feedback that has guided the development of the Draft Masterplan.

**11.3.2. SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL - SEPTEMBER 2025**

**Presenter:** Jacinta Erdody - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

**Report Author:** Jacinta Erdody – Director Corporate and Community Services

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

**File No:** 16/17/02

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to schedule a Special Meeting of Council to adopt in principle the 2024/25 Financial and Performance Statement.

**BACKGROUND**

The 2024/25 Financial and Performance Statement is required to be adopted in principle by 30 September 2025 to enable other legislative reporting and certification of the reports by 31 October.

**ISSUE / DISCUSSION**

The Local Government Act 2024 Section 98(4) and (5) requires the performance statement to be prepared in accordance with the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 and contain the following;

- Prescribed indicators of service performance for services provided by Council and funding in the budget for the financial year;
- Prescribed indicators of financial performance;
- Prescribed indicators of sustainable capacity performance; and
- Any other information prescribed by the regulations.

To ensure that Council meets the required timeframe for the formal review of the 2024 Annual Report inclusive of financial and performance statements, it is proposed that a Special Meeting of Council be held virtually on Monday 29 September 2025.

**COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE**

Pillar 5 - Community-Centric

5c. Ensure timely, clear and consistent communication underpinned by transparency.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES**

In accordance with Council's Governance Rules, relevant public notification will be provided to our community regarding the Special Meeting of Council.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

**FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial risks associated with scheduling of a Special Meeting of Council to adopt the 2024/25 Financial and Performance Statement.

**CONCLUSION**

A Special Meeting of Council is proposed to be held virtually for Monday 29 September 2025 to adopt the 2024/25 Financial and Performance Statement.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council holds a Special Meeting of Council virtually at 6.00pm on Monday 29 September 2025 to adopt in principle the 2024/25 Financial and Performance Statements.

### 11.3.3. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR 226 HIGH STREET AVOCA

**Presenter:** Jacinta Erdody - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

**Report Author:** Jacinta Erdody – Director Corporate and Community Services

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

**File No:** 217023160

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to support officers in undertaking a public Expression of Interest for the licensing of the property located and known as 226 High Street Avoca.

#### BACKGROUND

In late 2024, Council Officers received a request to lease Council owned land at 226 High Street Avoca. The request was considered in the context of both the land's current use and broader community interests.

The request coincided with local government election preparations and the need to proactively manage fire hazards on the land, as such a temporary license was issued in October 2024 for a period of six (6) months. This enabled the applicant to proceed with the agreed activities whilst supporting Councils fire risk mitigation.

To allow additional time for a more comprehensive assessment of long-term land use options, an extension was granted for a further six (6) month term in April 2025. This license is due to expire on 03 October 2025.

#### ISSUE / DISCUSSION

To enable a transparent process that provides opportunities for our broader community that may be interested in utilising the land at 226 High Street, Avoca it is proposed to undertake a public Expression of Interest for the utilisation of the land.

The Expression of Interest will seek details from interested parties on proposed use of the land, actions they will undertake to ensure that the land is suitable for such use, proposed license fees and must be able to demonstrate appropriate insurance is in place for the proposed use.

It should be noted that Council will require access throughout the year to undertake surveying work associated with future land development. Council will endeavor to provide advanced notice of access requirements to the party that secures the license agreement for the use of the property.

#### COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Pillar 3 - Nature Environment

3b. Mitigate risks, build community resilience and enhance responsiveness to natural disasters.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

Section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020* provides for limitations and certain requirements on Council's power to lease land in certain circumstances:

- Section 115(3) - A council must include any proposal to lease land in a financial year in the budget, where the lease is -
  - a. For one year or more and -
    - i. The rent for any period of the lease is \$100,000 or more in a year, or
    - ii. The current market rental value of the land is \$100,000 or more a year, or
  - b. For 10 years or more.



- Section 115(4) - If a council proposes to lease land that is subject to section 115(3) and that was not included as a proposal in the budget, the council must undertake a community engagement process in accordance with the Council's community engagement policy in respect of the proposal before entering into the lease.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - Licence Agreement Extension 226 High St Avoca [**11.3.3.1** - 1 page]
2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - Licence 226 High Street Avoca [**11.3.3.2** - 12 pages]

#### **FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS**

There is no financial implications with undertaking a public Expression of Interest for utilisation of the land. Council will however, continue to manage any fire prevention works that are required at the property.

#### **CONCLUSION**

That Council undertakes a public Expression of Interest that seeks submissions from interested parties to utilise the land at 226 High Street, Avoca.

#### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Approves Officers to undertake a public Expression of Interest process for the utilisation of the land located and known as 226 High Street, Avoca.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to review and decide on the Expressions of Interests received, and to enter into a license over the property located and known as 226 High Street Avoca

#### **11.3.4. COUNCIL PLAN 2025-2029 DRAFT INITIATIVES**

**Presenter:** Jacinta Erdody - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

**Report Author:** Jacinta Erdody – Director Corporate and Community Services

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

**File No:** 16/20/06

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to present the draft initiatives that underpin the previously adopted Council Plan 2025-2029.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The draft initiatives outlined within the attached document defines the work that will be undertaken to support the strategic direction as defined within the Council Plan 2025-2029. The draft initiatives enable the activation of the Council Plan and will form the basis of quarterly reporting to Council and our community to demonstrate our progress towards achieving the objectives of the Council Plan 2025-2029.

#### **ISSUE / DISCUSSION**

The Draft Initiatives that are presented within the attached document define what teams will deliver the described initiative, what Council's contribution to the initiative is and whether it is dependent upon any budget outside of operational budget. The document further defines which financial year the initiative will be developed and implemented. It is important to recognise that where initiatives are subject to funding, the initiative may not be delivered as expected.

#### **COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE**

Pillar 5 - Community-Centric

5c. Ensure timely, clear and consistent communication underpinned by transparency.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES**

The Draft Initiative's have been developed in consideration of Council's Vision, Council Plan and in consultation with relevant operational teams, whilst ensuring that our Councillors support the direction officers will take with their strategic work over their elected term.

To ensure that our community support the developed initiatives, officers will seek consultation via a survey which will seek to understand the level of support to the document whilst also providing the opportunity for more specific feedback.

This survey link will be made available via Council's communication channels including our website, social media and printed media.

It is important that our community recognise that many of the initiatives within the document will require a partnering and collaborative approach to ensure successful delivery of the initiative and ultimately the Council Plan 2025-2029.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Draft V4 Initiatives to deliver [**11.3.4.1** - 10 pages]

#### **FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Where an initiative is delivered through budget, there is no additional funding required. However, where an initiative is referenced as 'Needs funding', the delivery of this initiative will not progress until relevant funding is obtained through suitable grants or external funding opportunities.

### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Gives public notice seeking submissions on the draft Initiatives that underpin the delivery of our Council Plan 2025-2029.
2. Written public submissions will be accepted for 28 days ending 9am Wednesday 15 October 2025.
3. Gives public notice than any person who wishes to be heard in support of a written submission provided to Council should indicate in the written submission that they wish to appear before the scheduled Council Meeting on Monday 20 October 2025, to verbally present their submission either personally or via a person acting on their behalf at the meeting.

**11.3.5. 2025/26 CARRYOVER PROJECTS**

**Presenter:** Jacinta Erdody - 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:** 32/26/01

**PURPOSE**

This report sets out those items of income and expenditure that are required to be carried forward to the 2025/26 Budget from the previous financial year due to grants being received in advance and/or project activity spanning multiple financial years or projects remaining unfinished as at 30 June 2025.

**BACKGROUND**

Each year following the completion of Council’s annual statement, a process is undertaken whereby information is reported to Council relating to:

1. Untied grants received during the 2024/25 financial year that relate to the 2025/26 financial year. The State and Federal Governments can prepay grants for various projects to be carried out by Council.

Under the current accounting standards, Local Government is required to recognise untied grants when received, rather than the year that the income relates to. As such, it is required that funds that meet these criteria are carried forward to the correct financial year.

2. Projects that continue to be works in progress as at 30 June 2025 and require funding to be carried forward to 2025/26 to complete those works.

The conditions associated with any requests for money to be carried over from the previous financial year to the current financial year is:

1. The organisation must have a surplus of funds from the 2024/25 year before a carryover will be approved;
2. Projects must have a surplus of funds from the 2024/25 year before a carryover will be approved.

**ISSUE / DISCUSSION**

Carryover funds requested are supported by surplus funds in the 2024/25 budget. A reconciliation as at 30 June 2025 was carried out to ensure that the list of carryovers is supported by surplus funds and the financial position of Council remains within the parameters of the 10-year financial plan.

The total amount of carryovers is included in the attachment. The summary of the carryovers is:

Source	Amount \$
Council Funds	1,706,677
Government Grant	5,151,128
Insurance	171,666
Loan	765,483
	<b>\$ 7,794,954</b>

As can be seen from the table the majority of the funds to be carried over relate to Government grants received prior to June 30 2025 which relate to projects that will be completed in the 2025/26 financial year. The detail listing of the carryovers indicates each project and the source of funds for the project.

#### **COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE**

Pillar 4 - Infrastructure

4a. Plan, build and maintain essential infrastructure.

Pillar 5 - Community-Centric

5c. Ensure timely, clear and consistent communication underpinned by transparency.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Carryovers 2024-25 [**11.3.5.1** - 1 page]

#### **FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS**

All financial issues are contained within this report.

#### **CONCLUSION**

The additional funding listed in the attached carryover report is subject to funding guidelines and/or is for projects that have commenced, as such, the funding listed is required. Should Council not adopt the carryover listing there will be a requirement to review the current budget to source the funding to satisfy the requirements of the projects listed in the carryover report.

#### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Approves the list of carryovers presented to Council to be added to the 2025/26 financial year program totalling \$7,794,954 and detailed below:



Project	Recommended	Type	Category
702095 - front counter renovations in Council offices - Frontline Service Review	58,144	Council Funds	Capital
703019 - Avoca Depot Upgrade Exp	8,993	Council Funds	Capital
721080 - B185 – Amphitheatre Rd – Bridge to Major Culvert Replacement	249,207	Council Funds	Capital
723000 - Motor Vehicle Purchases	128,129	Council Funds	Capital
732000 - Heavy Plant Purchases	835,051	Council Funds	Capital
742000 - End user computing strategy implementation stage 2	300,000	Council Funds	Capital
743000 - Information Technology	121,532	Council Funds	Capital
301006 - Community Capital Projects Exp	5,622	Council Funds	Operating
108595 - Council Flood Support Fund (AGRN1108) Inc	29,541	Government Grant	Operating
950286 Men’s Shed Funding Holding	100,000	Government Grant	Operating
108617 - Community Recovery Hub Exp	139,941	Government Grant	Operating
108851 - Fire Event February 2024 Income	571,808	Government Grant	Operating
108862 - Pyrenees Bushfire Resilience Project - Safer Together Income	285,979	Government Grant	Operating
301516 - Cat Desexing Project	7,200	Government Grant	Operating
308040 Youth Engagement Project	34,615	Government Grant	Operating
313008 - Premier E Reading Challenge Book Fund inc	5,628	Government Grant	Operating
313042 - Good Things Be Connected Digital Literacy Grant	3,000	Government Grant	Operating
313044 - Connectivity Literacy Workshops Inc	1,200	Government Grant	Operating
503008 - Federal Assistance Grant - General Purpose Inc	3,700,620	Government Grant	Operating
705252 - Community Participation & Support; Old Beaufort Primary School Inc	271,595	Government Grant	Operating
108613 – Floods – Oct 2022 – Insurance Income (Mens Shed)	171,666	Insurance	Operating
705251 - Burke Street Workers Accommodation Exp	765,483	Loan	Capital
	<b>7,794,954</b>		

**11.3.6. 2025-29 MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN**

**Presenter:** Jacinta Erdody - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

**Report Author:** Adam Boyle – Team Leader - Community Development

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

**File No:** 50/24/06

**PURPOSE**

This report seeks adoption of the draft Municipal Public Health & Wellbeing Plan 2025-2029.

**BACKGROUND**

The Public Health & Wellbeing Act 2008 requires the Council to develop a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan within 12 months of a council election.

The Plan must be consistent with the Council Plan and be reviewed and evaluated both annually and at the end of the four-year period.

The Council resolved at a special Council meeting held on 28 April 2025, to place the Draft Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025-2029 on public exhibition to seek community feedback.

Notice of the document was placed in local print media and social media, and copies were made available at Council's customer service centres and on Council's website.

Council formally considered submissions to Integrated Planning documents, including the Council Plan and Health Plan, at their Ordinary Meeting of Council 16 June 2025.

Following further refinement of the Draft Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan, it is now presented for final Council consideration. Should the draft Plan be supported, a copy of the adopted Plan will be submitted to the Victorian Department of Health, in accordance with statutory obligations.

**ISSUE / DISCUSSION**

In developing the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, Council undertook a review of local health status and determinants of health, analysed the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023–2027, and engaged in community consultation and stakeholder engagement.

As a result, six priority areas were identified:

1. Increasing Healthier Eating
2. Increasing Active Living
3. Creating a Safer Community
4. Connecting our Community & Supporting Mental Wellbeing
5. Supporting our Population Through All Stages of Life
6. Being a Climate Resilient Community

The Draft Municipal Public Health & Wellbeing Plan 2025–2029 was presented to Council at its meeting on 12 May 2025. At that meeting, Council endorsed the release of the Draft Plan for public exhibition and invited community submissions for a 28-day period, commencing Thursday, 15 May 2025.

Submissions received during the consultation period were considered at the Council meeting on 16 June 2025. Among the submissions was one from Rainbow Local Government, expressing support for the Draft Plan and recommending the inclusion of LGBTIQ+ people in the descriptive content of Priority Area 2. The submission also advocated for Council funding to support the development of a Diversity and Inclusion Framework.

At its meeting on 23 June 2025, Council resolved that the Plan undergoes refinement to ensure alignment with the new Council Plan 2025–2029 and to confirm that all actions proposed are achievable over the next four years prior to adoption.

As a result, the Plan was updated with minor refinements that maintained the original direction and intent of the draft, but improved clarity in some parts. These refinements included:

- Alignment with the updated Council Plan priorities adopted on 23 June 2025;
- Some overlapping strategies were merged where synergies or duplications were identified;
- Identification of the role of council in each strategy (i.e. to deliver, facilitate, support, advocate or partner);
- Project readiness, with an indication of project funding status (Within Budget –i.e. achievable through existing officer resource time, or whether Funding is Required– i.e. future budget bids and or external funding support will be required);
- Inclusion of anticipated year for strategy delivery, noting most strategies consist of several business-as-usual actions that will be delivered annually;
- Incorporation of recommended changes from the Victorian Pride Lobby – Rainbow Local Government campaign;
- Updates based on advice from the Grampians Public Health Unit (Grampians Health), reflecting changes in regional commitments; and
- Feedback and recommendations provided by Women’s Health Grampians, including strengthening of some data and reviewing some strategies from an intersectional gender lens.

Implementation of the Strategy will be delivered within existing budgets, with annual action plans developed through the organisational business planning process. These plans will align departmental work with the Plan’s health and wellbeing priorities.

## **COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE**

### Pillar 1 - People

- 1a. Inclusivity and accessibility.
- 1b. Community safety and wellbeing.
- 1c. Population growth through strategic planning.
- 1d. Foster partnerships, support volunteers and build capacity.

### Pillar 2 - Economy

- 2c. Support community events and visitor economy.

### Pillar 3 - Nature Environment

- 3a. Preserve and manage biodiversity and natural assets.
- 3b. Mitigate risks, build community resilience and enhance responsiveness to natural disasters.
- 3c. Support local industries and communities in adapting to climate change.
- 3d. Promote responsible waste practices.

### Pillar 4 - Infrastructure

- 4a. Plan, build and maintain essential infrastructure.

### Pillar 5 - Community-Centric

- 5a. Foster values driven inclusive culture, which is responsive, accountable and aligned to priority.
- 5c. Ensure timely, clear and consistent communication underpinned by transparency.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES**

Community engagement was conducted through the public exhibition of draft documents as detailed in the body of the report.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. DRAFT 2025 2029 Pyrenees Shire MPHWP [11.3.6.1 - 35 pages]

## **FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS**

The Plan will be implemented within existing budgets, except where initiatives indicate requirement of funding. Annual action plans will be developed through the business planning process to align departmental work with health and wellbeing priorities.

Council will work in partnership with regional stakeholders on shared priorities and actively pursue grant funding to address emerging community needs.

Adopting the Plan ensures compliance with relevant legislation and reduces the risk of operating without a clear strategic direction for community health and wellbeing.

The engagement process, including opportunities for public viewing and feedback, supports transparent decision-making and helps ensure strong community support for the final Plan.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025–2029 fulfils Council’s legislative requirement under Section 26 of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008, to prepare a municipal public health and wellbeing plan.

The Strategy outlines six key health and wellbeing priorities, which align with the Victorian Government’s *Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023–2027*. A copy of the adopted Plan will be submitted to the Victorian Department of Health, in accordance with statutory obligations.

## **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council, having reviewed submissions and undertaken minor refinements, adopts the updated Municipal Public Health & Wellbeing Plan 2025–2029 attached to this report.

### 11.3.7. VICTORIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT WOMEN'S CHARTER

**Presenter:** Jim Nolan - Chief Executive Officer

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

**Report Author:** Kathy Bramwell – Corporate Projects Lead

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

**File No:** 36/10/02

#### PURPOSE

To seek Council's agreement to sign up to the Victorian Local Government Women's Charter.

#### BACKGROUND

The Pyrenees Shire Council has publicly committed to supporting gender equality and equity in the form of its commitment to the Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) and in particular the objectives related to:

- Increase participation of women in council elections, and
- Support leadership development for women, gender diverse staff and staff with diverse backgrounds.

In the GEAP, Council has articulated a vision to be “an Employer of Choice for Gender Equality” and in achieving that vision, to build a more inclusive workplace for all genders.

In the past Council committed to supporting the Grampians CoRE (Communities of Respect and Equality) Alliance, their initial 2016 Strategy and over the years, council officers have worked with other organisations in the ongoing pursuit of gender equality and preventing violence against women, in particular participating in the Act@Work program in partnership with Women's Health Grampians.

Pyrenees Shire Council recognises the importance of providing leadership in advancing gender equality at a local level in an effort to contribute to this global responsibility.

#### ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Since Council's initial commitment in 2016, government, the Pyrenees Shire Council and its partner organisations like Women's Health Grampians have continued their focus on the prevention of violence against women and their children, and gender equity, including the introduction of the *Gender Equality Act 2020*, under which Council developed its Gender Equality Action Plan.

In 1997, the Victorian Government published a Victorian Local Government Women's Charter. The Charter is aimed at increasing women's participation in civic life and in community and democratic governance. It was initially signed by the Minister for Local Government and presidents of the MAV, VLGA and the Women's Participation in Local Government Coalition (WPILGC) in 2002. It is overseen by MAV, VLGA and WPILGC.

The Charter is voluntary to sign up and offers a range of resources, tools and support for local government across its areas of focus. Currently 75 of 79 local councils have signed up but Pyrenees Shire Council is one of the LGAs that haven't. Signing up to the Charter is aligned with the action in Council's GEAP under Indicator 2 – Gender Composition of Governing Body.

While it is acknowledged that the Pyrenees has more female than male Councillors, it is believed that PSC signing the Charter demonstrates a long-term commitment to gender equality and diversity in participation and representation and to increasing women's involvement in civic life. It would also further support the work that Council has already done and continues to do in this area.

More information on the Charter is available at <https://www.mav.asn.au/what-we-do/policy-advocacy/social-community/gender-equality/victorian-lg-womens-charter>

Through this report, the Council is requested to resolve to sign up to the Charter as part of the GEAP actions.

A copy of the Victorian Local Government Women's Charter is attached for reference.

## **COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE**

Pillar 1 - People

1a. Inclusivity and accessibility.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES**

Council regularly partners with a range of local organisations to promote and further gender equality, including Women's Health Grampians.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Victorian Local Government Womens Charter [**11.3.7.1** - 1 page]

## **FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS**

No risks apply.

## **CONCLUSION**

The issue of gender equality remains of significant importance, reflected by the introduction of the *Gender Equality Act 2020*, and the increased mandatory and expected actions to promote gender equality on behalf of Council. The signing of the Victorian Local Government Women's Charter demonstrates a long-term commitment to gender equality and diversity, and to increasing women's involvement in public and civic life.

## **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Expresses its support and recognition of the need for increased women's participation in the key decision-making forums in the community and in democratic governance and the support of the following principles contained within the Victorian Local Government Women's Charter:
  - a) **GENDER EQUITY:** That women and men have an equal right to be representatives in local governments, committees and decision-making positions.
  - b) **DIVERSITY:** The inclusion of different experiences and perspectives in local governments and community decision-making strengthens local democratic governance and helps build cohesive communities. Councils and communities encourage and welcome the participation of all women.
  - c) **ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP:** Local governments will work with the community to increase the numbers and participation of women in public life, so that decision-making more clearly represents and reflects the interests and demographics of communities.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to confirm this commitment by signing up to the Victorian Local Government Women's Charter.

**11.3.8. LICENCE AGREEMENT - BEAUFORT BLUE LIGHT MOTORCYCLE CLUB INC****Presenter:** Jacinta Erdody - Director Corporate and Community Services**Declaration of Interest:** As presenter of this report, I have no disclosable interest in this item.**Report Author:** Jacinta Erdody – Director Corporate and Community Services**Declaration of Interest:** As author of this report, I have no disclosable interest in this item.**File No:** 501051200**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider granting a ten (10) year licence agreement to the Beaufort Blue Light Motorcycle Club Inc., for the use of the land located at 252 Beaufort-Lexton Road, Beaufort.

**BACKGROUND**

Established in 2010, the Beaufort Blue Light Motorcycle Club is a volunteer-run initiative in partnership with Victoria Police and emergency services. The club provides a safe, supervised environment for recreational motorcycle riding for young people under the age of 18.

The club holds events on the last Sunday of each month, with each event registered through Motorcycling Victoria and led by members of Victoria Police, ensuring a strong focus on both safety and community engagement. Monthly ride days are designed to be fun and inclusive, supporting not only local youth in the Pyrenees Shire but also attracting young riders and their families from across Victoria. Highlighting the club's broad appeal, statistics show that participants travel from locations across Victoria, including Nathalia, Werribee, Taylors Lakes, Geelong, Ocean Grove, and suburban Melbourne.

Recent events held in June and August saw 98 and 50 riders in attendance, respectively. Rider ages and postcodes for these events are detailed in the following tables.

June		August	
Age of Rider	No. of Riders	Age of Rider	No. of Riders
3	1	3	0
4	2	4	1
5	6	5	0
6	10	6	5
7	14	7	6
8	8	8	3
9	16	9	5
10	3	10	1
11	4	11	3
12	5	12	1
13	10	13	5
14	6	14	2
15	3	15	5
16	4	16	2
17	3	17	8
18	1	18	3
Undisclosed	2	Undisclosed	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>



June	
Postcode of Rider	No. of Riders
3030	2
3038	1
3095	2
3220	2
3226	1
3241	1
3271	2
3328	2
3331	4
3350	16
3351	20
3352	12
3355	1
3361	1
3363	1
3364	3
3370	2
3373	16
3375	1
3380	2
3463	1
3464	2
3465	2
3638	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>

August	
Postcode of Rider	No. of Riders
3226	1
3271	1
3331	5
3350	7
3351	7
3352	9
3356	2
3361	2
3370	1
3373	7
3377	4
3380	2
3429	1
3464	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

## ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The Beaufort Blue Light Motorcycle Club Inc. has recently received approval to access a Community Grant to undertake enhancement works to the car park at the Beaufort-Lexton Road location. The Community Grant approval is subject to a licence agreement being in place along with planning and engineering requirements.

Council is the Committee of Management for the site that the Club operates from. Council Officers have engaged with the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change (DEECA) to complete a Delegated Tenure Application form for a licence agreement for the Beaufort Blue Light Motorcycle Club Inc.

Under Section 17B of the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978, DEECA representatives have obtained the necessary approval for a licence agreement with the Beaufort Blue Light Motorcycle Club Inc.

A draft licence has been provided for Council review. It is worth noting the following:

- The term of the licence is 10 years with no optional further terms as this is the maximum term for licences.
- There are no special conditions listed for this licence.

Section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020* provides for limitations and certain requirements on Council's power to lease land in certain circumstances:

- Section 115(3) - A council must include any proposal to lease land in a financial year in the budget, where the lease is -
  - a. For one year or more and -
    - i. The rent for any period of the lease is \$100,000 or more in a year, or
    - ii. The current market rental value of the land is \$100,000 or more a year, or
  - b. For 10 years or more.

Section 115(4) of the Local Government Act 2020, requires that "if any lease is subject to the above, and it was not included within the budget, Council must undertake a community engagement process in accordance with their Community Engagement Policy before entering into the lease."

## COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Pillar 1 - People

1d. Foster partnerships, support volunteers and build capacity.

Pillar 2 - Economy

2c. Support community events and visitor economy.

Pillar 5 - Community-Centric

5a. Foster values driven inclusive culture, which is responsive, accountable and aligned to priority.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

In accordance with Council's legislative compliance with Section 115(4) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Community Engagement Policy, relevant community engagement will be undertaken.

## ATTACHMENTS

Nil

### **FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Risk exposure exists if a licence agreement was not granted as this would leave a well-attended and valued community attraction vacant, attracting local community dissatisfaction. The granting of a licence to the Beaufort Blue Light Motorcycle Club Inc. ensures a key youth recreation attraction in the area remains supported.

### **CONCLUSION**

Supporting the ten (10) year licence agreement with the Beaufort Blue Light Motorcycle Club Inc., aligns well with the Council Plan 2025-2029 Strategic Priorities to foster community centric values supporting volunteers and community events. Enabling the Beaufort Blue Light Motorcycle Club Inc., to continue supporting the recreational activities of young people in a safe environment.

### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Approves any required public notice advertising in regard to the Local Government Act and Council's Community Engagement Policy as deemed appropriate to the proposed renegotiated sub-lease.
2. Should no objections be received during the public notice advertising period, endorses the Chief Executive Officer to proceed in the granting of a licence to the Beaufort Blue Light Motorcycle Club Inc., for a period of ten (10) years.

**11.3.9. NP50 KATHLEEN STREET AVOCA - ADOPT ROAD NAME**

**Presenter:** Jacinta Erdody - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

**Report Author:** Emily Beaton – Revenue and Road Naming Officer

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

**File No:** 58/02/08

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to finalise the naming process for an unnamed road in Avoca between Homebush Road and Station Street to Kathleen Street.

**BACKGROUND**

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 21 July 2025, Council resolved to commence the process for the naming of an unnamed road between Homebush Road and Station Street, Avoca to Kathleen Street.

**ISSUE / DISCUSSION**

In review of the proposal, the following points should be noted:

1. Kathleen Street is a legitimate naming option and passes all of the tests set by the Registrar of Geographic Names and supports the Victorian Government's Gender Equity Strategy 2023-2027. The name has a historical relationship to the area, being the first name of a lady born in Avoca who served as a Nurse in World War 1.
2. The definition of a Street allows for an open-ended public roadway in a town, city or urban area.

**COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE**

Pillar 1 - People

- 1a. Inclusivity and accessibility.
- 1b. Community safety and wellbeing.

Pillar 4 - Infrastructure

- 4a. Plan, build and maintain essential infrastructure.

Pillar 5 - Community-Centric

- 5c. Ensure timely, clear and consistent communication underpinned by transparency.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES**

The Council recommendation of Kathleen Street was advertised in The Pyrenees Advocate, The Maryborough District Advertiser and on Council's Website. The advertisement also invited descendants of Kathleen Walker to contact Council regarding the use of Kathleen's name. A letter was also sent to adjoining property owners on 29 July 2025. Two submissions were received, one in support of the name Kathleen, the other a submission for use the name Romey after a local family. A request for further information was issued to the applicant seeking specific information including family names and notable contributions made to the community, with no further response received.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. NP50 - Kathleen Street - Map [**11.3.9.1** - 1 page]

**FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Costs for the naming of the road are able to be accommodated within the limits of Council's operating budget.

The naming of new roads and accurate addressing is important to ensure that residents are able to be located by emergency services and to receive mail. To mitigate the risk of errors, Council needs to comply with the Statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities 2022, and the Australian Standards for Signing and Rural and Urban Addressing.

**CONCLUSION**

To complete the naming process a name needs to be formally adopted by Council along with the recommendation to forward a report to the Registrar of Geographic Names for consideration of this name – Kathleen Street.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. adopts the name Kathleen Street, which has historical ties to the area.
2. forwards a report to the Registrar of Geographic Names for consideration of the name Kathleen Street.

**11.3.10. NP51 ROSE MARY WAY AVOCA - ADOPT ROAD NAME**

**Presenter:** Jacinta Erdody - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

**Report Author:** Emily Beaton – Revenue and Road Naming Officer

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

**File No:** 58/02/08

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to finalise the naming process for an unnamed road in Avoca between Davy Street and Camp Street to Rose Mary Way.

**BACKGROUND**

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 21 July 2025, Council resolved to commence the process for the naming of an unnamed road between Davy Street and Camp Street, Avoca to Rose Mary Way.

**ISSUE / DISCUSSION**

In review of the proposal, the following points should be noted:

1. Rose Mary Way is a legitimate naming option and passes all of the tests set by the Registrar of Geographic Names and supports the Victorian Government's Gender Equity Strategy 2023-2027. The name has a historical relationship to the area, being the first name of a lady born in Avoca who served as a Nurse in World War 1.
2. The road type "Way" describes an access way between two streets and is usually not as straight as an avenue or street.

**COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE**

Pillar 1 - People

- 1a. Inclusivity and accessibility.
- 1b. Community safety and wellbeing.

Pillar 4 - Infrastructure

- 4a. Plan, build and maintain essential infrastructure.

Pillar 5 - Community-Centric

- 5c. Ensure timely, clear and consistent communication underpinned by transparency.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES**

The Council recommendation of Rose Mary Way was advertised in The Pyrenees Advocate, The Maryborough District Advertiser and on Council's Website. The advertisement also invited descendants of Rose Walker to contact Council regarding the use of Rose's name. A letter was also sent to adjoining property owners on 29 July 2025. One submission was received, proposing the use of a currently adjoining property owner's surname. A request for further information was issued to the applicant seeking specific information, such as a biography with and notable contributions made to the community and/or Armed Forces, with no further response received.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. NP51 - Rose Mary Way - Map [11.3.10.1 - 1 page]

**FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Costs for the naming of the road are able to be accommodated within the limits of Council's operating budget.

The naming of new roads and accurate addressing is important to ensure that residents are able to be located by emergency services and to receive mail. To mitigate the risk of errors, Council needs to comply with the Statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities 2022, and the Australian Standards for Signing and Rural and Urban Addressing.

**CONCLUSION**

To complete the naming process a name needs to be formally adopted by Council along with the recommendation to forward a report to the Registrar of Geographic Names for consideration of this name – Rose Mary Way.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. adopts the name Rose Mary Way, which has historical ties to the area.
2. forwards a report to the Registrar of Geographic Names for consideration of the name Rose Mary Way.



## 11.4. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

### 11.4.1. CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION POLICY

**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:** 16/24/12

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy.

#### BACKGROUND

The Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy was adopted in October 2021 with a minor amendment in May 2022. The policy is now due for review and adoption. The current policy is attached to this report.

#### ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Councillors reviewed the policy at their briefing on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025. Following the review, no changes to the policy were suggested by Council and it was determined that the policy will be further reviewed following the next assessment of the Chief Executive Officer performance, if required.

One proposed inclusion in the policy is the addition of the CEO Employment Contract referenced as an Associated Document in section 7.

#### COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Pillar 5 - Community-Centric

5c. Ensure timely, clear and consistent communication underpinned by transparency.

5d. Deliver high quality services with continuous improvement focus.

#### ATTACHMENTS

1. 2022- CE O- Employment-and- Remuneration- Policy (1) [11.4.1.1 - 7 pages]

#### FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The policy addresses financial considerations as part of the CEO remuneration and expenses.

#### CONCLUSION

Council's adoption of the policy with or without amendment provides direction in respect of matters relating to the CEO Employment and Remuneration.

#### OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopts the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy with the proposed inclusion of the CEO Employment Contract as an Associated Document referenced in section 7.
2. Undertakes a further review following the next CEO performance review process if required.

**12. COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND GENERAL BUSINESS**

**13. 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 reports listed below:

15.1 - Supply and Delivery of Two (2) Wheeled Loaders

**14. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The Ordinary Meeting of Council closed at \_\_\_\_\_