



MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, 27 February 2018

Held at the
Council Conference & Reception Centre
City Hall, Little Malop Street, Geelong
commencing at 7.10pm

COUNCIL:

Cr B Harwood (*Kardinia Ward*)
Mayor

Cr S Asher (*Bellarine Ward*)
Cr J Mason (*Bellarine Ward*)
Cr T Sullivan (*Bellarine Ward*)

Cr E Kontelj (*Brownbill Ward*)
Cr S Mansfield (*Brownbill Ward*)
Cr P Murrhly (*Brownbill Ward*)

Cr R Nelson (*Kardinia Ward*)
Cr P Murnane (*Kardinia Ward*)

Cr A Aitken (*Windermere Ward*)
Cr K Grzybek (*Windermere Ward*)

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**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING
OF THE GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CONFERENCE AND RECEPTION CENTRE
CITY HALL, LITTLE MALOP STREET, GEELONG
TUESDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2018
COMMENCING AT 7.10 PM**

PRESENT: Cr B Harwood (Mayor), Crs A Aitken, S Asher, K Grzybek,, E Kontelj,
S Mansfield, J Mason, P Murnane, P Murrhy, R Nelson, T Sullivan

Also present: K Spiller (Chief Executive Officer), K Walsh (Director Manager Planning
and Development), B Luxford (Director Investment & Attraction),
G Wilson-Browne (Director City Services), L Quinn (Director Community
Life), P Anderson (Director Finance & Strategy), R Leonard (Executive
Manager Legal Services & Governance)

OPENING: The Chair declared the meeting open at 7.10pm

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Council acknowledged Wadawurrung Traditional Owners of this land and all Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander People who are part of the Greater Geelong community today.

APOLOGIES: Nil

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Grzybek seconded –

That Maternity Leave be granted to Cr Sarah Mansfield from 1 – 14 March, 2018.

Carried.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Cr Kontelj moved, Cr Grzybek seconded -

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 30 January 2018 be confirmed.

Carried.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: Nil.

QUESTION TIME:

Bronwen Baker (Campaign Leader) presented two petitions regarding the Nuchev Goat Farm proposal in Forest Road South, Lara:

The Mayor thanked Ms Baker for the petitions and advised that Council is aware of the situation, but was waiting for officer and external advice before accurate information could be communicated back to the community. The Mayor's advice is that the relevant information would be made available by the end of March.

The Mayor also thanked the very large crowd for the respect they displayed to both Councillors and Council Officers during the presentation of their campaign.

Lynne Dowling asked the following in relation to the Geelong Regional Library Corporation:

Since the 2009 Agreement to continue the Geelong Regional Library Corporation, the four positions on the Library Board to which the City of Greater Geelong is entitled, have all been held by four elected Councillors, every year from 2009, until the dismissal of the City Council in April 2016. Since then, two Council employees have been the CoGG/ratepayers representative on the Library Board. At its recent board meeting on 27 February, the Library Board agreed to delay the election of its Chair and Deputy until its next meeting in order to allow the CoGG to nominate its elected Councillor representatives.

Can you advise me whether the CoGG intends to again fill all four positions with elected Councillors to ensure that the \$9ml (88% of Library budget) it provides to the Library is being spent according to point 5.8 having 'paramount regard to the interests of the community' by providing the services most desired by the users of the libraries within the CoGG? When will the Council advise the Library of its four nominees? As the Library is currently formulating its budget, it would be valuable for Councillors to be nominated as soon as possible so that the Board is in accordance with the 2009 Agreement?

The Mayor responded Councillors are meeting this Saturday as a group to discuss Committee Membership and hopefully at the 13 March Community Focus Meeting will be in a position to ratify those positions and nominate four Councillors to the Board.

Paul Russell asked if Council was aware that the public meeting held on 5 February 2018 regarding the Nuchev High Intensity Feedlot and Milk Processing Plant to be established at 240 Forest Road South, Lara, revealed that more than 700 people at that meeting had been previously unaware of the proposal because the community consultation had apparently not reached them and consequently we were unable to register our strong opposition within the requisite time?

The Mayor assured Mr Russell that Council is aware of the large number of people who attended the recent public meeting and also aware of their concerns.

James Compston asked if Council will consider supporting the community of Lara in its objection to the VCAT decision made in February 2017 which allowed the Nuchev proposal for a High Intensity Goat Feedlot and Milk Processing Factory at 240 Forest Road South to proceed, given that the Moorabool Planning Permit was overturned by VCAT due to the tribunal's concern regarding the QFever risk management as specified in the planning permit conditions, while the same plan was accepted for the much more heavily populated site at Lara, with nearest housing 580 metres away and school and day care centre within one kilometre?

Cr Harwood responded we are awaiting advice from Council officers to understand what Council can and can't do in respect of the application.

Peter Seaman asked that given the previous Administrator – appointed Council had been in the position approximately three months prior to granting the Nucheve permit.

Does this Council believe that the previous Administrator Council had the necessary experience to properly assess the impact that the Nucheve High Intensity Goat Feedlot and Milk Processing Factory would have on Lara with its population of approximately 16,000 people and the close proximity of dwellings and schools to the proposed facility?

The Mayor responded he couldn't answer the question regarding the Administrators - but advise the decision was made by them at the time.

Lorraine Smallman asked if Council would consider naming the new Bicycle Club Pavilion on the Belmont Common, "The Russell Mockridge Pavilion", after Geelong's greatest all-round cyclist of the 1950's?

The Mayor responded that there have been discussions in recent times around the naming of the Pavilion and there has been several potential names being put forward.

Cr Aitken added he would like to put forward Rod Charles, who is present in the gallery tonight as a possible name for the Pavilion.

Cr Kontelj acknowledged Rod Charles who was a former Geelong West Mayor.

Jennifer Bantow asked questions in relation to:

1) Agenda 3 – Sale of Former Geelong Post Office

Before making what seems to be a hasty decision about selling the former Geelong Post Office, will Council please consider:

- Having a period of time for public input, ideas and opinions?
 - Having a tour of the building inside and out, with their heritage advisor, to explain the significance of the architecture, to imagine what it could be like with proper restoration, experience the beauty of the place, and think about alternative uses for the former Geelong Post Office?
- 2) The resolution passed by Council on 20 September 2017 in relation to managing heritage matters:
- Will Council please begin a process to implement the resolution passed last September to "provide a single point of co-ordination for heritage issues"?
 - The National Trust would like to offer to organise an afternoon familiarisation tour for Councillors of highly important heritage places in the municipality?
 - Would Councillors please like to consider taking up this offer?

The Mayor responded he would be prepared to take up the offer to participate in the potential engagement in relation to heritage issues.

Kelvin Spiller added Council is currently looking at implications of the recommendation for the draft Budget process.

Cr Nelson added he supported the maintaining of heritage buildings and has actually toured the facility and envisaged what the potential uses might be.

Lex Chalmers asked questions in relation to the Municipal Heritage Strategy 2017:

- 1) I assume that the recently elected Council has had and is having workshops on existing Council strategies such as Clever and Creative Futures 2017.

Has any workshop or information sessions been held on the Municipal Heritage Strategy (adopted September 2017), which is closely associated with Clever and Creative Futures, and with Geelong's future social wellbeing and amenity?

The Mayor responded, not at this stage.

- 2) In 2013 the Planning Minister advised that he would consider establishing a Geelong Heritage Fund to be run in conjunction with the Melbourne Heritage Fund (or along the same lines as that Fund, now the Victoria Heritage Fund). The Geelong Heritage Restoration Fund is set up along similar lines as the Victoria Heritage Fund, which I understand is now administered by the National Trust of Victoria to ensure that taxpayer heritage funds are appropriate spent?

The Mayor took the question on notice for a written response.

Mark Brunger asked the following question regarding the Sale of the Geelong Post Office:

What protections have been considered or caveats on the sale of the building to potential buyers to ensure the building remains as it is and protected into the future?

Peter Anderson advised Conservation Guidelines will be a condition of sale.

Leanne Rupene asked if Council was aware the Colin Wilks QFever Management Plan supplied to Nucheve was shown to have flaws in it by more current research, and that Professor Colin Wilks was on the supervisory committee for that research.

Are you aware QFever can be fatal to immune-suppressed residents and vaccinations have high egg protein and are not recommended for children under 15. How can you 100% guarantee my three children, my 3 year old is allergic to eggs and my 1 year old has a hole in his heart, how can you confidently 100% guarantee our children will be safe and my son won't get QFever and it be fatal?

The Mayor responded he understands how difficult it is to ask questions on such an emotional issue.

As has been previously stated I cannot give an answer this evening, we are awaiting officer advice. I cannot provide a better response as I am not in a position to do so. It's not that we don't want to, we simply don't have the information available.

Clive West asked what the Council Meeting start times are?

The Mayor advised the commencement time of both Council Meetings and Community Focus Committee Meetings is 7.00pm.

PETITIONS:

A petition containing approximately 2450 signatures was submitted by Bronwen Baker opposing the Nuchev Development at 240 Forest Road, Lara. The objectors are sighting the risk of QFever, public health, the close proximity to suburban developments, traffic, smell and the confined cruel conditions provided for the goats.

A petition was also presented by Bronwen Baker from AWH Pty Ltd (Tailored Logistics Solutions), asking Council to vote as a matter of priority to lodge an appeal with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal under Section 87 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to cancel Planning Permit PP1204/2015 issued on 20 February 2017.

1. AMENDMENT C349 – OCEAN GROVE SIGNIFICANT TREE PROJECT – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION

Source: Planning & Development – Strategic Implementation
Director: Kelvin Walsh
Index Reference: Amendment C349

Purpose

To consider the Panel Report on Amendment C349 and to adopt the Amendment subject to changes, consistent with the Panel Report's recommendations.

Background

Amendment C349 implements the Ocean Grove Significant Tree Project (OGSTP) Final Report 2016, adopted by Council in September 2016. The Amendment aims to better protect the unique coastal/bush landscape character within well-established areas of Ocean Grove by way of new or revised zone schedules, Significant Landscape Overlays (SLOs) and other provisions.

The Amendment was exhibited in March and April 2017, with 20 submissions received. In August 2017, further consultation was carried out with affected landowners regarding a proposed post-exhibition change to respond to changes in maximum building heights in the State Government's Amendment VC110 (Reformed Residential Zones) in March 2017. 54 submissions were received during this further consultation. Of the 74 submissions in total, 31 objected or requested changes.

Submissions were referred to an independent Panel, appointed by the Minister for Planning. The Panel Hearing was held on 30 and 31 October 2017 and the Panel Report received on 13 December 2017.

Key Issues

- Key issues raised in the 9 objecting submissions during exhibition in March and April 2017 included objections to proposed new zones and controls and their impact on development potential, inadequate application of the current SLO 7 and bushfire management controls.
- Council proposed and sought comment from affected owners on a post-exhibition change to zoning of the Hillside Area to retain building height limits consistent with those exhibited in the Amendment and recommended by the OGSTP. 32 submissions supported the change; key issues in 22 objecting submissions included inconsistency with State Government policy supporting increased maximum building heights, and more restrictive zone purposes and storey limits.
- The Panel concluded that the OGSTP provides a sound quantitative basis for the Amendment's proposals and that the application of and schedules for proposed zones and overlays are appropriate. The Panel supported Council's post-exhibition change in the Hillside Area, except for a small area west of Field Street South, where the Panel recommends the exhibited General Residential Zone Schedule 3 rather than the now proposed Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 5. The Panel recommended other mostly minor changes.
- The Panel's recommendations are supported, except for one minor error.
- Clause 52.48 of the scheme may undermine some of the Amendment's objectives by permitting certain vegetation removal without a permit. Council should reiterate its previously expressed concerns on this matter.

Cr Asher moved, Cr Mason seconded -

That Council:

- 1) Adopts Amendment C349 in the form outlined in Attachment 7 of this report;**
- 2) Submits the adopted Amendment together with the prescribed information to the Minister for Planning requesting approval; and**
- 3) Writes to the Minister for Planning to reiterate concerns relating to vegetation clearing permissible under Clause 52.48 Bushfire Protection raised by Council in May 2016 and to request an update on this matter.**

Carried.

Attachment 1

Discussion

Background – SLO 7 and Ocean Grove Significant Tree Project

Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 7 (SLO 7)

SLO 7 was introduced into the Scheme in April 2003 by Amendment C74. Its extent was slightly adjusted by Amendment C78 in February 2008 and has remained unchanged since. Amendment C300 (Reformed Residential Zones) made minor changes to SLO 7 controls in November 2014. In January 2010, Amendment C129(Part 1) introduced a further work task in Clause 21.14 to review the application of SLO 7.

Ocean Grove Structure Plan 2015

Issues with the operation of SLO 7 were raised during preparation of the Ocean Grove Structure Plan 2015, including the conflict between SLO 7 and the Increased Housing Diversity Area (IHDA) for land zoned Residential Growth Zone 3 (RGZ 3), permit trigger clarity, effectiveness in protecting vegetation and usefulness of decision guidelines. The Structure Plan recommended these matters be further investigated as part of the review of SLO 7.

The Structure Plan 2015 was implemented by Amendment C346, which made changes to Clause 21.14 (Bellarine Peninsula), including:

- adding as part of a strategy: “Ensuring that development allows for protection of significant vegetation and/or planting around buildings and has minimal impact on roadside vegetation”; and
- adding as a Further Work task: “Undertake a review of the older parts of the town as identified on the Structure Plan map to investigate the introduction of new planning overlay controls to protect important landscape and built form attributes”.

Ocean Grove Significant Tree Project (OGSTP)

The OGSTP aimed to identify and protect, through planning controls, the unique coastal/bush landscape character within the well-established areas of the township of Ocean Grove.

The project was carried out concurrent with the review of the 2007 Ocean Grove Structure Plan and development of the Ocean Grove Structure Plan 2015. The 2007 Structure Plan identified a number of issues and concerns with SLO 7 and made recommendations on how to address them. The Ocean Grove community also identified a desire to protect and enhance significant vegetation in older parts of the township.

Ecological consultants, Okologie, undertook vegetation surveys between July and September 2015 on public and private land to identify the extent of significant trees (both indigenous and other Australian native) on public and private land. The surveys covered two areas of old Ocean Grove (the Significant Tree Area and the current extent of SLO7).

The surveys recorded 1050 significant trees on private land and 517 significant street trees within the Significant Tree Area, and 1330 significant trees on private land and 233 significant street trees in the SLO 7 area. Of note in the Significant Tree Area was the Bellarine Yellow-gum, endemic to the Bellarine and Surf Coast and listed as threatened in Victoria; the population of these trees in the study area is significant and its management is important for the survival of the species.

Along with vegetation surveys a detailed Background Report was prepared to inform the draft planning controls. This report identified three precincts with proposed customized planning controls, with the SLO 7 area divided into two precincts, the Hillside Area and the Coastal Fringe Area. Changes to zones and SLO 7 controls and new overlays were recommended.

Informal public consultation on the Background Report and draft controls took place in April and May 2016. 26 submissions were received, of which 20 raised objections or recommended changes. Issues raised in submissions were considered and responded to in the OGSTP Final Report.

A number of changes were made to the draft controls in response to submissions. A key change was including the Coastal Fringe Area and Hillside Area in a single Hillside Precinct (generally the SLO7 extent), with maximum site coverage of 50% (40% had been proposed for the Coastal Fringe Area) and maximum building height of 9 m (8 m had been proposed for the Coastal Fringe Area).

At its meeting of 27 September 2016, Council adopted the OGSTP Final Report and sought the Minister's authorisation to prepare an Amendment in accordance with its recommendations. Council also sought an interim SLO 15 while the Amendment was prepared and considered. Interim SLO 15 was gazetted on 2 March 2017 and operates until 28 February 2018.

Amendment C349 – exhibition, submissions and Council consideration of submissions

Exhibition – March and April 2017

Amendment C349, as exhibited, proposed to implement the OGSTP Final Report by:

- introducing and applying new schedules to the General Residential Zone and the Neighbourhood Residential Zone (GRZ 3 and NRZ 4 respectively);
- introducing and applying a new Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 15 (SLO 15);
- amending Schedule 7 to the Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO 7);
- removing properties from Schedule 7 to the Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO 7);
- removing and adding properties from/to Schedule 14 to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO 14); and
- amending Clause 21.14 Bellarine Peninsula.

The land subject of the Amendment is shown at **Attachment 2**. The current zoning of the subject and surrounding land is shown at **Attachment 3**. A map dividing the subject area into ten separate areas differently affected by the Amendment is at **Attachment 4**, with a list of the exhibited proposed changes in each of those areas at **Attachment 5**.

The Amendment was exhibited from Thursday 16 March 2017 to Tuesday 18 April 2017. Notice of the Amendment was mailed to all owners of land affected by the Amendment (2249 letters), with letters specific to each of the ten areas shown at **Attachment 4**.

20 submissions were received during exhibition. Of 18 submissions from landowners, 9 supported or provided neutral or generally favourable comment, while 9 objected, requested changes or provided generally negative comment. Two submissions were received from government agencies supporting the amendment, with one suggesting minor changes.

Key issues raised in objecting submissions were:

- objections to proposed GRZ 3 area and controls;
- objections to proposed NRZ 4 area and controls;
- inadequate application of current SLO 7;
- bushfire management controls; and
- objections from Wynndean Holiday Resort.

Consideration of submissions and Amendment VC110 (Reformed Residential Zones)

On 27 March 2017, during exhibition of Amendment C349, the State Government approved Amendment VC110 (Reformed Residential Zones). This Amendment introduced changes to residential zone provisions affecting garden areas, building heights, neighbourhood character objectives and the number of buildings per lot.

Amendment VC110 introduced mandatory maximum building heights and number of storeys for the GRZ and NRZ. In the GRZ, the discretionary building height limit of 9 metres was replaced with a mandatory building height limit of 11 metres and a maximum of three storeys. In the NRZ, the mandatory maximum building height limit of 8 metres was increased to 9 metres with a maximum of two storeys. Any new Schedules to these Zones can only vary the maximum building height by increasing it. Existing Schedules with a lower maximum building height were not changed by Amendment VC110, but the State Government expects such Schedules to be amended by Councils over the next few years to remove any such lower maximum heights.

These changes, not anticipated when Amendment C349 was prepared and exhibited, affected the Amendment's proposals, particularly in the Hillside Area proposed to be rezoned to GRZ 3. The area being proposed to be rezoned from GRZ 2 to GRZ 3 (Areas 4 and 5 on the map at **Attachment 4**) has a 9 m mandatory height under GRZ 2 and the exhibited GRZ 3. As a result of Amendment VC110, this would be increased to an 11 m mandatory height limit, with a maximum of three storeys. The area proposed to be rezoned from RGZ 3 to GRZ 3 (Area 6 on the map at **Attachment 4**) was proposed to have its mandatory height limit reduced from 10.5 m to 9 m, yet Amendment VC110 sees this change to an increase from 10.5 m to 11 m and maximum of three storeys. These changes were a substantial departure from the exhibited Amendment C349.

Council, in a Delegate Report on 1 August 2017, considered submissions on Amendment C349. With respect to building heights changes introduced by Amendment VC110, Council took the view that, in order to retain building height limits consistent with those exhibited in Amendment C349 and which were recommended in the OGSTP, and which will minimise adverse visual impacts in a highly visible area of recognised landscape significance on a hillside and coastal fringe, the proposed GRZ 3 area now be rezoned to a new NRZ 5. It was recommended that this NRZ 5 schedule have the same requirements as the exhibited GRZ 3 schedule.

Council, in the Delegate Report of 1 August 2017, resolved to:

- 1) *Seek comment from affected landowners regarding rezoning the area exhibited as General Residential Zone Schedule 3 to a new Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 5, as outlined in this report;*
- 2) *Consider any further or revised submissions resulting from the consultation in 1) in a separate report;*
- 3) *Request the Minister for Planning to appoint a Panel under Part 8 of the Planning an Environment Act 1987;*

- 4) *Refer all submissions on Amendment C349 to the Panel;*
- 5) *Submit to the Panel its response to the submissions generally as outlined in this report and any subsequent report; and*
- 6) *Revise the Amendment Clause and Schedules generally as outlined in this report prior to the Panel Hearing.*

Further consultation on post-exhibition change – August 2017

Landowners affected by this post-exhibition change were given the opportunity to comment on this proposed change. All affected landowners (over 850) were contacted by mail, with letters sent on Thursday 10 August 2017, and given until Thursday 31 August 2017 to comment. Information on the proposed post-exhibition change was placed on the Amendment's webpage on Council's website.

54 submissions were received regarding this proposed post-exhibition change (in addition to the 20 submissions on the Amendment during formal exhibition in March and April 2017). Of these 54 submissions, 32 supported the proposed change while 22 opposed it.

Five of the 54 submissions were from submitters who also made submissions on the Amendment during exhibition in March/April or a company on whose behalf a submission was made in March/April. Two submissions supporting the proposed change were from the same submitters with respect to two separate properties; two submissions opposing the proposed change were from the same person representing different owners of adjacent strata properties.

The main issues raised in submissions supporting the proposed change were:

- support for landscape protection;
- concern at potential loss of views; and
- opposition to the change made to the maximum building height for GRZ by the State Government.

Among several others, the main issues raised in submissions opposing the proposed change were:

- inconsistency with State Government policy and its direction with the Reformed Residential Zones;
- the more restrictive zone purposes of NRZ as opposed to GRZ;
- SLO 7 provisions including the 7.5 m building height permit trigger should be sufficient to address landscape impacts;
- NRZ limited to two storeys whereas exhibited GRZ 3 allowed three; and
- additional maximum building height compensates for reduced maximum site coverage.

On Wednesday 6 September 2017, a Council delegate considered the post-exhibition submissions on Amendment C349 and resolved to:

- 1) *Refer all submissions on the proposed post-exhibition change to Amendment C349 to the Panel that has been appointed under Part 8 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987;*
- 2) *Submit to the Panel its response to the submissions generally as outlined in this report; and*
- 3) *Revise proposed Schedule 5 to the Neighbourhood Residential Zone and Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 15 generally as outlined in this report prior to the Panel Hearing.*

Panel Hearing and Panel Report Recommendations

Panel Hearing

At the Panel Hearing on 30 and 31 October 2017, Council officers reflected the Council delegated authority resolutions and argued that: the Amendment is strategically justified; the OGSTP recommendations it implements result from rigorous analysis, vegetation surveys and review; and the controls proposed for both the Significant Tree Area and the Hillside and Coastal Fringe Area are appropriate, given the number of identified significant trees on both public and private land throughout each area. Council officers indicated that a series of post-exhibition changes to the Amendment were recommended to respond to issues raised in submissions, to State Government changes, particularly the Reformed Residential Zones, and to provide improved wording for clarity and consistency.

The key change recommended was the proposed post-exhibition change whereby the area previously proposed to be rezoned to GRZ 3 would instead be rezoned to a new NRZ 5. Another change was to modify the Ocean Grove IHDA map at Clause 22.63 to exclude Area 6 as shown at **Attachment 4**, the small area west of Field Street South that was exhibited as being rezoned from RGZ 3 to GRZ 3 (and was now proposed to be rezoned to NRZ 5).

Panel Report Recommendations

The Panel Report, received on 13 December 2017, supports Council's position on the Amendment, with the exception of the zoning of one small area and other minor changes. The Panel Report's Executive Summary is at **Attachment 6**.

The Panel concluded that:

- the work on which the OGSTP is based provides a sound quantitative basis for the determination of zones and overlays proposed by the Amendment;
- in the context of the OGSTP, the new schedules to the zones and overlays are appropriate; and
- the application of the zones and overlays is appropriate subject to the changes outlined in the report.

The Panel recommended that Amendment C349 be adopted as exhibited, subject to:

- rezoning Area 6 (as shown at **Attachment 4**) from RGZ 3 to GRZ 3 [as exhibited, rather than to NRZ 5 as in Council's proposed post-exhibition change];
- providing a definition of soft landscaping in SLO 7 and SLO 15; and
- reviewing the Amendment's provisions and schedules during finalisation of the Amendment to ensure they are consistent with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes (May 2017);

as well as other changes that had been recommended by Council at the Panel Hearing:

- rezoning Areas 4, 5 and 10 (as shown at **Attachment 4**) to a new NRZ 5 instead of the exhibited GRZ 3;
- changes to the wording of the exhibited NRZ 4, SLO 7, SLO 15 and Clause 21.14; and
- changing the Ocean Grove IHDA map in Clause 22.63.

Officer response:

The Panel's recommendations are supported, with the exception of one minor error.

The Panel's recommendation that Area 6 be zoned GRZ 3, as exhibited, is supported, as is the removal of this area from Council's IHDA policy.

A definition of soft landscaping is included in the recommended SLO 7 and SLO 15 Schedules at **Attachment 7**.

The Amendment's provisions and schedules have been reviewed and modifications are recommended as appropriate to ensure consistency with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes (May 2017). Advice was obtained from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning in carrying out this redrafting. The most substantial changes required were to the SLO 7 and SLO 15 Schedules. These schedules were exhibited with eight and eleven landscape character objectives respectively, but only a single objective for each is allowed under the Ministerial Direction. As application requirements are not allowed in an SLO under the Ministerial Direction, the exhibited application requirements (some of which already apply in SLO 7) have been generally redrafted as decision guidelines.

The Panel's recommendations include:

Rezone areas 4, 5 and 10 from General Residential Zone Schedule 2 to Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 5.

The rezoning of Areas 4 and 5 from GRZ 2 to NRZ 5 is as Council's proposed post-exhibition change. However, there is no basis for rezoning Area 10 as indicated in the Panel recommendation.

Area 10 was exhibited as a proposed rezoning from GRZ 2 to RGZ 3. This change is to correct a zoning anomaly whereby one property (91 Orton Street) is split zoned by extending the RGZ 3 zoning over the whole of that property. For a more logical boundary, the change includes the adjacent 93 Orton Street. There was no submission relating to the zoning of the properties and the matter did not arise in the Panel hearing. The Panel Report (section 4.1, page 21) erroneously indicates that the exhibited Amendment proposed Area 10 be rezoned from GRZ 2 to GRZ 3 (not RGZ 3). It is assumed the recommendation is also in error. It is recommended that Area 10 is rezoned from GRZ 2 to RGZ 3 as exhibited.

The final recommended provisions and schedules at **Attachment 7** incorporate the abovementioned Panel recommendations as well as Council's other post-exhibition changes supported by the Panel.

Clause 52.48 Bushfire Protection: Exemptions

Clause 52.48 of the scheme provides permit exemptions for removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation in some circumstances, to create defensible space around buildings, or along fences, that were existing or approved before 10 September 2009. This is a Victoria Planning Provision (VPP) introduced in response to the recommendations of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission. The Clause applies across the municipality regardless of the identified bushfire hazard level, and overrides the vegetation protection requirements proposed by this Amendment. Many of the trees that require a permit for removal, destruction or lopping under current and proposed SLO 7 and proposed SLO 15 are exempted from that requirement by Clause 52.48.

Council considered issues with Clause 52.48 at its meeting of 15 March 2016 and resolved to write to the Minister for Planning expressing its concerns. Accordingly, in May 2016, Council wrote to the Minister expressing its concerns with Clause 52.48 and requesting that this exemption be more strategically applied as it was leading to vegetation removal in urban areas where there is no identified bushfire threat. The Minister replied indicating that the Department was investigating a more risk based approach and would consider the matter in due course.

It is timely for Council to revisit this matter as Amendment C349 has a focus on vegetation protection in an urban context which could be undermined by Clause 52.48. It is recommended that Council writes to the Minister for Planning reiterating its concerns and requesting an update on the matter.

Financial Implications

There will be no significant financial implications on Council. There may be a slight increase in planning permit applications in the affected area.

Community Engagement

The Amendment was exhibited in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to provide for full public comment, including notifying all affected landowners by mail. All landowners affected by a proposed post-exhibition change were further consulted to provide the opportunity for comment.

Submitters have been notified of the release of the Panel Report and will be notified of the final decision on the Amendment of Council and the Minister for Planning.

Social Equity Considerations

The Amendment does not raise any social equity issues.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The Amendment is consistent with the State Planning Policy Framework (Clauses 11.05-2, 12.01-1 and 15.01-5) and the Local Planning Policy Framework (Clauses 21.05-3, 21.06-4, 21.14-2, 21.14-3 and 21.14-7) in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. Changes to exhibited provisions are recommended to bring the Amendment into line with the May 2017 Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes.

Alignment to City Plan

The Amendment supports the Sustainable Built and Natural Environment strategic direction of City Plan, particularly with respect to protecting biodiversity, limiting loss of native species and encouraging new indigenous or other Australian native plantings.

Conflict of Interest

No Council Officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest, in accordance with Section 80C of the Local Government Act.

Risk Assessment

There are no notable risks associated with implementing the recommendation contained in this report. There is a risk of continued loss of the vegetated landscape character of the subject area without the introduction of the recommended planning controls.

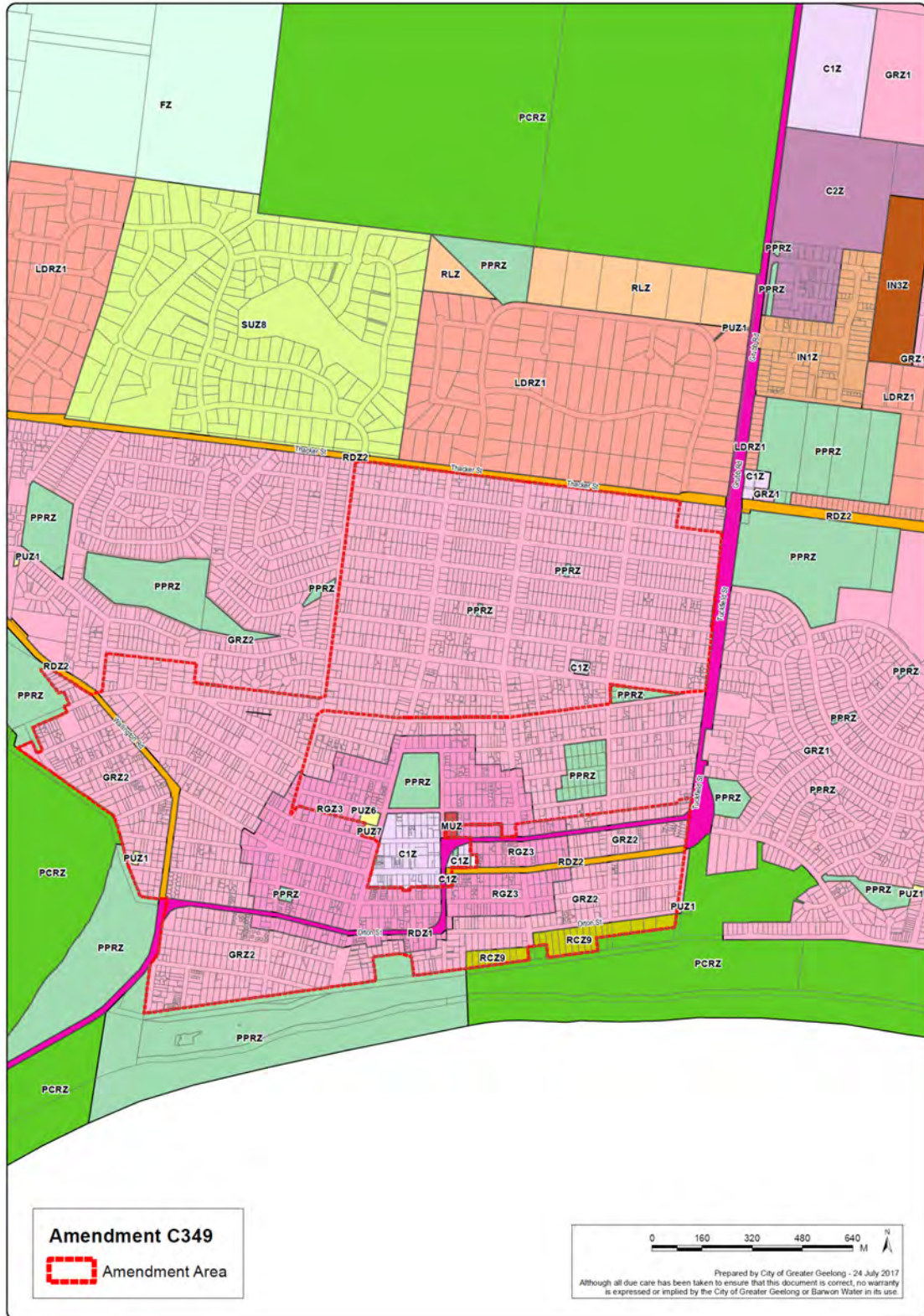
Environmental Implications

The Amendment has positive environmental implications, including improved retention of existing significant trees and increased planting of new trees, biodiversity protection and enhancement, habitat and urban heat impact outcomes.

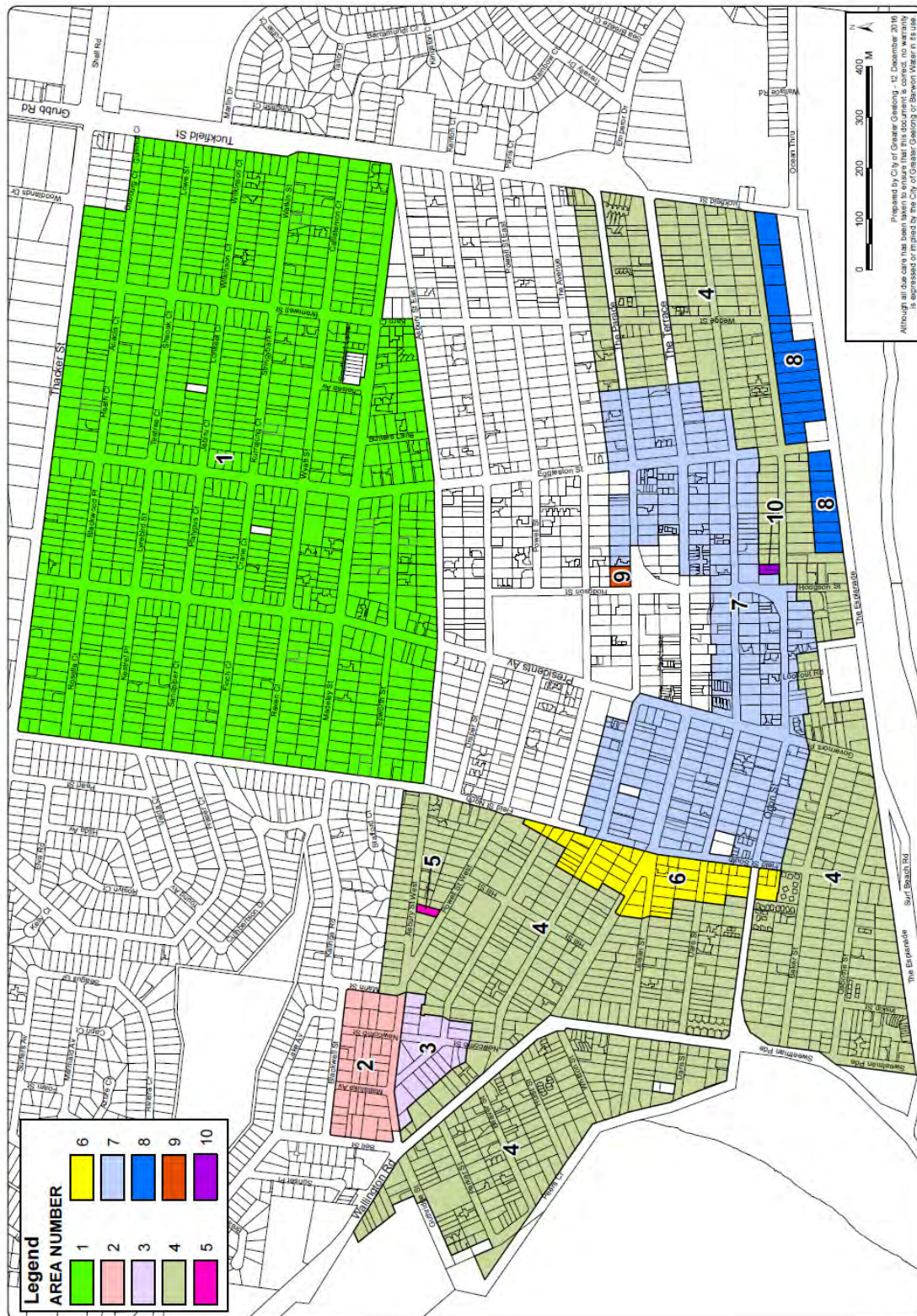
Attachment 2 - Location Plan



Attachment 3 - Current zoning



Attachment 4 – Map of exhibited proposed changes



Appendix 5

List of exhibited proposed changes

Area 1

- Rezone from General Residential Zone Schedule 2 to Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 4.
- Replace Design and Development Overlay Schedule 14 with permanent Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 15. [Interim Significant Landscape Overlay applies until 28 February 2018]

Area 2

- Rezone from General Residential Zone Schedule 2 to Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 4.
- Apply a permanent Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 15. [Interim Significant Landscape Overlay applies until 28 February 2018]

Area 3

- Rezone from General Residential Zone Schedule 2 to Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 4.
- Replace Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 7 with permanent Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 15.

Area 4

- Rezone area from General Residential Zone Schedule 2 to General Residential Zone Schedule 3.
- Revise the wording of Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 7.

Area 5

- Rezone from General Residential Zone Schedule 2 to General Residential Zone Schedule 3.

Area 6

- Rezone from Residential Growth Zone Schedule 3 to General Residential Zone Schedule 3.
- Revise the wording of Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 7.

Area 7

- Replace Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 7 with Design and Development Overlay Schedule 14.

Area 8

- Revise the wording of Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 7.

Area 9

- Delete Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 7.

Area 10

- Rezone from General Residential Zone Schedule 2 to Residential Growth Zone Schedule 3.
- Replace Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 7 with Design and Development Overlay Schedule 14.

Attachment 6 – Panel Report Executive Summary

Greater Geelong Planning Scheme Amendment C349 | Panel Report | 13 December 2017

Executive Summary

(i) Summary

Greater Geelong Planning Scheme Amendment C349 (the Amendment) proposes to implement the Ocean Grove Significant Tree Project Final Report 2016 and applies to land in the older part of Ocean Grove known as the Significant Tree Area and the Hillside/Coastal Fringe Area. The Amendment makes extensive use of the schedules to the Significant Landscape Overlay and Neighbourhood Residential Zone to guide the building height, site cover percentage and building setbacks for new development in these two areas.

More specifically, the Amendment seeks to:

- introduce the General Residential Zone Schedule 3
- introduce the Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 4
- introduce the Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 5
- rezone land from General Residential Zone Schedule 2 to Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 4 and 5
- introduce the Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 15
- amend the Significant Landscape Overlay 7 and the area affected
- amend the Design and Development Overlay Schedule 14 and the area affected
- amend Clause 21.14
- amend Clause 22.63.

The key issues raised in submissions deal with the restrictions introduced by the proposed controls, the impact on the potential development of sites affected by the controls and the proposed post exhibition replacement of the General Residential Zone Schedule 3 with Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 5.

Post exhibition, a number of changes were made to the exhibited Amendment. Some of these changes were in response to submissions. The most significant of these was the proposal to rezone areas of General Residential Zone Schedule 3 to Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 5. Council submitted that Amendment VC110, which was gazetted during the exhibition period of Amendment C349, altered the appropriateness of the exhibited General Residential Zone Schedule 3 and it proposed to replace the exhibited General Residential Zone Schedule 3 with the Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 5. As a consequence, Council undertook a further notification of the affected properties and a further 54 submissions were received.

The Panel has considered all submissions to the Amendment including those made to the proposed post exhibition changes as well as all submissions made during the Hearing.

The Panel concludes:

- the work on which the Ocean Grove Significant Tree Project is based provides a sound quantitative basis for the determination of zones and overlays proposed by the Amendment
- in the context of the Ocean Grove Significant Tree Project, the new schedules to the zones and overlays are appropriate

- the application of the zones and overlays is appropriate subject to the changes outlined in the report.

(ii) Recommendations

Based on the reasons set out in this Report, the Panel recommends that Greater Geelong Planning Scheme Amendment C349 be adopted as exhibited subject to the following:

1. Review the provisions and schedules of the Amendment during finalisation of the Amendment to ensure they are consistent with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes (May 2017).
2. Replace the exhibited Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 4 with the revised Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 4 submitted as part of Document 3 (Appendix C).
3. Insert a new Schedule 5 "Ocean Grove Hillside and Coastal Fringe Area" to Clause 32.09 Neighbourhood Residential Zone submitted as part of Document 3 (Appendix D)
4. Rezone areas 4, 5 and 10 from General Residential Zone Schedule 2 to Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 5.
5. Rezone Area 6 from Residential Growth Zone Schedule 3 to General Residential Zone Schedule 3
6. Replace the exhibited Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 7 with the Panel recommended Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 7 submitted as part of Document 3 (Appendix E).
7. Replace the exhibited Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 15 with the Panel recommended Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 15 Submitted as part of Document 3 (Appendix F).
8. Provide a definition of soft landscaping in the Significant Landscape Overlay Schedules 7 and 15.
9. Replace the exhibited Clause 22.14 with the Panel recommended Clause 22.14 submitted as part of Document 3 (Appendix G).
10. Replace the Ocean Grove Increased Housing Diversity Area map in Clause 22.63 with the Panel recommended Ocean Grove Increased Housing Diversity Area map submitted as part of Document 3 (Appendix H).

Attachment 7 - Amendment C349 to be adopted

Planning and Environment Act 1987

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

AMENDMENT C349

INSTRUCTION SHEET

The planning authority for this amendment is the City of Greater Geelong.

The Greater Geelong Planning Scheme is amended as follows:

Planning Scheme Maps

The Planning Scheme Maps are amended by a total of 5 attached maps sheets.

Zoning Maps

1. Amend Planning Scheme Map Nos.81 and 82 in the manner shown on the 1 attached map marked "Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, Amendment C349".

Overlay Maps

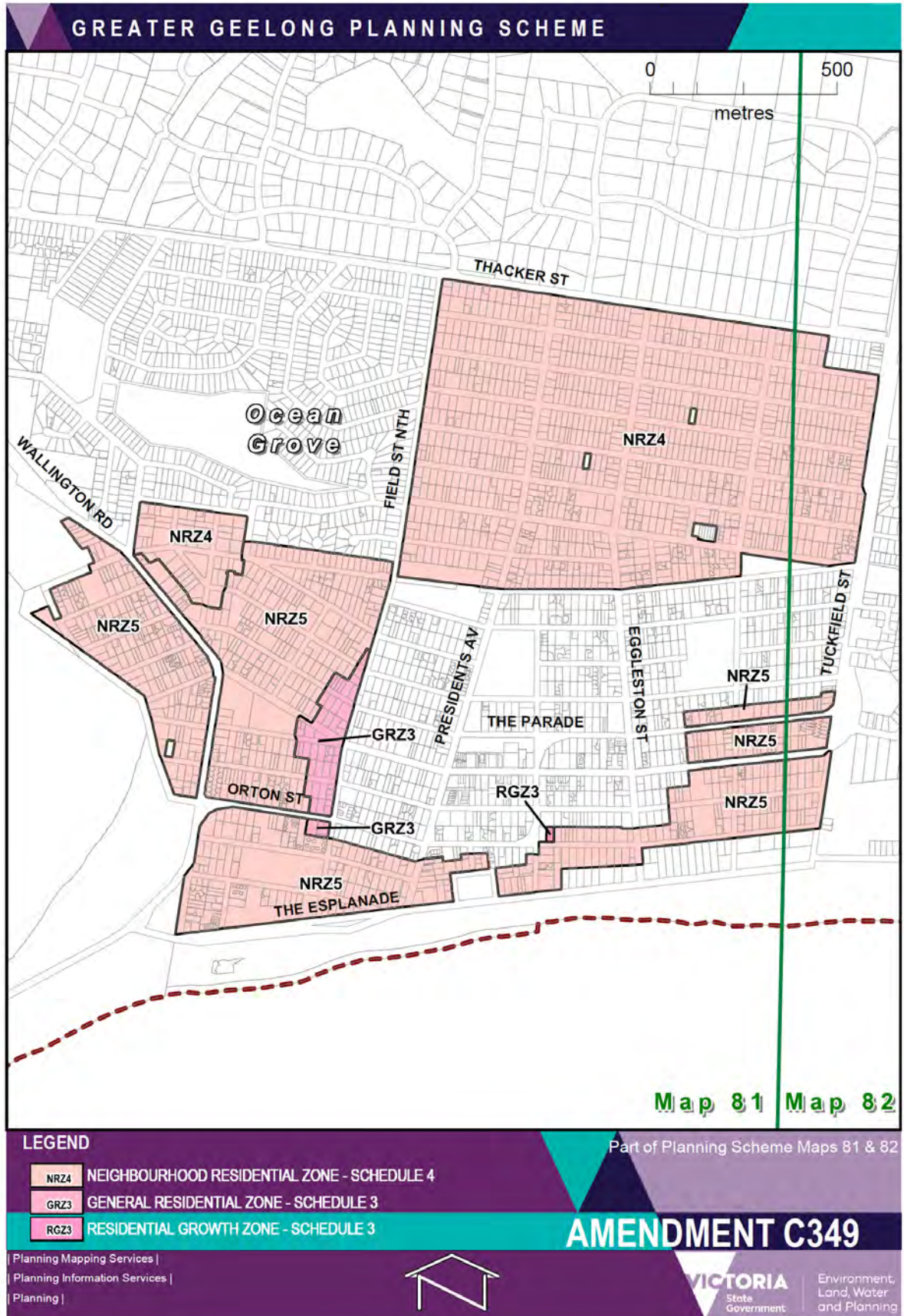
2. Amend Planning Scheme Map Nos. 81DDO14, 81SLO, 82DDO14 and 82SLO in the manner shown on the 4 attached maps marked "Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, Amendment C349".

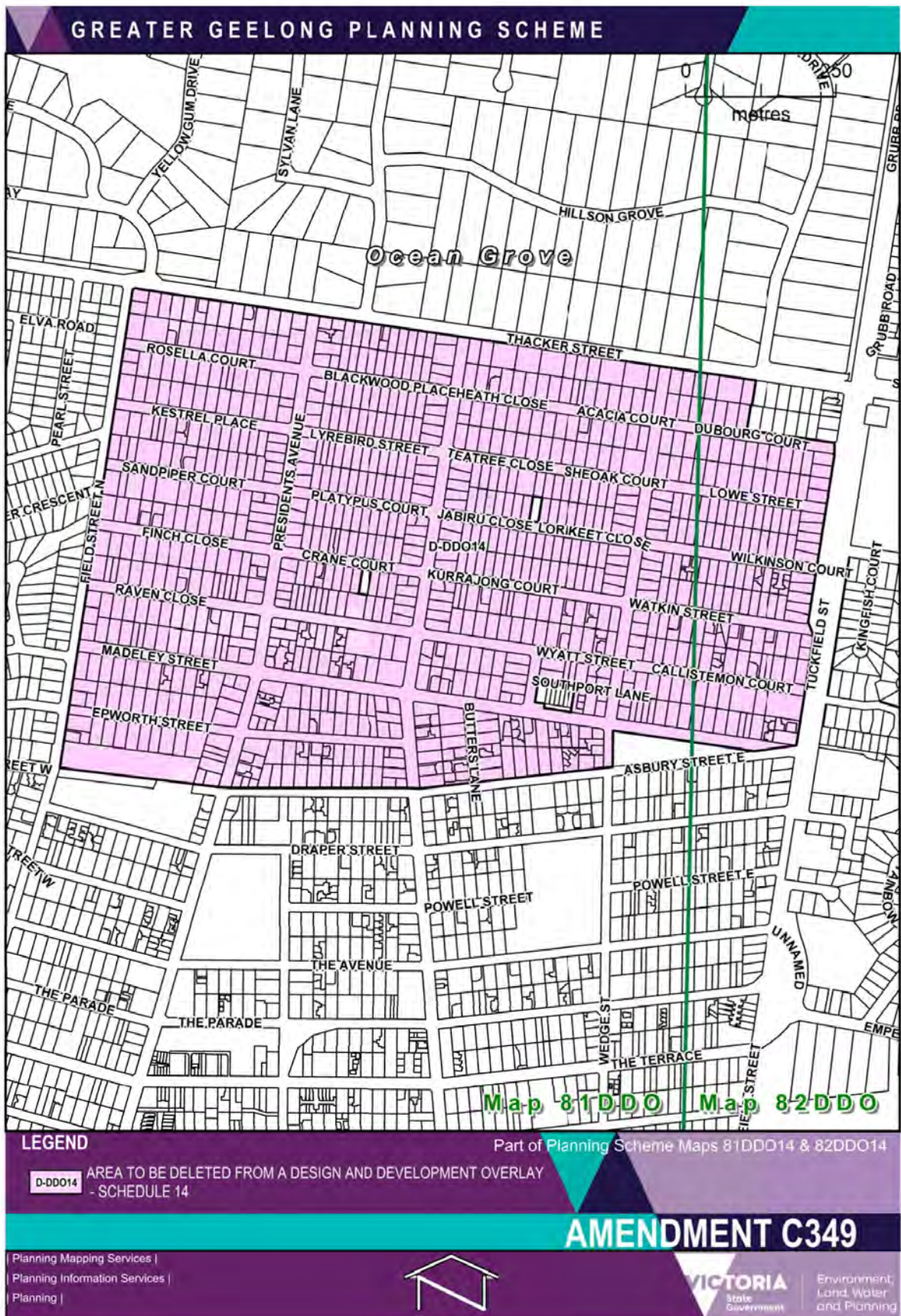
Planning Scheme Ordinance

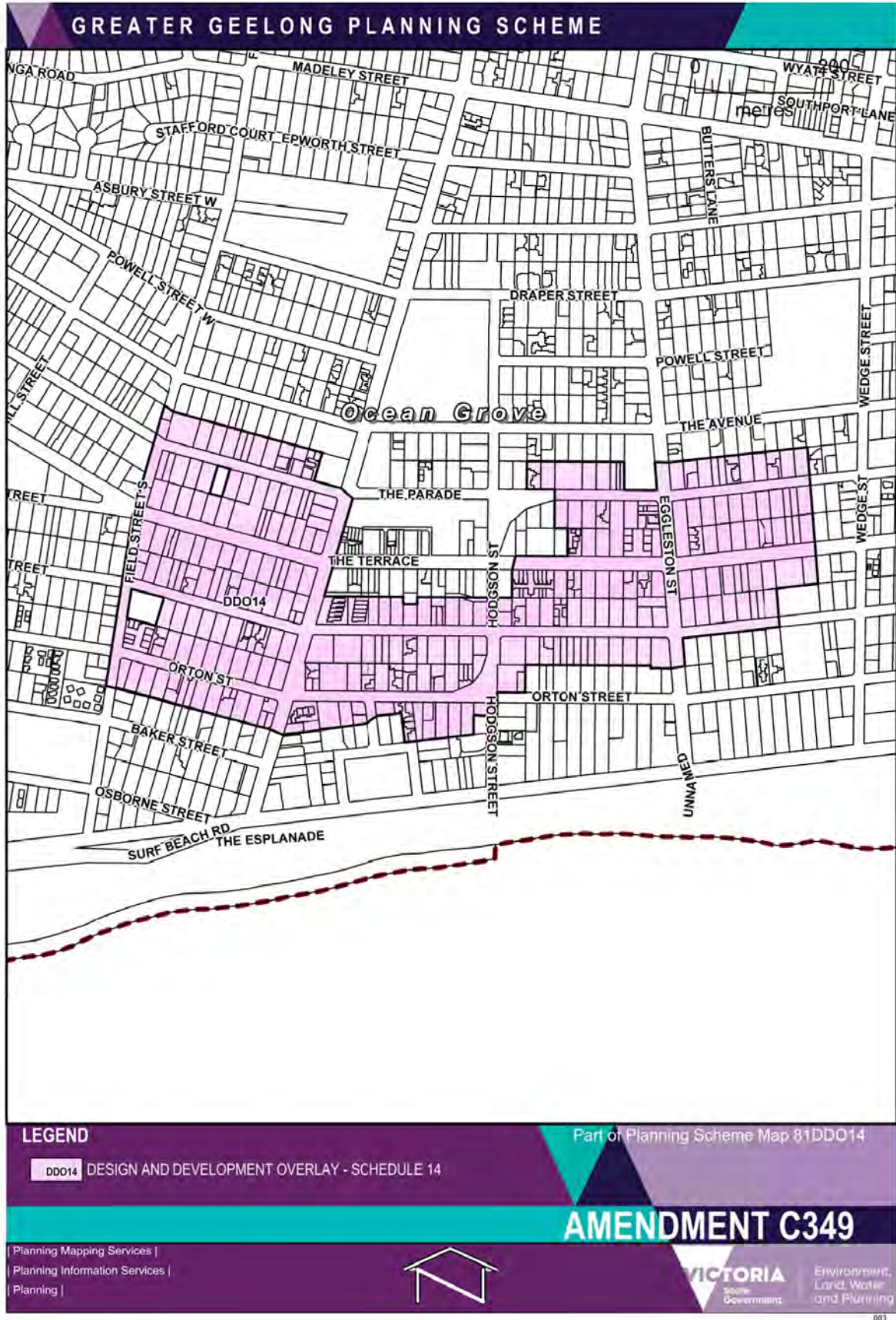
The Planning Scheme Ordinance is amended as follows:

3. In Local Planning Policy Framework – replace Clause 21.14 with a new Clause 21.14 in the form of the attached document.
4. In Local Planning Policy Framework – replace Clause 22.63 with a new Clause 22.63 in the form of the attached document.
5. In Zones – Clause 32.08, insert a new Schedule 3 in the form of the attached document.
6. In Zones – Clause 32.09, insert a new Schedule 4 in the form of the attached document.
7. In Zones – Clause 32.09, insert a new Schedule 5 in the form of the attached document.
8. In Overlays – Clause 42.03, replace Schedule 7 with a new Schedule 7 in the form of the attached document.
9. In Overlays – Clause 42.03, insert a new Schedule 15 in the form of the attached document.

End of document











GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

21.14 THE BELLARINE PENINSULA

21/12/2017

[C349 Proposed C349](#)

21.14-1 Key issues and Influences

28/01/2010

C129(Part 1)

The Bellarine Peninsula comprises a series of contained townships separated by rural and coastal areas.

The rural and coastal areas on the Bellarine Peninsula form an important non-urban break between settlements. They are highly valued for their scenic attributes, tourism function, environmental function and lifestyle appeal.

The Bellarine Peninsula is one of the fastest growing areas in the City of Greater Geelong. Population growth on the Bellarine Peninsula is being driven by the attractiveness of the peninsula as a relaxed lifestyle destination within close proximity to urban Geelong.

Appropriately managing urban growth on the Bellarine Peninsula will be critical to retaining the peninsula's identity and attributes.

21.14-2 Objectives

21/12/2017

[C349 Proposed C349](#)

- To protect and enhance the rural and coastal environment on the Bellarine Peninsula and maintain non-urban breaks between settlements.
- To facilitate the development of Ocean Grove, Drysdale/Clifton Springs and Leopold as hubs of development and service provision on the Bellarine Peninsula. In all other townships on the Bellarine Peninsula provide retail, commercial and community uses and facilities that serve the daily needs of the community and encourage street based activity.
- To provide for sustainable industrial, commercial, retail, agricultural and tourism development in designated locations, to service the wider Bellarine community.
- To preserve the individual character, identity and role of each Bellarine township.

Strategies

- Ensure that development responds to the identity and character of the individual township in which it is located.
- Protect rural and coastal environments from inappropriate urban encroachment.
- Ensure land use and development proceeds generally in accordance with the relevant Structure Plan maps included in this Clause.
- Ensure that development outside of settlement boundaries (as shown in the Structure Plan maps included in this clause) does not compromise the rural, environmental and landscape values of the non-urban breaks.
- Direct the bulk of residential growth and retail development to Ocean Grove, Drysdale/Clifton Springs and Leopold consistent with the relevant Structure Plan maps included in this clause.
- Direct bulky goods retailing and industrial development to existing and future areas as identified in Structure Plan maps included in this clause.

St Leonards:

- Support a mix of retail, commercial, community and entertainment uses within the town centre.
- Encourage development which respects the coastal landscape setting of St Leonards by:
 - Providing reasonable sharing of views of the coast and foreshore.
 - Promoting contemporary design that reflects the existing scale, setbacks, spacing, forms and materials of the buildings in the locality.

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

- Promoting contemporary design that reflects the existing scale, setbacks, spacing, forms and materials of the buildings in the locality.
- Ensuring that development allows for the protection of significant vegetation and/or planting around buildings and has minimal impact on roadside vegetation.

Ocean Grove:

- Contain urban development within the defined settlement boundary on the Structure Plan map.
- Encourage development which respects the coastal landscape setting of Ocean Grove, by:
 - Providing reasonable sharing of views of the coast and foreshore
 - Promoting contemporary design that reflects the existing scale, setbacks, spacing, forms and materials of the buildings in the locality.
 - [Ensuring that development allows for the protection of significant trees and/or planting around buildings and has minimal impact on roadside vegetation.](#)
- ~~Ensuring that development allows for protection of significant vegetation and/or planting around buildings and has minimal impact on roadside vegetation.~~ Support the continued development of the north-east growth area as shown on the Structure Plan map.
- Encourage a range of accommodation and housing options, including aged care within and adjacent to the Town Centre and other existing and proposed activity centres.
- Ensure development avoids impacts on environmental assets including the Coast, Buckley Park Foreshore Reserve, Goandra Estate, Ocean Grove Nature Reserve, Begola Wetlands, Barwon River/Lake Conneware and the Lake Victoria Wetlands.
- Ensure the Town Centre remains the primary retail centre for Ocean Grove by providing for a range of retail, business and accommodation uses.
- Ensure that the supply of car parking in the Town Centre increases commensurate with parking demands from new development.
- Preserve The Terrace as the potential long-term arterial route through the Town Centre.
- Support the development of a new Neighbourhood Activity Centre, including community uses, in the north-east growth area adjacent to Grubb Road.
- Support the development of the restricted retail and industrial precincts within the north-east growth area.
- Support the development of a strategic footpath network for the town that provides permeable and safe routes to key destinations and services,
- Where appropriate, ensure new developments assist in the establishment of a safe bicycle-pedestrian path network around the town connecting the foreshore, river, nature reserve, Grubb, Banks and Bonnyvale Roads as shown on the Structure Plan map.
- Where appropriate, ensure new development contributes to the improvement of open spaces, key pedestrian links.
- Provide for a range of appropriately scaled and located tourism accommodation and activities, including opportunities for revitalisation of existing uses.
- Support further development of existing caravan parks and accommodation uses in residential areas, particularly those close to the beach and river, to provide a broader range of accommodation type and mix.

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

- Ensure that new urban development street works and road designs contribute to the implementation of the identified primary and secondary pedestrian/cycle routes and are designed to complement the informal coastal streetscape character.

21.14-3 Implementation

19/10/2017
C349
[Proposed C349](#)

These strategies will be implemented by:

Applying Zones and overlays

Ocean Grove

Apply the Commercial 1 Zone to the surplus park at 94 The Parade.

Apply the Commercial 1 Zone to the surplus road reserve from upgrade of the Hodgson Street/The Parade intersection.

Apply the Design and Development Overlay to the Town Centre to implement the findings of the Ocean Grove Town Centre Urban Design Framework.

Apply the Design and Development Overlay to the Commercial 1 and Commercial 2 Zone precincts in the north-east growth adjacent to Grubb Road.

Apply schedule 20 to the Design and Development Overlay to the Industrial 3 Zone in the north-east growth area.

Apply the Public Acquisition Overlay to The Terrace rear laneway.

Leopold

Apply the General Residential Zone Schedule 1 and the Development Plan Overlay to land designated for future residential growth shown on the Leopold Structure Plan map included in this clause.

Apply a combination of commercial zones, a Design and Development Overlay and a Development Plan Overlay to facilitate the expansion of the Leopold Sub Regional Retail Activity Centre.

Drysdale

Apply the General Residential Zone Schedule 1 with a Development Plan Overlay based on the principles identified in the Structure Plan to Princess Street, Central Road and Oakden Road.

Support the application of the General Residential Zone Schedule 1 to identified residential infill areas with appropriate Development Plan Overlay and Developer Contribution Plan controls.

Support a joint rezoning and development application at the Curlewis Golf Club to facilitate short term tourist accommodation.

Point Lonsdale

Apply the General Residential Zone Schedule 1 with a Development Plan Overlay to the portion of the Lonsdale Golf Course shown for residential growth on the Point Lonsdale Structure Plan map at Clause 21.14-12 subject to an amendment and EES process.

Apply appropriate design and environmental overlays to areas of consistent urban and landscape character.

Rezone the Commercial Zone land on the corner of Fellows Road and Bellarine Highway to facilitate tourism development.

St Leonards

Apply the General Residential Zone Schedule 1 to Growth Areas 1 and 2.

Apply the Development Plan Overlay to Growth Area 2.

Apply the Development Contributions Plan Overlay (or an equivalent agreement with landowners) in conjunction with the rezoning of Growth Areas 1 and 2.

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

Further work

Review township structure plans as scheduled (in structure plans) to meet emerging needs of communities.

Review the planning framework for land identified in the Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study as regionally significant in the south west of the Bellarine Peninsula to ensure the protection of landscape values is adequately addressed.

Undertake a strategic assessment to identify aged care needs across the Bellarine Peninsula, identifying design options and guidance to encourage older people to remain in their homes for as long as possible through adaptable housing design.

Point Lonsdale

Work with the Borough of Queenscliff to address climate change issues in Point Lonsdale and implement any relevant outcomes.

Prepare detailed streetscape design plans for designated primary and secondary routes as identified in the Point Lonsdale Structure Plan.

Investigate opportunities to establish a railway station-transport interchange precinct to link with the Queenscliff tourist railway service.

Portarlington

Support Parks Victoria Safe Harbour Project, including ensuring appropriate integration with the adjacent foreshore reserve and Town Centre.

Ocean Grove

~~Review the application of Schedule 7 to the Significant Landscape Overlay.~~

~~Undertake a review of the older parts of the town as identified on the Structure Plan map to investigate the introduction of new planning overlay controls to protect important landscape and built form attributes.~~

Work with VicRoads to prepare a network operating plan (SmartRoads) for the town.

Review the Structure Plan including an assessment of long term growth options (both infill and settlement expansion) for Ocean Grove by no later than 2021. The assessment should include consideration of:

- land to the north, north-west and east of Ocean Grove.
- the role of Ocean Grove as a district town.
- other planned growth on the Bellarine Peninsula.
- development trends, lot supply and housing capacity within the settlement boundary.
- the desirability of providing a diversity of living options.
- physical and environmental constraints, including the importance of protecting the biodiversity values of the Nature Reserve and maintaining a rural break between settlements.
- the protection of landscape values and implications for the character of approaches to Ocean Grove township along the Bellarine Highway, Grubb Road and Wallington Road.
- the implications for significant agricultural uses and their employment generating potential.
- whether any adjustments to the settlement boundary are required.

Leopold

Implement the Leopold Activity Centre Urban Design Framework, 2011.

Undertake further assessment of sites nominated as "Urban Consolidation" in the plan attached to this Clause.

Undertake a Flood Study to introduce controls over areas identified appropriate for Floodway Overlay (FO) or Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO).

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

22.63 INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS

13/11/2014 **C300**
[Proposed C349](#)

This policy applies to all residential land located in Increased Housing Diversity Areas as shown in the maps included in this clause.

Policy Basis

This policy provides guidance on development in Council's Increased Housing Diversity Areas (IHDA). IHDAs have been identified around activity centres and have significant capacity to accommodate residential growth and increased housing diversity. These areas can provide residents local shopping needs and/or are serviced by public transport. New development in these areas should encourage walking by residents and discourage reliance on cars for all trips.

Medium density housing can have a greater impact on neighbourhood character than traditional detached housing. As housing density intensifies, it is important that design quality improves to ensure a positive contribution to the neighbourhood.

Redevelopment of existing housing stock should be well designed, site responsive, contemporary medium density housing. This will lead to an intensification of development patterns overtime. The intensity of redevelopment will be highest around the activity centre core and lower at the edge of the IHDA.

Instead of applying a 'one size fits all' approach, medium density development should be achieved through a range of housing typologies that best reflect the local context. Increased residential densities will be achieved through a mix of different building forms and scales. New housing in the form of units, townhouses, terrace housing and apartments will depart from traditional detached housing. In doing so it will respond to unique characteristics of an area such as heritage, significant vegetation, topography and views, which may reduce the development potential.

For areas of heritage significance, new development should balance the preservation and restoration of the identified heritage place and other opportunities for new housing.

Housing should also meet the needs of a diverse range of future residents including the demand for smaller, low maintenance households and tourist accommodation.

Objectives

- To evolve the character of these areas through more intensive development.
- To ensure that the density, mass and scale of residential development is appropriate to the location, role and character of the specific IHDA.
- To ensure development makes a positive architectural and urban design contribution to the IHDA.
- To promote a diversity of housing types to cater to a variety of lifestyle needs.
- To promote walking trips and pedestrian safety within the IHDAs.
- To ensure that streetscape character in heritage areas is maintained.
- To encourage new development to provide a high level of on-site amenity for future residents.

Policy

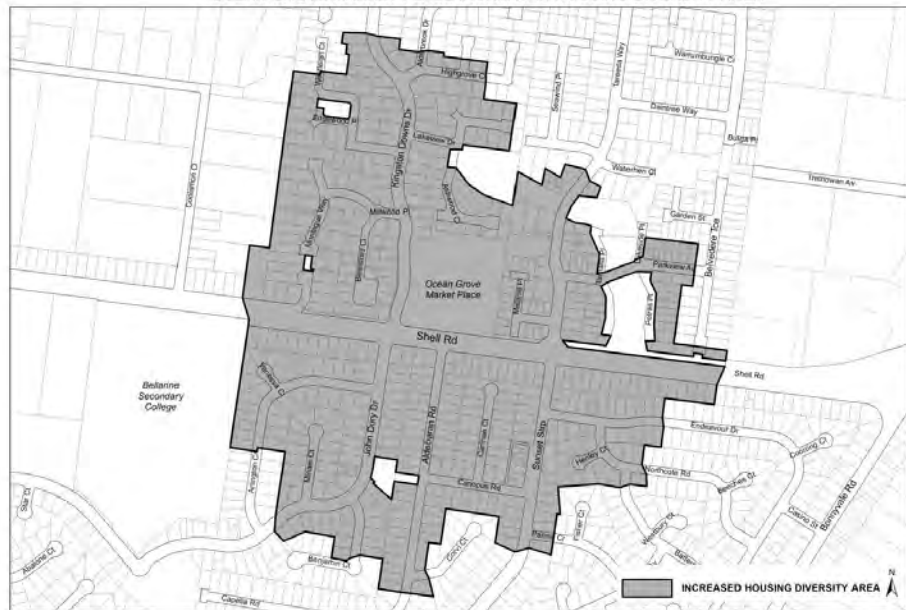
It is policy that development within each of the Increased Housing Diversity Areas responds positively to the relevant matters set out in this policy.

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

OCEAN GROVE INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



OCEAN GROVE MARKET PLACE INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

SCHEDULE 3 TO CLAUSE 32.08 GENERAL RESIDENTIAL ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **GRZ3**.

OCEAN GROVE HILLSIDE – FIELD STREET SOUTH AREA

1.0 Neighbourhood character objectives

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

- To provide a balance between vegetation and built form such that development sits within a vegetated setting.
- To promote vegetated streetscapes where the vegetation acts to filter and soften the appearance of buildings and hard surface areas.
- To provide adequate space in new developments for the retention of existing significant trees wherever practicable and for the planting of new trees.

2.0 Permit requirement for the construction or extension of one dwelling or a fence associated with a dwelling on a lot

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

Is a permit required to construct or extend one dwelling on a lot of between 300 and 500 square metres?

No

Is a permit required to construct or extend a front fence within 3 metres of a street associated with a dwelling on a lot of between 300 and 500 square metres?

No

3.0 Requirements of Clause 54 and Clause 55

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

	Standard	Requirement
Minimum street setback	A3 and B6	None specified
Site coverage	A5 and B8	50%
Permeability	A6 and B9	None specified
Landscaping	B13	At least 30% of the site is available for landscaping. Two canopy trees (indigenous and/or Australian native) per site (parent lot).
Side and rear setbacks	A10 and B17	None specified
Walls on boundaries	A11 and B18	None specified
Private open space	A17	An area of 60 square metres, with one part of the private open space to consist of secluded private open space at the side or rear of the dwelling or residential building with minimum area of 40 square metres, a minimum dimension of 5 metres and convenient access from a living room. It cannot include a balcony or roof top terrace.

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

	Standard	Requirement
	B28	An area of 60 square metres, with one part of the private open space to consist of secluded private open space at the side or rear of the dwelling or residential building with minimum area of 40 square metres, a minimum dimension of 5 metres and convenient access from a living room. It cannot include a balcony or roof top terrace.
Front fence height	A20 and B32	None specified

4.0 Maximum building height requirement for a dwelling or residential building

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

None specified.

5.0 Application requirements

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.08, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.08 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- When any of the lots being created by a subdivision are less than 500 square metres, a subdivision application must be accompanied by a development application or approved planning permit plans for the site for the construction of the dwellings.

6.0 Decision guidelines

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.08, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.08 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- Whether the landscaping requirement can be met by including existing trees that are considered worthy of retention.
- Whether the development provides for adequate landscaping opportunities.
- Whether a subdivision proposal has sufficient land area and minimum dimensions to be in keeping with the surrounding subdivision and development patterns.

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

SCHEDULE 4 TO CLAUSE 32.09 NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTIAL ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **NRZ4**.

OCEAN GROVE SIGNIFICANT TREE AREA

1.0 Neighbourhood character objectives

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

- To maintain the unique spacious bush garden character of the area distinguished by the high number of significant Australian native trees.
- To encourage development that sits within a vegetated setting.
- To maintain vegetated streetscapes where the vegetation acts to filter and soften the appearance of buildings and hard surface areas.
- To provide adequate space in new developments for the retention of existing significant trees wherever practicable and for the planting of new canopy trees.

2.0 Minimum subdivision area

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

None specified.

3.0 Permit requirement for the construction or extension of one dwelling or a fence associated with a dwelling on a lot

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

Requirement	
Permit requirement for the construction or extension of one dwelling on a lot	None specified
Permit requirement to construct or extend a front fence within 3 metres of a street associated with a dwelling on a lot	None specified

4.0 Requirements of Clause 54 and Clause 55

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

	Standard	Requirement
Minimum street setback	A3 and B6	None specified
Site coverage	A5 and B8	40%
Permeability	A6 and B9	None specified
Landscaping	B13	At least 40% of the site is available for landscaping. Two canopy trees (indigenous and/or Australian native) per site (parent lot).
Side and rear setbacks	A10 and B17	None specified
Walls on boundaries	A11 and B18	None specified

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

	Standard	Requirement
Private open space	A17	An area of 60 square metres, with one part of the private open space to consist of secluded private open space at the side or rear of the dwelling or residential building with a minimum area of 40 square metres, a minimum dimension of 5 metres and convenient access from a living room.
	B28	An area of 60 square metres, with one part of the private open space to consist of secluded private open space at the side or rear of the dwelling or residential building with a minimum area of 40 square metres, a minimum dimension of 5 metres and convenient access from a living room.
Front fence height	A20 and B32	None specified

5.0 Maximum building height requirement for a dwelling or residential building

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

None specified.

6.0 Application requirements

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- When any of the lots being created by a subdivision are less than 500 square metres, a subdivision application must be accompanied by a development application or approved planning permit plans for the site for the construction of the dwellings.

7.0 Decision guidelines

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- Whether the landscaping requirement can be met by including existing trees that are considered worthy of retention.
- Whether new lots and developments are of a spacious nature and allow for a design that is respectful of neighbourhood character.
- Whether the development provides for adequate landscaping opportunities.
- Whether a subdivision proposal has sufficient land area and minimum dimensions to be in keeping with the surrounding subdivision and development patterns.

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

SCHEDULE 5 TO CLAUSE 32.09 NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTIAL ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **NRZ5**.

OCEAN GROVE HILLSIDE AND COASTAL FRINGE AREA

1.0 Neighbourhood character objectives

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

- To provide a balance between vegetation and built form such that development sits within a vegetated setting.
- To promote vegetated streetscapes where the vegetation acts to filter and soften the appearance of buildings and hard surface areas.
- To provide adequate space in new developments for the retention of existing significant trees wherever practicable and for the planting of new trees.

2.0 Minimum subdivision area

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

None specified.

3.0 Permit requirement for the construction or extension of one dwelling or a fence associated with a dwelling on a lot

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

Requirement	
Permit requirement for the construction or extension of one dwelling on a lot	None specified
Permit requirement to construct or extend a front fence within 3 metres of a street associated with a dwelling on a lot	None specified

4.0 Requirements of Clause 54 and Clause 55

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

	Standard	Requirement
Minimum street setback	A3 and B6	None specified
Site coverage	A5 and B8	50%
Permeability	A6 and B9	None specified
Landscaping	B13	At least 30% of the site is available for landscaping. Two canopy trees (indigenous and/or Australian native) per site (parent lot).
Side and rear setbacks	A10 and B17	None specified
Walls on boundaries	A11 and B18	None specified

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

	Standard	Requirement
Private open space	A17	An area of 60 square metres, with one part of the private open space to consist of secluded private open space at the side or rear of the dwelling or residential building with a minimum area of 40 square metres, a minimum dimension of 5 metres and convenient access from a living room. It cannot include a balcony or roof top terrace.
	B28	An area of 60 square metres, with one part of the private open space to consist of secluded private open space at the side or rear of the dwelling or residential building with a minimum area of 40 square metres, a minimum dimension of 5 metres and convenient access from a living room. It cannot include a balcony or roof top terrace.
Front fence height	A20 and B32	None specified

5.0 Maximum building height requirement for a dwelling or residential building

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

A building used as a dwelling or a residential building must not exceed a height of 9 metres and 3 storeys.

6.0 Application requirements

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- When any of the lots being created by a subdivision are less than 500 square metres, a subdivision application must be accompanied by a development application or approved planning permit plans for the site for the construction of the dwellings.

7.0 Decision guidelines

DD/MM/YYYY
 Proposed C349

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- Whether the landscaping requirement can be met by including existing trees that are considered worthy of retention.
- Whether the development provides for adequate landscaping opportunities.
- Whether a subdivision proposal has sufficient land area and minimum dimensions to be in keeping with the surrounding subdivision and development patterns.

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

13/11/2014
C300
Proposed C349

SCHEDULE 7 TO ~~THE~~CLAUSE 42.03 SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **SLO7**.

OCEAN GROVE ~~COASTAL~~HILLSIDE AREA

1.0 Statement of nature and key elements of landscape

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~~Ocean Grove is an important and growing coastal township located on a hillside extending to a popular ocean surf beach. The landscape character of the township and its vulnerability due to substantial development occurring in recent years has been identified by Council and the community as an important planning consideration. An important characteristic of the township is the balance between roof tops and vegetation when viewed from a distance. While roof tops are visible, the buildings are separated by tea-tree and other coastal species. It is the vision of the township to retain and strengthen this balance.~~

~~In addition, the topography of Ocean Grove has encouraged development that seeks to maximise views. Part of the landscape character of Ocean Grove that is valued by the local community is the ability to view the ocean and/or the Barwon River from numerous points in public areas and from private dwellings. Respect for the sharing of views, rather than necessarily the retention of all existing views, is therefore an important characteristic of this coastal town.~~

~~Other landscape elements of particular importance in Ocean Grove include the allocation of sufficient space for the planting and retention of vegetation, and building height that does not dominate the streetscape and long distance views.~~

Ocean Grove is a growing coastal township located on a hillside extending to a popular ocean surf beach. Areas of public and private land within established Ocean Grove support a mix of remnant coastal and grassy woodland vegetation, indigenous and planted Australian natives which contribute to the unique coastal and vegetated character of the area, including providing a balance between roof tops and vegetation in long distance views of the township.

The area generally south of Orton Street on the dunes includes examples of remnant vegetation representing a mix of coastal dune and alkaline scrub vegetation classes, potentially supporting remnants of the Coastal Moonah Woodland vegetation community, with species such as Moonah (*Melaleuca lanceolata subsp. lanceolata*) and Coastal Tea-tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*) along with planted Australian natives.

The area generally north of Orton Street on the hillside includes examples of remnant vegetation from the grassy woodland vegetation class which includes the threatened Bellarine Yellow-gum *Eucalyptus leucoxylon subsp. bellarinensis* which is endemic to the Bellarine Peninsula and Surf Coast. The retention of these trees is important for the ongoing survival of the species.

The incremental loss of trees and the provision of inadequate space for the re-establishment of trees around buildings are having a major impact on the landscape character of the area.

The preferred character for this area includes achieving vegetated streetscapes, and a balance between landscape and built form where buildings sit within a landscaped setting. Vegetation, in particular, trees, is required to soften the impact of buildings and hard surfaces in the environment. There are examples of development where this balance has not been achieved and buildings dominate the site and streetscape. While these developments form part of the character of the area, they do not represent the preferred character.

The retention of and ability to plant screening vegetation along boundaries and fronting the street and building height and bulk that do not dominate the streetscape, neighbouring properties and long distance views are all important landscape elements.

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The hillside topography has encouraged development that seeks to maximise views. Part of the landscape character of Ocean Grove that is valued by the local community is the ability to view the ocean and/or the Barwon River from numerous points in public areas and from private dwellings. Respect for the sharing of views, rather than necessarily the retention of all existing views, is therefore an important characteristic of this coastal town.

For the purposes of this Schedule, a significant tree is any Australian native tree 3 or more metres in height.

2.0 Landscape character objective to be achieved

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- ~~▪ To preserve the balance between roof tops and vegetation in long distance views of the town.~~
- ~~▪ To encourage the development of buildings that fit within the landscape and do not dominate the streetscape and long distance views.~~
- ~~▪ To minimise the impact of buildings projecting above the vegetation canopy.~~
- ~~▪ To provide space at the front, side and rear of buildings for the retention and planting of vegetation, particularly high canopied coastal vegetation and other native coastal species common to the area.~~
- ~~▪ To maximise opportunities for view sharing, particularly where views are available to the ocean and river from private dwellings.~~
- ~~▪ To protect vistas of the ocean and river available from public viewing points in the town.~~

To enhance the coastal character and environmental qualities of the area including the balance between buildings, vegetation and sea views by minimising the loss of Australian native vegetation and ensuring developments sit within a landscaped setting, with a focus on Australian native trees which will soften the visual impact of buildings and hard surfaces so that they do not dominate views from adjoining properties, the streetscape or long distance views.

3.0 Permit requirement

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A permit is not required to construct a building or construct or carry out works provided all of the following requirements are met:

- ~~▪ The height of any part of the building, excluding any television antenna, chimney or flue, is less than 7.5 metres above natural ground level.~~
- ~~▪ No more than 70% of the site is covered by buildings and impervious hard surfaces including driveways, paving, decks, crushed rock, swimming pools or tennis courts.~~
- ~~▪ The location of an outbuilding or garage normal to a dwelling is behind the front building line of the dwelling.~~
- ~~▪ At least 30 per cent of the site is not covered by buildings or impervious surfaces including driveways, paving, swimming pools or tennis courts available (free from hard surfaces) for soft landscaping (i.e. areas of natural ground surface set aside for vegetation).~~
- ~~▪ Proposed buildings are set back a minimum of 2 metres from one side boundary.~~
- ~~▪ There is only one dwelling on the lot.~~

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop a tree. ~~This does not apply to vegetation except where one of the following requirements are met:~~

- ~~▪ Australian native trees less than 3 metres in height.~~

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- ~~Exotic trees.~~
- ~~The vegetation is~~ A tree listed within the incorporated document *Environmental Weeds*, City of Greater Geelong, September 2008 except Coastal Tea-tree *Leptospermum laevigatum*, which contributes to the coastal character of this area ~~where tea tree is indigenous to the area.~~
- ~~Pruning a tree to improve its health or appearance, provided its normal growth habit is not retarded.~~
- ~~A tree that presents an immediate risk of personal injury or damage to property, if only that part of the tree which presents the immediate risk is removed, destroyed or lopped.~~
- ~~Pruning a tree to remove any branch that overhangs an existing dwelling or is within 2 metres of an existing dwelling.~~
- ~~The vegetation~~ A tree that is dead.
- ~~Maintaining a Minor Utility Installation to the minimum extent necessary by the relevant authority.~~
- ~~Works carried out in accordance with the Geelong Street Tree Policy by or on behalf of the responsible authority.~~
- ~~The vegetation is less than 4 metres in height and is not shown on an approved landscape plan or site plan specifying its retention or the vegetation has a single trunk circumference of less than 0.5 metres measured 1 metre above the ground and is not shown on an approved landscape plan or site plan specifying its retention.~~

~~A landscaping plan should be submitted with an application for buildings and works, or to remove, destroy or lop vegetation, and should incorporate the use of local indigenous species.~~

4.0

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~~Application Requirements~~ Transitional arrangement

~~A schedule of construction materials, external finishes and colours (incorporating samples).~~

~~A Design Response which shows the development in relation to:~~

- ~~The levels of the site and the difference in levels between the site, finished floor levels and surrounding properties;~~
- ~~Location of the proposed building(s) on the site and on surrounding properties;~~
- ~~The use of surrounding buildings;~~
- ~~Location of significant trees existing on the site and any significant trees removed;~~
- ~~Views to and from the site;~~
- ~~Any other notable features or characteristics of the site.~~

~~A view impact analysis should be submitted when the proposed development is likely to impact on views to significant landscape features. The view impact analysis should demonstrate how the design objectives to achieve a reasonable sharing of views have been met, having regard to topography, siting, height and visual bulk.~~

The requirements of this overlay do not apply to any planning permit application received by the responsible authority before the approval date of the amendment that introduced this revised Schedule to Clause 42.03 into the scheme.

5.0

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Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application the responsible authority must consider The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.03, in addition to

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those specified in Clause 42.03 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The siting and design of buildings to achieve a reasonable sharing of views between properties ~~with~~ significant landscape features having particular regard to the following:
 - The impact of the proposed buildings and works on the view from another property as a result of the design, siting, height, size, bulk (including the roof), and colour of the building.
 - Whether opportunities exist to avoid a building being visually obtrusive by the use of alternative building designs, including split level and staggered building forms, that follow the natural slope of the land and reduce the need for site excavation or filling.
 - The opportunity for a reasonable sharing of views having regard to the extent of the available view(s) and the significance of the view(s) from the properties affected.
- Whether a view impact analysis has been submitted for any proposed development over 7.5 metres in height that is likely to impact on views to significant landscape features, and whether that view impact analysis has demonstrated how a reasonable sharing of views has been achieved, having regard to topography, siting, height and visual bulk.
- Whether a design response plan has been submitted with the permit that shows:
 - The levels of the site and the difference in levels between the site, finished floor levels and surrounding properties.
 - Location of the proposed building(s) on the site and on surrounding properties.
 - The use of surrounding buildings.
 - Location of significant trees existing on the site and any significant trees removed.
 - Details of significant trees within 3 metres of the subject site boundary on any adjoining property.
 - Location and canopy size of street trees adjacent to the site.
 - Views to and from the site.
 - Any other notable features or characteristics of the site.
- Whether a schedule of construction materials, external finishes and colours (incorporating samples) has been submitted with any application for buildings and works.
- Whether a vegetated setting is reinforced or reinstated as part of the development.
- Whether the siting and footprint of buildings and availability of areas not covered by ~~impervious~~ hard surfaces enables the retention of adequate vegetation and space for new canopy trees ~~provides sufficient area for the planting of vegetation, particularly high canopied vegetation that contributes to the overall character of Ocean Grove.~~
 - Whether hard surfaces like driveways have been minimised.
 - Whether setbacks can be varied to minimise the removal of native/indigenous trees.
 - Whether a landscaping plan has been submitted with any application for buildings and works, or to remove, destroy or lop a tree, that incorporates at

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- least 2 canopy trees per site (parent lot) and the use of local indigenous or other Australian native species.
- Whether a report from a suitably qualified arborist has been submitted with any application for buildings and works within the drip line of a significant tree on the subject or adjoining land that shows how the tree will be managed during construction.
- Whether a report from a suitably qualified arborist has been submitted with any application to remove, destroy or lop a significant tree that:
 - Includes a site plan (drawn to scale) showing the boundaries of the site, existing and proposed buildings and works, existing vegetation and the tree(s) to be removed.
 - Includes details of trees within 3 metres of the subject site boundary on any adjoining property.
 - Describes the tree(s) to be removed, including the genus, species, extent, number, height, health and quality of the tree(s) to be removed.
 - Specifies the purpose of the proposed removal, destruction or lopping of the tree(s).
 - Justifies removal and demonstrates that the extent of removal, destruction or lopping has been reduced as much as is reasonable and practicable.
 - Nominates tree protection zones where proposed development could impact on the tree root systems, canopy and overall health and appearance of trees.
 - Provides a vegetation management plan for the construction period.
- Whether the removal, lopping, and/or destruction of tree(s) that contribute to the screening of development from property boundaries and the street has been avoided.
- The size, species, age and health of existing tree(s)~~vegetation~~ proposed to be removed, destroyed or lopped and the size, species and growth characteristics of any proposed replacement tree(s)~~vegetation~~.
- Whether there is a valid~~The reasons~~ for removing the tree(s) and the practicalities of alternative options to removal have been fully explored such as changing the building footprint and/or lopping or trimming tree(s) that do not require removal of any trees.
- The effect of constructing a building or constructing or carrying out works on the root system, canopy and overall health and appearance of any trees.
- Whether any street trees will need to be removed or detrimentally affected.
- ~~The impact of a specified flood level on the overall height of a building.~~

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

DD/MM/YYYY
Proposed C349

SCHEDULE 15 TO CLAUSE 42.03 SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **SLO15**.

OCEAN GROVE SIGNIFICANT TREE RESIDENTIAL AREA

1.0 Statement of nature and key elements of landscape

DD/MM/YYYY
Proposed C349

This precinct within Ocean Grove is distinctive due to the high number of significant canopy trees (indigenous and other Australian native) located on both public and private land. These trees are a dominant feature of the neighbourhood with buildings nestled within spacious bush garden settings.

Dwellings in the area generally sit below the tree canopy and are characterised by low density and scale, detached housing surrounded by generous areas of open space capable of accommodating significant and multiple canopy trees.

Vegetation includes the threatened Bellarine Yellow-gum *Eucalyptus leucoxylon subsp. bellarinensis* which are endemic to the Bellarine Peninsula and Surf Coast. The residential streetscape and private gardens within the precinct support a large component of the remnant Bellarine Yellow-gum population. The retention of these trees is important for the ongoing survival of the species.

The incremental loss of significant indigenous and other Australian native canopy trees has the potential to change the character of the area over time. The retention of existing and establishment of new canopy trees by ensuring a reasonable proportion of the site is free from buildings and hard surfaces will help integrate and reduce the impact of new development on neighbourhood character.

For the purposes of this Schedule, a significant tree is any Australian native tree 3 or more metres in height.

2.0 Landscape character objective to be achieved

DD/MM/YYYY
Proposed C349

To enhance the spacious bush garden character of the area characterised by unobtrusive buildings and the dominance of established Australian native canopy trees by protecting significant Australian native or indigenous canopy trees, minimising the impact of development or works on these trees, and providing adequate space for replacement and new trees, particularly locally indigenous trees.

3.0 Permit requirement

DD/MM/YYYY
Proposed C349

A permit is not required to construct a building or construct or carry out works provided all of the following requirements are met:

- No more than 60% of the site is covered by buildings and impervious/hard surfaces including driveways, paving, decks, crushed rock, swimming pools or tennis courts.
- At least 40% of the site is available (free from hard surfaces) for soft landscaping (i.e. areas of natural ground surface set aside for vegetation).
- Proposed buildings are setback a minimum of 2 metres from one side boundary.
- There is only one dwelling on the lot.
- Works are not being carried out within the drip line (outer edge of tree canopy) of a significant tree including a significant tree on an adjoining property or nature strip.

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop a tree. This does not apply to:

- Australian native trees less than 3 metres in height.
- Exotic trees.

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- A tree listed within the incorporated document Environmental Weeds, City of Greater Geelong, September 2008.
- Pruning a tree to improve its health or appearance, provided its normal growth habit is not retarded.
- A tree that presents an immediate risk of personal injury or damage to property, if only that part of the tree which presents the immediate risk is removed, destroyed or lopped.
- Pruning or lopping a tree to remove any branch that overhangs an existing dwelling or is within 2 metres of an existing dwelling.
- A tree that is dead.
- Maintaining a Minor Utility Installation to the minimum extent necessary by the relevant authority.
- Works carried out in accordance with the Geelong Street Tree Policy by or on behalf of the responsible authority.

4.0 Transitional arrangement

DD/MM/YYYY
Proposed C349

The requirements of this overlay do not apply to any planning permit application received by the responsible authority before the approval date of the amendment that introduced this schedule to Clause 42.03 into the scheme.

5.0 Decision guidelines

DD/MM/YYYY
Proposed C349

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.03, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.03 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- Whether buildings sit within a treed garden setting.
- Whether a design response plan has been submitted with any permit for buildings and works that shows:
 - Location of existing building(s) on the site and on surrounding properties.
 - The use of surrounding buildings.
 - Location of significant trees existing on the site and any significant trees removed.
 - Details of significant trees within 3 metres of the subject site boundary on any adjoining property.
 - Location and canopy size of street trees adjacent to the site.
 - Views to and from the site.
 - Any other notable features or characteristics of the site.
- Whether a report from a suitably qualified arborist has been submitted with any application for buildings and works within the drip line of a significant tree on the subject or adjoining land that shows how the tree will be managed during construction.
- Whether the siting and footprint of buildings and availability of areas not covered by impervious surfaces enables the retention of significant trees and planting of new canopy trees.
- The effect of constructing a building or constructing or carrying out works on the root system, canopy and overall health and appearance of any trees.
- Whether any street trees will need to be removed or detrimentally affected.
- Whether a landscaping plan has been submitted with any application, that incorporates at least 2 canopy trees per site (parent lot) and the use of local indigenous or other Australian native species.
- Whether new trees are consistent with the character of existing vegetation, whether new trees have sufficient space to reach maturity and the proportion of

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new trees that would be semi-advanced or advanced in size at the time of planting.

- Whether a report from a suitably qualified arborist has been submitted with any application to remove, destroy or lop a significant tree that:
 - Includes a site plan (drawn to scale) showing the boundaries of the site, existing and proposed buildings and works, existing vegetation and the tree(s) to be removed.
 - Includes details of trees within 3 metres of the subject site boundary on any adjoining property.
 - Describes the tree(s) to be removed, including the genus, species, extent, number, height, health and quality of the tree(s) to be removed.
 - Specifies the purpose of the proposed removal, destruction or lopping of the tree(s).
 - Justifies removal and demonstrates that the extent of removal, destruction or lopping has been reduced as much as is reasonable and practicable including investigation of alternative development options which do not require removal of the tree(s).
 - Nominates tree protection zones where proposed development could impact on the tree root systems, canopy and overall health and appearance of trees.
 - Provides a vegetation management plan for the construction period.
- The need to retain a significant tree(s) due to its/their species, age, health, growth characteristics and/or contribution to neighbourhood character.
- The size, species, age and health of existing tree(s) proposed to be removed, destroyed or lopped and the size, species and growth characteristics of any proposed replacement tree(s).
- Whether there is a valid reason for removing the tree(s) and alternative options to removal have been fully explored, such as changing the building footprint and/or lopping or trimming tree(s).

2. AMENDMENT C353 BECKLEY PARK, CORIO - AMENDMENT TO SCHEDULE 4 TO THE SPECIAL USE ZONE, ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT

Source: Planning and Development – Strategic implementation
Director: Kelvin Walsh
Index Reference: Amendment C353

Purpose

To consider the submissions received following the exhibition of Amendment C353 and to adopt the Amendment.

Background

A Planning Scheme Amendment application has been made by Jewell Partnership acting on behalf of TOM Assets and Beckley Park Committee of Management. It seeks to amend Schedule 4 of the Special Use zone to enable a permit to be considered for major promotional signage. The Committee of Management has obtained the agreement of the Land Management Policy section of Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP) to make this application. Promotional signage can carry a range of commercial, not for profit or government agency (eg. TAC, VicHealth) messaging and would be unlikely to advertise Beckley Park events.

This application arose out of recommendations of the Beckley Park Working Group, chaired by the previous Member for Western Victoria with representatives of Beckley Park users, Committee of Management and Council with observers from various Government Departments. The Working Group met during 2012-2014 to investigate options to improve the on-going financial sustainability of the facility, which operates on Crown Land. The Working Group was made aware of the requirements of the planning scheme amendment process.

Beckley Park is the home of Geelong Harness Racing club, Geelong Greyhound Racing club, Geelong Karting club and Beckley Park Community Market. In the words of the applicant, the proposed signs “will provide revenue and the funds can be used to offset operating costs and support future development works at Beckley Park”.

Key Issues

The amendment was exhibited between 13 July 2017 and 14 August 2017, with two submissions being received, from VicRoads and the DELWP, neither of which objected to the Amendment as exhibited.

The key issue is that on the one hand there is potential high visual impact of the proposed signs at the city’s major northern entrance whilst on the other there is an opportunity to provide the Committee of Management with important operating revenue.

On balance, this report recommends the report be adopted.

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Grzybek seconded -

That Council:

- 1) adopts the exhibited Amendment C353, as contained in Attachment 2 to this report; and**
- 2) submits the adopted Amendment and prescribed information to the Minister.**

Carried.

Attachment 1

Discussion

Beckley Park is situated at a high-profile location which makes it an attractive site for large scale outdoor advertising. On approaching Geelong from the direction of Melbourne, Beckley Park marks the entrance to the city's northern suburbs. At this location large promotional signs similar in nature to the one at Avalon Airport will be clearly visible to all road users coming to or leaving Geelong.

This amendment is being sought because major promotional signs are prohibited under the current provisions of Schedule 4 to the Special Use Zone. The Special Use Zone provisions at Clause 37.10-5 apply the Category 3 set of controls to advertising signs, "unless a schedule to this zone specifies a different category". The Category 3 advertising provisions prohibit major promotional signage.

The amendment introduces a new Clause 4.0 to Schedule 4 to the Special Use Zone, which identifies that the Beckley Park land falls under Category 2 of the advertising controls, contained in Clause 52.05 of the planning scheme. A permit will be required to erect the signs.

The amendment will place a mandatory limitation on the number and height of the proposed major promotional signs. The applicant's consultant has agreed with these proposed restrictions to limit the number of such signs to two with an overall height of 15 metres.

Plans submitted with the request for amendment show a major promotional sign is proposed to be erected in a generally central location on each of the Princes Highway and Geelong Bypass frontages such that they are very well clear of the residential area on the west side of Broderick Road.

It should be noted that this application makes it clear that approval will be subsequently sought for these signs to include an electronic or digital component.

It is not being recommended that a mandatory prohibition be placed on electronic advertising as part of this amendment. Therefore, the subsequent permit application if approved will set a precedent for electronic advertising on major roads in Geelong. Examples of such advertising on main roads in the metropolitan areas of Melbourne have been approved and VCAT has already supported some cases. In these circumstances, prohibition of electronic advertising on the Beckley Park site is difficult to justify.

Attachment 2 contains the amendment documentation, for adoption, which includes the amended Schedule 4 to the Special Use Zone with the proposed changes as described above included in tracked changes format. It should be noted reference has now also been made to Beckley Park in the Schedule name and Purpose to indicate it does not only apply to the Geelong Showgrounds and Racecourse.

Attachment 3 shows the zoning of Beckley Park and the surrounding area.

Attachment 4 is an aerial photograph of the same area.

Prior to seeking Authorisation to exhibit, the application was referred to VicRoads which indicated it did not object subject to the imposition of conditions on any subsequent permit issued relating to electronic signage.

There are pros and cons to be considered. On one hand Beckley Park is clearly an urban use where some form of substantial advertising would normally be considered acceptable, particularly as it is unlikely to be visible from the nearest residential areas to the west of Broderick Road.

On the other hand, these proposed signs will be highly prominent at the entrance to urban Geelong and may be viewed as being at odds with the Council's long-standing program to beautify the city's northern entry along Princes Highway. Motorists entering the city either along the Ring Road or Princes Highway will be greeted with large scale conspicuous advertising which could well set a precedent for similar signage elsewhere along the city's major roads.

It is important to acknowledge (as does the applicant) that Council's support for this amendment does not bind Council's consideration of any future planning permit application which would be assessed against State and Council planning policies and the provisions of Clause 52.05 of the Planning Scheme, the purpose of which is:

- to achieve high quality visual standards for the siting of major promotion signs;
- to ensure that the signs are not detrimental to the appearance of their surroundings or the safe and efficient operation of the route through the application of consistent planning controls.

The decision guidelines to this Clause require Council to consider the effect of such signs on streetscapes, a significant view corridor, gateway location etc. and a range of locational principles.

On balance, this amendment is supported having regard to the history of the application as outlined above, the proposed limitation of signs to two in number with a maximum 15 metres height limit, as any such signage is unlikely to impact on nearby residential areas and would be located on the site of an existing substantial use within the urban area.

Financial Implications

The proposal will have no financial implications for Council.

Stakeholder Consultation and Communication

The amendment was exhibited in the normal manner with two submissions received, neither of which objected to the amendment in the form exhibited.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

Clause 18.02-4 of the Planning Scheme (management of the road system) to "regulate the design of transport routes and nearby areas to achieve visual standards appropriate to the importance of the route with particular reference to landscaping, the control of outdoor advertising"...etc.

Clause 21.08-2 similarly highlights the importance of the presentation of development along highways and main roads. One of its objective is "to improve the appearance of transport routes at key entrances to townships and urban areas".

Alignment to City Plan

The amendment is consistent with City Plan's Strategic Direction of Growing our Economy, in particular the Priority of Supporting Existing Businesses.

Conflict of Interest

No Council officers have declared a direct or indirect interest in this matter, in accordance with Section 80(c) of the Local Government Act, to which this amendment relates.

Risk Assessment

No risks have been identified in relation to the adoption of Amendment C353 as is recommended by this report.

Environmental Implications

The amendment will have no environmental implications.

Attachment 2

AMENDMENT DOCUMENTS TO BE ADOPTED

Planning and Environment Act 1987

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

AMENDMENT C353

INSTRUCTION SHEET

The planning authority for this amendment is Greater Geelong City Council.

The Greater Geelong Planning Scheme is amended as follows:

Planning Scheme Ordinance

The Planning Scheme Ordinance is amended as follows:

1. In Overlays –Clause 37.01, replace Schedule 4 with a new Schedule 4 in the form of the attached document.

End of document

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

13/12/2012
 C258
 Proposed CMA3

SCHEDULE 4 TO THE SPECIAL USE ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **SUZ4**.

GEELONG SHOWGROUNDS, RACECOURSE AND BECKLEY PARK

Purpose

To encourage the use and development of the Geelong Showgrounds and Racecourse and Beckley Park for a range of entertainment, recreational, commercial and community activities.

To encourage a variety of uses of the land and buildings within the Geelong Showgrounds and Racecourse facility and Beckley Park in order to enable ~~its~~their usage throughout the year.

To ensure that the combination of uses, their hours of operation and the form of any development do not prejudice the amenity of surrounding areas.

1.0

13/12/2012
 C258

Table of uses

Section 1 - Permit not required

Use	Condition
Agriculture (other than dog breeding, extensive animal husbandry and intensive animal husbandry)	
Caravan and camping park	Provided use is in association with other uses.
Caretaker's house	
Equestrian supplies	Must be in conjunction with activities/ events at the showgrounds or racecourse.
Exhibition centre	
Function centre	
Major sports and recreation facility	
Market	Must not occupy the land for a period greater than seven consecutive days.
Minor sports and recreation facility (other than outdoor recreation facility)	
Motor racing track	
Retail premises	Must not occupy the land for a period greater than seven consecutive days and not more frequently than twice in any 12 month period.
Showground	
Any use listed in Clause 62.01	Must meet the requirements of Clause 62.01.

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Section 2 - Permit required

Use	Condition
Car park	
Food and drink premises (other than convenience restaurant)	
Market	
Outdoor recreation facility)	
Place of assembly	
Restricted place of assembly	
Rural store	
Shop	Must be in conjunction with activities/ events at the showgrounds or racecourse.
Utility installation (other than Minor utility installation)	
Veterinary centre	Must be in association with a racecourse
Any use in Section 1 if the condition is not met	
Any other use not in Section 1 or 3	

Section 3 - Prohibited

Use
Convenience restaurant
Dog breeding
Extensive animal husbandry
Intensive animal husbandry

2.0
 19/01/2006
 VC37

Use of land

The use of land must not adversely affect the amenity of the neighbourhood by:

- Traffic and car parking generated by the use.
- Noise generated by the use.
- Any events or functions held on the site.
- The transport of materials or goods to or from the land.
- The appearance of any building, works or materials.

Any use of the Showgrounds, ~~or~~ racecourse ~~and~~ ~~of~~ [Beckley Park](#) must comply with the applicable State Environment Protection Policy of the Environment Protection Authority.

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

3.0

19/01/2006
VC37

Buildings and works

Application requirements

An application to construct a building or construct or carry out works must be accompanied by the following information, as appropriate:

A plan drawn to scale which shows.

The boundaries and dimensions of the site.

Adjoining roads.

Relevant ground levels.

The layout of existing and proposed buildings and works.

Driveways and vehicle parking and loading areas.

Proposed landscape areas.

External storage and waste treatment areas.

Elevation drawings to scale which show the colour and materials of all buildings and works.

Construction details of all drainage works, driveways and vehicle parking and loading areas.

A landscape layout which includes the description of vegetation to be planted, the surfaces to be constructed, a site works specification and the method of preparing, draining, watering and maintaining the landscape area.

Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application to construct a building or construct or carry out works the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

The provision of car parking.

Any increase in traffic generation.

The height, siting and form of proposed buildings (including the set back of buildings from lot and street boundaries).

The interface of the site with adjoining zones.

The provision of land for landscaping.

The storage of rubbish and materials for recycling.

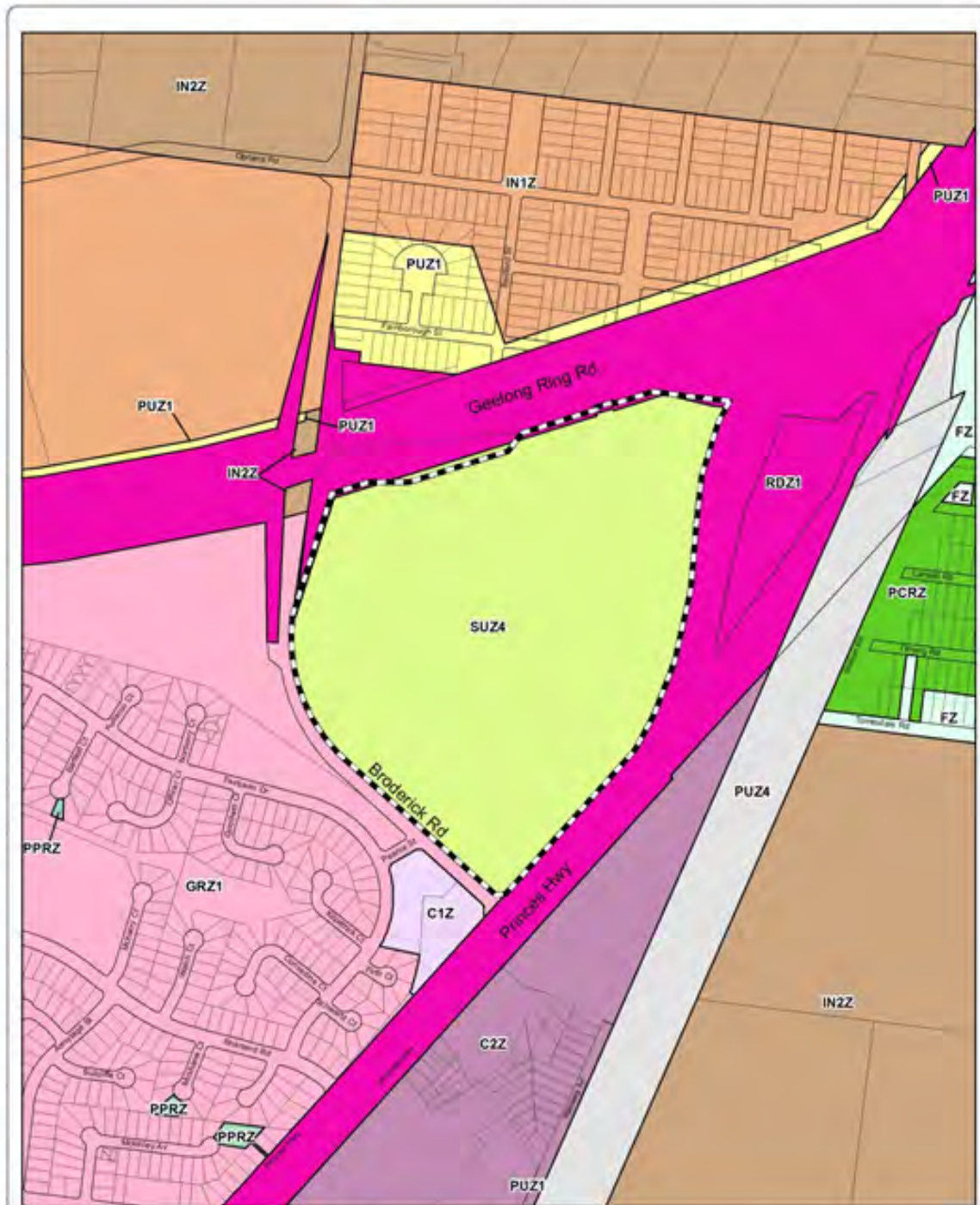
4.0

19/01/2017
Proposed
C353

Advertising signs

Advertising controls are at Clause 52.05. Land at Beckley Park is in Category 2. No more than two major promotional signs can be permitted at Beckley Park and these signs must not exceed 15m in height.

Attachment 3 Zoning



GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME - ZONES

LEGEND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INTERMEDIATE RESIDENTIAL ZONE GENERAL RESIDENTIAL ZONE RESIDENTIAL CONCERN ZONE LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL ZONE MEDIUM DENSITY ZONE TOWNSHIP ZONE RURAL LAND ZONE FARMBILT ZONE RURAL CONSERVATION ZONE RURAL COUNTRY ZONE COMMERCIAL 1 ZONE COMMERCIAL 2 ZONE INDUSTRIAL 4 ZONE INDUSTRIAL 2 ZONE INDUSTRIAL 3 ZONE OFFICIAL USE ZONE PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT ZONE URBAN GROWTH ZONE COMBINATION LAND COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT ZONE ACTIVITY CENTRE ZONE PORT ZONE PUB 1/1/16 ZONE - Taverns & Clubs PUB 2/1/16 ZONE - Taverns PUB 3/1/16 ZONE - Health & Community PUB 4/1/16 ZONE - Transport PUB 5/1/16 ZONE - Community/Entertainment PUB 6/1/16 ZONE - Local Government PUB 7/1/16 ZONE - Other Public Use PUBLIC PARK & RECREATION ZONE PUBLIC CONSULTATION & RESERVE ZONE ROAD ZONE CATEGORY 1 ROAD ZONE CATEGORY 2 	<p>Prepared by City of Greater Geelong - 23 January 2017 Although all due care has been taken to ensure that this document is correct, no warranty is expressed or implied by the City of Greater Geelong or Borough Water in its use. This map contains all Amendments to the G.O.P.S. gazetted prior to the date shown above. However, for certainty, a Planning Certificate should be obtained. This map should be read in conjunction with additional Planning Overlay maps if applicable.</p>
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SUBJECT LAND

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Attachment 4 Aerial Photo



3. SALE OF THE FORMER GEELONG POST OFFICE

Source: Strategy and Performance
Director: Peter Anderson
Index Reference: Sale of Land

Purpose

To seek Council's approval to offer to sell the former Geelong Post office, and give public notice of its intention to do so.

Background

The Council purchased the Geelong Post Office from the State in 1996 using an interest free loan of \$670,000 which remains outstanding. Since purchase of the property it has been used for both Council accommodation and leased to tenants mainly engaged in the provision of youth services.

Key Issues

- Of the 1,544m² of floor space in the building, 623m² is occupied by Council staff. The Council staff are due to be relocated in April 2018, leaving the property entirely vacant.
- The building with its solid internal and external walls is inefficient and difficult to adapt to contemporary office standards and has no identified role in any future Council operations or requirements. A recent estimate of the cost of refurbishing the building for office accommodation is \$3.73m.
- Enquiries have been received from potential purchasers and, subject to approval, the building has potential for conversion to alternative uses including apartments or short stay accommodation. There is limited on-site parking available.
- The heritage aspects of the building are adequately protected through its inclusion on the Victorian Heritage Register and within a heritage overlay on the planning scheme. A Conservation Guidelines report is being prepared by an experienced heritage consultant which will be made available as part of the sale process. The report will define fabric loss and change, provide conservation guidelines and will be used to assist in the approvals processes at Heritage Victoria and Council should future changes to the fabric be proposed.
- It is recommended that the building be sold without conditions relating to future use or development. An agent will be appointed and will advise upon the method of sale, and the price will not be less than Council's certified valuation to be obtained.
- Council is required to give public notice of its intention to sell the property under s189 of the *Local Government Act 1989 (LGA)*. Any person is able to make a submission and be heard in respect of that submission. If submissions require hearing they will be heard by Council's Submissions Review Panel and a further report will be put to Council. .
- Discussions have commenced with the State Government on the possible redeployment of the outstanding loan to other heritage related Council projects.

Cr Mason moved, Cr Aitken seconded –

That the report be deferred.

Carried.

4. RURAL AND PERI-URBAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Source: Governance and Legal Services
Executive Manager: Rebecca Leonard
Index Reference: Advisory Committees

Purpose

To establish a Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee (the Committee) and endorse the Committee's terms of reference.

Background

The Community Focus Committee, at its 13 February 2018 meeting, made the following resolution:

That the Community Focus Committee:

- 1) *recommends to Council that it establishes a Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee consisting of appropriately experienced and skilled members to provide advice to Council regarding key strategic and service matters affecting the rural and peri-urban community of the municipality;*
- 2) *requests the Chief Executive Officer to draft a Terms of Reference for the Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee for approval by Council at the 27 February 2018 Council Meeting. Such Terms of Reference to include an objective of considering and providing advice to Council on matters relevant to rural and peri-urban constituents, including:*
 - a) *Transition strategies for saleyards services such as:*
 - a. *Livestock exchange;*
 - b. *Information exchange;*
 - c. *Hygiene and vehicle wash-down;*
 - b) *Ongoing community advocacy and policy development for best rural and peri-urban agricultural and environmental management practices;*
 - c) *Bio-security strategies;*
 - d) *Council plan strategies;*
 - e) *Collaboration with G21 members, major and other local, State and Federal government organisations;*
 - f) *Key planning strategies and structure plans;*
 - g) *Considering past consultation, reports and decisions as well as current and new strategy documents and externally sourced technical information; and*
 - h) *Undertaking consultation to inform advice as required.*
- 3) *Appoints a Councillor as Chair of the Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee.*

A further resolution of the Community Focus Committee was:

That Cr Jim Mason be appointed as Chair of the Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee.

This report gives effect to those resolutions.

Key Issues

- Council is able to establish advisory committees by resolution to provide advice to Council on a particular matter. Such committees do not have delegated powers and may not allocate Council funds or resources.
- The work of the Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee (the Committee) will strengthen and support the commitment of the City of Greater Geelong (the Council) to the wellbeing and sustainability of its rural and peri-urban communities.
- Terms of reference for the Committee (**Attachment 2**) have been prepared and reflect the resolution made by the Community Focus Committee meeting on 13 February 2018 for endorsement by the Council.

Cr Mason moved, Cr Aitken seconded -

That Council:

- 1) Establishes a Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee consisting of appropriately experienced and skilled members to provide advice to Council regarding key strategic and service matters affecting the rural and peri-urban community of the municipality;**
- 2) Appoints a councillor to be chairperson of the Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee;**
- 3) Appoints Councillor Jim Mason to be the inaugural chairperson of the Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee;**
- 4) Endorses the Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at Attachment 2 of this report.**

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from the subject of this report.

Community Engagement

The establishment of the Committee will enhance engagement on matters affecting Council's rural and peri-urban community.

Social Equity Considerations

The Committee will allow consideration of social equity issues that affect Council's rural and peri-urban constituents.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

Formation of the Committee is compliant with the *Local Government Act 1989* as well as Council's policies and procedures relating to the establishment of advisory committees.

Alignment to City Plan

The work of the Committee will support delivery of the City Plan and future consideration of rural and peri-urban strategic needs.

Conflict of Interest

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Risk Assessment

There are no significant or high risks associated with the subject of this report.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from the subject of this report.

COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE



Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee	Document No:	CTR
	Approval Date:	Draft
	Approved By:	Council
	Review Date:	February 2021
Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer	Version No:	
Authorising Officer:	Chief Executive Officer	

1. SUMMARY

The rural nature of the municipality and the region is changing and is characterised by an increase in smaller holdings. The number of large farms is diminishing. Regional peri-urban areas are increasingly characterised by smaller and diverse operations with not only cattle and sheep, but pigs, goats, alpacas, horses, poultry and other agricultural, viticultural, horticultural and agritourism products.

The whole municipal community has expressed the desire that the rural character of the region be maintained. There also needs to be active development of a transition strategy to support the rural and peri-urban communities following the closure of the Geelong Saleyards.

The work of the Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee (the Committee) will strengthen and support the commitment of the City of Greater Geelong (the Council) to the wellbeing and sustainability of its rural and peri-urban constituency.

Advice from the Committee will help to achieve Council's objective of providing for the best outcomes for the local community having regard to the long term and cumulative effects of decisions. In doing this the Committee will have regard to the need for Council to:

- promote the social, economic and environmental viability and sustainability of the municipal district;
- improve the overall quality of life of people in the local community;
- promote appropriate business and employment opportunities; and
- ensure that services and facilities provided by Council are accessible and equitable;

Advice from the Committee will also support Council's role, which includes Council:

- taking into account the diverse needs of the local community in decision making;
- advocating the interests of the local community to other communities and governments;
- acting as a responsible partner in government by taking into account the needs of other communities; and
- advocating and promoting proposals which are in the best interests of the local community;

- planning for and providing services and facilities for the local community.

2. OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The objective of the Committee is to consider and provide advice to Council on matters relevant to rural and peri-urban constituents, including:

- a) Transition strategies for saleyards services such as:
 - a. Livestock exchange;
 - b. Information exchange;
 - c. Hygiene and vehicle wash-down;
- b) Rural and peri-urban agricultural and environmental management practices;
- c) Bio-security strategies;
- d) City Plan strategies; and
- e) Key planning strategies and structure plans;

The functions of the Committee include:

- a) Providing advice to Council on matters relevant to rural and peri-urban constituents referred to the Committee by Council;
- b) Providing advice to Council on ongoing community advocacy and policy development for best rural and peri-urban agricultural and environmental management practices;
- c) Providing advice to Council regarding collaboration with G21 members, major and other local, State and Federal government organisations;
- d) Considering past consultation, reports and decisions as well as current and new strategy documents and externally sourced technical information; and
- e) Undertaking consultation to inform advice as required; and
- f) Develop and implement a workplan to effectively perform its functions outlined in a) to e) herein.

3. DEFINITIONS

Municipal district means the municipal district of the Greater Geelong City Council.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE

4.1. Term

This Committee:

- Commences on the day following the Council resolution to adopt the Committee's terms of reference; and
- Ends on the day of a Council resolution to abolish the Committee.

4.2. Membership

4.2.1. Membership & Eligibility

The Committee will comprise a membership that is appropriately experienced and skilled in matters affecting Council's rural and peri-urban community. Membership will be drawn from Council, Council officers, representatives of relevant statutory authorities and community representatives.

The Chairperson of the Committee will be a Councillor appointed by Council as the Chairperson.

The following persons will be invited to become members of the Committee:

- Five independent community representatives who are residents or ratepayers of the municipal district representing a balanced and diverse mix of rural and peri-urban interests, including but not limited to such persons who are:
 - Farmers and hobby farmers from the municipality;
 - A member of the Victorian Farmers Federation;
 - A representative of a community environmental network;
 - Residents within the Rural/Peri Urban areas; and
 - Experienced or qualified in biosecurity or agricultural best management practices.
- Four Council officers representing a balanced and diverse mix of Council functions, including:
 - Land use planning;
 - Economic development;
 - Community wellbeing; and
 - Agricultural and environmental matters.
- A representative from Agriculture Victoria; and
- A member representative from each of the following Councils:
 - Golden Plains Shire;
 - Colac Otway Shire; and
 - Surf Coast Shire.

(Eligible Members).

4.2.2. Chairperson

4.2.2.1. Council, by resolution, will appoint a Councillor to be the chairperson of the Committee.

4.2.2.2. The chairperson will be appointed for a term of two years.

4.2.3. Nomination of Eligible Members

4.2.3.1. Council's Chief Executive Officer shall nominate Council officer representatives.

4.2.3.2. Statutory authorities will be invited by the Chief Executive Officer to nominate their own representatives.

4.2.3.3. Independent community representatives will be invited onto the Committee by a process of seeking expressions of interest. Selection will be made in accordance with the Council's Committee Representation Policy.

4.2.4. Appointment of Eligible Members

4.2.4.1. Council shall appoint a Councillor as chairperson of the Committee.

4.2.4.2. The Chief Executive Officer and the chairperson will jointly assess and decide nominations for independent community representatives.

4.2.4.3. The Chief Executive Officer shall appoint:

- Council officers;

- Statutory authority representatives; and
- Independent community representatives, to the Committee.

4.2.5. Length of Appointment

4.2.5.1. Eligible Members will be appointed for a period of two years.

4.2.5.2. Eligible Members must remain as such in order to maintain Committee membership. If an Eligible Member no longer meets the criteria to be an Eligible Member during their term, their Committee membership will be revoked and a new Eligible Member appointed in accordance with the selection process for the remainder of the term.

4.3. Neighbouring Councils

The Council acknowledges the importance of collaborating with its neighbouring Councils to understand the rural and peri-urban needs and issues of the region.

4.4. Authority

4.4.1. The Committee is an advisory committee for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 1989*. It does not have delegated authority, and reports to Council as required.

4.4.2. The Committee may appoint working groups to pursue specific projects and issues on an as needed basis.

4.4.3. The Committee has no financial delegation authority.

4.5. Meeting Procedure

4.5.1. The Committee will meet quarterly, but may meet more regularly as it deems necessary.

4.5.2. A meeting of the Committee will not be called with less than two weeks notice to all members, unless exceptional circumstances exist.

4.5.3. A quorum for a meeting shall be one more than half of the membership of the Committee.

4.5.4. Meeting minutes and agendas will be circulated at least one week prior to the meeting.

4.6. Reporting

The Committee will report to Council following each meeting of the Committee.

4.7. Secretariat

Council's Chief Executive Officer shall appoint a Council officer to provide secretariat services to the Committee.

4.8. Facilities & Resources

Adequate human and financial resources shall be provided to ensure the effective operation of the Committee.

4.9. Evaluation

The Committee will review its objectives, activities and participation annually.

5. QUALITY RECORDS

Quality Records shall be retained for at least the period shown below.

Record	Retention/Disposal Responsibility	Retention Period	Location
Meeting minutes/Agenda's	Committee	PROV	EDRMS
Correspondence	Committee	PROV	EDRMS
Submissions	Committee	PROV	EDRMS

5. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM QUARTERLY UPDATE - DECEMBER 2017

Source: Chief Executive
Director: Kelvin Spiller
Index Reference: Transformation Program

Purpose

As required to provide a quarterly update on the progress of the Transformation Program as at 31 December 2017 to the Council and the Minister for Local Government.

Background

The Transformation Program was primarily developed in June 2016 to ensure that the 12 key recommendations and 25 secondary recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry report and actions from the Halliday Report are carried out.

The Transformation Program is organised under eight focus areas and contains 28 projects. The focus areas and projects are listed in the attached report.

In October 2017 Ernst & Young (EY) was engaged by the CEO at the request of the Administrators to provide an independent status update of the City of Greater Geelong's progress in achieving this program.

EY found that the Transformation Program will continue to require a high level of sustained focus and that many of the initiatives will require a longer period of continued effort to see through transformation.

The objective is to enable transformation to the most efficient and effective organisation possible to fulfil its purpose of *working together for a thriving community*.

The report has also been provided to the Primary Municipal Monitor and signed with the intention to be forwarded to the Minister for Local Government. My office is working closely with the Primary Municipal Monitor in monitoring and validating evidence of the implementation of the program.

Key Issues

- Of the 28 projects, 20 are 50 per cent complete or over with the remaining eight under 50 per cent complete.
- The attached report contains highlights, focus areas and issues /delays to be addressed next quarter. Key issues to be addressed next quarter include:
 - Councillor induction to be completed
 - Integration of *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future* into the Council Plan
 - Employee Opinion Survey (2017) Action Plan completed and signed off by the Executive Leadership Team
 - Interim workforce resource plan (current state)
 - ICT underfunding to be addressed.
- Implementation of the program is progressing satisfactorily.

Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Murrhy seconded -

That Council note the December 2017 quarterly update of the Transformation Program.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

A number of projects such as the ICT strategic review implementation, internal communications resourcing and civic accommodation are subject to 2018-19 Budget funding and beyond.

Community Engagement

The review of the Community Engagement Strategy is one of the projects within the Transformation Program.

Progress on the Transformation Program is reported to the Executive Leadership Team on a quarterly basis with further updates provided to staff via Interlink and CEO weekly email.

Social Equity Considerations

The Social Infrastructure Plan review is one of the 28 projects in the Transformation Program.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The Transformation Program was developed in response to the 2016 Commission of Inquiry report. In that report there were 12 key recommendations and 25 secondary recommendations to be addressed. The Primary Municipal Monitor will continue to review the progress of the Transformation Program and report to the Minister of Local Government.

Risk Assessment

Progress on the Transformation Program is monitored by the Chief Executive Officer, Primary Municipal Monitor and Council.

Transformation Program is managed by the Coordinator Transformation, Program Integration and Development.

The program is also monitored via the organisations enterprise risk update.

CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM

DECEMBER 2017 UPDATE

(REPORT IS AN UPDATE BASED ON ERNST & YOUNG REVIEW AS REQUESTED BY ADMINISTRATORS AND PROVIDED TO COUNCIL IN DECEMBER 2017)

Contents

- Executive summary 3**

- Project updates 5**

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 - 2. Strategy, planning & monitoring 5
 - 3. Culture & people management..... 6
 - 4. Financial management..... 6
 - 5. Asset management 7
 - 6. Information management 7
 - 7. Risk management 8
 - 8. Relationship & reputational management..... 8

- Report sign-off 9**

DECEMBER 2017 QUARTER UPDATE SUMMARY

Key highlights for the last quarter included:

- ✓ Return of an elected council
- ✓ Improved council policies
- ✓ Councillor portal implemented
- ✓ Social Infrastructure Plan review commenced
- ✓ Diversity and Inclusion audit and action plan completed
- ✓ Fees and Charges Framework completed and policy adopted
- ✓ Asset Management project working group convened and project lead appointed
- ✓ Digital and ICT Governance reference group set up and terms of reference developed
- ✓ Risk Management Policy and Procedure, Risk Management Framework, Risk Appetite Statement and Risk Rating System endorsed by Audit and Risk Committee and the Executive Leadership Team
- ✓ Issues management process used for a number of recent issues.

Focus areas for next quarter and beyond:

- Councillor ongoing training and support
- Council Plan development (2018-21)
- Establishment of a workforce resource plan
- Long term financial plan software investigation and recommendation
- Civic accommodation financial modelling
- Review of roles and responsibilities across divisions and Asset Management Steering Committee
- ICT Service Management software implementation and rollout to staff in February 2018
- Identify and document causes, controls, risk rating and treatment plans for identified key organisation risks
- Continue to embed the Issues Management process and build capability
- Government relations and strategic partner relationships
- Policy Review Framework and Committee set up
- Diversity and Inclusion Officer required to implement the Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan.

Issues / delays (to be addressed next quarter):

- ❖ Councillor induction to be completed

- ❖ Building relationships between councillors and Executive Leadership Team
- ❖ Integration of *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future* into the Council Plan (currently in development phase)
- ❖ Working with Council to deliver the community-led vision *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future*
- ❖ Employee Opinion Survey Action Plan signed off by Executive Leadership Team
- ❖ Interim workforce resource plan (cannot wait for service planning project)
- ❖ Integration of condition audits across all classes of assets (e.g. parks, open space and recreation assets, buildings, road infrastructure)
- ❖ Address the significant underfunding of ICT resources and strategy. Failure will see ICT fall further behind the acceptable standard
- ❖ Duplication of effort in audit and risk management
- ❖ Council Section 86 councillor appointments integration – integration of councillors into stakeholder relationships.

PROJECT UPDATES

The following section contains updates on all projects within the Transformation Program.

The format is based on the Ernst & Young report.

Project leads provided updates on all projects and forms the basis of this report.

Executive summary

The Transformation Program was primarily developed to ensure that the 12 key recommendations and 25 secondary recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry report and actions out of the Halliday Report are carried out.

The organisation undertook an Employee Opinion Survey in 2016, as well as contracting three reviews by external parties for Finance, ICT and civic accommodation.

Each of the reviews completed has recommendations or actions which the organisation has committed to addressing. These have also provided core inputs to the Transformation Program and many of the actions or recommendations are inter-related or linked in some way.

TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM

The Transformation Program was originally organised into four inter-related streams of Leadership, Governance, Management and Relationships.

It is now organised under eight focus areas, with a total of 28 projects and close to 100 sub-projects under these.

The focus areas are:

1. Governance
2. Strategy, Planning and Monitoring (incl. Leadership)
3. Culture and People Management (incl. Leadership)
4. Financial Management
5. Asset Management
6. Information management
7. Risk Management
8. Relationship & Reputational Management

The objective is to enable transformation to the most efficient and effective organisation possible to fulfil its purpose of **working together for a thriving community**.

Implementation of the program will occur progressively; with some initiatives able to be implemented relatively quickly, whereas others will take longer and in some instances more than two years.

ERNST & YOUNG REVIEW

Ernst & Young (EY) was engaged by the CEO at the request of the Administrators in October 2017 to provide an independent status update on the City of Greater Geelong's progress against recommendations set out in the:

- Commission of Inquiry report
- Supplementary reports commissioned by CoGG (EY review of Financial Position and Strategies and Deloitte ICT review)
- Halliday Stage 2 Culture Review.

Key observations by EY were:

- Transformation Program requires a high level of sustained focus, putting it back into business as usual poses a major risk in that it will become less of a priority.
- Inadequate staff resourcing allocated to various transformation initiatives.
- Many of the initiatives require a longer period of time, a sustained and continued effort required to see through transformation.
- A lot of good work completed but it needs to continue, transformation is ongoing.

The next section provides a summarised update for each focus area.

THE WAY FORWARD





The Transformation Program will continue to be managed and reported by the Coordinator Transformation, Program Integration and Development.

Transformation projects have also been included in the Chief Executive Officer's KPIs and cascaded down into each Directors' KPIs to be monitored regularly by the CEO.

As per the EY findings, Transformation is ongoing and it is anticipated that projects may continue to be added in consultation with the Executive Leadership Team in the future as others are completed.

Project updates

1. GOVERNANCE

Project	Status	Timing
Return to elected council		Nov 2017 – ongoing training & PD
Decision making framework		Jun 2018
Policy framework		Oct 2018 - ongoing
Establish Governance & Legal Unit		Dec 2017
Protected disclosure		Jun 2018 - training
Council business processes		Jun 2018

Highlights

- ✓ Return of an elected council
- ✓ Councillor portal operational
- ✓ Councillor accommodation changes and councillor support staff in place
- ✓ Protected Disclosure review and staff correspondence complete
- ✓ Priority council policies and Meeting Procedure Local Law have been reviewed and amended
- ✓ Council election awareness campaign
- ✓ Governance & Legal unit established with new roles and staff in place.







Focus areas for next quarter & beyond

- Policy Review Framework and Committee set up
- Ongoing periodic review of Governance initiatives
- Councillor Portal – ongoing review and training
- Decision making processes given the creation of new Council committees
- Legal Services service framework
- Councillor Code of Conduct.

Issues / delays (to be addressed next quarter)

- ❖ Councillor induction to be completed
- ❖ Building relationships between councillors and Executive Leadership Team.

2. STRATEGY, PLANNING & MONITORING

Project	Status	Timing
30 year vision		Ongoing implementation
Alignment of long term strategies with vision		Jun 2018
Business Improvement Framework		Ongoing
Service Planning / Review		Ongoing
Business analytics / reporting		Jun 2018
Social Infrastructure Plan review		Dec 2018

Highlights

- ✓ Development of Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future including the engagement process
- ✓ Social Infrastructure Plan review commenced
- ✓ Draft business improvement framework developed.
- ✓ Introduction to LEAN sessions delivered to 143 staff.



Focus areas for next quarter & beyond

- Clever and Creative Future roll out to the community
- Council Plan development (2018-21)
- Social Infrastructure Plan review (Part A) progress report
- Alignment of long term strategies and aspirations
- Business planning / alignment with strategies
- Business improvement resourcing
- Service Planning commencement – current state and framework/process moving forward
- Quarterly CEO Headline Report improvements.

Issues / delays (to be addressed next quarter)

- ❖ Integration of *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future* into the Council Plan (currently in development phase)
- ❖ Working with Council to deliver the community-led vision *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future*.

3. CULTURE & PEOPLE MANAGEMENT

Project	Status	Timing
Internal leadership development		Ongoing
Positive Duty / Culture program		Ongoing (requires key milestones)
Workforce resource plan		TBD – (1) Council Plan (2) Long term plan
Mentoring, coaching and leadership (L&D)		Ongoing
Civic accommodation		TBD - Council
Complaints Review Framework		Jun 2018

Highlights

- ✓ New Complaints Review Framework developed
- ✓ Diversity and Inclusion audit and action plan completed
- ✓ Positive Duty sessions provided in Learning & Development calendar
- ✓ Compliance training integrated through E3 Learning Portal
- ✓ Leadership and Mentoring programs progressing
- ✓ Gender Equity report completed
- ✓ ELT/SLT meetings with leadership development
- ✓ Preferred site for civic accommodation selected.






Focus areas for next quarter & beyond

- Establishment of a workforce resource plan
- Customer experience framework / program dependant on 2018/18 funding
- Diversity and Inclusion Officer required to implement the Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan
- Implementation of the new Complaints Review Framework and training
- Civic accommodation – financial modelling and consideration in Strategic Resource Plan.

Issues / delays (to be addressed next quarter)

- ❖ Employee Opinion Survey Action Plan signed off by Executive Leadership Team
- ❖ Interim workforce resource plan (cannot wait for service planning project).

4. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Project	Status	Timing
Strategic financial review		Jun 2019
<i>Financial Management Framework & Policy</i>		Jun 2018
<i>Fees & Charges Framework</i>		Jun 2019
<i>Borrowing Policy</i>		Completed
<i>Long term financial plan</i>		TBD

Highlights

- ✓ Ernst & Young strategic financial review completed
- ✓ Fees and Charges Framework completed and policy adopted
- ✓ New Borrowing Policy adopted
- ✓ Budget process changes implemented.

Focus areas for next quarter & beyond

- Financial Management Report improvements and fast tracking of report though to Council
- New Fees and Charges framework to be implemented
- Continued implementation of new budget process
- Long term financial plan software investigation and recommendation.

Issues / delays (to be addressed next quarter)

- ❖ Long Term Financial Plan to be reviewed urgently (can't wait for software).

5. ASSET MANAGEMENT

Project	Status	Timing
Asset Management Review		Jun 2018 - ongoing
<i>Review property and asset management</i>		Jun 2018
Asset Management Working Group		Set up, meeting regularly
Establish Steering Committee		Dec 2017
Set project plan / recommendations		Mar 2018
Implement plan / recommendations		To commence - ongoing

Highlights

- ✓ Review on property assets completed
- ✓ Project working group convened
- ✓ Project lead appointed.





Focus areas for next quarter & beyond

- Move to a fully inclusive asset management operating model
- Review of roles and responsibilities across divisions and Asset Management Steering Committee
- Re-categorisation of property and assets into category / sub-category / type
- Improved leasing processes that clearly outline maintenance obligations for the tenant/licensee and council
- Introduction of the use of property management plans
- Asset sale opportunities.

Issues / delays (to be addressed next quarter)

- ❖ Integration of condition audits across all classes of assets (e.g. parks, open space and recreation assets, buildings, road infrastructure).

6. INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Project	Status	Timing
ICT strategic review / implementation		Jun 2022 (ICT Strategy timeline)
<i>ICT review of systems and processes</i>		Complete
<i>ICT Strategy development</i>		Complete
<i>Implementation of recommendations from ICT Strategy & review</i>		Jun 2022

Highlights

- ✓ ICT review completed by Deloitte
- ✓ Human resource headcount increase completed
- ✓ ICT Strategy completed
- ✓ Mapping of current state enterprise architecture completed
- ✓ Digital and ICT Governance reference group set up and terms of reference developed.

Focus areas for next quarter & beyond

- ICT Service Management software implementation and rollout to staff in February 2018
- Continued implementation of 12 recommendations (and 58 related activities) at an estimated cost of \$11.75M over next five years
- Adequate resourcing – budget and human resources.

Issues / delays (to be addressed next quarter)

- ❖ Address the significant underfunding of ICT resources and strategy. Failure will see ICT fall further behind the acceptable standard.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

Project	Status	Timing
Enterprise Risk Review		Dec 2018
Appoint Senior Enterprise Risk Advisor		Complete
Risk audit, establish strategic risks		Mar 2018
Develop Enterprise Risk Framework		TBD following appointment of Snr Enterprise Risk Advisor
Update Enterprise Risk Matrix		TBD following appointment of Snr Enterprise Risk Advisor

Highlights

- ✓ Risk audit completed
- ✓ Audit and Risk Committee established
- ✓ Senior Enterprise Risk Advisor appointed
- ✓ Risk Management Policy and Procedure, Risk Management Framework, Risk Appetite Statement and Risk Rating System endorsed by Audit and Risk Committee and the Executive Leadership Team
- ✓ OH&S resourcing increase.

Focus areas for next quarter & beyond

- Identify and document causes, controls, risk rating and treatment plans for identified key organisation risks
- Budget resourcing for Enterprise Risk unit.

Issues / delays (to be addressed next quarter)

- ❖ Duplication of effort in audit and risk management.

8. RELATIONSHIP & REPUTATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Project	Status	Timing
Media and Communications		Ongoing
Corporate Affairs review		Jun 2018
Stakeholder matrix		Mar 2018
Community Engagement Strategy		Ongoing
Customer Service Strategy		Oct 2020
Issues Management		Ongoing

Highlights

- ✓ Issues management process used for a number of recent issues
- ✓ Mayor and Councillor Media Engagement Policy
- ✓ Social Media and Publications Policies
- ✓ Internal Communications Plan
- ✓ New Branding Guidelines
- ✓ Customer Focus Strategy including customer service charter (17 actions to be completed over three years)
- ✓ Community Engagement Policy and Framework
- ✓ Issues Management policy pilot projects & training.

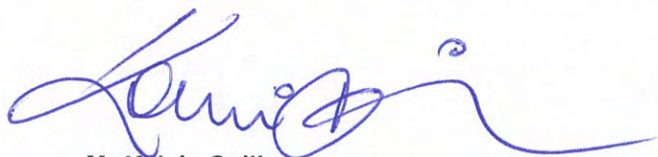
Focus areas for next quarter & beyond

- Require staff to implement corporate affairs review
- Resourcing required to implement the internal communications plan
- Continue to embed the Issues Management process and build capability
- Identification and implementation of recommendations from Request for Service review
- Development of community engagement tools
- Government relations and strategic partner relationships.

Issues / delays (to be addressed next quarter)

- ❖ Council Section 86 councillor appointments integration – integration of councillors into stakeholder relationships.

Report sign-off



Mr Kelvin Spiller
Chief Executive Officer
City of Greater Geelong

Date: 13 February 2018



Ms Jude Munro AO
Primary Municipal Monitor
City of Greater Geelong

Date: 13 February 2018

—




CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE

Geelong
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8:00am – 5:00pm

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6. LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL 2018 EXPOSURE DRAFT

Source: Governance & Legal Services
Executive Manager: Rebecca Leonard
Index Reference: Corporate Management - Legislation

Purpose

To endorse the Greater Geelong City Council submission (**Attachment 2**) in response to the Victorian Government's Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft.

Background

The Victorian State Government has released, in December 2017, an exposure draft of the Local Government Bill 2018 (the Draft Bill). This is the culmination of an extensive three-stage engagement program with councils, ratepayers, the wider community and specific stakeholders. Council has made submissions at various stages of this process.

There is now an opportunity for Council to make a submission on the Draft Bill.

Key Issues

- Submissions in response to the Draft Bill close on Friday 16 March 2018 at 5pm. This timeline has been set with the objective of having the new Act in place by June 2018.
- The Draft Bill proposes the revocation of the *City of Greater Geelong Act 1993*.
- Governance recommendations arising from the Geelong Citizens' Jury and Commission of Inquiry into Greater Geelong City Council have been reviewed against the Draft Bill. Areas of deficiency that may be accommodated in the legislation include:
 - Induction training, ongoing training and performance reviews for Councillors;
 - Education of the community to promote democratic processes;
 - Limitations on the maximum size of municipalities;
 - Prohibition of developer financial and in-kind contributions to candidates and council staff.
- Council management have reviewed the Draft Bill and made recommendations which have been incorporated in the proposed submission.
- The proposed submission is generally supportive of the direction the legislative reform is taking.

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Mansfield seconded -

That Council:

- 1) adopts the Greater Geelong City Council submission to the Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft at Attachment 2; and**
- 2) sends the submission to the Local Government Act Review Secretariat.**

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from the subject of this report.

Community Engagement

The engagement process has been managed by the State Government and has involved four stages.

- Stage 1 – September 2015 Discussion Paper canvassing reform ideas – 348 submissions; 10 community forums; 12 commissioned specialist papers; six technical working groups; meetings with peak council and ratepayer groups.
- Stage 2 – June 2016 Directions Paper outlining 157 potential reform directions – 333 submissions; 18 community forums with Mayors, council CEOs and community members; meetings with peak council and ratepayer groups.
- Stage 3 – 2017 Implementation Challenges targeted consultation – seven technical working groups of over 100 senior sector experts; meetings with peak ratepayer groups, key stakeholders on specific reforms, council peak organisations and new councillors.
- Stage 4 – December 2017 Draft Bill for community submissions.

Council has participated through submissions and involvement in each stage of the process to date.

An analysis of governance recommendations of the Geelong Citizens' Jury community engagement process has identified areas of deficiency in the Draft Bill (**Attachment 3**). These have been included in the proposed submission, including:

1. Induction training, ongoing training and performance reviews for Councillors to gain and maintain an understanding of the responsibilities of the position enabling the best possible performance in the role;
2. Education of the community to promote democratic processes and to ensure the public is informed in matters of local government and improve democratic representation;
3. Limitations on the maximum size of municipalities to minimise disparity of representation among different municipalities, distinguish local level government from higher-level government and enhance local representation; and
4. A prohibition of developer financial and in-kind contributions to candidates and council staff, consistent with other states' legislation to assist with the avoidance of fraudulent and corrupt behaviour.

Relevant governance recommendations from the Commission of Inquiry into Greater Geelong City Council Report March 2016 have been reviewed in light of the Draft Bill (**Attachment 4**). All of those recommendations have been catered for in the Draft Bill.

Management has been consulted on implications of the Draft Bill. The proposed submission point coming from this consultation was:

- The authorised officer provision has changed wording when comparing clause 326 of the Draft Bill with section 224(7) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act).

The wording in the Act, 'An authorised officer may enter any land or building in the municipality district at any reasonable time to carry out and enforce this or any other Act or regulation or local law.' has had the words 'or any other Act' removed. The omission of the wording 'or any other Act' now removes the ability for Council fire prevention officers to enter a property to form an opinion whether a property may be a fire hazard when enforcing the provisions of the Country Fire Authority Act 1958. A return to the wording in section 224(7) of the Act is required to enable this vital function to continue to be performed effectively.

Social Equity Considerations

There are no social equity implications arising from the subject of this report.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The Draft Bill is the final step in the process of establishing a new local government Act.

Alignment to City Plan

A new local government Act will establish the legislative framework for how Council does business in the future.

Conflict of Interest

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Risk Assessment

There are no significant or high risks associated with the subject of this report.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from the subject of this report.

Submission

Local Government Bill – Exposure Draft

Name	Kelvin Spiller
------	----------------

If you work in an organisation or council, please provide the following information:

Organisation or council name	Greater Geelong City Council
Position	Chief Executive Officer
Are you providing this submission on behalf of the organisation or council?	Greater Geelong City Council

Key information about making a submission

What feedback should I provide on the exposure draft bill?

Following an extensive consultation process that considered the policy issues that underpin the Local Government Act, we are now seeking feedback on the Local Government Exposure Draft Bill to inform the final draft legislation before the Government reviews it to present to the Victorian Parliament. We strongly encourage you to read the explanatory document (*A New Local Government Act for Victoria*) to assist you to navigate the draft legislation.

What is the closing date for submissions?

The closing date for submissions is **5:00 pm, Friday 23 February 2018**. Given that the draft bill is subject to parliamentary timeframes, submissions received after this date will be considered at the Government's discretion.

How do I make a submission?

Submissions can be made in three ways:

- **Online** by uploading your submission to the www.yourcouncilyourcommunity.vic.gov.au website
- **Emailing** your submission to local.government@delwp.vic.gov.au
- **Posting** your submission to:
Local Government Act Review Secretariat
C/o Local Government Victoria,
PO Box 500, Melbourne VIC 3002

How do I complete this template?

To complete this template:

- (1) Locate the part of the Draft Bill you wish to comment on.
- (2) Insert the clause number, your level of support for the clause, the proposed change and any other comments into the table.

Can I provide a submission in another format?

It is strongly preferred for submissions to be made by completing this template. However, if another format suits your needs or the requirements of your organisation you are welcome to use another format.

Will submissions be made publicly available?

Written submissions and the name of the author will be published on the www.yourcouncilyourcommunity.vic.gov.au website unless confidentiality is requested and the Executive Director of Local Government Victoria grants it, or if it is determined your submission should remain confidential. Submissions that are defamatory or offensive will not be published.

Please contact the Local Government Act Review Secretariat if you have any questions on (03) 9948 8518 or local.government@delwp.vic.gov.au

Part 1: Preliminary

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
			<i>Press tab to insert additional rows (as needed)</i>

Do you have any overall comments on Part 1 of the Exposure Draft Bill?

Council supports the provisions in Part 1 of the Exposure Draft Bill.

Part 2: Councils

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
14	Support with an addition	Provide for limitations on the maximum size of municipalities to minimise disparity of representation among different municipalities, distinguish local level government from higher-level government and enhance local representation.	
28	Support with an addition	Provide for induction training, ongoing training and performance reviews for Councillors to gain and maintain an understanding of the responsibilities of the position enabling the best possible performance in the role.	
			<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Press tab to insert additional rows (as needed)</i></p>

Do you have any overall comments on Part 2 of the Exposure Draft Bill?

Council generally supports the provisions in Part 2 of the Exposure Draft Bill with exceptions as listed above for clauses 14 and 28.

Part 3: Council decision making

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
			<i>Press tab to insert additional rows (as needed)</i>

Do you have any overall comments on Part 3 of the Exposure Draft Bill?
Council supports the provisions in Part 3 of the Exposure Draft Bill.

Part 5: Rates and charges

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
			<i>Press tab to insert additional rows (as needed)</i>

Do you have any overall comments on Part 5 of the Exposure Draft Bill?

Council supports the provisions in Part 5 of the Exposure Draft Bill.

Part 6: Council operations

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
			<i>Press tab to insert additional rows (as needed)</i>

Do you have any overall comments on Part 6 of the Exposure Draft Bill?

Council supports the provisions in Part 6 of the Exposure Draft Bill.

Part 7: Council integrity

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
			<p><i>Press tab to insert additional rows (as needed)</i></p>

Do you have any overall comments on Part 7 of the Exposure Draft Bill?

Council supports the provisions in Part 7 of the Exposure Draft Bill.

Part 8: Ministerial oversight

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
			<i>Press tab to insert additional rows (as needed)</i>

Do you have any overall comments on Part 8 of the Exposure Draft Bill?

Council supports the provisions in Part 8 of the Exposure Draft Bill.

Part 9: Electoral provisions

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
254	Support with an addition	Provide for education of the community to promote democratic processes and to ensure the public is informed in matters of local government and improve democratic representation.	
322	Support with an addition	Provide for the prohibition of developer financial and in-kind contributions to candidates and council staff, consistent with other states' legislation to assist with the avoidance of fraudulent and corrupt behaviour.	
			<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Press tab to insert additional rows (as needed)</i></p>

Do you have any overall comments on Part 9 of the Exposure Draft Bill?

Council generally supports the provisions in Part 9 of the Exposure Draft Bill with exceptions as listed above for clauses 254 and 322.

Part 10: General provisions

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
326	Do not support	<p>The authorised officer provision has changed wording when comparing clause 326 of the Draft Bill with section 224(7) of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> (the Act). The wording in the Act, '<i>An authorised officer may enter any land or building in the municipality district at any reasonable time to carry out and enforce this or any other Act or regulation or local law.</i>' has had the words 'or any other Act' removed. The omission of the wording 'or any other Act' now removes the ability for Council fire prevention officers to enter a property to form an opinion whether a property may be a fire hazard when enforcing the provisions of the <i>Country Fire Authority Act 1958</i>. A return to the wording in section 224(7) of the Act is required to enable this vital function to continue to be performed effectively.</p>	

Do you have any overall comments on Part 10 of the Exposure Draft Bill?

Council generally supports the provisions in Part 10 of the Exposure Draft Bill with the exception listed above for clause 326. The change to this clause is not supported.

Comparison of Citizens' Jury Recommendations and Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft

Category	Geelong Citizens' Jury Final Report January 2017 Recommendation	Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft
Principles	<p>Councillors will demonstrate understanding of and competency in their role.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear role descriptions for councillors. • Induction training and ongoing training of Councillors in all areas. • Performance reviews. 	<p>Section 28 of the Draft Bill clearly establishes the role of a councillor.</p> <p>No provisions in current or proposed legislation cover induction training, ongoing training or performance reviews for Councillors.</p>
	<p>Council will be representative of the community and responsive to the diversity of needs in the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage a diverse range of community members to nominate for Council. • Minimise barriers to participation in Council and associated civic committees. 	<p>Section 32 of the Bill has consolidated sections 28, 28A & 29 of the Act.</p> <p>No change.</p>
	<p>Council will communicate effectively and promote community engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Code of Conduct needs to be followed. • Council is to follow clear policy, procedures and protocols. • The decision making process needs to be visible. • Council is to regularly review performance and plans. • There needs to be a regulatory body to oversee the operation of Council and ensure accountability. 	<p>Section 8 of the Bill Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles and take into account the supporting principles including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community engagement principles • public transparency principles <p>Section 54 Council must adopt and maintain a community engagement policy which gives effect to the community engagement principles in section 55.</p> <p>Part 2 Division 5 of the Bill deals comprehensively with councillor conduct including the code of conduct.</p> <p>The Bill proposes a principles based Act requiring Council to have in place an extensive suite of governance policies.</p> <p>Section 56 Council must adopt and maintain a public transparency policy which gives effect to the public transparency principles and describes the ways in which Council documents and information are to be made publicly available.</p> <p>The Bill sets out an integrated planning and financial management framework which obliges Council to undertake an annual review of performance and plans.</p> <p>The Audit & Risk Committee, chaired independently and consisting of a majority of independent members, will be tasked with monitoring implementation of such policies.</p>

Category	Geelong Citizens' Jury Final Report January 2017 Recommendation	Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft
	<p>Councillors will operate with integrity and honesty and within the legal framework.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honest declaration of prior experience and interests at time of standing for Council. • Consequences for failure to follow Code of Conduct. • Declaration of conflicts of interest when particular issues are being considered. • Council will operate within the legal framework and the powers of Council. 	<p>Section 8 of the Bill requires that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.</p> <p>Part 7 Division 3 of the Bill provides for declaration of personal interests.</p> <p>Part 7 Divisions 5, 6 and 7 of the Bill provide for councillor conduct arrangements</p> <p>Part 7 Division 2 of the Bill provides for management of conflicts of interest</p>
	<p>Council will develop and follow a long term strategic plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic plan to include vision, goals, implementation and evaluation plus linked to other Council plans. 	<p>Section 83 of the Bill provides that Council must maintain a Community Vision that is developed with its municipal community covering at least the next 10 financial years.</p> <p>Section 84 of the Bill requires that strategic planning (including the City Plan) must address the Community Vision</p>
	<p>Council will operate effectively and efficiently.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council decisions linked to achievements of goals and desired outcomes. • Transparent allocation of resources and sound financial management. • Efficient use of council resources. 	<p>Section 8 of the Bill</p> <p>Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles and take into account the supporting principles. Overarching principles include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations • the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted • the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making • innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued • the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured • the public accountability of the Council must be recognised and the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured
The Mayor	The mayor is elected by the council from among the councillors.	Section 25 of the Bill provides that the mayor is elected by the councillors. Any councillor is eligible to be elected or re-elected to the office of mayor.
	The Mayor should serve a 2 year term.	Section 26 of the Bill provides that the Mayor of the Greater Geelong City Council must be elected for a 2 year term.

Category	Geelong Citizens' Jury Final Report January 2017 Recommendation	Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft
Wards and Councillors	A four ward structure, comprising of 11 councillors in total.	Part 2 Division 2 of the Bill provides for the electoral structure of Council.
	Wards be divided into rough geographical areas, dependent on the electoral population	Governor in Council may, on recommendation of the Minister, make an Order in Council to specify number of councillors, specify whether the municipality is unsubdivided or made up of wards, specify the number of councillors, alter ward boundaries, name wards.
	Proposed wards would encompass the Bellarine coastal region, the Northern region, suburban Geelong and central Geelong.	Each ward must have approximately an equal number of voters per Councillor and the number of voters per Councillor in a ward does not vary from the average number of voters per Councillor in any other ward by more than 10 per cent.
	Distribution of councillors would be three in each ward except for central Geelong, which would have two.	The Minister may establish an electoral representation advisory panel to provide advice to the Minister with respect to electoral structures which must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide fair and equitable representation • facilitate good governance • comply with any criteria prescribed by the regulations This process must include community engagement.
Aspirational	Broadcasting Council Meetings through multiple media platforms, ie. web, radio, podcast, etc to provide a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consistent flow of unedited data and information to the wider community in an open and transparent public forum. • platform for the community to refer back to, fostering a sense of involvement. 	No provisions in current or proposed legislation
	Facilitating Citizen Engagement to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide regular opportunities for community engagement through the use of citizens' juries and committees under Section 86 (where appropriate) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ advise council ○ review decisions ○ review performance in areas of major spending and planning 	Part 3 Division 1 of the Bill provides that Council must adopt and maintain a community engagement policy which gives effect to the community engagement principles. <p>The development of the Council Plan and the first Council budget after a general election must be undertaken in collaboration with the municipal community.</p>

Category	Geelong Citizens' Jury Final Report January 2017 Recommendation	Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft
	Citizens of Geelong Online Portal to provide a mechanism for citizen input and feedback to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve councillor awareness of community values, issues and ideas • engender community engagement • share and discuss new ideas 	No specific provisions in current or proposed legislation other than the obligations around community engagement and public transparency.
	Compulsory knowledge acquisition and training for candidates and elected councillors around the role of becoming a councillor, including councillor role orientation, council policies and processes to gain basic understanding of the responsibilities of the position.	No provisions in current or proposed legislation
	Education of community to promote democratic processes to ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the public is informed in matters of local government • democratic representation 	No provisions in current or proposed legislation
	Maximum size of Victorian municipalities to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimise disparity of representation among different municipalities • ensure councils don't get too big • distinguish local level government from higher-level government • achieve fewer larger multi councillor wards • provide compromise between diversity of local representation and focus on municipality wide issues • ensure strategic view of issues 	No provisions in current or proposed legislation
	Candidate and councillor public information to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • include more information about each potential councillor so voters can make more informed decisions. • improve accountability of council members 	The <i>Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2016</i> prescribe these matters.

Category	Geelong Citizens' Jury Final Report January 2017 Recommendation	Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft
	<p>Election process relating to the directly elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor model:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mayor would need to have been a councillor prior to running for the mayoral role, with a minimum of one term • Pre-training of any potential mayor would need to occur • election would occur at the same time as the councillors • A candidate must first nominate as a councillor and then may also nominate for a mayor or deputy mayor. • If the councillor picked as a popular choice through the whole of Geelong is not elected as a local councillor, they will not be mayor. The next most popular choice who is an elected councillor would become mayor. • mayoral candidate would need to cap any spending for advertising to a nominated figure. 	<p>The Bill provides that the mayor is elected by the councillors and not a direct election model.</p>
	<p>To prohibit developer financial and in-kind contributions to candidates and council staff, consistent with other states' legislation.</p>	<p>No provisions in current or proposed legislation</p>
	<p>Development of a Junior Council and appointment of a Junior Mayor to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enable young people who might have otherwise not known or been interested in Council to experience civic and democratic processes. • be representative of Council wards. • Raise youth-specific issues with input into Council. 	<p>No provisions in current or proposed legislation</p>
	<p>Greater administrative and advisory collaboration and support to Mayor, Deputy and Councillors to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build / develop a collaborative environment between the Mayor, the deputy, all councillors, the City of Greater Geelong, and the Vic. Govt. • ensure good governance. 	<p>Council must make available to the Mayor and the Councillors the resources and facilities reasonably necessary to enable them to effectively perform their role.</p>

Comparison of Commission of Inquiry Recommendations and Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft

Item	Relevant Commission of Inquiry into Greater Geelong City Council Report March 2016 Recommendation	Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft
Vision	Develop a 20 to 30-year outcome-focused vision and strategy for the Council and the City developed in consultation with key business, community and other stakeholders.	Section 83 of the Bill provides that Council must maintain a Community Vision that is developed with its municipal community covering at least the next 10 financial years.
	The long-term vision and strategy guide Council's approach to investment in and advocacy for the economic development, population growth, environmental sustainability and community services	Section 84 of the Bill requires that strategic planning (including the City Plan) must address the Community Vision
	Develop long-term capital investment, business and advocacy plans	Section 86 of the Bill requires Council to develop, adopt and keep in force a Financial Plan with a scope of at least the next 10 financial years. Section 87 of the Bill requires Council to develop, adopt and keep in force an Asset Plan with a scope of at least the next 10 financial years.
City Plan	The four-year City Plan be reviewed and recast consistent with the long-term vision and strategy for Geelong and to provide the context for feasibility studies to underpin decisions affecting all Council expenditures on major assets.	Section 84 of the Bill requires that strategic planning (including the City Plan) must address the Community Vision Section 85 of the Bill provides that Council must prepare and adopt a Council Plan by the next 30 June after a general election for a period of at least the next 4 financial years

Item	Relevant Commission of Inquiry into Greater Geelong City Council Report March 2016 Recommendation	Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft
Representation	Individual Councillor ward electoral system be replaced with multi-councillor wards to share representative responsibilities.	<p>Part 2 Division 2 of the Bill provides for the electoral structure of Council.</p> <p>Governor in Council may, on recommendation of the Minister, make an Order in Council to specify number of councillors, specify whether the municipality is unsubdivided or made up of wards, specify the number of councillors, alter ward boundaries, name wards.</p> <p>Each ward must have approximately an equal number of voters per Councillor and the number of voters per Councillor in a ward does not vary from the average number of voters per Councillor in any other ward by more than 10 per cent.</p> <p>The Minister may establish an electoral representation advisory panel to provide advice to the Minister with respect to electoral structures which must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide fair and equitable representation • facilitate good governance • comply with any criteria prescribed by the regulations <p>This process must include community engagement.</p>
Councillor support	Support for Councillors be strengthened through secondment of experienced administrators as councillor liaison officers to coordinate Administration support to individual Councillors in the discharge of their responsibilities as elected officials	Section 41 of the Bill provides that Council must make available to the Mayor and the Councillors the resources and facilities reasonably necessary to enable them to effectively perform their role.
Mayor	Positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor both be directly elected to strengthen support to the Mayor and enable a greater sharing of the workloads of office.	Section 25 of the Bill provides that the mayor is elected by the councillors. Any councillor is eligible to be elected or re-elected to the office of mayor.

Item	Relevant Commission of Inquiry into Greater Geelong City Council Report March 2016 Recommendation	Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft
Accountability	<p>The accountability provisions of the Local Government Act be strengthened through the insertion of provisions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make it a responsibility of the CEO to liaise with the mayor on the organisation’s affairs and performance • establish a reciprocal obligation by councillors to work constructively with the Mayor to establish good working relationships and good governance of the Council • enable the removal of individual councillors, including the mayor, for reasons and in a manner similar to the existing provisions in the Act for the removal of all councillors 	<p>Section 45 of the Draft Bill includes in the functions of the CEO the responsibility to support the Mayor and the Councillors in the performance of their roles and to ensure that Council receives timely and reliable advice about its obligations under this Act or any other Act.</p> <p>Section 34 of the Draft Bill requires councillors to acknowledge and support the role of the Mayor and participate in the responsible allocation of the resources of the Council and the strategic direction of the Council through the development and review of key strategic documents of the Council, including the Council Plan.</p> <p>Section 243 of the Draft Bill provides for the suspension of a councillor or councillors.</p>

7. GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL GENERAL ELECTION REPORT 2017

Source: Governance & Legal Services
Executive Manager: Rebecca Leonard
Index Reference: Elections

Purpose

To submit to Council the Victorian Electoral Commission's (the **VEC**) Election Report for the Greater Geelong City Council General Election 2017.

Background

The Greater Geelong City Council general election was held on 28 October 2017 by postal voting.

The election was conducted by the VEC, as the statutory election service provider to Greater Geelong City Council in accordance with clause 1 of Schedule 2 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the **Act**). The VEC is an independent and impartial statutory authority established under the *Electoral Act 2002*.

The Act requires that:

- 1) the returning officer must prepare a report to the Chief Executive Officer on the conduct of the election within the period of three months after Election Day;
- 2) the report must include a certified record of the number of ballot-papers and declarations printed, issued, used, spoiled and returned; and
- 3) the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that the report is submitted to the Council at the earliest practicable meeting of the Council held after the report is received by the Chief Executive Officer.

The report was received by Council on 24 January 2018.

Key Issues

- The report includes detailed information about the role of the Returning Officer, the Election Office, candidate services, enquiry services, issuing and return of ballot papers, the computer count and declaration of the results, voter participation, the communication campaign and complaints.
- The participation rate (total number of votes received as a percentage of the total enrolment) was 79.73% which compares favourably to the average of 75.67% for all postal elections held across the State at the 2016 local government elections (excluding Melbourne City Council).
- The informal voting rate was 6.53% which compares unfavourably with 6.06% for all postal elections held across the State at the 2016 local government elections. Greater Geelong City Council recorded an informal rate of 2.41% at its last general election in October 2012.
- The VEC received six written complaints during the election period. Four complaints were in relation to the administration of the election and two related to the conduct of a participant in the election.
- The VEC did not refer any complaints to the Local Government Investigations and Compliance Inspectorate as none alleged a breach of the Act.

Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Kontelj seconded -

That Council notes the Victorian Electoral Commission Greater Geelong City Council General Election 2017 Report at Attachment 2 to this report.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from the subject of this report.

Community Engagement

The VEC carried out a number of communications activities whilst conducting the election process. They included:

- publishing a series of statutory notices in relation to the Greater Geelong City Council general election. These notices are required by the Act and contain critical information relevant to each point of the election timeline.
- featuring interactive advertisements on Facebook targeting the Greater Geelong geographic area.
- conducting staged media releases aimed to highlight key milestones during the election timetable and capitalise on existing general news coverage.
- working with local community-based organisations to advertise the election, and to deliver a range of electoral inclusion initiatives, including enrolment sessions, voting, other electoral information and the provision of support resources. This focused on campaigns with three key target populations which included:
 - people experiencing homelessness;
 - culturally and linguistically diverse communities; and
 - people living with disability.

Social Equity Considerations

There are no social equity implications arising from the subject of this report.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

There is no Council policy relevant to the subject of this report.

Clause 14 of Schedule 3 of the Act requires the Chief Executive Officer to submit the report to Council at the earliest practicable meeting of Council held after the report is received by the Chief Executive Officer.

Conflict of Interest

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Risk Assessment

There are no significant or high risks associated with the subject of this report.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from the subject of this report.

POSTAL

GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL
GENERAL ELECTION

2017



COUNCIL ELECTION

REPORT



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Letter of Transmittal

22 January 2018

Kelvin Spiller
Chief Executive Officer
Greater Geelong City Council
City Hall, 30 Gheringhap Street
Geelong Vic 3220

Dear Mr Spiller

Pursuant to clause 14 of Schedule 3 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, I submit this report on the Greater Geelong City Council general election held in October 2017.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Warwick Gately', with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Warwick Gately AM
Electoral Commissioner

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Introduction

The Greater Geelong City Council general election was held on 28 October 2017 by postal voting.

The election was conducted by the Victorian Electoral Commission (**VEC**), as the statutory election service provider to Greater Geelong City Council in accordance with clause 1 of Schedule 2 of the *Local Government Act 1989 (the LG Act)*.

About the Victorian Electoral Commission

The VEC is an independent and impartial statutory authority established under the *Electoral Act 2002 (the Electoral Act)*. The VEC conducts Victorian State elections, local government elections, certain statutory elections and commercial and community elections. The VEC also conducts boundary reviews, electoral representation and subdivision reviews, and maintains the Victorian electoral enrolment register. The VEC's electoral education and research programs work to engage and inform all Victorians who are entitled to enrol and vote in the democratic process.

The Electoral Commissioner is Warwick Gately AM, and the Deputy Electoral Commissioner is Liz Williams. The Commissioner reports to the Victorian Parliament in relation to the VEC's activities.

The Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner are assisted by an Executive Management Group to deliver the functions of the VEC. The Local Government Program Manager, Katrina Collins, oversees the VEC's local government electoral activity and co-chairs the Planning Group, comprised of activity and project leads from across the organisation.

About Greater Geelong City Council

Greater Geelong City Council is comprised of 11 councillors elected from three three-councillor wards and one two-councillor ward. The Greater Geelong City Council structure was last reviewed by the VEC's electoral representation review process in 2016 and was considered, in detail, by the Geelong Citizens' Jury in 2017. The next scheduled review of Greater Geelong City Council is required before the 2028 local government elections.

Figure 1 shows the electoral structure of Greater Geelong City Council.



Figure 1. The electoral structure of Greater Geelong City Council at the general election held on 28 October 2017.

Key changes

Changes in legislation

The electoral provisions in the LG Act were amended in 2015 to clarify responsibilities for preparing and conducting local government elections, to strengthen provisions in relation to the eligibility of candidates, and to amend the powers of the Returning Officer. In July 2016, the Victorian Government also made the new Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2016 (the Regulations) to govern the operations of local government elections.

Extended postal vote receipt period

The Regulations provided an extended period for postal votes to be received and accepted by the Returning Officer during the week after Election Day. Compared with previous elections of Greater Geelong City Council, this changed the VEC's timeline for completing the counting of ballot papers and the availability of results for all contested elections.

Introduction of the candidate questionnaire

The Regulations introduced a set of prescribed questions that candidates were invited to answer through the candidate questionnaire.

Changes to indication of preferences

In August 2016, the Legislative Council disallowed Regulation 38 of the Regulations. This removed the opportunity for candidates at elections held by postal voting to lodge an indication of preferences for inclusion in the ballot pack mailed to voters.

Election timeline

Deadline fixed by the Registrar for council primary enrolment data	Monday 7 August 2017
Entitlement date	4.00 pm on Friday 1 September 2017
Opening of the election office to the public	Wednesday 20 September 2017
Certification of the voters' roll and opening of nominations	Thursday 21 September 2017
Close of nominations	12 noon on Tuesday 26 September 2017
Ballot draw	From 1.00 pm on Tuesday 26 September 2017
Deadline for lodging candidate statements, photographs and candidate questionnaires	12 noon on Wednesday 27 September 2017
General mail out of ballot packs to voters	Tuesday 10 October – Thursday 12 October 2017
Close of voting	6.00 pm on Friday 27 October 2017
Election Day	Saturday 28 October 2017
Close of the extended postal vote receipt period	12 noon on Friday 3 November 2017
Declaration of the election	4.00 pm on Monday 6 November 2017

Voters' roll

The VEC prepared the Greater Geelong City Council voters' roll for the general election under section 8(2)(c) of the Electoral Act and in accordance with section 24 of the LG Act. Pursuant to section 24(6) of the LG Act, the Registrar, Keegan Bartlett, certified the voters' roll on Thursday 21 September 2017.

The certified voters' roll for the Greater Geelong City Council general election included 194,721 enrolled voters.

Composition of the roll

The LG Act specifies that the voters' roll for a local government election is formed by combining two separate lists of voters:

1. The Victorian Electoral Commissioner's (EC's) List of State electors.

The EC's List made up 88.69% percent of the Greater Geelong City Council voters' roll.

2. The Chief Executive Officer's (CEO's) List of council-entitled voters.

The CEO's List made up 11.31% percent of the Greater Geelong City Council voters' roll.

Refer to **Appendix 1** for a further breakdown of the Greater Geelong City Council general election voters' roll.

Amendments to the voters' roll

In accordance with section 24A of the LG Act, the Registrar was able to amend any error in the preparation, printing or copying of the voters' roll, or correct any misnomer or inaccurate description of any person, place or thing on the voters' roll. If the amendment relates to a CEO's List voter, the Registrar must obtain the approval of the Council's Chief Executive Officer prior to amending the roll.

The Registrar made no amendments to the Greater Geelong City Council voters' roll.

Advertising and communication

Advertising

The VEC published a series of statutory notices in relation to the Greater Geelong City Council general election. These notices are required by the LG Act and contain critical information relevant to each point of the election timeline. Refer to **Appendix 2** for further information in relation to the statutory advertising.

The VEC also featured interactive advertisements on Facebook. These advertisements targeted the Greater Geelong geographic area.

Media liaison

The VEC's media liaison program principally featured staged media releases aimed to highlight key milestones during the election timetable and capitalise on existing general news coverage. More information on the VEC's media release schedule is available at **Appendix 3**.

The VEC's communication team supported the Returning Officer as the primary media spokesperson.

Public education and outreach

The VEC's Education and Inclusion team worked with local community-based organisations to advertise the election, and to deliver a range of electoral inclusion initiatives, including enrolment sessions, voting, other electoral information and the provision of support resources. The VEC focused on campaigns with three key target populations which included:

- people experiencing homelessness
- culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities and
- people living with disability.

More detail on the information sessions is available at **Appendix 4**.

Blind and low vision services

The VEC worked with Vision Australia and Blind Citizens Australia to provide election information to blind and low vision voters. This included making large print and audio files available for download and 'BrowseAloud' functionality of the VEC website. Braille and large print ballot material was also available to voters who had registered for these products, and on request.

Interpreting services

The VEC engaged the Victorian Interpreting and Language Services' Language Link to provide a telephone interpreting service for multi-language telephone enquiries. The VEC advertised direct lines for 20 languages other than English and a general line for all other languages.

Telephone enquiry service

A local telephone enquiry service operated at the election office from Wednesday 20 September 2017 until the close of voting at 6.00 pm on Friday 27 October 2017. The types of calls related to:

- voting entitlements and obligations
- enrolment questions
- non-receipt of ballot material

- spoilt or destroyed ballot material requiring replacement ballot packs to be issued
- voters advising they were overseas or interstate, and
- queries regarding the content of the ballot pack.

Returning Officer

The VEC maintains a pool of trained senior election officials located across the State to fill election management roles that occur for State and local government elections. Additional election-specific training is provided to relevant senior election officials prior to each election management appointment.

In accordance with section 3 of the LG Act, the Electoral Commissioner appointed Colin Riley as the Returning Officer for the Greater Geelong City Council general election and appointed Heidi Burnell, Brian Cullen and Noel McPhee as Deputy Returning Officers for the election.

Election office

The Returning Officer established an election office at Busport, 17 Gheringhap Street, Geelong. The venue established was provided by the council.

The election office was open to the public between Wednesday 20 September 2017 and Friday 27 October 2017. The hours of operation were 9.00 am to 5.00 pm weekdays, except on public holidays. The hours were extended on Thursday 26 October 2017 (9.00 am to 8.00 pm) and Friday 27 October 2017 (9.00 am to 6.00 pm) to allow for last minute voting enquiries.

Candidates

Nominations for the election opened at 9.00 am on Thursday 21 September 2017 and closed at 12 noon on Tuesday 26 September 2017. Nomination forms were required to be lodged by candidates in person at the election office. A \$250 nomination fee applied.

Information for candidates

Candidates were able to access information on the VEC's website about the process of nominating and becoming a candidate.

The VEC's *Candidate Helper* went live on Thursday 7 September 2017, enabling candidates to pre-complete their nomination and other forms online before lodging them in person with the Returning Officer.

The Returning Officer conducted a candidate information session on Tuesday 19 September 2017. Approximately 50 people attended the session. The presentation at the session summarised critical aspects of the *Candidate Handbook* and the election timeline. Candidates were

able to access a candidate information kit, which included the *Candidate Handbook*, as well as a number of other relevant forms and documents.

Candidates in the election

The election involved a total of 53 candidates with 13 candidates nominating for Bellarine Ward, 18 for Brownbill Ward, 11 for Kardinia Ward and 11 for Windermere Ward.

All candidates submitted a statement and photo to be included in the ballot material.

The ballot draws for each ward were conducted shortly after the close of nominations on Tuesday 26 September 2017 to determine the order of candidates' names on the ballot papers (see **Appendix 5**).

Further information about the candidates, including candidate statements and photographs is available at **Appendix 6**.

Candidate questionnaire

In addition to a statement and photograph, candidates were able to lodge their answers to a set of prescribed questions in accordance with the Regulations. The Returning Officer accepted questionnaire submissions lodged by all 53 candidates for the election.

Voters could access candidates' answers to the candidate questionnaire through the VEC website, or by requesting a hardcopy from the Returning Officer.

Retirement of a candidate

During the voting period it was identified that Stephen McGain, a candidate for Bellarine Ward was ineligible to be a candidate for the election. On Friday 20 October 2017, in accordance with clause 9A of Schedule 2 of the LG Act, candidate McGain was retired, and a public notice of retirement published (as required under clause 8 of Schedule 2 of the LG Act - see **Appendix 2.5**).

As the retirement occurred during the voting period, preferences recorded on completed ballot papers against candidate McGain were treated as removed by the Returning Officer in accordance with clause 8(8) of Schedule 2 of the LG Act.

Voting

Early votes

The Returning Officer may issue an early vote prior to the general mail-out of ballot material upon request by an enrolled voter if the request is reasonable. Requests for early votes could be processed from Wednesday 27 September 2017, the day after nominations closed, until the general mail out. Due to the timing of some requests

for early votes, not all early voters had access to the candidates' statements, photographs, or candidate questionnaires. The Returning Officer issued a total of 198 early votes.

General mail out

The VEC mailed out 194,706 ballot packs between Tuesday 10 October 2017 and Thursday 12 October 2017. This number was 15 less than the enrolment as at certification due to advice being received of deceased or duplicate electors. The number of ballot packs mailed included 15 ballot packs that were redirected to alternative addresses by voters that had applied to redirect their ballot pack before Thursday 21 September 2017.

In accordance with the Regulations, no more than 35 percent of ballot packs were mailed out for each ward on any one day during the mail out period. All ballot packs were mailed out using Australia Post's priority paid service.

Refer to **Appendix 7** for a daily breakdown of the ballot packs mailed out on each day during the general mail out.

Following the general mail out, the Returning Officer also issued 1,566 replacement ballot packs to enrolled voters that advised they had not received their general mail out ballot pack or had destroyed or spoilt their ballot material.

Unenrolled declaration votes

Unenrolled declaration votes were issued to persons that did not receive a ballot pack and whose name could not be found on the voters' roll but believed that they were entitled to be enrolled for the election. The unenrolled ballot pack included a declaration that was required to be completed by the person to be assessed by the Returning Officer prior to admitting the ballot pack for counting.

The Returning Officer issued 66 unenrolled declaration votes, of these 6 were admitted to the count.

Return of ballot paper envelopes

Voters were provided with a pre-addressed reply-paid envelope for the return of their completed vote. The reply paid envelopes were ward specific and used Australia Post's priority paid service. The VEC's arrangements with Australia Post allowed returned mail to be pre-sorted to each ward. Return mail could be collected by the Returning Officer, or delivered to the election office from a nearby postal facility or distribution centre.

The Returning Officer had received 135,157 returned ballot paper envelopes through the post by the close of voting at 6.00 pm on Friday 27 October 2017.

The Regulations allowed for the Returning Officer to accept returned ballot paper envelopes received by post before 12 noon on Friday 3 November 2017 if satisfied that the vote had been posted prior to the close of voting. The Returning Officer accepted 21,143 ballot paper envelopes returned during the extended postal vote receipt period.

The Returning Officer admitted a total of 149,955 ballot paper envelopes to the extraction and counting process. Any ballot paper envelopes not signed by the voter or, in the case of unenrolled declaration votes, where an entitlement was not found for the person, were set aside and not admitted to the extraction and count.

By the close of voting, 3,294 ballot packs had been returned to the Returning Officer as return-to-sender mail. Most of this mail was due to the addressee having left the address.

Results

Extraction

Following the close of voting, the extraction of ballot papers occurred at Geelong West Town Hall, 153 Pakington Street, Geelong West commencing on Saturday 28 October 2017. The extraction of all admitted ballot paper envelopes was completed on Friday 3 November 2017, following the close of the extended postal vote receipt period. The extraction process involved separating the declaration flaps containing the voter's details from each admitted ballot paper envelope, and then extracting the contents from the ballot paper envelope. This two-stage process maintains anonymity and ensures the number of envelopes is tracked for ongoing reconciliation.

Any returned ballot paper envelopes found not to contain a regulation ballot paper or that contained more than one ballot paper were required to be rejected and could not be counted. There were 340 returned ballot paper envelopes rejected during the extraction activity.

Following the extraction of ballot papers from the returned ballot paper envelopes, a total of 149,616 proceeded to the count.

Counting

Ballot papers for the four wards were counted by computer data entry using the VEC's computer counting application at Marcus Oldham College, 145 Pigdons Road, Waurin Ponds. The application distributes preferences using the proportional representation method once data entry of ballot paper preferences is complete. The Returning Officer invited candidates and their scrutineers to attend an information session on the computer count process, which was held at 6.30 pm on

Tuesday 24 October 2017 in the Council Chambers, Geelong City Hall, 30 Gheringhap Street, Geelong.

Following the completion of data entry, the provisional results were calculated at 3.00 pm on Saturday 4 November 2017 at the election office. The provisional results were published to the VEC website as they became available.

For a breakdown of the first preference results by ward, and successful candidates refer to **Appendix 8**. Full preference distributions are available on the VEC website.

Declaration of results

The results of the Greater Geelong City Council general election were declared at 4.00 pm on Monday 6 November 2017 in the Council Chambers, Geelong City Hall, 30 Gheringhap Street, Geelong.

The VEC website was updated following all declarations to reflect the elected candidates for each ward in the election.

Election statistics

Participation

Participation is measured by the number of marks on the roll as a percentage of the total enrolment and can vary from turnout.

Overall participation in the Greater Geelong City Council general election was 79.73%, which is compared to an average of 75.67% for all postal elections held across the State at the 2016 local government elections (excluding Melbourne City Council).

Analysis of voter participation for the different enrolment categories shows that participation is higher for voters who are enrolled on the EC's List, for which voting is compulsory (82.16%) compared to voters enrolled on the CEO's List, where voting is not compulsory (60.61%).

Refer to **Appendix 9** for further information on participation, including a breakdown by enrolment category and by ward.

Turnout

Voter turnout is measured by the number of formal and informal votes counted in the election as a percentage of voters on the roll.

The voter turnout for the Greater Geelong City Council general election was 76.84%. This is compared with an average turnout of 73.75% for all postal elections held across the State at the 2016 local government elections (excluding Melbourne City Council Leadership Team). Greater Geelong City Council recorded a turnout of

77.70% at its last general election in October 2012 and 78.26% at the mayoral by-election in November 2013.

Informality

The informal vote recorded at the Greater Geelong City Council general election was 6.53%, compared with 6.06% for all postal elections held across the State at the 2016 local government elections. Greater Geelong City Council recorded an informal rate of 2.41% at its last general election in October 2012 and 5.40% at the mayoral by-election in November 2013.

Complaints

Type of Complaints

At local government elections, complaints generally fall into two broad categories:

- 1. The conduct of participants in the election.**
Complaints about the conduct of candidates and other participants in the election, at times alleging a breach of the LG Act or local laws.
- 2. The administration of the election.**
Complaints about the conduct of the election and services to voters.

Complaints process

The VEC operates a streamlined complaints process during elections that has been developed in consultation with local councils and enforcement agencies. The process requires complaints to be lodged, in writing, and then processed through the VEC's head office in Melbourne.

Each complaint is evaluated and an appropriate course of action is determined. Complaints alleging a breach of the LG Act, for example, are forwarded to the Local Government Investigations and Compliance Inspectorate (LGICI). Complaints about the VEC's services or the behaviour or actions of VEC staff and election officials are the responsibility of the VEC. In these cases, the VEC investigates the matter and determines the most appropriate response.

Complaints received

The VEC received six written complaints during the election period. Four complaints were in relation to the administration of the election and two related to the conduct of a participant in the election.

The VEC did not refer any complaints to the LGICI as none alleged a breach of the LG Act.

On average the VEC responded to complaints in relation to the Greater Geelong City Council general election in three days.

Post-election activities

Storage of election material

All records from the election will be kept by the VEC safely and secretly in accordance with Regulation 117 of the Regulations.

Refund of nomination fee

Nomination fees were refunded to eligible candidates in November 2017. Eligible candidates included those who were elected or who received at least four percent of the first preference vote. Any forfeited nomination fees were remitted to Greater Geelong City Council in November 2017.

Courts and tribunals

There were no applications to the Municipal Electoral Tribunal disputing the results of the Greater Geelong City Council general election.

Non-voter follow up

In accordance with Division 7 of Part 3 of the LG Act, the VEC has commenced its compulsory voting enforcement. Any person who was required to vote at the Greater Geelong City Council general election and failed to vote will be issued with an Apparent Failure-to-vote Notice. A person who does not respond to that notice or does not provide a satisfactory response to the notice will be issued with an Infringement Notice that will incur a penalty. Further follow-up by way of a Penalty Reminder Notice will also take place. Penalties collected on behalf of council will be reimbursed at the end of the Infringement and Penalty Reminder Notices stages.

Additionally, during the Infringement and Penalty Reminder Notice stages non-voters may request for their matter to proceed directly to the Magistrates' Court. It is anticipated that any such lodgements will occur during the 2018-19 financial year; at the conclusion of the VEC enforcement process. Following the conclusion of the Penalty Reminder Notice stage the VEC will lodge the file of any remaining non-voters with Fines Victoria.

Evaluating the VEC's services

The VEC is committed to providing high quality election services to its local government clients. Through the VEC's formal feedback and debriefing program, the VEC is able to gauge its performance and seek advice for future local government election projects.

Feedback from Greater Geelong City Council

Through its contact officer at Greater Geelong City Council, the VEC invited feedback on its services. Further feedback may also be provided to the Program Manager

for Local Government elections by emailing

LGProgram@vec.vic.gov.au

Internal debriefing activity

The VEC has commenced its debriefing activity following the Greater Geelong City Council general election.

In due course, the VEC will publish a consolidated report on its performance and key statistics from the Greater Geelong City Council general election. A copy of this report will be forwarded to Greater Geelong City Council.

Schedule 1: Record of ballot papers

Greater Geelong City Council, Bellarine Ward election	
Ballot papers printed	
Victorian Electoral Commission	67,000
Returning Officer	44
Total	67,044
Ballot papers issued	
General mail out	56,364
Replacement votes	478
Unenrolled declaration voters	26
Spoilt	0
Unused	10,176
Total	67,044
Declarations returned	
General mail out admitted to processing	42,455
Replacement votes admitted to processing	432
Unenrolled declaration voters admitted to processing	4
Returned declarations unable to admit to processing	2,546
Total	45,437

Greater Geelong City Council, Brownbill Ward election

Ballot papers printed	
Victorian Electoral Commission	67,000
Returning Officer	37
Total	67,037

Ballot papers issued	
General mail out	55,693
Replacement votes	492
Unenrolled declaration voters	11
Spoilt	0
Unused	10,841
Total	67,037

Declarations returned	
General mail out admitted to processing	42,736
Replacement votes admitted to processing	459
Unenrolled declaration voters admitted to processing	1
Returned declarations unable to admit to processing	1,474
Total	44,670

Greater Geelong City Council, Kardinia Ward election

Ballot papers printed

Victorian Electoral Commission	59,000
Returning Officer	32
Total	59,032

Ballot papers issued

General mail out	49,129
Replacement votes	411
Unenrolled declaration voters	13
Spoilt	0
Unused	9,479
Total	59,032

Declarations returned

General mail out admitted to processing	38,405
Replacement votes admitted to processing	380
Unenrolled declaration voters admitted to processing	0
Returned declarations unable to admit to processing	1,271
Total	40,056

Greater Geelong City Council, Windermere Ward election	
Ballot papers printed	
Victorian Electoral Commission	41,000
Returning Officer	19
Total	41,019
Ballot papers issued	
General mail out	33,520
Replacement votes	285
Unenrolled declaration voters	16
Spoilt	0
Unused	7,198
Total	41,019
Declarations returned	
General mail out admitted to the count	24,817
Replacement votes admitted to the count	265
Unenrolled declaration voters admitted to the count	1
Returned declarations unable to admit to count	1,031
Total	26,114

Schedule 2: Certification statement

I certify that Schedule 1 of this report on the conduct of the Greater Geelong City Council general election is a true and correct account of the number of ballot papers issued, returned and not used in this election.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Warwick Gatley', written in a cursive style.

Warwick Gatley AM
Electoral Commissioner

Appendix 1: Breakdown of the voters' roll

Greater Geelong City Council	
Whole of council enrolment	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 12 of the LG Act	172,697
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 13 – 16 of the LG Act	22,024
Total	194,721
Bellarine Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 12 of the LG Act	44,769
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 13 – 16 of the LG Act	11,595
Bellarine Ward election total	56,364
Brownbill Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 12 of the LG Act	51,799
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 13 – 16 of the LG Act	3,901
Brownbill Ward election total	55,700
Kardinia Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 12 of the LG Act	45,350
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 13 – 16 of the LG Act	3,786
Kardinia Ward election total	49,136
Windermere election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 12 of the LG Act	30,779
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 13 – 16 of the LG Act	2,742
Windermere election total	33,521

Appendix 2: Public notices

Schedule of public notices

Greater Geelong City Council general election	
Notice of entitlement (see Appendix 2.1 for example)	
<i>Geelong Advertiser</i>	12 August 2017
<i>Bellarine/Surf Coast/Armstrong Creek Times</i>	17 August 2017
<i>Geelong Echo</i>	17 August 2017
<i>Geelong Independent</i>	18 August 2017
<i>Ocean Grove Voice</i>	16 August 2017
Notice of election (see Appendix 2.2 for example)	
<i>Geelong Advertiser</i>	9 September 2017
<i>Bellarine/Surf Coast/Armstrong Creek Times</i>	7 September 2017
<i>Geelong Echo</i>	7 September 2017
<i>Geelong Independent</i>	8 September 2017
<i>Ocean Grove Voice</i>	13 September 2017
Voting details notice (see Appendix 2.3 for example)	
<i>Geelong Advertiser</i>	7 October 2017
<i>Bellarine/Surf Coast/Armstrong Creek Times</i>	5 October 2017
<i>Geelong Echo</i>	5 October 2017
<i>Geelong Independent</i>	6 October 2017
<i>Ocean Grove Voice</i>	27 September 2017

Reminder notice (see Appendix 2.4 for example)

<i>Geelong Advertiser</i>	14 & 21 October 2017
<i>Bellarine/Surf Coast/Armstrong Creek Times</i>	12 & 19 October 2017
<i>Geelong Echo</i>	12 & 19 October 2017
<i>Geelong Independent</i>	13 & 20 October 2017
<i>Ocean Grove Voice</i>	11 & 18 October 2017

Notice of candidate retirement (see Appendix 2.5 for example)

<i>Geelong Advertiser</i>	26 October 2017
<i>Bellarine/Surf Coast/Armstrong Creek Times</i>	26 October 2017
<i>Geelong Echo</i>	26 October 2017
<i>Geelong Independent</i>	27 October 2017
<i>Ocean Grove Voice</i>	Unable to publish due to timing

Notice of results (see Appendix 2.6 for example)

<i>Geelong Advertiser</i>	11 November 2017
<i>Bellarine/Surf Coast/Armstrong Creek Times</i>	16 November 2017
<i>Geelong Echo</i>	16 November 2017
<i>Geelong Independent</i>	17 November 2017
<i>Ocean Grove Voice</i>	22 November 2017

Appendix 2.1: Notice of entitlement for Greater Geelong City Council general election



**CITY OF GREATER
GEEELONG**

Greater Geelong City Council Elections

Your Council, Your Vote

You must be enrolled to vote

Elections will be held for Greater Geelong City Council in October 2017.
To be able to vote, you must be enrolled by 4.00 pm on Friday 1 September 2017.

You are already enrolled for this election if:

- you will be 18 years of age or over on Saturday 28 October 2017 **AND**
- you live in the City of Greater Geelong and you are on the State electoral roll for your present address **OR**
- you own property in the City of Greater Geelong, don't live in the municipality, and you are the first or second-named person on the Council's rate records.* **OR**
- you enrolled through Council for this October's elections.

*If you own more than one property in the municipality, you may specify to Council the property for which you wish to claim entitlement by 4.00 pm on Friday 1 September 2017.

You need to enrol if:

- you are an Australian citizen aged 18 or over on Saturday 28 October 2017 **AND**
- you are not on the State electoral roll **OR**
- you have lived at your present residential address for at least a month and have not updated your enrolment details, including any changes to your postal address.

How do you enrol?

Enrol online at vec.vic.gov.au or pick up a form at any post office or Australian Electoral Commission office and return it to the Victorian Electoral Commission by 4.00 pm on Friday 1 September 2017.

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:

- አማርኛ 9209 0190 Amharic • عربي 9209 0100 Arabic • Босански 9209 0191 Bosnian
- 粵語 9209 0101 Cantonese • Hrvatski 9209 0102 Croatian • دري 9209 0193 Dari
- Dinka 9209 0119 Dinka • Ελληνικά 9209 0103 Greek • Italiano 9209 0104 Italian • ខ្មែរ 9209 0192 Khmer
- 한국어 9209 0194 Korean • Македонски 9209 0105 Macedonian • 國語 9209 0106 Mandarin
- فارسی 9209 0195 Persian • Русский 9209 0196 Russian • Српски 9209 0107 Serbian
- Soomaali 9209 0108 Somali • Español 9209 0109 Spanish • Türkçe 9209 0110 Turkish
- Việt-ngữ 9209 0111 Vietnamese • All other non-English languages 9209 0112

You may also apply to enrol if:

- you are not an Australian citizen, but you live and pay rates in the City of Greater Geelong **OR**
- you pay rates on a property you occupy in the City of Greater Geelong and have no other voting entitlement within that municipality, e.g. you are a shop tenant and are either named on the Council's rates records to receive the rates notice or have the written consent of the owner to vote in their place **OR**
- you are a director or company secretary of a corporation that pays rates in the City of Greater Geelong and have no other voting entitlement within that municipality.

If you meet the above criteria and wish to enrol, contact Greater Geelong City Council on (03) 5272 4667 for a special enrolment form.

Checking your enrolment?

If you are an Australian citizen you can check your enrolment details at vec.vic.gov.au at any time, or call 1300 805 478.

If you are not an Australian citizen or you are a non-resident, contact the council on (03) 5272 4667.

**Enrol before 4.00 pm
Friday 1 September 2017**

Register for SMS and email alerts at vec.vic.gov.au


vec.vic.gov.au

Victorian Electoral Commission




Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Appendix 2.2: Notice of election for Greater Geelong City Council general election


Greater Geelong City Council Elections

Your Council, Your Vote



Vote by post this October

Voting
Ballot packs will be mailed to voters enrolled in the Greater Geelong City Council elections from Tuesday 10 October 2017. Your completed ballot material must be in the mail or hand-delivered to the Returning Officer by 6.00 pm on Friday 27 October.



If you will be away
If you will be away or your mailing address will change after Friday 1 September, you can apply for your ballot pack to be redirected. Download the Redirection of Ballot Pack form at vec.vic.gov.au/GeelongElection or write to:
Returning Officer
Greater Geelong City Council election
c/- Victorian Electoral Commission
Level 11, 530 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Completed applications can be:

- faxed to (03) 9620 1568
- scanned and emailed to redirections@vec.vic.gov.au, or
- mailed to the Returning Officer.

 Each voter requesting redirection must sign their request. Requests for redirection must be received by 5.00 pm on Thursday 21 September 2017.

Large print and braille ballot papers
Large print or braille ballot papers are available for blind and low vision voters who register by 5.00 pm Wednesday 13 September. To register, call (03) 8620 1122 during business hours.

How to nominate as a candidate
To nominate as a candidate you must complete a nomination form and lodge it, together with the \$250 nomination fee, in person with the Returning Officer. Nomination forms can be lodged during business hours from Thursday 21 September until 12 noon on Tuesday 26 September at:
Busport, 17 Gheringhap Street, Geelong

To help reduce waiting time while nominations are processed, visit vec.vic.gov.au and pre-complete your nomination form using the Candidate Helper. The Candidate Helper will be available from Thursday 7 September. Print your pre-completed form and lodge it with the Returning Officer along with the \$250 nomination fee. Call the Returning Officer from Wednesday 20 September on (03) 8619 1421 to make a nomination appointment.

Candidate information session
When: 6.30 pm Tuesday 19 September 2017
Where: Council Chambers, Geelong City Hall, 30 Gheringhap Street, Geelong
Candidate Information Kits containing nomination forms and other electoral information will be available at this session.

Colin Riley
Returning Officer


Nominations close 12 noon Tuesday 26 September
Register for SMS and email alerts at vec.vic.gov.au/GeelongElection

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:
 • អរម៉េត 9209 0180 Amharic • العربية 9209 0100 Arabic • Босански 9209 0191 Bosnian • 粵語 9209 0101 Cantonese • Hrvatski 9209 0102 Croatian • دینکا 9209 0183 Dari • Dinka 9209 0119 Dinka
 • Ελληνικά 9209 0103 Greek • Italiano 9209 0104 Italian • Кример 9209 0192 Krimer • 한국어 9209 0194 Korean • Македонски 9209 0105 Macedonian • 國語 9209 0106 Mandarin • فارسی 9209 0195 Persian
 • Русский 9209 0196 Russian • Српски 9209 0107 Serbian • Соомали 9209 0108 Somali • Español 9209 0109 Spanish • Türkçe 9209 0110 Turkish • Việt-ngữ 9209 0111 Vietnamese
 • All other non-English languages 9209 0112

vec.vic.gov.au

[/electionsvic](https://www.facebook.com/electionsvic)

[@electionsvic](https://twitter.com/electionsvic)


Victorian Electoral Commission 

Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria. 720384

Appendix 2.3: Voting details notice for Greater Geelong City Council general election

Greater Geelong City Council Elections

Your Council, Your Vote



Postal election: check the mail for your ballot pack

Ballot packs containing voting material will be mailed to enrolled voters from Tuesday 10 October 2017.
This is a postal election.

If you do not receive your ballot pack by Wednesday 18 October please call (03) 8619 1421 during office hours to arrange an alternative.

Candidates

Candidates who have nominated to stand for election will be listed in the ballot packs and at vec.vic.gov.au. Where provided by candidates, a photo and a statement will also be included.

Responses to the candidate questionnaire, where provided, will also be available at vec.vic.gov.au.

How to vote correctly

You must complete your ballot paper correctly for your vote to count. Put the number **1** in the box next to the candidate you most want to see elected, then number **ALL** the other boxes in order of your preference. You must number **EVERY BOX** and only use each number once.

How to return your ballot material

Post your completed ballot paper using the reply-paid envelope provided, or hand-deliver it during office hours to:
Busport, 17 Gheringhap Street, Geelong

Voting is compulsory

Voting is compulsory for voters who were on the State roll at 4.00 pm on Friday 1 September 2017.
Enrolled residents may be fined if they do not vote — this includes homeowners and tenants.

You are encouraged to vote (but won't be fined if you don't) if:

- you are aged 70 years or over **OR**
- you live outside this council area **OR**
- you applied directly with Council to be on the roll.

Colin Riley
Returning Officer
Busport, 17 Gheringhap Street, Geelong
Tel: (03) 8619 1421 for general enquiries

Office hours:

- o 9.00 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays)
- o 9.00 am to 8.00 pm Thursday 26 October
- o 9.00 am to 6.00 pm Friday 27 October


Your completed ballot material must be in the mail or hand-delivered by 6.00 pm Friday 27 October

Register for SMS and email alerts at vec.vic.gov.au/GeelongElection

For enquiries in languages other than English call our Interpreting service:

• 0699 8206 0190 Amharic • 9209 0100 Arabic • 9209 0191 Bosnian • 9209 0101 Cantonese • 9209 0102 Croatian • 9209 0193 Dari • 9209 0118 Dinka
 • 9209 0103 Greek • 9209 0104 Italian • 9209 0192 Khmer • 9209 0194 Korean • 9209 0105 Macedonian • 9209 0106 Mandarin • 9209 0195 Persian
 • 9209 0196 Russian • 9209 0107 Serbian • 9209 0108 Somali • 9209 0109 Spanish • 9209 0110 Turkish • 9209 0111 Vietnamese
 • All other non-English languages 9209 0112

vec.vic.gov.au [/electionsvic](https://www.facebook.com/electionsvic) [@electionsvic](https://twitter.com/electionsvic) (03) 8619 1421

Victorian Electoral Commission 

Authorised by W. Cateby, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.


720385

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Appendix 2.4: Reminder notice for Greater Geelong City Council general election

Greater Geelong City Council Elections

Your Council, Your Vote



Postal election: check the mail for your ballot pack

Ballot packs containing voting material were mailed to enrolled voters from Tuesday 10 October 2017.

This is a postal election.

If you have not received your ballot pack, please call (03) 8619 1421 during office hours to arrange an alternative.

Candidates

Candidates who have nominated to stand for election will be listed in the ballot packs and at vec.vic.gov.au. Where provided by candidates, a photo and a statement will also be included.

Responses to the candidate questionnaire, where provided, will be available at vec.vic.gov.au.

How to vote correctly

You must complete your ballot paper correctly for your vote to count. Put the number **1** in the box next to the candidate you most want to see elected, then number **ALL** the other boxes in order of your preference. You must number **EVERY BOX** and only use each number once.

How to return your ballot material

Post your completed ballot paper using the reply-paid envelope provided, or hand-deliver it during office hours to:

Busport, 17 Gheringhap Street, Geelong

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:

• አማርኛ 9209 0190 Amharic • عربي 9209 0100 Arabic • Босански 9209 0191 Bosnian • 粵語 9209 0101 Cantonese • Hrvatski 9209 0102 Croatian • دینکی 9209 0193 Dari • Dinka 9209 0119 Dinka • Ελληνικό 9209 0103 Greek • Italiano 9209 0104 Italian • ខ្មែរ 9209 0192 Khmer • 한국어 9209 0194 Korean • Македонски 9209 0105 Macedonian • 國語 9209 0106 Mandarin • فارسی 9209 0195 Persian • Русский 9209 0196 Russian • Српски 9209 0107 Serbian • Soomaali 9209 0108 Somali • Español 9209 0109 Spanish • Türkçe 9209 0110 Turkish • Việt-ngữ 9209 0111 Vietnamese

• All other non-English languages 9209 0112

Voting is compulsory

Voting is compulsory for voters who were on the State roll at 4.00 pm on Friday 1 September 2017.

Enrolled residents may be fined if they do not vote — this includes homeowners and tenants.

You are encouraged to vote (but won't be fined if you don't) if:

- you are aged 70 years or over **OR**
- you live outside this council area **OR**
- you applied directly with Council to be on the roll.

Colin Riley
Returning Officer
 Busport, 17 Gheringhap Street, Geelong
 Tel: (03) 8619 1421 for general enquiries
 Office hours:

- 9.00 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday
- 9.00 am to 8.00 pm Thursday 26 October
- 9.00 am to 6.00 pm Friday 27 October

Your completed ballot material must be in the mail or hand-delivered by 6.00 pm Friday 27 October

Register for SMS and email alerts at vec.vic.gov.au/GeelongElection

vec.vic.gov.au
 [/electionsvic](https://www.facebook.com/electionsvic)
 [@electionsvic](https://twitter.com/electionsvic)
 (03) 8619 1421

Victorian Electoral Commission

Authorised by W. Catey, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria. 720386

Appendix 2.5: Notice of candidate retirement for Greater Geelong City Council general election

Greater Geelong City Council Elections

Candidate retirement

As of Friday 20 October, candidate Stephen McGain has been retired from the 2017 Greater Geelong City Council Bellarine Ward election.

Following the retirement of Mr McGain, 12 candidates remain for the three vacancies in the Bellarine Ward.

Voters should not be concerned if they have already completed and returned their ballot paper. Voters should continue to complete their ballot paper in accordance with the instructions on the ballot paper.

Victorian law ensures that, if for any reason a candidate on the ballot paper is retired, each voter's preferences pass to the remaining candidates in the order the voter has indicated.

***Your completed ballot material must be in the mail
or hand-delivered by 6.00 pm Friday 27 October***



vec.vic.gov.au

Victorian Electoral Commission



Authorised by L. Williams, Acting Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Appendix 2.6: Notice of results for Greater Geelong City Council general election

Greater Geelong City Council elections Declaration of results

The following candidates were elected to the Greater Geelong City Council at the general election held in October 2017:

Bellarine Ward

ASHER, Stephanie (1st elected)

MASON, Jim (2nd elected)

SULLIVAN, Trent (3rd elected)

Brownbill Ward

KONTELJ, Eddy (1st elected)

MANSFIELD, Sarah (2nd elected)

MURRIHY, Peter John (3rd elected)

Kardinia Ward

HARWOOD, Bruce (1st elected)

NELSON, Ron (2nd elected)

MURNANE, Pat (3rd elected)

Windermere Ward

AITKEN, Anthony (1st elected)

GRZYBEK, Kylie (2nd elected)

Further details about the results are available at vec.vic.gov.au.

Colin Riley

Returning Officer

Monday 6 November 2017.

 vec.vic.gov.au Victorian Electoral Commission 

Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Appendix 3: Schedule of media releases and advisories

Greater Geelong City Council general election - specific media releases and advisories	
<i>Enrol to vote in the 2017 Greater Geelong City Council elections</i>	14 August 2017
<i>Last chance to enrol for the 2017 Greater Geelong City Council elections</i>	25 August 2017
<i>Call for candidates for the upcoming Greater Geelong City Council elections</i>	11 September 2017
<i>Candidates announced for Greater Geelong City Council elections</i>	26 September 2017
<i>Ballot packs mailed this week for Greater Geelong City Council elections</i>	9 October 2017
<i>Candidate retirement from the Greater Geelong City Council elections</i>	20 October 2017
<i>Voting closes soon for the Greater Geelong City Council elections</i>	23 October 2017
<i>Results information and invitation to the media: Greater Geelong City Council (media advisory, not for publication)</i>	27 October 2017

Appendix 4: Outreach promotional flyer

**GREATER
GEELONG
CITY COUNCIL
ELECTION**

**October
2017**

**BE HEARD
BE INFORMED**

**Book a free information
session for your
community group**

Book a session and find out:

- **who** can vote
- how to **enrol** to vote
- how to fill out your **ballot paper**
- **when** to return your ballot paper
- where to **get help**, if you need it
- how our **democracy works**

We provide:

- a **safe space to learn** about enrolling and voting
- interpreters and **translated information**
- **Easy English** resources.

We work with:

- disability groups, carers and support staff
- homelessness services
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- migrant groups
- schools and youth services
- community services staff.

Book now

 education@vec.vic.gov.au  131 832

 Other languages (03) 9209 0111
Or contact us through the **National Relay Service**
then ask for 03 8620 1100

 vec.vic.gov.au  Victorian Electoral Commission

 facebook.com/electionsvic  Victorian Electoral Commission

Appendix 5: Final list of candidates in ballot paper order

Greater Geelong City Council general election

Bellarine Ward election

- ADAMS, Naomi
- GOERSCHEL, Petra
- SULLIVAN, Trent
- ASHER, Stephanie
- ROE, Tom
- SIMS, Art
- McGAIN, Stephen (Retired)
- O'BRYAN, Denis
- VAN BEVEREN, John
- MASON, Jim
- BRACKLEY, Anne Elizabeth
- WEBB, Stewart
- ELLIS, Lindsay

Brownbill Ward election

- SANDNER, Alec
- HATHWAY, Sarah
- CSAR, Ellen
- MITCHELL, Peter
- AIDT, Mik
- BULL, Sue
- GAMBLE, Jennifer
- NEAL, Charles
- MANSFIELD, Sarah
- GILLARD, Terry
- KING, Michael
- KONTELJ, Eddy
- JACKA, Jacki
- BALLAS, George
- CADWELL, Melissa June
- MURRIHY, Peter John
- FIDGE, Freya
- SIMMONDS, Stephen

Kardinia Ward election

- OSECKAS, Peter
- NELSON, Ron
- MANN, Doug
- KENNEDY, Norman
- MURNANE, Pat
- TAYLOR, Elliot C.
- LYONS-LEE, Brent
- HARWOOD, Bruce
- NEWMAN, Lois
- HAUENSTEIN, Darren
- WALKER, Mary

Windermere election

- AITKEN, Anthony
- WITHINGTON, David
- BLASZCZYK, Robert
- LACEY, Greg
- KOZUL, Marina
- GROSSMAN, Jordan
- GRZYBEK, Kylie
- BAKER, Bronwen Peta
- HEIDARI, Moshtagh
- DICKENS, Ken J.
- KOZACZEK, Roman

Appendix 6 Candidate Statement Leaflets

Appendix 6.1: Candidate statement leaflet for Bellarine Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine

**VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER 2017**

Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet.
See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.

**VOTING IN THIS ELECTION
IS BY POST ONLY**

Your completed ballot material must be posted or in the hands of the Returning Officer on or before 6.00 pm on Friday 27 October 2017.
Late votes cannot be included in the count.

Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours to:

Busport
17 Cheringhap Street
Geelong

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES
Completed candidate questionnaires are available at vec.vic.gov.au or alternatively from the Returning Officer.

COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY
You have received this ballot pack because you are enrolled for this election. Voting is compulsory if you were on the Victorian State electoral roll for this council on Friday 1 September 2017.

If you are 70 years of age or over on election day, you are encouraged to vote, but will not be fined if you do not vote.

Further information on voting entitlements can be found at vec.vic.gov.au

You may receive an Apparent Failure To Vote Notice if you complete and return your ballot material after the close of voting.

**CITY OF GREATER
GEELONG**

2017 Council Election

**VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER 2017**

New or changed ward boundaries are in place for this election

Bellarine Ward

THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.

Voting is compulsory for residents

For further information visit vec.vic.gov.au or phone [03] 8619 1421 during business hours.

Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

NOTICE: Information in candidate statements is provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about a candidate statement should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Returning Officer. Contact details available at vec.vic.gov.au



**ADAMS,
Naomi**

Originally from Melbourne, I have lived in Ocean Grove for 10 years and enjoy the community atmosphere and beautiful environment. I live with my dog Roxy, and my partner also resides on the Bellarine. With qualifications in social welfare and psychology, I have worked as a counsellor in community health on the Bellarine for 8 years. I am passionate about the Bellarine, and ensuring we have a healthy, vibrant community that feels connected to the City of Greater Geelong. I will work with the community to ensure the Bellarine residents' needs are represented. I am committed to human rights and social justice, animal welfare and rights, and the environment. I want to ensure we look after the Bellarine Peninsula, and the people and animals residing here. I will advocate for increased support to Geelong Animal Welfare Society (GAWS) and improved animal regulation practices, to address Geelong's record of the highest number of animal cruelty reports in Victoria. I will advocate for environmental projects, and for the mental and physical well-being of all residents of the Bellarine community, including health and social/community services and adequate infrastructure (including transport), in harmony with balancing the community atmosphere, natural environment and open spaces.

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**GOERSCHEL,
Petra**

Caring About Our Future, our people, the environment and building trust and integrity. All of these areas need to be considered together, as each impacts on the other. Hi, my name is Petra Goerschel and I am nominating as Councillor for the Bellarine Ward. My work history is in Administration, Management, Finance and advocating for others. People are our country's most valuable asset and there is so much wisdom in Geelong however often decisions are made without consulting the people who have the lived experiences. 12 months ago I was told that it was not the intention of facilitators to contact seniors groups for input into the 30 year planning process, because our seniors probably would not care. Well I care about the future that we leave for the next generations. Respecting and embracing the diversity of cultures, different abilities and experiences of people, greatly benefits the whole community. The people of Geelong have been consulted and endorsed a Clever and Creative Future. As your elected official, I would love to be part of making this a reality. I have no political or other affiliations.

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**SULLIVAN,
Trent**

Dear Resident, I live and work in Real Estate in the Bellarine Ward, and am passionate about our region. I understand the challenges we face and would bring energy and a fresh perspective to council. I stand for increasing support and opportunities for local businesses and families, tackling rate rises, fighting for local community programs, building better roads, child care and aged care facilities, upgrading local sporting clubs and grounds, and improving public transport. The Bellarine deserves modern infrastructure, first class services and proper, considered development all whilst protecting the local environment and maintaining the fantastic and unique semirural and coastal lifestyle that we all enjoy. I believe in rejuvenating council with new blood and discarding old divides to unite for the benefit of our great city and Bellarine region. A diverse mix of councillors allows greater community representation, and I would bring youthful vision and a professional perspective to the chamber. Geelong is in a period of transition and we need a more cohesive council to achieve the best outcomes for our city. I support the redevelopment of the CBD to bring life and business back to central Geelong. I respectfully ask for your vote. Vote 1 Trent Sullivan.

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**ASHER,
Stephanie**

An Ocean Grove resident for nearly 20 years, I may never be a true local but I will always be passionate about standing up for decency; I do not accept poor processes or bullies. The Bellarine Peninsula needs proper infrastructure: dedicated cycling paths, 50m pools, athletic tracks and shared trails. We need music venues and places to be creative. We need to manage regional growth for the long term but people also want the basics done properly. Our farmers need support as do all local businesses and people from all the Bellarine townships need to be heard and included in decisions. The new council has an opportunity to improve things. I have worked successfully with local government, particularly in strategic planning and community engagement and, having started my own business 22 years ago, I work at a senior executive level with global corporations, government bodies and not for profit organisations. I am an experienced director and chair of business and community organisations; currently Vice President of Ocean Grove Surf Life Saving Club and a director of Kids Plus Foundation. I am open, honest and accountable and I'll stand up for our beautiful region and the people in it. Visit stephanieasher.com.au

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NOTICE: Information in candidate statements is provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about a candidate statement should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Returning Officer. Contact details available at vec.vic.gov.au



**ROE,
Tom**

I am a local businessman and investment banker who wants to drive growth, jobs and sustainable development in our wonderful City by the Bay. I am motivated by a desire to change Geelong into a place that offers a rich, cultural and rewarding place to live, with broad employment opportunities. Our children should have genuine choice about where they live, they shouldn't have to leave Geelong to find a career. I believe Geelong's population will reach one million in less than 50 years and we need to be working now to put the infrastructure in place to cope with that growth. Geelong needs to be led by people with vision and a clear plan for the future. We need people who can take on State and Federal governments to seek the necessary funding to build the industries, health and education hubs, recreational attractions and transport networks that will help us reach our true potential. We need people with the creativity and courage to step up with the audacious and inspired ideas that will shape Geelong's future. I want to foster that kind of thinking and build a better Geelong for the next generation and the generations to come. See www.tomroe.com.au

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**SIMS,
Art**

The Bellarine should have a stronger, happier and healthier community. My visions for council are a safe, healthy community environment; developing improved transport networks and better roads for all; sensible strategic planning for urban growth; environmental sustainability; maintenance/upgrading of all basic services, to all towns; strong community cohesion through improved social networking and education; tourism that will positively impact our community. I was born and raised in Geelong and I have lived my life in the Geelong region. I have been married for 37 years and I have two adult children. I am a Bellarine Landcare member; I have rural and sporting interests and live in Wallington. I have worked for 40 years in business development for several international companies. If you honour me with your vote, I promise to act with integrity and without bias - I will be available to listen to community and personal concerns. I will provide you with strong, efficient leadership within the council, ensuring complete transparency and accountability through any decision-making process. I am a new face nominating for council with fresh ideas; like you I want to see an impartial council that will continue to provide for the best interests of our wonderful community.

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**McGAIN,
Stephen**

My professional background has been as a youth worker and I am currently employed as a lifeguard in Geelong and a science tutor at the University of Melbourne. I have lived on the Bellarine Peninsula for nearly 20 years and I am actively involved in a variety of community organisations including sporting, environmental and community groups. As Geelong continues to grow, I see a necessity to develop a strategic and sustainable plan for the future needs of businesses and the community. I take seriously the responsibility to help shape and create a community that is inclusive of all generations into the future. I'm standing with the Greens because we have a shared commitment to transparency in governance and working in collaboration with the local community. My key areas of focus include: (1) improved public transport; (2) inclusive and sustainable planning to manage a growing population; (3) saving local libraries; (4) building stronger and safer communities; and (5) protecting environmental assets. For more information, visit <https://greens.org.au/stephen-mcgain> or stephen.mcgain@vec.greens.org.au or 0425246847. Vote [1] Stephen McGain for a strong voice of integrity for our community.

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**O'BRYAN,
Denis**

As your Councillor, I am accountable to you. I learn what you want and what you don't want. I take your voice to Council. I fight for your rights. I provide you feedback. This is my promise to you. I explain what Council plans and schemes mean to you, and you tell me if you want them changed. Were you consulted about the growth rate for your town, about the Drysdale landfill that drains into Swan Bay, about closing Jetty Road in the Drysdale bypass? Do you want traffic lights synchronised through Leopold? Lets restore People-Power and make your life easier. Vote for me and I will insist: Your voice be heard in Council; Your voice be heard about Geelong's future; You get best service from Council staff; Rates kept low and value for money; Council budget spread fairly - Bellarine should get 1/4; Highest return to you from Councils \$2B assets; Council with good debt only and lowest repayments; Other funding sources. Lets keep Bellarine beautiful. Lets make Bellarine more productive, more prosperous, more people friendly, healthier, safer. As the nature and leisure heart of CoGG, Bellarine needs a strong voice against over-development and in favour of ecological sustainability.

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**VAN BEVEREN,
John**

Vote 1 for John Van Beveren to work hard and provide a voice for the rate payers and residents on the Bellarine Peninsula. All residents in the Greater Geelong region are entitled to have high standards and expectations of their Council and be provided with the services and infrastructure to match. Maintaining roads, footpaths, drainage, and sporting and community facilities should be imperative to the role of council. On complex issues, I will fight for decisions to be made in consultation with our community, that are balanced and inclusive. The Bellarine Ward is a significant contributor to the City of Greater Geelong and we deserve our fair share! Elect John Van Beveren to ensure we have the representation we deserve! My family lives on the peninsula, our children attend school here, and I provide legal advice and services to many people and businesses across the Geelong region. I have extensive business experience from my entrepreneurial endeavours; and experience as a councillor from the time I served the community in the Central Goldfields Shire. As a lawyer with senior management experience I have the skills necessary to advocate for fair and equitable decisions that benefit our community and its prosperous future.

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NOTICE: Information in candidate statements is provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about a candidate statement should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Returning Officer. Contact details available at vec.vic.gov.au



**MASON,
Jim**

I am fortunate to have been raised on the Bellarine, to have studied in Geelong and to subsequently gain rich and diverse experience. I offer maturity, leadership and resilience along with a fresh, independent, consultative approach. I will apply ethical practices, and use social, business and scientific criteria in decision making. Solutions should always be fair and durable. I learned this through my international humanitarian work, where I led large disaster recovery and development programmes. I have skills in international relations, farming, engineering, teaching and military service. I understand good governance requires accountability to all stakeholders. Since settling in Marcus Hill in 2006, I farm, contribute locally and keep fit. While leader of Landcare, our committee has faced important environmental issues on farms, the coast and in towns. It is vital to have sustainable and carefully planned housing, industrial and recreational development, and to ensure rural and natural assets are protected. In COGGs Our Futures consultation I advocated for improved social, cultural and lifestyle amenities; better youth employment and re-education opportunities; improved public transport; revitalised agricultural markets; and for fostering an energetic, creative business spirit. A revitalised city centre is essential. If elected, I will listen, consult and act. www.jimmason.com.au

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**BRACKLEY,
Anne Elizabeth**

Building Community - Commitment, Strategy, Vision.
Commitment - As a Girl Guide Leader for more than 40 years, with 20 years experience in governance and leadership of SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre and many years of governance in local, regional, state and Australian committees, I will draw on this experience to meet the challenges of council.
Strategy - Strategic thinking and planning informs my decisions and actions in conversation with the communities that I am working. With energy, enthusiasm and a plan, together we can achieve almost anything.
Vision - Having a vision inspires me. The concept of having a 30 year vision for the Greater Geelong Region excites me and I invested many hours in attending the sessions, seminars and led some discussions last year. I believe Clever and Creative is an open exciting vision and am looking forward to help govern its first year. Over the last 5 years I have had the vision for the whole of the Bellarine working together and am looking forward to working with two colleagues to deliver for the Bellarine and for the greater Geelong region. I invite you to give me your 1, 2 or 3 vote.

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**WEBB,
Stewart**

This is the first time I have stood for council and I am not a member of any political party, nor have I ever been. I was born and raised in Geelong and for the past 22 years have lived in the Ocean Grove area. I work as an Office Manager/Accountant (Age 56) at a business in North Geelong. Recently I completed a "Masters in Business Administration" to compliment a "Degree in Accountancy". Community wise, I have played in premierships at Ocean Grove and Queenscliff Bowling Clubs, and have been a past committee member at a football, sailing and lawn bowls club. I stand because I want to achieve the best outcomes for the residents of the Bellarine Ward, and to work with the other Ward Councillors in making "The 30 Year Vision" more than just a vision. I offer to canvass and represent the views of the Bellarine Ward, using local knowledge, formal education and business experience to make evidence based decisions that balance both financial needs and community expectations. Importantly, I would show leadership in good governance and act with integrity in the performance of my duties as an elected Councillor. For positive change, Vote 1 Stewart Webb.

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**ELLIS,
Lindsay**

I have been a resident of the Bellarine Peninsula for 45 years. My family history spans 7 generations dating from 1857. I have never been a member of a political party and have no intention of joining one. I firmly believe in independent representation for residents of the City of Greater Geelong. There is no place for party politics nor interference from vested interested groups in Local Government. I'm fully aware of the unique nature of the Bellarine, and its specific requirements with regards to Planning overlays and their importance in its future development. It is essential that fair and equitable distribution of finances and services be available to all ratepayers. Progress for business, farming and residential expansion will rely on across the board support from the City of Greater Geelong. As previous Councillor for Coryule Ward I fostered a co-operative and congenial relationships with City of Greater Geelong officers and staff. We were able to plan and develop many projects and ongoing services. My work for ratepayers was wholeheartedly appreciated by residents. This experience holds me in good stead for future collaboration if elected. I will be a completely independent representative for all residents of the Bellarine Ward.

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Appendix 6.2: Candidate statement leaflet for Brownbill Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine

**VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER 2017**

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2017 Council Election

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New or changed ward boundaries are in place for this election



Brownbill Ward

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Voting is compulsory for residents

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Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

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**SANDNER,
Alec**

I was Mayor of the City of Greater Bendigo during 2011/12. I am an Accountant, a Qualified Property Investment Advisor and a retired Justice of the Peace. While I was a Councillor for the City of Greater Bendigo among other things we built a 1000 seat Theatre, enlarged the Art Gallery, the Library and built a multi story Car Park all for approximately \$58 million. We obtained grants of about \$40 million with the remaining \$18 million paid for from the cash surplus of the Car Park. This is an example of what can be achieved by working together in harmony with Councillors and Council staff. As your Councillor I would do the same. I am a new resident of Geelong and not a member of, or affiliated with, any group or organisation. I will advocate for the retention of the Chilwell, Highton and Barwon Heads Libraries, the settlement of all disputes between ratepayers and Council by mediation and for Planning Permits to be allocated to a dedicated Planning Officer who deals with that Planning Permit until it is issued.

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**HATHWAY,
Sarah**

I encourage Brownbill residents to Vote 1 Sue Bull, and Vote 2 for myself. Geelong needs a voice on council that puts the needs of the community first. I support Geelong's 30 year plan. To get there we need to invest in the younger generations via training, internships, job creation and service provision. We need to address the high levels of youth unemployment and underemployment in our city. The issues of violence in the mall will not be fixed with law and order responses or CCTV. Council needs to address the underlying social causes and stop the privatisation and outsourcing of services. Concessions on rates and services need to be extended to all low income earners to address these cost of living pressures. Investment in public housing and prioritising sustainability and climate change will ensure healthy and liveable neighbourhoods in the future. Council also has a role to play in social issues, like homelessness, that affect marginalised sections of our community. I will hold regular ward meeting so that residents have the opportunity to raise local issues. I am a 27 year old, social work student at Deakin University and a proud member of Socialist Alliance.

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**CSAR,
Ellen**

Ellen Csar, your candidate for Brownbill Ward: I am committed to providing strong leadership and good governance, to service the existing and ongoing needs of the community, while helping to implement Geelong's 30 year plan and building the necessary framework for a sustainable future. My passion for community began in 1994 where as a young campaigner I fought successfully to save the Fitzroy Pool. In 1998 I was elected to represent my high school in Canberra at the Australian Youth Parliament for the Environment. A Geelong resident of 6 years and a young mother of two, I am committed to developing an economically sustainable community with jobs growth for the future. Vote 1 Ellen Csar, I will be your representative and voice on council.

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**MITCHELL,
Peter**

I have been proud to call Geelong my home for over twenty years. I was married here, raised three children in the area and feel a deep connection to the region. Recent years have been challenging as we expand from an industrial town to a more widely based commercial city. While recognising change can be disruptive, I feel it has opened up a great many opportunities for our future. Our challenge is to direct the transition and choose the kind of city we want Geelong to become, while keeping a strong connection to our history. In my career, I design technical solutions to complex business problems for many clients across multiple industries. I take care to really understand the issues in detail, and find workable ways of solving them which address everyone's concerns; practical, financial and emotional. I listen and am open to new ideas, finding ways to include them with the best of what is already there. I work together with people from different backgrounds, different opinions and different priorities, to reach a balanced outcome acceptable to all. Please allow me to use this expertise to help Geelong and guide us toward our future.

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**AIDT,
Mik**

Mik is a bridge-builder. He works towards creating honest, responsible and united leadership for our future. Vote 1 for Mik to shift the focus to long-term stability for Geelong, where investment in exciting, innovative projects is encouraged, and new local jobs are created. Our region is in an exciting period of transformation and expansion. Mik understands that long-term stability requires careful town planning, investment in safer roads, protection of open space and natural habitats, and better recycling and waste management systems. It also requires cultivating a community that is thriving with a vibrant cultural life. With this election, we have an opportunity to form a Council that represents our diverse community, and which works together to achieve the 30-year vision for our future, contributed to by 16,000 Geelong residents. The vision is that by 2050, our city will be a carbon neutral, healthy and safe community for all. Crime statistics will be at least 20 per cent below the state average. As an independent candidate, Mik works to bridge the gap between left and right, so we can focus on turning this great vision into reality. A vote for Mik is a vote for progress done properly. #mikforgeelong www.mik.aidt.co

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**BULL,
Sue**

I want to see an open, democratically elected and accountable council returned to Geelong. As a resident for nearly 20 years and a teacher at several local high schools, I have seen the city put the needs of developers and big business ahead of community needs. We must prioritise developing quality council services. I am opposed to rate capping, privatisation and outsourcing. They don't work and put too much pressure on the disadvantaged. I will campaign to increase concessions on rates and services for all low income earners and demand that council address job creation, training and homelessness. We must start fining landlords who sit on empty properties. I would hold regular ward or neighbourhood meetings, as residents need to be able to raise local issues and expect their concerns are reflected in council meetings. Geelong's 30 year plan should be implemented through retention of green spaces and corridors, emergency heat shelters and support for renewable energy especially for low income earners. We need to preserve our heritage so assets like Eastern Gardens cannot be carved up for private development. I am a 60 year old Health and Safety teacher and a proud member of Socialist Alliance.

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**GAMBLE,
Jennifer**

I am a Registered Nurse who lives and works in Geelong. I am standing as a candidate for the Ward of Brownbill on behalf of the Animal Justice Party. My motivation to do so is my deep concern regarding the debt and lack of financial support for the Geelong Animal Welfare Society (GAWS). Despite the Council reaping millions of dollars in registration fees, little is done to support this organisation and this needs to change. I want to see specific budget allocation of funds to GAWS and for there to be better compliance with the Domestic Animal Management Plan and for it to be enhanced to improve animal welfare outcomes across the City of Greater Geelong, especially in light of the RSPCA's damning report which stated Geelong has the highest number of animal welfare complaints across Victoria. I also believe that Council needs to be reinvigorated with fresh perspectives, fresh faces and new energy as we look towards the future for Geelong in terms of access to education, health and community services. We need better diversion and early intervention to get our crime rate under control and to work with businesses to ensure our economic prospects are secure.

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**NEAL,
Charles**

The opportunity to stand for Council to represent the people of Brownbill is very important to me for the following reasons: To create new job opportunities through tourism; develop more activities on our Bay, boat racing and a big fishing competition; convert the Cheetham Salt Plains into a world standard motor sports circuit; provide more parking for cars and caravans by reclaiming part of Western Beach; Provide small boat activities for children adjacent to the roller skate rink. I designed and built a charter boat for fishing & parties that is wheel chair friendly and disabled toilet, Building paddle boats via Mens Shed.

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**MANSFIELD,
Sarah**

As a local GP, I'm passionate about building a healthy, sustainable and inclusive Geelong. I work in a community medical clinic and at a service for people experiencing homelessness. I studied health financing at the London School of Economics, and am a Senior Lecturer at Deakin University. I want to be part of a fresh council willing to embrace the opportunities we have ahead. I'm running with the Greens because I believe in their values of honesty, integrity and working with the local community. My plan for a healthier Geelong includes: (1) better connected local transport options including more cycling and walking routes; (2) saving our local libraries; (3) protecting environmental assets like the Moolap Salt Pans and the You Yangs; (4) fair, transparent and sustainable local planning; (5) infant services that are more inclusive of the whole family; (6) better facilities for local sports clubs to grow female participation; and (7) increased support for our local arts and businesses to create a more vibrant CBD. For more information, visit <https://greens.org.au/candidate/vic/sarah-mansfield>. Let me know what's important to you: sarah.mansfield@vic.greens.org.au or 0436343642. Vote [1] Sarah Mansfield for a strong voice of integrity for the community.

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**GILLARD,
Terry**

I am a father of two girls and an active member of the community, currently involved with Herne Hill ELC as Vice-President of the Parent Advisory Group and Bethany Kindergarten Services Parent reference group representative. I have been actively involved with local football for 16 years with the combination of umpiring, playing and assisting with Juniors footballers. My number one issue is our local saleyards and looking at ways that it can stay viable, which includes incorporating ideas that can work. I feel I can bring fresh ideas to attract businesses back into the city as well as taking in the current revitalisation works, voting for me will go towards to putting a smile on everyones face that lives within this municipality. Safety within our city is a huge issue and so is the staggering homeless rate I feel there needs to be work in these areas to make the city feel like it is more inviting to visit. I strongly feel that going into the future I know with your vote that I can be a new face on the council and give the whole community a new voice. It's time for change!

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**KING,
Michael**

I stand for: 1. Open and fully transparent Council meetings. 2. Budget discipline, no increase in rates above the 2% cap and managing debt. 3. Attracting and retaining businesses and jobs for Geelong. 4. Delivering high quality Council services. 5. Additional cameras and lighting to address the current crime wave. 6. Working together in a respectful and collaborative way, with a focus on delivering outcomes for the people of Geelong. For more about why you should vote for me, visit: www.michaelkingvote1.com.au.

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**KONTELJ,
Eddy**

Free CBD parking, particularly around city hospitals, and hard waste pick up are two initiatives I will be advocating to implement promptly if elected. I will fight for delivery of efficient and effective services to minimise rate increases and community financial burden. I will lobby for better public transport and increased police presence to improve safety and security, to reduce violence, theft, graffiti, speeding and hoon driving. This will include identifying high security risk areas that will benefit from the installation of CCTV cameras. I will actively help and support valuable organisations that represent the best interest of our community, youth, families, our precious elderly, sporting clubs and our respected military veterans. I will push for investment in drainage, footpaths, roads and much needed cycling and fishing infrastructure. I will urge council to provide subsidies to support child care and aged care programs. Reforming council planning and building processes and practices to encourage appropriate employment generating developments will also be a priority. As a husband and father of three daughters I have genuine interest in community and our environment. I pledge to work extremely hard to ensure your concerns are heard. Please Vote 1 Eddy Kontelj, Vote 2 Freya Fidge.

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**JACKA,
Jacki**

I have lived in Brownbill Ward for 50 years. In my time here I have raised a family while working as a Registered Nurse at University Hospital. My decision to run for Council has been prompted by my concern over the lack of funding for the Geelong Animal Welfare Society (GAWS) despite rising animal registration fees. I want to see a reduction in their debt and a fixed yearly amount set aside from animal registration fees to better support this group. I want to see more affordable desexing for companion animals and to see action taken to remove the shameful label of Geelong having the highest number of animal abuse cases reported to the RSPCA out of all Victoria. In addition to these issues I want to see Council take a pro-active response to the amount of drug and alcohol abuse in our community through early intervention, education, diversion and rehabilitation programs. Geelong needs a more transparent Council than we have had previously, and one that is looking forward with clear vision for a more economically prosperous future which will encourage development, diversity and a brighter future for all who call this region home.

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**BALLAS,
George**

Geelong, Geelong! That's right. I will put Geelong first and second every time. Priority to this great historical city is essential. The people of Geelong now have a chance to Vote for a neutral voice - with no Political affiliations to advocate for fairness, access and equity regarding Council issues important to you. Hello, my name is George Ballas. I am a dedicated individual with a proven community track record, strong local knowledge and relevant experience in serving the community for a period spanning 26+ years, spearheading organisations and groups important to Geelong's fabric. I have been recognised with an Order of Australia Medal for my exceptional voluntary work. I desire cohesion and stability for good governance at Council. I have no predetermined Political agenda and seek your trusted Vote. Whilst I cannot change things alone, I will battle to raise issues concerning you. With my strong community background, I will echo and represent your voice. I ask for your valuable Vote and a chance to dispense with Party Politics for the goodness and progress of Geelong. The only promise I make is that I will listen to the Voters and represent you fairly and squarely as an Independent candidate. www.georgeballas.net

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**CADWELL,
Melissa June**

Like you, I'm a ratepayer and resident in Brownbill Ward, in St Albans Park. Geelong High School educated, I'm a Public Health Research Ethics manager at Melbourne Health. I'm an Australian Labor Party member, and a member of my workplace union. I want to make our community an even better place to live and raise a family, by making sure Geelong Council services aren't cut, whilst keeping costs affordable for residents. I'll fight for better elderly citizens services including proper funding of Home Care and Meals On Wheels, along with making sure childcare and leisure centre fees are kept affordable. I'll advocate for Geelong Council procurement tendering to demand local jobs and services, and make apprenticeships compulsory in the tendering process. My capital project priorities include facilities upgrades for local sporting clubs, with particular emphasis on women's sport. I'm committed to saving Chilwell library, and upgrading Newcomb library to help local children learn to read. I want council to invest in Geelong by building new children's facilities, and upgrading local parks. I'll fight to give residents more say on planning decisions, especially around medium density developments, and gambling and licensed venues. facebook.com/MelissaCadwellCouncillorForBrownbillWard or [Twitter: @Mel_Brownbill](https://twitter.com/Mel_Brownbill) or email: melcadwell.brownbillward@gmail.com

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**MURRIHY,
Peter John**

I am 57, married with three daughters and have been a resident and ratepayer of Brownbill Ward for more than 30 years. A former Victoria Police Prosecutor, I left the Force to help raise our family. Now the girls are young adults, I have the time, focus and energy to become even more involved in the community. My community involvement already includes St Marys Football Club (Life Member), Geelong Amateurs Football Club (former Senior Coach), Newtown and Chilwell Football Netball Club (former Senior Football Coach/ Junior Netball Coach) and current President of the Lorne Surf Lifesaving Club. I am a Board Member of the Geelong Racing Club and Chairman of the AFL Barwon Tribunal. I am also a member of the Geelong Environment Council. With no political connections, I offer a totally independent voice on Council and intend to work tirelessly for ratepayers at the 'grass roots' level as well as helping implement the city's long-term vision. Through proven leadership skills, life experience and I believe a clear understanding of the community's expectations, I am committed to enhancing Geelong as a place in which to live, work and invest.

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**FIDGE,
Freya**

Fresh. Young. Female. Strong Family History in Geelong. Vote 1 Freya Fidge this election. Both my father and my grandfather were long-serving Councillors and Mayors of this great City. I am excited by the opportunity to continue the family tradition with a fresh new approach. An independent, I am standing with a focus on three key areas. First, I am a supporter of the recently executed Clever & Creative initiative for Geelong. This project was developed for the Council by the community to future-proof our City and ensure we can compete on a national and global scale. Secondly, with the substantial growth of our City and the number of young families moving to the region I will champion proposals that enable continued growth and opportunities for our City and communities. Finally, as an HR professional I will ensure the new Council collaborates and conducts itself with integrity and respect. A successful Geelong is one that values diversity, connects with community and provides opportunity for the future. Refer to my Facebook page for preferences #ThinkFreshThinkFidge. Remember to number every box. Vote 1 Freya Fidge, Vote 2 Eddy Kontelj.

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**SIMMONDS,
Stephen**

I am a 48 year old who recently became a father for the first time, and I want to do everything I can to make Geelong the best place possible for my family to live and work. I stand on a platform of absolute council transparency. I stand for keeping all council costs to a minimum but to improve all core services. I believe there is a lot of waste to be identified and savings to be made. Savings made could be diverted into a hard waste collection service and free parking. I want improvements to council accountability. When money is wasted, who is accountable? First task, how much is that Xmas tree costing and how is the economic benefit to ratepayers calculated? I want to advocate for finding innovative solutions to issues relating to how council can best support Police in addressing crime and graffiti all the way through to lobbying local MPs to ask for a better deal with the NBN rollout. This council election is your opportunity to elect fresh faces with fresh ideas and hopefully new and different approaches. I want to be part of the solution to make our Greater Geelong even Greater!

Appendix 6.3: Candidate statement leaflet for Kardinia Ward election

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2017 Council Election

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Kardinia Ward

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Victorian Electoral Commission

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**OSECKAS,
Peter**

I have lived in Geelong my entire life and lived in the Kardinia ward for the last 37 years. I am so proud of the city that Geelong has become, but with progress also comes damage to our natural environment and the increase in a number of human and animal issues. I have decided to stand as a candidate to give back to the community that has been my home for the past 60 years. I am passionate about protecting the environment and in implementing programs that will see areas such as the Barwon River return to its natural health. I would like to see community share of power resources and increased investment into renewable energy. There is a need to address the concerning treatment of animals in our local area, this includes lack of funding for our rescue centres, but also duck hunting, greyhound racing, puppy farms, the use of 1080 poison and the culling of Australian wildlife. Another area I feel strongly about is education. We need to educate the younger generations to be ambitious and dream big for their future, and ensure we provide the programs and resources that enable them to get there.

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**NELSON,
Ron**

I love Geelong, where I have lived and worked for over 40 years. I will fight for Council to deliver core responsibilities: free hard rubbish collection and tip vouchers; fixing roads and potholes; making our community safer; and improving our sporting clubs and community facilities - the heartbeat of our neighbourhoods. Recently I led the fight to save Highton Library and promise to keep our local libraries open. We need a long-term vision to be a clever, cultural and innovative destination. A place that's great for families and provides more jobs through growing local business and attracting more organisations to Geelong. This is achievable by keeping rates low and implementing streamlined and sensitive planning. I have a long history of successfully advocating for fellow residents and local businesses, and I am currently working for people with disabilities. I am proud to support many local sporting clubs and many local charities. In the last year, I am the only candidate who has rallied and advocated for the community regarding Administrators decisions on library closures, questionable budget reporting, planning decisions and drainage protection measures. I promise to work tirelessly for you and respectfully request you Vote 1 Ron Nelson (www.ronnelson.com.au 0429 531 875).

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**MANN,
Doug**

The Clever and Creative Future policy is the most consultative document ever produced in Geelong. I support it as a blueprint for our future and thousands of Geelong people agree. It is a plan for a city that works for people. A prosperous, smart, vibrant place where all that is great about the region can thrive around a city that pulses with life: arts, culture, food, natural beauty. A place that will attract the brightest and best to live here. A responsibly led and informed community can do this. It's already happening elsewhere, so why not Geelong? There are prerequisites, of course. First, we must reject the Old Geelong where division along political lines brought paralysis and worse. Next we ensure that the people continue to have their say, Council is accessible and decision-making well informed. Then we ensure a united front on seeing through excellent policy such as the One Planet Living framework. With wise planning, infrastructure can be fixed, people can be helped. And we can prosper. So, why not, Geelong! As a successful creative professional I have the experience and drive to help make this happen. Vote 1 Doug Mann. Vision, Leadership, Integrity, #dougmann4geelong.

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**KENNEDY,
Norman**

I have moved to Geelong to live in the most important and exciting Regional City in Victoria. I want to be part of a Council that attracts new industry to provide employment for a growing population, while also encouraging more housing using sensitive planning controls that don't spoil the environment for existing residents. As a new face, I am unaligned to factions from the former Council and bring a fresh perspective to issues. I am passionate about local government and bring a depth of experience of working in the community and not-for-profit sectors. My experience as a Councillor and Mayor in the initial term of the Glen Eira Council following commissioners is relevant. My community roles have included at RMIT on Student Council and RMIT Council, also President of the Elsternwick Rotary Club, Roles as Treasurer of the Royal Society of Victoria, Board Member Local Authorities (Vision) Superannuation Board. As a professional Engineer, I worked for over 24 years in managerial roles with Telstra including in Saudi Arabia. I currently work for the State Government. Through all these activities I have learnt to listen and to work cooperatively and respectfully with people from various backgrounds and experience.

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**MURNANE,
Pat**

I have lived in the Kardinia Ward for the past 40 years with my wife Marilyn, raising four children all of whom also live in the Geelong area with their families. Given I am an independent candidate with no political ambitions or affiliations, I will enjoy the freedom to focus solely on creating positive outcomes for the residents of the Kardinia Ward and the Geelong region. My vision for the Council is a dedicated group of professionals committed and working as a team to win the respect and support of the community through hard work and informed decision-making. I have built my personal and professional reputation on community engagement. Over the past 20 years I have established 11 community companies in the Geelong region, who are financially contributing to hundreds of community projects. In 2016 I was awarded the Committee for Geelong Leadership Award for outstanding leadership in the Geelong community. As a regional manager leading a staff of 150 people, I believe my extensive business experience - especially my financial expertise - will be a valuable asset to the Council team, as will be the wide network of working relationships I have built in most sectors of Geelong business.

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**TAYLOR,
Elliot C.**

I'm a photographer who has lived in Geelong for 10 years now, I have the benefit of seeing this city from an outside perspective. We are a beautiful area, but we need to work to continue to be seen as a friendly, vibrant, animal-friendly place that can compete with the bigger cities. I believe we need to funnel significantly more funds into the Geelong Animal Welfare Society, an organisation that is a real asset to the pet owners of Geelong, but in recent years has been in the red by several hundreds of thousands of dollars. We have also seen a rise in crime in the last year in suburbs all over Kardinia. We need more investment in local community and neighbourhood watch groups that encourage communities to work together to reduce the risk of crime in their area. I want to work in line with the Clever and Creative Future Plan recently published by The City of Geelong to ensure that the Geelong of 30 years in the future is one of the most healthy, educated, eco-friendly and advanced cities in Australia.

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**LYONS-LEE,
Brent**

Like you, I'm a ratepayer. I live in Waurn Ponds with my family and was educated at Christian College. I'm an ordained Baptist Minister and an Australian Labor Party member. I want to make our community an even better place to live by making sure Geelong Council services aren't cut, whilst keeping costs in-check for residents. I'll advocate for better elderly citizens services including proper funding of Home Care and Meals On Wheels, along with making sure childcare and leisure centre fees are affordable. My capital project priorities include facilities upgrades for vital sporting clubs at Grovedale's Burdoo Reserve, Queens Park, Winter and McDonald Reserves in Belmont. I'll lobby to have Barwon Heads Road upgraded. I'll fight to save Highton Library and make sure the Armstrong Creek Library is built. Investment priorities for Grovedale East include a new Children's Hub, upgraded facilities at Barwon Soccer Club and an indoor sports complex built at Brearley Reserve. Residents need a greater say on planning decisions, especially Pokies venue licences. I'm an experienced and trusted community leader and social justice campaigner. I value integrity and I will commit to driving Council to be the transparent, hardworking body the people of Kardinia deserve. [Facebook.com/brentlyonsleeforkardinia](https://www.facebook.com/brentlyonsleeforkardinia)

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**HARWOOD,
Bruce**

Vote 1 Bruce Harwood Time to put a strong experienced voice back on council. I have always put the Geelong community first and will continue to do so. No Political Alliance - never been a member of any political party. Politics has unfortunately been a distraction to many councils. Experience - after 13 years on council, 6 as the Finance portfolio holder, I understand the council's budgets and where the community gets best financial value. I have always been available to listen to the community and act to achieve results. As a former policeman for nearly 28 years and a Company Director for 8 years I have a strong work ethic and broad outlook on our community. Local - I was born and educated in Geelong, heavily engaged in local community sporting clubs, an owner / Director of two local companies and have a strong passion for our environment. My focus will be on local roads receiving urgent treatment, use of our local rubbish as a potential energy source, economic & tourism opportunities including a Conference Convention Centre and bio technology business and sustainable environmental policies especially for our waterways. Follow me at Facebook/Bruce.KardiniaWard. Vote 1 Bruce Harwood, Community First.

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**NEWMAN,
Lois**

I'm a university student and I'm passionate about helping our beautiful community grow stronger. I want to be part of a council that ensures everyone enjoys living in our area, where the community and local environment is put first. I also feel particularly inspired to be a voice for other young people. I love that we can quickly access the beach and the bush, which I want to protect. I'm standing with the Greens because we have a shared commitment to integrity and working in the best interests of the community. My key areas of focus include: (1) improving public transport, cycling and walking routes; (2) ensuring development is fair and transparent as our population grows; (3) supporting local businesses and creative projects; (4) saving local libraries; (5) protecting our environmental assets, and (6) ensuring youth have access to engaging activities. For more information, visit: <https://greens.org.au/candidate/vic/lois-newman>. Let me know what's important to you at lois.newman@vic.greens.org.au or 0490875213. Vote [1] Lois Newman for a strong voice of integrity for our community.

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**HAUENSTEIN,
Darren**

Hello, my name is Darren Hauenstein, I am nominating for Council as a lifetime Geelong resident and contributor to the growth of our community. My wife Nicole, our three children and I love Geelong. I strongly believe in the values of respect, trust and integrity; I have demonstrated these values throughout my professional career and long-term role as President of the South Barwon Cricket Club. I am an independent candidate, so have no political agenda and can be counted on to play my role in the best interests of the community. My management skills developed as an IT professional over 20 years with Target Australia and personal commitment to protecting and enhancing our regional assets position me ideally as a candidate for election. After the previous council was stood down it is important that the new Council provides stability and reliability, my career proves this is how I operate. My community involvement has shown that I treat people with respect from all levels so will work with the community for the best solution and not for personal rewards. I have a strong team orientated work ethic and am really focussed on getting the job done. Vote 1 - Darren Hauenstein!

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**WALKER,
Mary**

I am a lifetime citizen of Geelong with a strong local voice, and a commitment to see Geelong grow and prosper and continue to be a community working together to make our home town "safer and Greater". An ex school teacher, journalist and director of festivals and theatre productions I am well known in Geelong and am the recipient of the Regional Victorian of the year Award for services to my community. I am committed, to a safe city and will fight hard to secure an adequate police force, security lighting and cameras. Services to the elderly, and adequate child care are essentials as well as the basic areas of road and street maintenance along with attention to the "housekeeping" of public buildings and amenities. Council must listen to its citizens, and I will always be available by phone, internet and with personal interviews if required. For a dedicated, energetic, sincere voice on Council. Vote 1 Mary Walker.

Appendix 6.4: Candidate statement leaflet for Windermere election

Don't Risk a Fine

VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER 2017

Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet. See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.

VOTING IN THIS ELECTION IS BY POST ONLY

Your completed ballot material must be posted or in the hands of the Returning Officer on or before 6.00 pm on Friday 27 October 2017. Late votes cannot be included in the count.

Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours to:

Busport
17 Gheringhap Street
Geelong

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES

Completed candidate questionnaires are available at vec.vic.gov.au or alternatively from the Returning Officer.

COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY

You have received this ballot pack because you are enrolled for this election. Voting is compulsory if you were on the Victorian State electoral roll for this council on Friday 1 September 2017.

If you are 70 years of age or over on election day, you are encouraged to vote, but will not be fined if you do not vote.

Further information on voting entitlements can be found at vec.vic.gov.au

You may receive an Apparent Failure To Vote Notice if you complete and return your ballot material after the close of voting.



2017 Council Election

VOTING CLOSSES 6.00 PM
FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER 2017

New or changed ward boundaries are in place for this election



Windermere Ward

THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.

Voting is compulsory for residents

For further information visit vec.vic.gov.au or phone [03] 8619 1421 during business hours.

Victorian Electoral Commission VEC

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AITKEN, Anthony

Born and raised in Corio, I completed my education at Deakin. I am employed in Lara as a Finance/Admin Manager. My parents Shirley and Bill have a long history of Community Service. We were taught to Give Back to the Community in which you live. My late father Bill Aitken was Windermere Councillor in 1990s. I have local government experience with Shire of Corio and City of Greater Geelong. I am President of Volunteering Geelong and Treasurer of Not-for-profit Disability Enterprise, Dal. With my wife Sue we owned Muffin Break Cafes at Corio Village and Westfield. Since 2006, Sue and I have been a host family for the Geelong Cats, where first year players live with us. Building a Hospital in the North. Keeping rates low. Improving Safety. A Hard Waste Collection system. Focus on job opportunities for the North and our youth. Geelong Council must care for more than just the CBD. Addressing disadvantage in the North, inequality in Rural Areas and the pressures population growth has brought to Lara are priorities. If you want a politician you should vote for somebody else. If you want a strong independent community minded Councillor Vote 1 Anthony Aitken. Mb: 0419270893 voteaitken@gmail.com

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WITHINGTON, David

Council needs a fresh start. It also needs councillors with the experience, commitment and determination to deal with the major challenges facing the City. I will provide strong professional representation and the good governance necessary for the new Council to succeed. I am well-equipped for the job after a 48-year career as a senior journalist, government media and policy adviser, communications and public affairs consultant, senior manager in both the public and private sectors, and business operator. With a long history of community service, I will be a passionate advocate for a 'fair go' for the north. Having recently retired, I am available to do the job full-time. For details of my qualifications and experience go to www.davidwithington.com.au. I am a team player and a good listener with a positive 'can do' approach. My top priority is to lift Council's performance in driving economic development and job creation, especially in the north. I want to reduce disadvantage and will champion the Council's social equity principles. I will also fight for better basic services, including an adequately-funded and easy-to-understand plan for repairing and upgrading local roads, and greater efforts to improve community safety.

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BLASZCZYK, Robert

Our community deserves better, someone that will fight for every resident, and I believe that I am the advocate that Windermere needs to represent their concerns at council. I am a local currently living in Norlane, born and bred in the northern suburbs, and I have experienced first-hand the struggles with being left behind. This is our chance to be heard and take our voice to City Hall. With my knowledge and proven experience, I will work tirelessly for every single one of you, because we all deserve a fair go. I recently graduated from Deakin University with a Bachelor of Arts/Commerce and begun a career in the financial services sector. I went to North Geelong Secondary College and recently worked at both the Lara and Norlane pools. I have also worked at Corio Village, living and breathing and understanding our community. It is because of this that I want the opportunity to represent you. I am young and driven, and I know that Windermere can return to its days of pride and strength. Let us all see our clubs and businesses succeed, our children succeed and all locals succeed with a strong voice in council. Vote [1] Robert Blaszczyk.

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**DICKENS,
Ken J.**

I know many of you feel abandoned by the City of Greater Geelong. Other parts of the region have been given priority over the needs in the North. Physical infrastructure in Geelong's north - e.g., public housing, roads, footpaths, schools, parks, sporting reserves, shopping precincts has been neglected for decades. Growing up in public housing on the tough streets of East Preston in Melbourne's north, I know what it's like to struggle. As an accomplished business owner and a leader in the waste services industry, I know what's required to deliver outcomes. If elected, I will develop constructive relationships with other Councillor's and encourage honest, transparent and respectful leadership. We must create the right culture within Council - a work environment encouraging high performance, inclusiveness, diversity, fairness, innovative thinking and freedom from fear - and focus on high performance service delivery. I want to 'clean-up the mess' at City Hall and be your Champion for the North. I will advocate strongly within Council and to State and Federal Government for an equitable share of investment in social and economic infrastructure in Geelong for the Windermere Ward including the Northern ARC project. I humbly request your Vote 1, 2 or 3 for Ken Dickens.

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**KOZACZEK,
Roman**

I am a Permanent lifelong resident of Geelong. Former School Principal of Bell Park North Primary School and Herne Hill Primary School. Past recipient of a Community Service Award presented by the Governor of Victoria. Proud formative years in the suburb of North Shore and completed secondary schooling at St Josephs College Geelong. I have No Political Party association or membership. My key focus for Geelong is to improve and develop our roads, build and develop community confidence in the Geelong Council, support local employment opportunities and develop a safe environment. A commitment to open and consultative process on all major decisions.

Appendix 7: Daily breakdown of the general mail out

Greater Geelong City Council general election			
Whole of council general mail out			
10 October 2017	11 October 2017	12 October 2017	Total
66,201	66,201	62,304	194,706

Bellarine Ward election			
10 October 2017	11 October 2017	12 October 2017	Total
19,164	19,164	18,036	56,364

Brownbill Ward election			
10 October 2017	11 October 2017	12 October 2017	Total
18,936	18,936	17,821	55,693

Kardinia Ward election			
10 October 2017	11 October 2017	12 October 2017	Total
16,704	16,704	15,721	49,129

Windermere election			
10 October 2017	11 October 2017	12 October 2017	Total
11,397	11,397	10,726	33,520

Appendix 8: First preference results and successful candidates

Greater Geelong City Council general election

Bellarine Ward election

Enrolment:	56,364
Formal votes:	40,115
Informal votes:	2,673 (6.25% of the total ballot papers)
Voter turnout:	42,788 (75.91% of the total enrolment)

Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
ADAMS, Naomi	3129	7.80%
GOERSCHEL, Petra	954	2.38%
SULLIVAN, Trent	3437	8.57%
ASHER, Stephanie	10984	27.38%
ROE, Tom	2501	6.23%
SIMS, Art	1698	4.23%
O'BRYAN, Denis	1879	4.68%
VAN BEVEREN, John	1178	2.94%
MASON, Jim	4437	11.06%
BRACKLEY, Anne Elizabeth	4605	11.48%
WEBB, Stewart	1622	4.04%
ELLIS, Lindsay	3691	9.20%

Successful candidates

- ASHER, Stephanie (1st elected candidate)
- MASON, Jim (2nd elected candidate)
- SULLIVAN, Trent (3rd elected candidate)

Brownbill Ward election		
Enrolment:	55,700	
Formal votes:	39,294	
Informal votes:	3,845 (8.92% of the total ballot papers)	
Voter turnout:	43,099 (77.38% of the total enrolment)	
Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
SANDNER, Alec	2359	6.01%
HATHWAY, Sarah	764	1.95%
CSAR, Ellen	334	0.85%
MITCHELL, Peter	849	2.16%
AIDT, Mik	636	1.62%
BULL, Sue	1473	3.75%
GAMBLE, Jennifer	879	2.24%
NEAL, Charles	585	1.49%
MANSFIELD, Sarah	6995	17.82%
GILLARD, Terry	302	0.77%
KING, Michael	2328	5.93%
KONTELJ, Eddy	9715	24.75%
JACKA, Jacki	943	2.40%
BALLAS, George	1155	2.94%
CADWELL, Melissa June	1859	4.74%
MURRIHY, Peter John	4562	11.62%
FIDGE, Freya	2521	6.42%
SIMMONDS, Stephen	995	2.53%

Successful candidates

- KONTELJ, Eddy (1st elected candidate)
 - MANSFIELD, Sarah (2nd elected candidate)
-
- MURRIHY, Peter John (3rd elected candidate)

Kardinia Ward election

Enrolment:	49,136
Formal votes:	36,722
Informal votes:	1,982 (5.12% of the total ballot papers)
Voter turnout:	38,704 (78.77% of the total enrolment)

Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
OSECKAS, Peter	2306	6.28%
NELSON, Ron	7225	19.67%
MANN, Doug	1858	5.06%
KENNEDY, Norman	1686	4.59%
MURNANE, Pat	4617	12.57%
TAYLOR, Elliot C.	800	2.18%
LYONS-LEE, Brent	2327	6.34%
HARWOOD, Bruce	8107	22.08%
NEWMAN, Lois	2464	6.71%
HAUENSTEIN, Darren	3287	8.95%
WALKER, Mary	2045	5.57%

Successful candidates

- HARWOOD, Bruce (1st elected candidate)
- NELSON, Ron (2nd elected candidate)
- MURNANE, Pat (3rd elected candidate)

Windermere election

Enrolment:	33,521
Formal votes:	23,755
Informal votes:	1270 (5.07% of the total ballot papers)
Voter turnout:	25025 (74.65% of the total enrolment)

Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
AITKEN, Anthony	7578	31.90%
WITHINGTON, David	2198	9.25%
BLASZCZYK, Robert	1553	6.54%
LACEY, Greg	724	3.05%
KOZUL, Marina	1874	7.89%
GROSSMAN, Jordan	1717	7.23%
GRZYBEK, Kylie	2796	11.77%
BAKER, Bronwen Peta	1162	4.89%
HEIDARI, Moshtagh	1774	7.47%
HEIDARI, Moshtagh	1635	6.88%
KOZACZEK, Roman	744	3.13%

Successful candidates

- AITKEN, Anthony (1st elected candidate)
- GRZYBEK, Kylie (2nd elected candidate)

Appendix 9: Election participation statistics

Note: Participation is measured by the number of marks on the roll as a percentage of total enrolment and can vary from turnout (total ballot papers counted as a percentage of total enrolment).

Greater Geelong City Council general election		
Whole of council participation		
Enrolment category	Participation	Statewide postal election comparator for 2016 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 12 of the LG Act	82.16%	78.51%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> aged 18 to 69 years old on election day 	81.80%	78.28%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> aged 70 years and over on election day 	83.85%	79.73%
Voters enrolled through sections 13 – 16 of the LG Act	60.61%	55.54%
Council total	79.73%	75.67%

Bellarine Ward election		
Enrolment category	Participation	Statewide postal election comparator for 2016 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 12 of the LG Act	83.82%	78.51%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> aged 18 to 69 years old on election day 	83.69%	78.28%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> aged 70 years and over on election day 	84.34%	79.73%
Voters enrolled through sections 13 – 16 of the LG Act	65.79%	55.54%
Bellarine Ward election total	80.11%	75.67%

Brownbill Ward election		
Enrolment category	Participation	Statewide postal election comparator for 2016 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 12 of the LG Act	81.36%	78.51%
• aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	81.02%	78.28%
• aged 70 years and over on election day	82.99%	79.73%
Voters enrolled through sections 13 – 16 of the LG Act	56.55%	55.54%
Brownbill Ward election total	79.62%	75.67%

Kardinia Ward		
Enrolment category	Participation	Statewide postal election comparator for 2016 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 12 of the LG Act	83.05%	78.51%
• aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	82.69%	78.28%
• aged 70 years and over on election day	84.76%	79.73%
Voters enrolled through sections 13 – 16 of the LG Act	56.84%	55.54%
Kardinia Ward election total	81.03%	75.67%

Windermere election		
Enrolment category	Participation	Statewide postal election comparator for 2016 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 12 of the LG Act	79.80%	78.51%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aged 18 to 69 years old on election day 	79.27%	78.28%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aged 70 years and over on election day 	82.95%	79.73%
Voters enrolled through sections 13 – 16 of the LG Act	49.67%	55.54%
Windermere election total	77.34%	75.67%



Victorian Electoral Commission

Level 11, 530 Collins Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

Ph: 03 8620 1100 | Fax: 03 9629 8632

vec.vic.gov.au

2018

8. PUBLIC QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME POLICY

Source: Governance and Legal Services
Executive Manager: Rebecca Leonard
Index Reference: Council Policies

Purpose

To adopt an amended Public Question and Submission Time Policy.

Background

The Public Question and Submission Time Policy ("Policy") was adopted by Council in September 2017. It provided for 15 minutes to be made available for public questions and submissions at Council and Special Committee meetings, including the Community Focus Committee meetings. This could be extended to a total time of 45 minutes.

Key Issues

- It is important that community members are able to ask questions and make submissions at Council and Community Focus Committee meetings, to ensure that Councillors are accessible, and that they receive information on important issues.
- Council has historically received questions at the start of every Council meeting. This has been effective in allowing community to address Council on Council operations, community issues and matters coming before the Council for decision.
- The Policy has been amended to provide 45 minutes for questions and submissions at the start of every Council and Community Focus Committee meeting.
- The guaranteed 45-minute timeframe will give the community an opportunity to engage more deeply on issues that matter to them.
- The Policy also requires questions and submissions to be made in writing and submitted to the Council by 12:00pm on the day before the Council or Committee meeting. Questions and submissions that are not made in writing and submitted in time may only be considered by the Council or the Committee if time permits.
- The amended Policy is provided as Attachment 2. A marked-up version showing proposed changes is included as Attachment 3.

Cr Murnane moved, Cr Sullivan seconded -

That Council adopts the amended Public Question and Submission Time Policy at Attachment 2 of this report.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from the matters in this report.

Community Engagement

The Public Question and Submission Time policy was the subject of a public consultation process before it was adopted in September 2017. The changes proposed to the policy are minor and increase the opportunity for the public to ask questions or make submissions to Council at a Council or Community Focus Committee meeting. No further consultation is required by law.

Social Equity Considerations

The Policy provides for greater accessibility to provide feedback or ask questions in relation to Council business. The Policy also provides for questions to be received in a language other than English and requires the Chief Executive Officer to take reasonable steps to ensure that the processes and procedures provided for in this Policy are accessible to all members of the community.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The Public Question and Submission Time Policy is identified in the Meeting Procedures Local Law 2017.

Alignment to City Plan

The Public Question and Submission Time Policy aligns with How We Do Business.

Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest arises for any Council officer involved in the preparation of his report.

Risk Assessment

No significant risks have been identified which relate to the amendment of this Policy.

Environmental Implications

There are no direct environmental considerations relating to this Policy amendment.

COUNCIL POLICY



PUBLIC QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME	Document No:	CPL45.9
	Approval Date:	Draft
	Approved By:	Council
	Review Date:	20 September 2020
Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer	Version No	02
Authorising Officer:	Chief Executive Officer	

1. PURPOSE

To guide the process by which the public asks questions or provides information either of a general nature or specific to items for decision at Ordinary and Special Committee Meetings (Meetings) as defined in section 83, 84 and 86 of *the Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) to:

- a. provide a more resourceful and accountable platform for the public to submit questions to be considered at Meetings; and
- b. allow Council sufficient time to consider the issues raised by the public.

Council meetings are decision-making forums. To fully consider issues raised by the public prior to making decisions, various ways for the public to ask questions and make submissions before the meeting must be available.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to questions and information submitted for consideration at Meetings as defined in section 83, 84 and 86 of the Act. The policy is referred to in, and is to be read in conjunction with, the Council Meeting Procedures Local Law, 2017.

3. REFERENCES

- *The Local Government Act 1989* (the Act).
- Greater Geelong City Council Meeting Procedures Local Law 2017.

4. DEFINITIONS

Agenda means the notice of a Meeting setting out the business to be transacted at the Meeting;

Chief Executive Officer means the appointed Chief Executive Officer or Acting Chief Executive Officer of the Council;

Chairperson means the chair of a Meeting and includes acting, temporary, or substitute Chairperson, and includes the chair referred to in s10(6) of the COGG Act.

COGG Act means the *City of Greater Geelong Act (Vic) 1993* (as amended by *the City of Greater Geelong Amendment Act 2017*);

Councillor means a person who holds the office of member of Council;

Meeting means an Ordinary Meeting or a Special Committee Meeting of the Council;

Member means a Councillor or member of a Special Committee;

Member of Council Staff has the same meaning given to that term in section 3 of the Act, namely:

- a. a natural person who is employed by the Chief Executive Officer (other than an independent Contractor under a contract of service or a volunteer) to enable:
 - i. The functions of the Council under the Act or any other Act to be carried out;
 - ii. The Chief Executive Officer to carry out his or her functions
- b. The Chief Executive Officer.

Ordinary Meeting means any meeting of Council which is not a Special Meeting.

Public Question and Submission Time means a section of the Agenda of a Meeting during which Council takes questions and information submitted by the public relevant to Council actions and decisions. Question and Submission Time is not a forum for discussion.

Special Committee means a Committee established by the Council pursuant to section 86 of the Act.

Special Meeting means a Special Meeting of the Council called in accordance with section 84 of the Act.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

- 5.1 Public Question and Submission Time will be provided at the start of a Meeting to enable members of the public to ask questions or make submissions to Council.
- 5.2 There will be no Public Question and Submission Time at a Special Meeting of Council unless otherwise determined by the Chairperson.
- 5.3 Forty five (45) minutes will be allocated for Public Question and Submission Time at a Meeting. The duration of Public Question and Submission Time may be extended by:
 - 5.3.1 the Chairperson, giving due consideration to the business to be considered at the Meeting; or
 - 5.3.2 by resolution of the Meeting.
- 5.4 Questions to be asked or submissions to be made at a Meeting must be:
 - 5.4.1 in writing, and state the name and address of the person submitting the question, and generally be in a form approved by the Chief Executive Officer; and
 - 5.4.2 lodged:
 - 5.4.2.1 in person at the Council offices;
 - 5.4.2.2 electronically, by using the online form provided on Council's website; or
 - 5.4.2.3 Electronically, by sending the question or submission to the email address prescribed by Council,by 12.00 noon on the day before the Meeting, subject to clause 5.7 herein.
- 5.5 Questions and submissions lodged in accordance with clause 5.4 herein will be provided to the Councillors by the Chief Executive Officer before the Meeting.
- 5.6 The Chief Executive Officer will use all reasonable endeavours to have a question or submission made in a language other than English translated into English before the Meeting. A question or submission that cannot be translated prior to the commencement of the Meeting will be translated prior to the next Meeting scheduled after it and the submitter will be notified accordingly.
- 5.7 The Chief Executive Officer will take reasonable steps to ensure that the processes and procedures provided for in this policy are accessible to all members of the community.

- 5.8 At the Chairperson's discretion, a person can ask a question or make a submission at a Meeting without notice.
- 5.9 No more than two (2) questions may be asked or submissions made by any person at any one (1) Meeting. If a person asks two (2) questions or makes two (2) submissions, the second question or submission may, at the discretion of the Chairperson:
- 5.9.1 be deferred until all other persons have had their question asked and answered or submissions made; or
- 5.9.2 may not be asked or submitted if the time allotted for public question and submission time has expired.
- 5.10 Each person asking a question or making a submission will be allocated three (3) minutes to speak to that question or submission at the Meeting.
- 5.11 Council will respond to a question asked to a Meeting if the person who asked the question is present at the Meeting. The question asked and the answer given will be recorded in the Minutes of the Meeting.
- 5.12 For question(s) submitted in accordance with clause 5.4 herein where the person who has asked the question is not present at the Meeting, the question(s) will not be recorded in the Minutes of the Meeting, however, the Chief Executive Officer will cause a written response to be provided to the person asking the question within seven (7) days of the Meeting.
- 5.13 All questions and answers must be brief, and discussion will be entered into only for the purpose of clarification.
- 5.14 Submissions made to a Meeting and presented in person will be recorded in the Minutes. Submissions made to a meeting but not presented in person will not be recorded in the Minutes.
- 5.15 The Chairperson may preclude a question being asked or a submission being made at a Meeting if the Chairperson determines that it:
- 5.15.1 relates to a matter outside the duties, functions and powers of Council;
- 5.15.2 is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, vexatious, frivolous, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language;
- 5.15.3 is the subject of negotiation, litigation or is of a commercially sensitive nature;
- 5.15.4 is aimed to embarrass a Councillor or a Member of Council Staff;
- 5.15.5 relates to personnel matters;
- 5.15.6 relates to industrial matters;
- 5.15.7 deals with subject matter already answered or declined;
- 5.15.8 relates to contractual matters;
- 5.15.9 relates to legal advice sought and/or received by Council;
- 5.15.10 relates to matters affecting the security of a Member of Council Staff or their property;
- 5.15.11 relates to any other matter which the Chairperson considers would prejudice Council, a Member of Council Staff, or any person; or
- 5.15.12 relates to a matter for which the meeting would normally be closed to the public in accordance with section 89(2) of the Act.
- 5.16 A copy of any question which has been precluded by the Chairperson must be made available to any other Member upon request.
- 5.17 Similar questions may be grouped together and a single answer provided by the Council.

- 5.18 The Chairperson may request the Chief Executive Officer, or the appropriate Member or Member of Council Staff, to respond to a question. The Chairperson or the Chief Executive Officer may reserve the right to take the question on notice and provide a written response to the person who asked the question.
- 5.19 A Member or the Chief Executive Officer may advise the Chairperson that, in his or her opinion, any question to be asked or information to be submitted should be given in a Meeting that is closed to the public, stating the reasons for his or her opinion. Unless the Members of the Meeting resolve to the contrary, the question should be asked and answered, or the information submitted, in a meeting closed to the public.
- 5.20 Public Question and Submission Time is not a substitute for formal appeal and review systems, formal business procedures, formal Council decisions and any other legal processes required for the proper conduct of Council business.

6. QUALITY RECORDS

Quality Records shall be retained for at least the period shown below.

Record	Retention/Disposal Responsibility	Retention Period	Location

7. ATTACHMENTS

- Council Meeting Procedure Local Law 2017

9. PLANNING AUTHORISATIONS – COUNCIL TO STAFF

Source: Governance & Legal Services
Executive Manager: Rebecca Leonard
Index Reference: Delegations

Purpose

To appoint a Council officer as an authorised officer under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the P&EA).

Background

Council officers are appointed as authorised officers to exercise statutory powers under various Acts and Regulations. Appointments as authorised officers are to individual staff members.

The P&EA regulates enforcement and is reliant on authorised officers acting on behalf of the Responsible Authority (Council).

Key Issues

- Where there is a specific power within an Act, Council should appoint authorised officers pursuant to that Act. This is the case for the P&EA.
- A planning staff member has recently been employed by Council and is required to be authorised under the P&EA.
- **Attachment 2** sets out the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation under the P&EA and lists the staff member to whom this authorisation applies (the instrument).

Cr Kontelj moved, Cr Murrphy seconded -

In the exercise of the powers conferred by section 224 of the *Local Government Act 1989* and the other legislation referred to in the attached instrument, Greater Geelong City Council (Council) RESOLVES THAT -

- 1) The member of Council staff referred to in the instrument be appointed and authorised as set out in the instrument;**
- 2) The instrument comes into force immediately upon the common seal of Council being affixed to the instrument, and remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it;**
- 3) The instrument be sealed.**

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from the subject of this report.

Community Engagement

Relevant Council managers have been consulted regarding this recommended appointment and authorisation.

Social Equity Considerations

There are no social equity implications arising from the subject of this report.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The recommended appointment and authorisation of this staff member complies with the relevant provisions of the P&EA and the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Alignment to City Plan

The recommended appointment and authorisation of this staff member supports the delivery of Council planning services.

Conflict of Interest

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Risk Assessment

There are no significant or high risks associated with the subject of this report.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from the subject of this report.

Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (*Planning and Environment Act 1987*)

In this instrument "**officer**" means -

Shannon Mccaughey - Senior Statutory Planner

By this instrument of appointment and authorisation Greater Geelong City Council -

1. under section 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* - appoints the officer to be an authorised officer for the purposes of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the regulations made under that Act; and
2. under section 232 of the *Local Government Act 1989* authorises the officer generally to institute proceedings for offences against the Acts and regulations described in this instrument.

It is declared that this instrument -

- (a) comes into force immediately upon its execution;
- (b) remains in force until varied or revoked.

This instrument is authorised by a resolution of the Greater Geelong City Council on 27 February 2018.

THE COMMON SEAL of GREATER)
 GEELONG CITY COUNCIL was affixed)
 hereto in the presence of:)

Mayor

Chief Executive Officer

Date:

10. CONTRACTUAL MATTER

Source: Finance & Strategy
Director: Peter Anderson

Cr Murrhiy moved, Cr Nelson seconded -

That in accordance with Section 89 (2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1989, this contractual matter be considered at the conclusion of all other business at which time the meeting be closed to members of the public.

Carried.

11. TENDER T1770867 – NORTHERN ARC HEALTH & WELLBEING HUB – DESIGN SERVICES

Source: Finance and Strategy
Director: Peter Anderson
Index Reference: Tender T1770867

Cr Kontelj moved, Cr Grzybek seconded -

That in accordance with Section 89 (2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1989, this contractual matter be considered at the conclusion of all other business at which time the meeting be closed to members of the public.

Carried.

ASSEMBLY OF COUNCIL RECORD

Chief Executive Officer: Kelvin Spiller
Source: Governance and Legal Services

Summary

- Section 80A (2) of the Local Government Act 1989 requires the record of an Assembly of Council be reported to the next practicable Ordinary Meeting of Council.
- A record of Assembly of Council meeting(s) is attached as an Appendix to this report.

Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Kontelj seconded -

That the information be received.

Carried.

**RECORD OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCIL
(Council Meeting 27 February 2018)**

Assembly Details	Councillors	Officer Attendees	Agenda Items	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
<p>Council Briefing 6 February 2018</p>	<p>Cr Harwood (Mayor), Crs Aitken, Asher, Grzybek, Kontelj, Mansfield, Mason, Murrihy, Murnane, Sullivan</p>	<p>K Spiller (CEO) B Luxford (DIR) G Wilson-Browne (DIR) K Walsh (DIR) P Anderson (DIR) A Keen (EXEC MGR) R Leonard (EXEC MGR) G Russell (MGR) M Kelly (MGR) F Reidy (MGR) T Raven (CO ORD) M Macgugan (OFF) K Ivens (SNR ADV TO MAYOR & CEO) J Thomas (SNR ADV TO MAYOR & CEO) J Brown (CO ORD) V Shelton (MGR) M McKenzie (OFF) S Boer (MGR) M Mitchell (OFF) B Szymczak (SNR COMM ADV) J Munro (MONITOR)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G21 Regional Road Transport Plan 2017-2027 • Revocation of Flood Prone Area Designation of New Lots at Armstrong Creek Waters, Stage 4 • Revocation of Flood Prone Area Designation of New Lots at Villawood, Stages 20 and 21 • Revocation of Flood Prone Area Designation of New Lots at Ashbury, Stages 2 and 3 • Drysdale Bypass Road – Sale of Land to VicRoads • Road Renaming Western Section Wesley Place, Geelong • Road Naming Unnamed Laneway, Geelong 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil.
<p>Council Briefing 20 February 2018</p>	<p>Cr Harwood (Mayor), Crs Aitken, Grzybek, Kontelj, Mansfield, Mason, Murrihy, Murnane, Sullivan</p>	<p>K Spiller (CEO) B Luxford (DIR) G Wilson-Browne (DIR) K Walsh (DIR) L Quinn (DIR) P Anderson (DIR) A Keen (EXEC MGR) R Leonard (EXEC MGR) G Russell (MGR) T Raven (CO ORD) K Ivens (SNR ADV TO MAYOR & CEO)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendment C353 Beckley Park, Corio - Amendment to Schedule 4 of the Special Use Zone – Adoption of Amendment • Amendment C349 Ocean Grove Significant Tree Project • Transformation Program – December Quarter Update • Sale of Former Geelong Post Office • Rural and Peri-Urban Advisory Committee – Terms of Reference • Local Government Bill 2018 Exposure Draft • Conduct of Election Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil.

		<p>F Gray (MGR) S Broadbent (MGR) T Kirwood (MGR) J Van Slageren (MGR) R Thomas (MGR) M Kuhn (MGR) A Della Monica (CO ORD) P Dorling (MONITOR) B Szymczak (OFF) D Bushell (OFF)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Authorisations – Council to Staff • Question Time Policy • Councillor Code of Conduct • Tender T1770867 Northern ARC Health & Wellbeing Hub Design Services (<i>Confidential</i>) • Contractual Matter (<i>Confidential</i>) 	
<p>Budget Briefing No 1 21 February 2018</p>	<p>Cr Harwood (Mayor), Crs Aitken, Asher, Kontelj, Mansfield, Mason, Murrihy, Murnane, Sullivan</p>	<p>K Spiller (CEO) B Luxford (DIR) G Wilson-Browne (DIR) K Walsh (DIR) L Quinn (DIR) P Anderson (DIR) R Leonard (EXEC MGR) G Russell (MGR) K Fulton (CO ORD) C Kirby (CO ORD) S Boer (MGR) L Raimondo (OFF) M Macgugan (OFF)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2018-2019 Budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil

PLANNING DELEGATIONS – JANUARY 2018

Source: Planning & Development - City Development
Director: Kelvin Walsh
Index Reference: Delegations

Summary

- Section 98 of the Local Government Act 1989 and section 188 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 empower Council to delegate its powers, duties and functions under relevant legislation to members of Council staff.
- Council may also delegate to committees comprising Councillors and staff or a combination of both, pursuant to sections 86 and 87 of the Local Government Act and section 188 of the Planning and Environment Act.
- At its meeting on 13 March 2007 Council established a Planning Committee and a Development Hearings Panel with delegated powers to determine upon any development applications which have been the subject of an objection or in circumstances where officers have recommended refusal of the application.
- At its meeting on 23 September 2008 Council adopted a recommendation to allow Officers (restricted to Manager, Coordinator and Team Leader level) the ability to consider and approve applications with five or less objections.
- The appendix to this report contains a schedule of all applications determined under these delegations.

Cr Murrhly moved, Cr Sullivan seconded -

That the information be received.

Carried.

Planning Decisions Report - January 2018

App Number	Location	Application Type	Decision Date	Description	Authority Description
PP-726-2017	107 Hitchcock Avenue, BARWON HEADS VIC 3227	Construction of Two (2) Dwellings and Two (2) Lot Subdivision	19/1/2018	NOD - Planning Permit	Development Hearings Panel
PP-1059-2017	36 Heytesbury Street, HERNE HILL VIC 3218	Construction of Three (3) Dwellings and a Three (3) Lot Subdivision	25-Jan-2018	NOD - Delegate	Objectors - 2
PP-1101-2017	278 Pakington Street, NEWTOWN VIC 3220	Buildings and Works for Part Demolition and Construction of Extension to an Existing Dwelling	4-Jan-2018	NOD - Delegate	Objectors - 1
PP-1127-2017	38 The Avenue, BELMONT VIC 3216	Construction of Second Dwelling and Two (2) Lot Subdivision	15-Jan-2018	NOD - Delegate	Objectors - 2
PP-1144-2017	38-40 High Street, DRYSDALE VIC 3222	Change of use and Development of a Place of Assembly, including Maternal and Child Health Centre, Child Care Centre, Kindergarten, Toy Library, Reduction in Car Parking, Removal of Easement from TP7006724 and Creation of Easement.	22-Jan-2018	NOD - Delegate	Objectors - 2
PP-1145-2017	44 Granault Parade, CORIO VIC 3214	Construction of a Second Dwelling	31-Jan-2018	NOD - Delegate	Objectors - 1
PP-1147-2017	2222-2230 Portarlington Road, BELLARINE VIC 3223	Boundary Re-Alignment (Re-Subdivision)	19-Jan-2018	NOD - Delegate	Objectors - 1
PP-1163-2017	352 Myers Street, EAST GEELONG VIC 3219	Buildings and Works for the Demolition of Existing Dwelling and Construction of a Dwelling within a Heritage Overlay	4-Jan-2018	NOD - Delegate	Objectors - 1
PP-1261-2017	54 Helms Street, NEWCOMB VIC 3219	Construction of a Second Dwelling and a Two (2) Lot Subdivision	8-Jan-2018	NOD - Delegate	Objectors - 1
PP-1277-2017	35 Maud Street, GEELONG VIC 3220	Partial Demolition Including Alterations and Additions to an Existing Dwelling within a Heritage Overlay and on a Site Less than 300sqm	31-Jan-2018	NOD - Delegate	Objectors - 1
PP-1283-2017	7 Pevensy Crescent, GEELONG VIC 3220	Buildings and works associated with an existing garage to include a habitable addition	19-Jan-2018	NOD - Delegate	Objectors - 1

PP-435-2017	30 Surf Beach Road, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Buildings and Works Associated with the Redevelopment of the Ocean Grove Surf Life Saving Club and 'The Dunes' Licensed Cafe, Removal of Vegetation, Reduction in Car Parking, and an Increase in the Area, Hours and Patron Numbers Associated with the Sale and Consumption of Liquor	24-Jan-2018	NOD - Delegate	Objectors - 2
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Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Nelson seconded -

That the meeting be closed to the public.

Carried.

The Meeting was closed to the public at 8.38pm

A record of the proceedings of this section of the meeting is contained in a Confidential Minute Book.

Cr Nelson moved, Cr Mason seconded -

That the Meeting be opened to the public.

Carried.

SECTION E - CONFIDENTIAL

TENDER T1770867 – NORTHERN ARC HEALTH & WELLBEING HUB – DESIGN SERVICES

Resolution

That Council notes in the minutes of this meeting that the tender has been awarded to dwp Australia Pty Ltd for the Northern ARC Health & Wellbeing Hub – Design Services.

CLOSE OF MEETING

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 8.46pm. Tuesday, 27 February 2018.

Signed: _____
Cr Bruce Harwood (Mayor)

Date of Confirmation: _____.