



MINUTES

COMMUNITY FOCUS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, 13 March 2018

Held at the
Barrabool Hills Baptist Church
32 Province Boulevard, Highton
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 Murrhy (*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 COMMUNITY FOCUS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE BARRABOOL HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
32 PROVINCE BOULEVARD, HIGHTON
TUESDAY, 13 MARCH 2018
COMMENCING AT 7.10 PM**

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

Also present: K Spiller (Chief Executive Officer), K Walsh (Director Manager Planning and Development), B Luxford (Director Investment & Attraction), V Shelton (Act/Director City Services), I Hicks (Act/Director Community Life), P Anderson (Director Finance & Strategy), S Sodomaco (Manager Health and Local Laws), A Keen (Executive Manager People and Organisation Development), 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: Cr Sarah Mansfield (Maternity Leave), Cr Pat Murnane

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Cr Murrhiy moved, Cr Sullivan seconded -

That the Minutes of the Community Focus Committee Meeting held on 13 February 2018 be confirmed.

Carried.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: Nil.

QUESTION TIME:

Question Time is an opportunity for questions to be addressed to Council and while the minutes record the general content, they do not purport to be a transcript of what was said by individuals. Likewise, the Councillor or Officer verbal responses are in summary form only. Views expressed may not be the views of Council.

Council's practice is to provide a separate document on its website setting out questions and responses including any more detailed written responses which may be provided subsequent to the meeting.

Mary-Ann Gage and Huss Turkkan submitted questions prior to the meeting. As they were not in attendance a written response will be forwarded.

Brian Young asked:

I note that the Golden Plains Food Production Precinct has been established as a Pillar Project under the G21 Economic Development Pillar, on 4,000ha of Farming Zone land just north of Geelong at Lethbridge. This has State planning policy support for intensive agriculture and is intended to be “the most attractive and productive location for Intensive Agriculture” in the region. As Pillar Leader, please could Mayor Harwood explain why the proposed, and currently approved 4500 Goat Intensive Farming and Milk Processing Facility for Nuhev Pty Ltd has been approved for location within less than a kilometre of hundreds of residential and other sensitive areas in Lara, rather than located in this specifically developed Precinct? A similar Intensive Farm for Nuhev Pty Ltd at Moorabool was recently rejected by VCAT on the grounds of undue risk of potential Q-Fever transmission (and wastewater issues) to the much more dispersed community around Moorabool. How can the placement of this facility at Lara be defended?

The Mayor responded Council is still waiting for advice on what we can and can't say, and what we say must be 100% accurate. The question was taken on notice.

Bronwen Baker asked two questions in relation to the planning permit that has been granted to Nuhev for the site at 240 Forest Road South, Lara. The Lara Structure Plan clearly shows that the Industrial Zone 2 further to the south is for potentially polluting industries. The buffer zone between is intended to keep the township of Lara and its residents healthy. That is what the Lara Structure Plan intends. To put an intensive animal husbandry facility with potentially very serious human health consequences and a factory in that buffer zone is poor town planning that undermines Lara citizens' rights to live in comfort and safety. By combining “farm” and “factory” Nuhev have taken advantage of a planning anomaly.

- 1) Does this Council think it is reasonable that Lara residents are compromised in this way, because of a planning “loophole”?
- 2) If this development goes ahead, it sets a precedent for industrial operations such as this to be placed on any farming zoned land in the City of Greater Geelong region. If it is allowed to go ahead, how is this Council going to protect the citizens of not only Lara, but anywhere in, or close to, any of our lovely rural areas, from finding themselves surrounded by factories?

The Mayor reiterated he was unable to respond to the questions but took them on notice. Council is expecting advice to be forthcoming so we are able to provide responsible and accurate answers to the community.

Jack Green asked the following question in relation to the proposed Bean Squeeze Coffee Outlet in Montague Street Highton:

This application was submitted to Council on 6 October 2016, and despite receiving 57 initial objections from concerned residents, and a subsequent Development Hearings Panel meeting on 6 April 2017, which was also attended by a large number of objectors, the application has still not been determined by Council 18 months since its lodgement. Residents are concerned at the lengthy delay in the process, the lack of follow up information provided and advice that protracted delays will not diminish the level of genuine concern that the local community holds in respect of this inappropriate proposal or our resolve to see neighbourhood community safety and amenity preserved – in accordance with the provisions of the Planning Scheme in this Residential Growth Zone.

Can Council please advise what is delaying the refusal of this inappropriate planning proposal and reassure the local community that the recently elected Council will represent the community's rights in this matter and protect the neighbourhood amenity, community safety and the strategic direction that has been established for this area through proper and well considered strategic planning processes?

Kelvin Walsh, Director Planning and Development, responded Council is very aware of the community issues in relation to this proposal, however Council is obliged to assess all planning applications when received.

The applicant has recently indicated their intention to lodge an amendment to the application. Once this has been submitted it will be advertised. Council will then consider any objections submitted as a result of advertising the application.

There has been no decision made on the application.

Sarah Beath (Secretary Highton Senior Citizens Centre) asked the following in relation to the Bean Squeeze proposal:

Bean Squeeze as proposed for Montague Street will block all traffic in the street and westbound in Barrabool Road and involves undoing the traffic safety improvements Council has implemented. Access to Highton Senior Citizens Centre will be blocked during busy coffee times. Morning activities will have to be curtailed, and possibly afternoon ones. Our senior members are already telling us they would stop coming rather than deal with increased traffic hazards and significantly reduced parking. This proposal would kill off a very active Club. Is Council really considering doing that? There are sufficient coffee outlets in the vicinity.

The Mayor advised that Council is more than mindful of the concerns of the residents in regard to the Bean Squeeze proposal and there is an amended application being lodged, which will require due consideration and will be assessed accordingly.

Rohan Greaves asked:

- 1) Referring to your City Plan, I see that some of your priorities are supporting healthy lifestyles through promoting physical activity, connected, creative and strong communities, along with facilitating major infrastructure and investment to enable economic growth?
- 2) Would you consider that financially supporting lighting upgrades that would provide active participation opportunities to hundreds of males and females a priority over facility upgrades such as change room and pavilion upgrades?

The Mayor responded Council does have a strong commitment regarding community assets in relation to healthy lifestyles. Because of the extreme cost involved with upgrades Council relies heavily on State and Federal Government support.

The Mayor indicated he was happy to discuss what help and support Council offers in relation to guidance from different areas to address the questions.

Simon Morrison asked question regarding the land behind Barrabool Hill Baptist Centre known as Gully 3:

- 1) What is happening regarding development of the land known as Gully 3?

The Mayor took the question on notice to obtain more information in relation to the land. A written response will be provided.

- 2) Why was Council prevented from acting in a timely manner behind my house on the land known as Gully 3, to make the area safe this last summer?

Steve Sodomaco, Manager Health and Local Laws, responded he would take the question back to be addressed by the Director of City Services.

The Chief Executive Officer added Council must adhere to the correct process in relation to the eradication of fire risk.

Donald Bone asked how does he get someone in authority to look at my proposition for a proposed Convention Centre?

The Mayor responded he would be happy to listen and view the plans at the conclusion of the meeting.

Andy Meddick asked the following questions in relation to emailed submission to the Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP):

- 1) Proposed amendment to the DAMP 1 & 2 have elements covered in part by the non State Government legislation. However, will Council consider amendments?
- 2) Will Council consider 3 and 4?
- 3) Geelong Animal Welfare is in a precarious situation – will Council consider?
- 4) Will Council delay vote on DAMP to consider and include amendments as requested?

Steve Sodomaco, Manager Health and Local Laws, responded it is a requirement of the Domestic Animal Act 1994 to review the DAMP every four years and is required to be submitted by 31 January 2018. Council has received an extension to this date.

Gillian O’Dwyer asked why aren’t cats confined to the owner’s property indoors for 24 hours per day in the Domestic Animal Management Plan?

Steve Sodomaco responded that no doubt the cats are a challenge and are difficult to regulate and enforce. It is a national issue, and responsible cat ownership should be respected.

Kate Lehmann addressed the Committee as follows:

I am frustrated with the Bean Squeeze Planning Permit application process.

Why isn’t the matter resolved with a permit refusal?

Why aren’t affected residents kept up to date with the status of the permit application?

The Mayor responded that the comments were well noted and as advised earlier there is a new application to be considered.

Kelvin Walsh added Council is anticipating receiving an amendment to the original application. Council has not received the documentation as yet but will go through the application process and the residents will be notified and able to make further submissions.

The applicant also has the opportunity to respond to the matters raised in the objections.

The Mayor asked, “Is there a time limit”.

Kelvin Walsh replied, “No there isn’t a time limit”.

PETITIONS: Nil.

1. APPROVAL OF THE DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2018-2021

Source: Planning & Development - Health & Local Laws
Director: Kelvin Walsh
Index Reference: Domestic Animal Management Plan 2018-2021

Purpose

To seek authorisation from the Community Focus Committee to adopt the attached Domestic Animal Management Plan for 2018-21. **Attachment 2.**

Background

Councils are required to develop and review a Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) every four years pursuant to the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*. The Plan was required to be submitted to the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR) by January 31 2018. The scope of the Plan is limited to domestic dogs and cats. An extension to submission date has been granted.

The draft plan was released for public exhibition between the 28 November and 25 December 2017. The consultation webpage received 1,541 views, 25 submissions were made and the draft plan was downloaded 207 times.

Proposed dog control orders for the Northern Bellarine zone (under the management of the Bellarine Bayside Coastal Committee of Management) and the Barwon Coast (under the management of the Barwon Coast Committee of Management) are subject to ongoing development and will be reported separately to Council.

Key Issues

The Domestic Animals Act 1994 requires all Victorian local governments to develop a Domestic Animal Management Plan (the Plan), which is required to be comprehensively reviewed every four years.

The Plan is expected to outline how Council intends to promote the following standards of animal management:

- To promote and encourage the responsible ownership of dogs and cats
- To ensure that people comply with the Act, the regulations and any related legislation
- To minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals
- To address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats
- To encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats
- To minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance
- To effectively identify all dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in the municipal district and ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with the Act and regulations.

Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Murrhy seconded -

That the Committee authorises the adoption of the 2018-21 Domestic Animal Management Plan.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Discussion

A summary of the community feedback and how this has been incorporated into the Plan is included at **Attachment 3**. The feedback largely reinforced advice received during by the earlier community discussion paper, focussing on fenced dog parks, dogs in public places, owner education, compliance, illegal breeding and dog waste. In most cases, actions have already been established in the plan to address such concerns. Some suggestions were outside the scope of domestic animal management or could not be actioned due to State Government limitations. Where necessary, actions have been further detailed or added, to expand on expressed concerns and improve clarity and understanding.

Since the draft was released, there has been a key legislative progression in the passing of the *Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Act 2017*, intended to regulate against illegal backyard breeding of puppies and kittens. This will increase our ability and powers to prosecute illegal breeders and will be significant in our activities for the next four years.

Compliance Visibility

Many respondents noted that they rarely saw evidence of Council undertaking animal management compliance activities, despite undertaking almost 5,000 community transactions per annum. This lack of community awareness may affect public confidence in CoGG's activities in this area, and encourage some pet owners to disregard the laws and requirements as they relate to responsible pet ownership.

Animal Management Staff currently use white, unmarked CoGG vehicles to undertake their duties. It is proposed that the next iteration of the Plan includes a provision to develop a new brand for CoGG animal management, which can be used for vehicle livery and educational material for the public. It is anticipated that the promotion of this brand will increase the visibility and understanding of the animal management activities undertaken by CoGG.

Additional efforts can be undertaken by promoting responsible pet ownership through social media, and the participation/sponsoring of relevant community events.

Dogs on Beaches

Dogs on beaches has remained a highly contentious issue, with most respondents reporting a perception that these zones are largely unregulated. CoGG are currently working closely with the two major land managers of coastlines frequented by dogs and other users. In order to introduce and harmonise dog control orders to ensure a greater degree of understanding of the requirements, and develop compliance regimes to balance the needs of all beach users. This will feed into the development of the Dogs in Public Places Policy 2018-21, which is scheduled to be presented to Council by mid 2018.

Increased Education

Many respondents reported a need for CoGG to increase community education in regards to responsible pet ownership and the related laws and expectations. The promotion of responsible pet ownership of school students was highlighted, in order to bring about generational change in understanding and attitude regarding pets, including their welfare and aspects of public safety.

CoGG has appointed a Community Engagement Officer in the Animal Management Unit. It is anticipated that this officer will promote responsible pet ownership in the community through a variety of programs, including delivering programs to secondary school students.

Enclosed Dog Parks

CoGG have a large number of reserves which are available for use by dogs off-leash. Many owners, however, are unable to meet the requirements of these off-leash areas, namely the ability to verbally recall the dog and keep it under effective control. Enclosed dog parks are becoming increasingly common throughout Australia, and are recognised as valuable assets for the socialisation of dogs and building stronger community ties amongst users. CoGG currently has one enclosed dog park at Stead Park in Corio and a comprehensive strategy for the provision of further facilities throughout the municipality is currently being developed by the Social Planning and Investment Unit.

The concept of having a network of enclosed dog parks was well supported by respondents. Several written submissions were received which identified particular areas of need for such facilities.

It is proposed to hold a public forum on fenced dog parks in collaboration with the Social Planning and Investment Unit to inform the development of a fenced dog park strategy; resulting in the development of new fenced dog parks within the 4 year period of this Plan.

The responses received in the consultation for the Plan have been incorporated into the development of this strategy.

Financial Implications

Budget will be considered for the projects and activities contained within the plan on an annual basis. There is also the potential to apply for grant funding for responsible pet ownership programs.

Community Engagement

A comprehensive discussion paper was developed as the primary basis for the community consultation using the ENGAGE community consultation process (an online survey accessed via the CoGG website). The discussion questions were available under "Have your Say" and the discussion paper was provided in hardcopies at Customer Service Centres. The consultation period was conducted over five weeks between May and June, and advertised on the Geelong Australia website, CoGG social media accounts and newspapers.

The website received over 2000 page views, 197 surveys were completed and 14 written submissions were received from individuals and community groups.

The draft plan was distributed to internal stakeholders for feedback within Communications and Marketing, Local Laws, Land Management, Environment and Waste, and Community and Recreation.

The draft Plan documented current actions, community views, and new actions for 2018-21. It was open for public comment between 28 November and 25 December 2017. During this period, we received 25 submissions. A late submission was received from the Animal Justice Party for consideration (**Attachment 4**).

Public forums are proposed to enable community feedback into the Dogs in Public Places Policy 2018-21 and the Fenced Dog Park strategy, as these are the key issues upon which community members may wish to raise their views in person.

Social Equity Considerations

A central aim of the Plan is to promote the benefits of pet ownership and celebrate the positive aspects of owning a pet. This is something we wish for all community members, regardless of demographic. By focusing on community engagement the Plan takes into consideration particular needs in accessing services and facilities.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The Domestic Animal Management Plan is a legislative requirement pursuant to the Domestic Animals Act 1994. A revised plan for 2018-2021 is to be provided to the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources by the end of April 2018.

Alignment to City Plan

The Plan aligns to the Clever and Creative 30 year plan, most closely to infrastructure, natural assets, community safety, inclusive, diverse, healthy and social connected communities and sustainable development.

Conflict of Interest

The community consultation and subsequent report does not feature any conflicts of interest.

Risk Assessment

Council complies with its statutory requirements under Section 68A of the *Domestic Animal Act 1994*, to prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan.

Environmental Implications

There is a risk that dog and pet ownership will encroach on the habitat and survival or native wildlife, such as hooded plovers. This is managed as far as possible through restricted zones, mandatory de-sexing of cats, subsidised cat de-sexing program, officer patrols and the cat curfew. There is, however, a risk that cat owners will ignore the curfew and dog owners not comply with the orders. In addition, feral cats pose a risk and it is very difficult to effectively manage the program with limited financial resources, as a high proportion of such cats have to be trapped and sterilised in order to be effective.

There is also the risk of environmental pollution from dog and cat waste due to irresponsible owners.

The Animal Management team covers a large area with multiple vehicles, therefore fuel consumption is relatively high but this is unavoidable given the need to offer service to all of the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

2018-21





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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



With one of the largest animal populations of any Victorian municipality, animal management is a community priority for Geelong.

It's important we do everything we can to promote and encourage responsible pet ownership, and manage issues around cats and dogs.

We understand people love their pets but, at the same time, we all need to be mindful of the impact they can have on people, other pets and wildlife if they are not managed properly.

With this plan, we aim to demonstrate to the community the breadth of work already underway and what we hope to improve over the next four years. We've also reported on feedback from the community received during the consultation period. As you'll see, there are many suggestions on ways animals could be managed in the community.

Given the size of Greater Geelong and the number of animals we have, there are many challenges faced with animal management. That's why community education is a key focus. If we can get the majority of people doing the right thing, most of the time, it will greatly reduce the likelihood of conflict and issues.

This effort relies on many people – from pet owners, breeders, veterinarians, trainers, local agencies, land managers, schools through to peak bodies. By working together in a planned way, pets can continue contributing to our quality of life, with minimal impact on the environment and others.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Harwood'. The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Bruce Harwood
Mayor
City of Greater Geelong

WHAT IS A DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN?

Every Victorian local government must, under the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, prepare a plan outlining how it will manage dogs and cats within its municipal boundaries.

The plan identifies how the council will:

- help pets, pet owners and the general community to live together
- protect the environment and local wildlife from the negative impacts of dogs and cats
- balance the needs of those who own pets with those who do not
- address animal management welfare and legal issues
- promote responsible pet ownership
- improve the experience of animal ownership.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The following principles underpin this plan:

- Pets contribute to our quality of life.
- The needs of pet owners must be balanced with the needs of others.
- Responsible pet ownership is highly valued.
- Animal management and education should be proactive.
- The environment and local wildlife must be protected from the negative impacts of dogs and cats.
- The best outcomes result from working in partnership.
- The City has a leadership role in animal management.



HOW DO WE CURRENTLY MANAGE ANIMALS?

As well as registration and identification of dogs and cats, our central functions are to:

- promote and encourage the responsible ownership of dogs and cats
- make sure people manage their animals in accordance with the law
- minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals
- address over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats, where they exist
- encourage registration and identification of dogs and cats
- minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance
- effectively identify all dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs, and make sure they are kept appropriately
- contract the Geelong Animal Welfare Society to deliver our pound service.

THE BROADER CONTEXT

Animal management is guided by a combination of legislation, local orders, policies and local laws.

VICTORIAN LEGISLATION

- *Domestic Animals Act 1994* and associated Codes of Practice
- *Domestic Animals Amendment (Restricted Breeds) Act 2017* (see page 12 for more information)
- *Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Act 2017* (see page 20 for more information)

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG POLICIES AND LOCAL LAWS

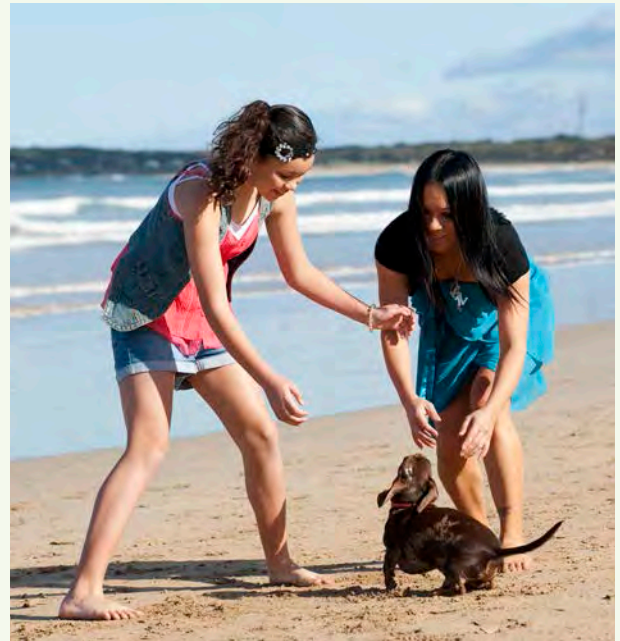
- Dogs in Public Places Policy 2013–2017
- Cat curfew and desexing order 2015
- Neighbourhood Amenity Local Law 2014

LOCAL DOG CONTROL ORDERS

Although our Dogs in Public Places Policy determines how dogs must be managed in most places in the City of Greater Geelong, including many coastal areas, there are some areas within the municipality where it does not apply.

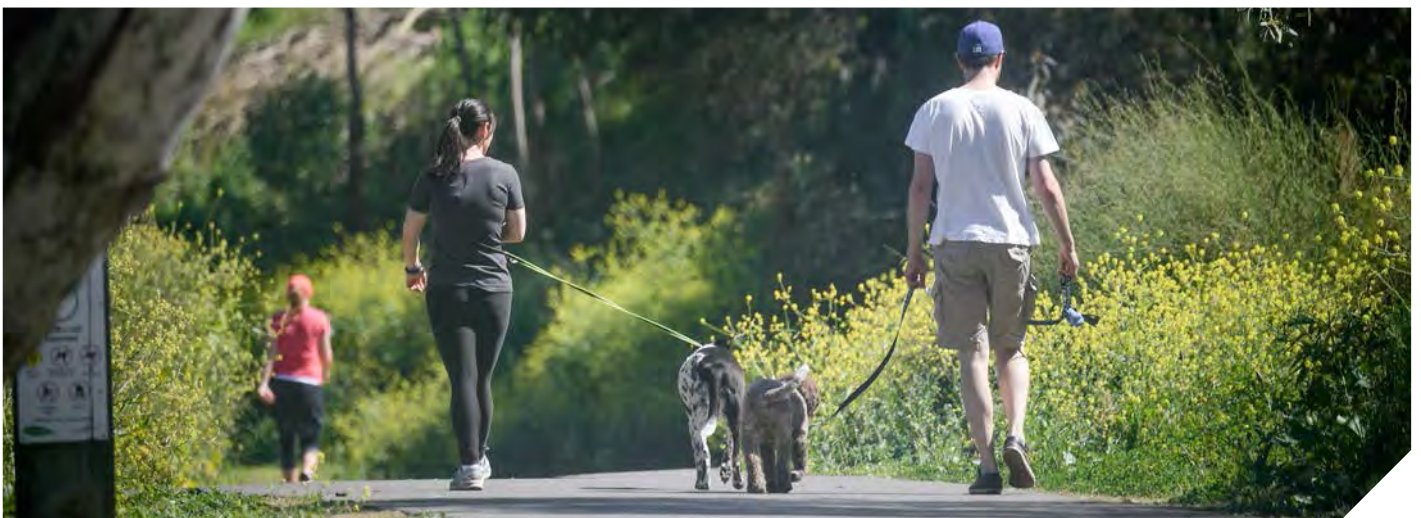
In these areas, dog control orders are determined by a joint approach with the relevant authority and council. We have the power through legislation to adopt these orders.

AREA	AUTHORITY
Coastal areas between 13th Beach near Barwon Heads, Ocean Grove and Collendina.	Barwon Coast Committee of Management Inc.
Coastal areas along the northern Bellarine, between Portarlington and St Leonards.	Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management Inc.
The Barwon River and adjacent parkland, between Queens Park Bridge and Breakwater.	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority



KEY FACTS

- The City of Greater Geelong has one of the largest animal populations of any Victorian municipality, and currently has over 40,000 registered dogs and cats (2016).
- The City manages a total land area of 1,250 square kilometres, including a mix of coastal, rural and urban areas.
- Currently the municipality has an estimated population of 234,999, with approximately 95,000 residential dwellings.
- By the year 2031, it is estimated the population will be in excess of 299,000, with 123,000 residential dwellings. With population growth, comes a likely increase in pet ownership.
- There are 33 domestic animal businesses registered in the area.
- There were 214 attacks between August 2016 and August 2017.



ACTION PLAN

We will seek to address the following issues over the next four years of our plan:

Issue 1: Dogs in public places

Issue 2: Dog poo

Issue 3: Dogs in coastal areas

Issue 4: Dog attacks and public safety

Issue 5: Dangerous dogs and restricted dog breeds

Issue 6: Open space needs

Issue 7: Animal identification and lost animals

Issue 8: Animal desexing

Issue 9: Conservation zones

Issue 10: Dog parks

Issue 11: Our animal management team

Issue 12: Nuisance cats and dogs

Issue 13: Licensing and animal welfare

Issue 14: Responsible pet ownership

Issue 15: Pets in emergencies



For each issue, we have provided a summary of:

What we currently do to address the issue.

These actions will be ongoing throughout the 2018–21 period.

A summary of community views about the issue.

We believe it is important to reflect the views of those that took the time to contribute to our consultation.

We are limited by legislation and resources, so we cannot necessarily address every issue raised.

New actions planned for 2018–21.

These new actions will be carried out in addition to those listed in the first column.

PROGRESS AND REPORTING

We review our plan annually, presenting it to Council and the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources. A summary is also included in our annual report.

Successful implementation of the plan should result in the following outcomes:

- ✓ The City is regarded as a trusted, knowledgeable resource for pet owners, providing proactive advice to residents.
- ✓ A simple and clear process to register your pet through multiple channels.

- ✓ Responsible pet owners are able to own a pet without undue restrictions.
- ✓ Geelong residents' quality of life is not negatively impacted by irresponsible owners.
- ✓ Residents select the most suitable pet and breed for their particular circumstance.
- ✓ Harm to wildlife by dogs and cats is minimised.
- ✓ Fair and equitable shared use of beaches and open spaces is practiced.

We're changing the way that we measure and report our results to provide clear information on our progress.

We'll measure performance through:

- the number of dogs and cats that are registered.
- the percentage of animals that are impounded*.
- the percentage of irresponsible animal management complaints*.
- the number of school and community education sessions.

* Calculated by dividing the number of complaints or impounded animals by the total number of registered animals

ISSUE 1: DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES

Dogs must be kept on-leash in all public areas, unless signs indicate otherwise. The purpose of this is to reduce conflict between dogs and the general community. However, the size of the municipality makes it difficult to enforce.

To give dog owners space to exercise and socialise their animals, there are designated off-leash areas in many reserves and coastal areas. However, these spaces are also used by the general community. Dog owners must follow certain rules – such as having their animal under effective control – if they want to keep their dog off-leash.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018-21
<p>Enforce dog control orders, designed to balance the needs of all public space users, wildlife and the environment.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Install and maintain signs in high risk areas, such as recreation reserves, reminding dog owners of their responsibilities.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Publish maps and the <i>Park Your Pet</i> app to show dog owners where they can exercise their dog off-leash.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Patrol public places and issue fines to those not following leash requirements.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Carry out beach patrols using custom Kubota.</p>	<p>Some owners do not have effective control over their dog and are ignoring on-leash requirements. There are many instances where dogs on-leash have been attacked by a dog off-leash.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Many owners do not understand their own dog's behaviour.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Dog owners must be more vigilant and held accountable.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Owners should contain their dogs so that they cannot escape the yard.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Some areas should be dog-free.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Signs are not always clear and can be easily misunderstood.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Dog aggression and anxiety is increased when on-leash.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop new Dogs in Public Places Policy 2018-2021 by April 2018. 2. Run a community education campaign about managing dogs in public space. 3. Audit current signs, and replace any that are incorrect. 4. Install signs in new developments. 5. Patrol sporting facilities to remind dog owners of their responsibilities. 6. List a contact phone number on signs for residents to report violations. 7. Develop resources that provide information about effective control. 8. Advocate for legislative change for the definition of effective control to increase understanding and practical application. 9. Upgrade the <i>Park Your Pet</i> app to feature new parks, reserves, coastal areas, events and articles of interest.

ISSUE 2: DOG POO

Any person supervising a dog in a public area is required to pick up after their dog and carry a device fit for this purpose at all times. Our officers have the power to fine anyone who does not do this.

Getting everyone in the community to pick up after their dog is an ongoing challenge.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018–21
<p>Patrol public places and enforce issue fines, where possible.</p>	<p>More poo bags, bag dispensers and bins should be supplied.</p>	<p>1. Conduct an education campaign about the need for owners to supply their own poo bags, and use them for disposal in any waste bin.</p>
<p>Maintain and respond to dog poo bin issues.</p>	<p>Keep the grass short.</p>	
<p>Respond to complaints about owners not picking up after their dog.</p>	<p>Install signs outlining the responsibilities of dog owners to pick up after their dog, and the fines for failing to do so.</p>	<p>2. Give out bag pouches at events.</p>
<p>Carry out information campaigns about correct disposal of dog poo.</p>	<p>Enforce fines so that law-breakers know there are consequences.</p>	<p>3. Use mobile signs at sporting grounds to remind owners to pick up after their dog.</p>
<p>Prohibit dogs from being exercised on sports grounds with an artificial grass surface.</p>	<p>Conduct a community information campaign about the health and environmental consequences of not picking up after dogs on beaches.</p>	<p>4. Increased signs at key locations.</p>
	<p>Brainstorm and invite ideas from community to create more interesting signs.</p>	<p>5. Audit of bins and addition of new bins where necessary.</p>
	<p>Regularly use print media and radio to remind people of their responsibilities.</p>	<p>6. Send out regular messages through the <i>Park your Pet</i> app and print media.</p>
	<p>Integrate messages about picking up after dogs into broader campaigns on being a responsible Geelong citizen.</p>	
	<p>Encourage citizen action on the issue, through a 'report an offender' initiative.</p>	

ISSUE 3: DOGS IN COASTAL AREAS

Dog control orders in coastal areas exist to support the fair use of coastline for all, including dogs.

Most coastal areas contain areas of high environmental significance, such as sand dunes and wetlands, and they are important to wildlife.

The broad range of views expressed during our community consultation process shows that the issue of dogs on beaches remains a contentious issue.

See page 5 for more information about the management of local dog control orders in coastal areas.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018–21
<p>Patrol coastal areas and monitor compliance with dog control orders, where necessary.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Provide guides and maps to help dog owners understand their responsibilities in coastal areas.</p>	<p>Encourage owners to comply with dog control orders with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more regular patrols, including covert ones • CCTV • more enforcement • information for tourists and in caravan parks • better signs that make restrictions clear. <p>.....</p> <p>Make rules about dogs on beaches the same as adjoining municipalities.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Recognise that walking dogs on the foreshore is part of the beachside lifestyle.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Use volunteers from local walking groups to hand out poo bags and provide advice.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Bring in year-round, dog-free beaches, with some designated dog beaches.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Make it clear who manages coastal areas.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Do not allow dogs into the Portarlinton Caravan Park.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Check is there is an issue before you make changes.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Implement a seasonal plan – not a whole-of-year plan.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Don't make it easier for people to have dogs off-leash in summer, when young families are around.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare new dog control orders for all City-managed coastal areas, as part of the Dogs in Public Places Policy review. <p>.....</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Work in partnership with coastal management committees to develop new local dog control orders for their designated areas in line with community expectations. <p>.....</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Educate the community about any changes to dog control orders in coastal areas, by updating maps and signs. <p>.....</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Work with dog walking and community groups to monitor whether dog owners are complying with the orders. <p>.....</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Distribute dog walking maps through tourism agencies.

ISSUE 4: DOG ATTACKS AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Responding to dog attacks is the top priority for our animal management officers.

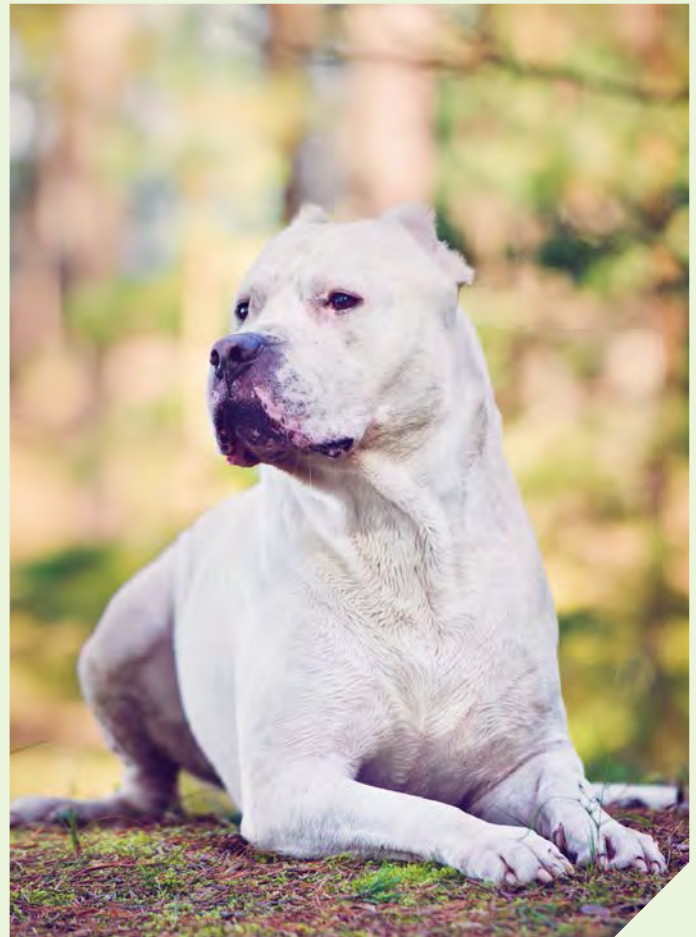
Attacks can involve people, dogs, cat, wildlife and livestock.

There are medical costs, legal costs and personal trauma for everyone involved when a dog attacks, and it is an issue of significant community concern. With proper management, attacks are preventable.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018–21
<p>Attend to all dog attack reports immediately, or as soon as possible, and implement appropriate action.</p>	<p>Increase education and familiarity with dogs for non-dog owners.</p>	<p>1. Develop resources for owners about dog attack prevention and what is 'effective control'.</p>
<p>Record and investigate all dog attacks.</p>	<p>Increase enforcement.</p>	<p>2. Hold animal behaviour seminars and dog training classes.</p>
<p>Seize dogs and prosecute matters, where necessary.</p>	<p>Implement heavier fines.</p>	<p>3. Encourage the community to report to us if dogs rush at them or their animals, with the aim of preventing future acts of aggression.</p>
<p>Maintain a database of every animal that has attacked people, pets, wildlife, and livestock.</p>	<p>Provide better facilities for dogs to socialise.</p>	<p>4. Upgrade our database to provide more accurate data related to dog attack severity and cause.</p>
<p>Conduct inspections of properties where dogs have been confined by Magistrate orders.</p>	<p>Keep all dangerous dogs muzzled and on-leash.</p>	<p>5. Collate data on dog attacks from local vets, hospital and doctors to assess trends in dog bite incidents.</p>
	<p>Dogs should be kept on lead at all times in busy, public places.</p>	<p>6. Increase patrols at key locations, and alternate between a random and routine schedule.</p>
	<p>Encourage desexing.</p> <p>Provide subsidised classes on dog training.</p> <p>Prosecute the owners of dogs that attack other dogs, or people.</p>	

ISSUE 5: DANGEROUS DOGS AND RESTRICTED DOG BREEDS



Under the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, the City can declare a dog dangerous if it is involved in an attack on a person or animal.

The *Domestic Animals Amendment (Restricted Breeds) Act 2017*, which came into effect in September 2017, has changed the way we handle restricted dog breeds. It is now legal for restricted breeds to be registered, provided owners follow set regulations when caring for them.

The breeds now eligible for registration include:

- Pit Bull Terrier
- Japanese Tosa
- Perro de Presa Canario
- Fila Brasileiro.
- Dogo Argentino

WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018-21
<p>Identify and register all declared dogs in the municipality on the Victorian Declared Dog Registry.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Inspect and audit all declared dog premises, to make sure they meet current requirements.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Respond to calls for public submissions about restricted breeds, and lobby the Victorian Government for fair legislation.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Audit owners of restricted breeds to make sure they meet the regulations that guide ownership.</p>	<p>Certain dog breeds should be banned.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>We need to educate dog owners that some breeds can be an issue.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>It is the owner, not the dog, that is to blame when something goes wrong.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Dangerous dogs should be muzzled and on a lead.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educate the community about changes to restricted breed legislation, and owners about their responsibilities. 2. Educate and provide online resources to prospective new owners about appropriate pet and breed selection.

ISSUE 6: OPEN SPACE NEEDS

Limited lot sizes and lack of space to exercise dogs can present a challenge for residents in new housing developments. The result is problem behaviour, such as frequent escaping and incessant barking.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018-21
<p>Work with the management of new estates to address any issues that arise.</p> <p>Attend public events in new developments to offer advice about choosing and caring for pets.</p> <p>Administer the Neighbourhood Amenity Local Law 2014, placing limits on the number of animals that can be kept without a permit (based on land use zone and property size).</p>	<p>Some places have small yards and are in close proximity. This causes frustration for dogs and results in nuisance barking.</p> <p>People don't consider carefully enough the right dog for their situation.</p> <p>The community needs space all year round to allow dogs to run and chase a ball.</p> <p>I have deliberately chosen a property that can meet my pet's needs at home, and out in the community.</p> <p>Recreational areas for dogs are needed within the inner boundaries of the municipality – not just in the planning of new development areas.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend resident meetings to share information about pet selection and effective control. 2. Carry out spot checks on building sites, to make sure builders and tradespeople are not allowing their dogs to roam. 3. Make sure new developments are included as a key area of need in the development of the dog park strategy. 4. Review the availability of off-leash areas for dogs in new housing developments, and further promote the existing 'off leash' reserves. 5. Look for new ways to influence the planning process, to make sure that pet needs are taken into consideration during the design phase. 6. Collaborate with social and community housing agencies about pet ownership.

ISSUE 7: ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION AND LOST ANIMALS

Dogs and cats are legally required to be registered annually. They also must be microchipped and wear a registration tag when not at home. Up-to-date registration and microchipping helps us to identify pets and return them to their owners as soon as possible.

The cost of registration is set by the Victorian Government and helps fund their responsible pet ownership initiatives. Registration fees are set to increase in 2018.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018-21
Manage dog and cat registrations and renewals, and reconcile data with the Central Animal Records Registry.	Advertise the potential outcomes for lost dogs who are unregistered and not microchipped.	1. Implement online process for new registrations (currently only renewals are available online).
Routinely conduct dog and cat registration and microchipping checks.	Provide incentives to encourage owners to register their pets.	2. Set up a process to allow rescue animals to be registered at the pound.
Carry out targeted property checks in areas of low registration.	Implement stronger penalties.	3. Investigate the possibility of registering pets through veterinary practices.
Follow up on the sale of animals from Domestic Animal Businesses.	Conduct education campaigns.	4. Offer incentives for registration, such as reduced registration for rescue cats.
Check all dog and cat sale advertisements to check for microchip details.	Reduce the cost of registration.	5. Promote registration via local and online communication channels, through new resident packs, and in new tenancy and visitor information packs.
Return lost or wandering dogs and cats to registered owners.	Offer free microchipping days.	6. Consider introducing reduced cost pet registration 'amnesty program' for areas with high numbers of unregistered animals.
Maintain temporary holding kennels at the pound, as a short-term alternative to impoundment.	Make processes easier online.	7. Offer free microchipping days, incorporating the update of details with Central Animal Records.
Run free microchip detail checks.	Carry out door-to-door inspections of pet registrations and microchips.	8. Run a temporary holiday pet identification program for tourists during peak holiday season.
Coordinate with local vets to return lost animals.		

ISSUE 8: ANIMAL DESEXING

Unwanted litters of kittens cause significant overcrowding at local shelter facilities. Dumped kittens can also turn into feral cats, posing a threat to our local wildlife.

Cats must be desexed prior to registration. While it is not compulsory to desex dogs, it is recommended for non-breeding dogs to reduce aggression and tendency to roam.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018-21
<p>Offer an annual subsidised cat desexing program.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Promote the benefits of cat desexing through a purposely produced video.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Reduce the cost of pet registration for desexed pets.</p>	<p>Reduce the cost of desexing animals.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Deliver more community education about why pets should be desexed.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Increase registration fees for animals that are not desexed.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trap unowned cats and rehome where possible. 2. Advocate for a state or national approach to reducing the overpopulation of domestic cats without owners. 3. Continue the annual subsidised cat desexing program. 4. Implement the <i>Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Act 2017</i>. 5. Investigate the feasibility of a subsidised dog desexing program.



ISSUE 9: CONSERVATION ZONES

Our municipality contains many places of high environmental significance, including beaches, sand dunes, foreshores, wetlands, bushland and grassland reserves.

Some of these places contain habitat for endangered species that are listed under the Commonwealth's *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, such as the Hooded Plover and the Orange-Bellied-Parrot. Dogs and cats can negatively impact on the behaviour of these species, preventing them from breeding and feeding properly.

It is of significant concern that fenced areas of conservation value may be used by local communities as makeshift 'off-leash' dog parks.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018–21
<p>Work in partnership with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, and other relevant groups, to identify areas that need to be on-leash or dog-free.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Install signs and carry out patrols to make sure dog owners are following these orders.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Provide educational materials on conservation zones at public events.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Enforce the cat curfew.</p>	<p>There should be dog and cat exclusion areas.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>We need increased enforcement and clear signage.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Dogs should be on leads.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>We need more information to help people understand the environmental significance of these areas.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Cats should be registered and contained to prevent them from killing wildlife.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spot checks and patrols of conservation areas. 2. Assist agencies with seal rescue and community education. 3. Participate in the Zoos Victoria campaign about keeping cats indoors. 4. Consider dog-free public places in areas of environmental significance. 5. Upgrade conservation area signs, where necessary.

ISSUE 10: DOG PARKS

Dog parks are areas enclosed with fencing, designed to give dogs a space to socialise under the close supervision of their owners.

Feedback on dog parks, received during the community consultation, indicates that this is a very popular concept that is well-supported by dog owners.

Features requested by the community include agility equipment, water areas, sensory play, vegetation clumps, drinking water, signage, bins, poo bags, good drainage, walking tracks, benches, shaded areas, double entry doors and secure fencing.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018-21
<p>We currently maintain one fenced dog park in Stead Park.</p>	<p>There should be more dog parks, given our high dog ownership rates.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Dog parks are useful for owners that cannot let their dog roam in off-leash areas, such as owners of puppies or rescue animals.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Some areas definitely need these facilities, including new housing estates.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>We need designated spaces to prevent owners using other fenced areas.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Dog parks should be carefully located, away from main roads, children and areas where dogs might be a nuisance.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Make it clear that dog owners must have effective control to use dog parks.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Provide separate areas for small and large dogs.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>We need designated safe areas for dogs to avoid risks, such as snakes and grass seeds.</p>	<p>6. Hold a community forum on fenced dog parks. Feedback from this will inform the development of an evidence based dog park strategy.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>7. Create new fenced dog parks in key areas of need, as identified in the strategy.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>8. Maintain and upgrade our existing dog park at Stead Park.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>9. Consider prohibiting dogs from enclosed sporting grounds, such as tennis courts.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>10. Promote dog parks for their intended use – dog socialisation.</p>

ISSUE 11: OUR ANIMAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

A qualified, competent, visible and responsive team is required to deliver high standards of service to the community.

The size of the municipality makes it difficult to maintain a visible community presence. This may affect public confidence, and encourage some pet owners to disregard local laws and dog control orders.

We employ nine people to handle our animal management area, supported by three administration officers, a seasonal officer and a prosecutor.

Our animal management officers are required to have either:

- Certificate IV Animal Control and Compliance
- Certificate IV in Government (Statutory Compliance) or higher-level qualifications.

Each officer completes training in animal handling and prosecutions, including the collection of evidence for court proceedings. All new staff are also required to undertake a corporate induction.

We maintain a training register, detailing all the qualifications and training courses completed by each animal management officer. We also promote further training opportunities at annual performance reviews.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018–21
<p>Handle almost 5000 animal management-related contacts per annum.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Collect evidence and prosecute people that have broken the law (there were 12 successful prosecutions in the 2016–17 financial year).</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Maintain partnerships with internal and external stakeholders, to make sure we can work at capacity.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Schedule regular training sessions for team members.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Carry out proactive patrols in areas of low compliance.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Inform those involved in animal management investigations about the outcome.</p>	<p>We rarely see any evidence of animal management officers patrolling or enforcing local laws.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>You must be seen, and be a positive influence in our communities.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase our visibility by branding our Animal Management vehicles. 2. Profile our team members within our regular communication channels, including the <i>Park your Pet</i> app, to increase their visibility. 3. Publish implementation outcomes in local media. 4. Schedule our patrols to focus on peak times of animal-related activity.

ISSUE 12: NUISANCE CATS AND DOGS

We are required to investigate all complaints regarding barking dogs and trespassing cats.

Our goal in every situation is to work closely with everyone involved to try and reach a positive outcome. However, these situations are often very complicated and resolving these conflicts can be very difficult.

Many cats do not have an owner. Feral cats in Victoria have recently been classified as 'pest animals' under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*. Public consultation on the feral cat declaration will start in early 2018 to make sure that animal welfare objectives are met and responsible cat ownership remains respected as a fundamental right for all Victorians.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018-21
<p>Encourage cat owners to comply with the Cat Curfew Order.</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>The City's handling of barking dogs is ineffective – they are on the dog owner's side.</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>1. Hold education seminars for pet owners to give them advice on how to handle problem behaviour in their pet.</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>Loan cat traps to property owners dealing with nuisance cats, and advise on their safe and appropriate use</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>The cat curfew is needed, but it is not enforced.</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>2. Participate in the Zoos Victoria campaign to keep cats inside.</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>Respond to, and investigate, barking dog complaints, and implement appropriate actions.</p> <p>.....</p>		<p>3. Participate in consultation on statewide feral cat management.</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>Provide information on the causes of excessive barking, and encourage owners of barking dogs to seek professional advice.</p> <p>.....</p>		<p>4. Continue refresher training for animal management officers on common law nuisance.</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>Coordinate mediation and conflict resolution services, where appropriate.</p>		<p>5. Review and refine nuisance barking protocols, with a focus on preventative actions.</p>

ISSUE 13: LICENSING AND ANIMAL WELFARE

We will continue to utilise all available legislation to control and manage domestic animal businesses, and eliminate 'backyard breeders' wherever possible.

The implementation of the *Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Act 2017* will regulate against illegal breeding of puppies and kittens. This will be vital to the management of this issue over the next four years.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018-21
<p>Annual audits of local domestic animal businesses to check they comply with the law.</p> <p>Apply penalties to businesses that do not comply.</p> <p>Investigate reports of unauthorised 'backyard breeders' to ascertain whether they should be registered as a domestic animal business.</p> <p>Liaise with the RSPCA on animal cruelty cases.</p>	<p>Cut down on illegal breeders.</p> <p>More needs to be done on the breeding of both dogs and cats.</p> <p>Many breeders are keen to work more closely with the City on a range of issues associated with their business.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update our website to list all registered domestic animal businesses. 2. Provide community information about registering domestic animal business complaints. 3. Attend training on new legislation. 4. Provide links to new legislation fact sheets on the City's website. 5. Work with interested parties to make sure reforms are put into effect in line with the transition schedule outlined in the legislation. 6. Prosecute illegal businesses or individuals (puppy or kitten brokers). 7. Improve identification of illegal breeders by reconciling registrations data with the Central Animal Records Registry.

ISSUE 14: RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

A central part of our role is to help people understand what responsible pet ownership means. A responsible pet owner is someone who:

- considers the needs of all users of public space
- prevents their animal from causing harm or intimidation to others
- sees to the welfare and social needs of their animal
- abides by the dog control orders in public places
- minimises nuisance to others and the environment
- has an animal that is desexed, microchipped and registered
- secures their property to contain their pet.



WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018-21
<p>Regulate animal ownership through the issuing of multi-animal permits.*</p> <p>Provide advice, links and resources on responsible pet ownership on our website.</p> <p>Distribute brochures, fact sheets and other material developed by the Department of Economic Development.</p> <p>Hand out 'well done' and 'thank you' cards to dog owners doing the right thing.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>* Multi-animal permit</p> <p>Under our Neighbourhood Amenity Local Law 2014, a multiple animal permit is required if you have more than the prescribed number of cats or dogs on your property.</p> </div>	<p>Increase community education about responsible pet ownership, associated laws and expectations.</p> <p>Promote responsible pet ownership to school students, to bring about generational change in attitudes towards pet welfare and public safety.</p> <p>Hold educational seminars.</p> <p>Fine irresponsible owners.</p> <p>Give more support to rescue groups and shelters.</p> <p>Include, encourage and instruct pet owners in responsible pet ownership initiatives.</p> <p>Publish more media articles about responsible pet ownership.</p> <p>There are too many irresponsible cat owners.</p> <p>Know the type of pet/dog to buy to suit your lifestyle.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver educational talks to high schools and community groups. 2. Exhibit at an increased number of pet and community events in the municipality. 3. Support community groups in the municipality that promote responsible pet ownership. 4. Provide materials on responsible pet ownership during the pet registration process. 5. Deliver a series of educational videos about responsible pet ownership. 6. Run seminars on responsible pet ownership. 7. Investigate using a ranger character costume to promote responsible pet ownership to children. 8. Connect residents to puppy schools and pet services. 9. Provide advice to the community on alternatives to surrendering their pets. 10. Promote rescue cats by offering subsidised registration 11. Run initiatives to recognise and celebrate responsible pet ownership and the human-animal bond. 12. Identify opportunities for funding and partnerships to deliver affordable responsible pet ownership programs for the community. 13. Provide responsible pet ownership and education materials in multiple languages. 14. Link residents to dog training providers and resources. 15. Support pet-friendly business initiatives.

ISSUE 15: PETS IN EMERGENCIES



Emergency planning for pets is an important part of municipal and household emergency preparations, greatly increasing the likelihood that pets will be safely evacuated.

Key responsibilities for animals in an emergency are already covered in our *Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2017-19*. However, not all residents are aware of these responsibilities.

For those experiencing family violence or crisis situations, pet ownership can be a significant problem for those in need of emergency accommodation. To support families during these difficult times, these accommodation issues need to be addressed.

WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO	COMMUNITY VIEWS	NEW ACTIONS FOR 2018-21
<p>Work with domestic animal businesses to make sure they have emergency plans in place.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Meet the requirements of the <i>Emergency Management Plan 2017-19</i> and its sub plan, the <i>Emergency Animal Welfare Management Plan</i>.</p>	<p>This issue was not raised in the community discussion paper.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educate residents about how to plan for their pets in emergencies. 2. Work with local agencies to refine a process for handling the emergency care of pets in domestic violence and other crisis situations.



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Attachment 3: Community Feedback received during public exhibition of draft DAMP November 28 to December 25 2017

Issue	Community feedback	Officer response	Proposed change to plan
Fenced dog parks	<p>It would be great to see Geelong implement large fenced in 'off leash' dog parks similar to Canberra local council. They have one at each town centre, split into small/large dogs with relevant requirements: water, shade, bench for sitting - the dog beach at Rippleside has been fenced off for quite some time. No allowing anyone to use it? Wouldn't it be best to open that back up as the central 'city' spot rather than having more dogs down at eastern beach (which seems to be the next option?)</p> <p>Issue 10 Dog Parks I think this is a wonderful idea as this should remove some of the pressure on our conservation reserves. Is this a new business opportunity for an enterprising person to create dog adventure parks?</p> <p>Off-leash dog parks arent the answer! They are unsafe environment as owners take no notice of their own dog let alone other dogs giving definite body language. Dog owners should receive a dog body language book on registration. So much aggression can be prevented if we are observant.</p> <p>We cannot expect residents to be responsible pet owners & tend to their dogs' needs if they are not provided with free running off leash areas. Fenced in dog parks will not be an adequate substitute for this, as they are too restrictive & dangerous, bringing about a whole new set of problems of their own (dogs rushing, dogs not under effective control intimidating others, etc etc). Swimming in the ocean is also a wonderful exercise & rehabilitation activity for dogs, and their humans can enjoy it with them. In the winter time, the only users of the beach are</p>	To be discussed at fenced dog parks forum and considered for fenced dog park strategy	Amend action 1 under Dog Parks to: Hold a public forum on fenced dog parks to inform the development of an evidence based fenced dog park strategy.

Attachment 3: Community Feedback received during public exhibition of draft DAMP November 28 to December 25 2017

	<p>the dog owners, maybe the occasional surfer.</p> <p>note that there will be a public forum about dog parks, which is great. I am keen to reiterate the need for a dedicated park in Geelong West.</p> <p>When the Stead Park dog park was first opened everyone was excited about it but as we know it's very lazily and cheaply done. A small circle space... honestly that's it? And a bin for dog poo bags, lol. I used it the first few weeks it was open and had multiple experiences of dog fighting and owners not controlling their dogs. Personally I no longer use the dog park and don't plan on resuming use but I understand lots of people do so more parks and upgraded parks is a good idea. I don't like that the council say they're considering banning dogs from sports ovals though.. They're very popular for people to socialise dogs that are behaved off leash. Do not agree with banning dogs from these places</p> <p>I would recommend some more dog parks. One in Lara could be located at Austin Park or near Coles. One in Geelong at Eastern Gardens. One at bay side beach area. Double gate entry, water bubbler with tap and bottom bowl for dogs. BBQ facility and/or table/bench seat plus roofed section or shade sail for sun/rain protection. Play equipment for children and/or agility course for dog or play equipment suitable for both human and k9. Make a complete family outing area i.e humans and their dog family. Could also be booked of an evening for k9 behaviour classes. Bins for refuse and doggy doo.</p> <p>Please fence rotary centennial park in west fyans st. So it is safe for off lead</p>		
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Attachment 3: Community Feedback received during public exhibition of draft DAMP November 28 to December 25 2017

	<p>After reading all the points I feel that you should have more dog parks definitely, for small and large dogs to be separate. One isn't enough, ridiculous that you haven't done something about it sooner.</p> <p>This may be a feature well-supported by the community, but professional – rather than community engagement – should be sought prior to moving towards this kind of service provision. Specifically, fenced-in dog parks can be the source of dog-to-dog aggression when a dog's option to avoid confrontation is removed. This is in contradiction to the CoGGs overall desire to decrease attacks. Promotion of dog parks (New Action for 2018-21 Point 5) should be an output based on professional advisement sought as part of the dog park strategy rather than a separate activity.</p> <p>I am asking for a fenced dog park in Lara. I feel that the ideal location would be just inside the Anzac gates at the Lara Sporting Club grounds. There is ample parking, it is in a central position, already has two fences - one being the tennis courts, the other being the cricket practice nets. The cost would be substantially reduced by not having to provide fencing to these two fences. All that would be required is the other two fences, drinking fountain, poo bin, gates and signage stating the rules. There is already grass in this area, and trees for the pups to sniff. Toilets are across the road, this area has everything going for it!</p> <p>It is only utilized during the Air Show for camping, but there is ample areas remaining for these campers, both on the oval and around the other side.</p> <p>All dogs need to run, but unfortunately, not all dogs have recall, mine included, which means</p>		
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	<p>we can't take advantage of the off-leash areas on the ovals. Also, dogs need socializing, one of the most important areas of socializing is mixing with other dogs. The population of dogs in Lara is growing along with their human owners. This fenced dog park would solve all of these things.</p>		
Dog waste	<p>heftier fines for not picking up dog poop</p> <p>Dog poo offenders Fine plus mandatory service for 1 day at the council rubbish or recycling centre I.e. dealing with other people's muck.</p> <p>There need to be signs in parks asking people to pick up dog poo</p> <p>There should be more bins in areas that dog walkers will be. Along bike paths etc. around the Barwon river. Even along streets. You can walk for kilometres with your poo in toe, only to not find a bin till you get back to the car or home. I believe more people would pick up if they weren't stuck with it for ages.</p> <p>Dog poo on the beach has never been an issue but walking local streets and parks in recent times has become worse.</p>	Several actions to address this in Issue 2	<p>New actions in plan are:</p> <p>Increased signs at key locations</p> <p>Audit of bins and addition of new bins where necessary</p>
Licensing and animal welfare	<p>allow Pawshake to let members have dog sleepovers etc without having to go through the administration of boarding certificates etc. the point is the dogs get to stay at someone's home, and don't have to go to a kennel. This is a good thing! Good for socialisation. Especially for rescue dogs that will regress if put back in that type of accommodation. For someone like me that is new to town</p>	<p>Bound by State legislation.</p> <p>People can board their dogs with others if no fee is charged.</p> <p>There is one registered</p>	

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	and doesn't know anyone, Pawshake is a godsend.	home boarding facility. We will facilitate the registration of more home boarding establishments by a reduced cost fee	
Licensing and animal welfare	Issue 13 (licensing and animal welfare) would be good to apply penalties to non-registered breeders.	Penalties are already applied resulting from investigations	
Licensing and animal welfare	Backyard breeding and animal businesses. Again quite disappointed about the lack of care put into this section (licensing and animal welfare). Not so much the businesses part but the backyard breeding. They say they're looking into stopping the 'illegal' or backyard breeding practices but their new actions section doesn't include much at all on how they will stop	See updated actions and information related to Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Act 2017 in issue 13.	
Licensing and animal welfare	(Internal feedback: Updated legislation: Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Act 2017	New legislation passed December 2017	Updated page 6 re Victorian legislation and Issue 13 Licensing and Animal Welfare: Amended paragraph to: Enforcement under the Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Act 2017, intended to regulate against illegal backyard breeding of puppies and kittens, will be vital to the management of this issue over the next four years. Delete action: Keep our animal management team updated about changes to domestic

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			<p>animal business legislation. New actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend relevant training on new legislation • Add link to fact sheets on the new legislation to our website • Collaborate with relevant stakeholders to ensure reforms are implemented according to transition schedule outlined in legislation • Prosecute illegal businesses or individuals (puppy or kitten brokers) where necessary.
<p>Licensing and animal welfare</p>	<p>Foster carers are volunteers and rescue organisations often work on minimal funds. The current requirement to register every foster animal for a fee cuts heavily into a rescue group’s funding that would otherwise be contributing towards desexing, microchipping and vaccinating animals (in other words, enhancing responsible pet ownership). As rescue groups often only have a foster animal in care for a short amount of time, registering each animal for a fee can become quite a large cost. By allowing rescue groups to register their foster animals for free, the council will be</p>	<p>New requirements for foster carers specified in Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Act 2017. Under a voluntary enrolment process, foster carers will receive</p>	

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	<p>better able to monitor the number of foster animals in the region and be allowing greater funds for desexing, microchipping and vaccinations.</p> <p>Foster carers are also animal lovers that advocate responsible pet ownership. This includes ensuring their foster animals are under effective control at all times and that they are properly assessed and rehabilitated in a normal environment before being rehomed to an appropriate home. As foster carers have additional knowledge of the animals they are caring for and support from their rescue groups, they are able to manage a larger number of animals in an appropriate manner. However, foster animals are currently included in the number of animals permitted in residential areas. As animal lovers, foster carers often already have 2 animals of their own and so this limits the number of people able to foster. This means more strain on the pound system and more animals in distress. Council should consider a trial program (perhaps directly through GAWS or a single foster network rescue group) of allowing a third animal (cat or dog) on the property IF it is a foster animal. If the trial is successful, this could then be expanded to all animal rescue organisations.</p>	<p>discounted registration.</p> <p>Foster carers can apply for a multi-animal permit</p>	
<p>Licensing and AW</p>	<p>Issue 5 New Action for 2018-21: Point 3 – The purpose of the Act amendment was to improve community safety. This activity risks turning into a witch-hunt against owners with similar-looking dogs to restricted breeds (ie Staffordshire terrier) where the dog’s behaviour is friendly and compliant but who cannot prove breed (adopted from rescue etc.) without significant expense and unnecessary fear /stress, reducing goodwill to the Animal Management Team and CoGG in general.</p>		<p>This action has been deleted</p>

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Desexing	look at making dog desexing compulsory. If we are working towards animal welfare issues, this is one of the biggest that could prevent overload in rescue centres	Covered under the action: Investigate the feasibility of a subsidised dog desexing program. There should be less incentive to breed dog due to the new Puppy Farms and Pet Shops Act	
Desexing	Desexing I am quite disappointed in the lack of consideration that the council has put in this section (animal desexing) Over population and cruelty due to overpopulation is a big issue in Geelong. In the Community Views section there is some good ideas on how to encourage cat desexing but the council seems to not plan on doing any of it and just saying 'trapping and population control'? What does that mean? Trap 'feral' cats and kill them?	We will continue to offer annual subsidized cat desexing program in conjunction with local vets which has to date desexed over 1200 cats	Issue 8: Amend action to: Trap unowned cats and rehome where possible. Under what we currently do: Add promote cat desexing via online video New action: Enforce Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Act 2017
Desexing	Legislation for the complete desexing of all domestic animals at the vet prescribed appropriate age in all wards and all planning zones, coupled with a year round voucher system and community education program	Covered under the action: Investigate the feasibility of a subsidised dog desexing program	
Desexing	Outlawing ANY breeding of domestic animals in any ward, with a penalty of seizure and tripling of current fines	This is regulated by State legislation.	
Desexing	Amendments in "Lock Step" to all Residential zones, including General Res 1, 2 and 3, all Urban Growth Zones, Rural Living and Farming Zones to expressly prohibit breeding of domesticated animals, and the issuing of permits thereof. Penalties as outlined above.	This is regulated by State legislation.	

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Dogs on beaches	Barwon Heads needs a dog beach over the summer period. Most people living here own a dog and they have a right to take their pets down for a swim and a run. We should have enough beaches here to accommodate this	To be considered in Dogs in Public Places review and in conjunction with Barwon Coast Committee of Management	
Dogs on beaches	Seasonal plans are the most important as locals understand far better. Tourists swimming on unpatrolled, unsafe beaches is a disaster waiting to happen. These are unsafe swimming beaches, that is why dogs are allowed there	Have a holiday registration program where we also issue guidance on dog walking orders. Beach safety not remit of animal management.	
Dogs on beaches	The Ocean Grove/ Collendina beaches are considered by many people to be too dangerous to take small children or small dogs because of the 'out of control' large dogs on the beaches. Many of us moved to be near the beach but are now too intimidated to go there. There needs to be an all year round totally dog free beach which elderly people and small children can enjoy in safety. Even the restrictions that are now in place are widely ignored and need to be patrolled. The damage to wildlife and the dunes areas is also increasing.	To be discussed under dogs in public places policy	
Dogs on beaches	There should be hefty fines for people who don't obey signs on the beach regarding keeping dogs on leads. There should be council officers regularly patrolling lakes and beaches.	Addressed by employment of patrols officer. Branding of animal control vehicles will increase visibility.	
Responsible pet ownership	A neighborhood initiative could be set up whereby you can register your pet for a volunteer to come over and feed and walk your animal if you are not able to. This should be free. Our neighbor recently lost his daughter in a car accident and he has completely	Possibly action for future if resources allow. Currently this service is being offered by	

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	neglected his dog whilst in grief about his daughter. It is very sad, but unless he asks for help we can't walk his dog and stop it from barking every day	Cherished Pets. The respondent has been advised of this.	
Responsible pet ownership	Bellarine dog activities group run wonderful classes around our dogs being part of the whole community. Assistance is always welcomed	Covered under Issue 14 - support community groups in the municipality that promote responsible pet ownership.	
Responsible pet ownership	Promoting good pet ownership: I am a marketer and I believe that the most effective way to get through to people is on Facebook. These messages go viral - especially if there is a sad story behind it. Topics such as looking after your pets in summer, leaving your pets when you go on a holiday, managing your pet around children could all form amazing blog articles which could then be shared on the Geelong Council's website. I am a freelance writer as well as a content marketing professional and would be happy to offer a lower rate to write these articles, as it is a cause I am passionate about.	We will be featuring news articles and events on the website , social media and via Park your Pet.	
Responsible pet ownership	The human-animal bond is a hugely important aspect of our lives. For many people their dogs are their sanity, their health & well being, their family, their connectedness. In Ocean Grove, dogs are our lifestyle. They are also a vital part of the economy with regards to the holiday makers who regularly visit and bring their dogs. The flip side of that is, if they don't bring their dogs, or the locals don't have an opportunity to exercise and socialise their dogs, people won't simply NOT HAVE dogs. They will take them out less. This then has a flow on affect whereby dogs will be confined to back yards, which are ridiculously small these days, and the boredom barking begins	Covered under pet selection and education and dogs in public places review. The plan is not an attack on dog owners and their lifestyle and seeks to balance community perspectives.	

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Responsible pet ownership	There is a huge lack of "dog education" in Geelong but not for lack of trying. Generally people are hungry for knowledge but there is not enough access to this. Where are the grants for the local dog training groups to keep them running & allow everyone access? Instructors are volunteers & therefore thin on the ground. Groups don't have enough space for everyone & are forced to regularly turn people away or enforce strict criteria for entry.	<p>There is a community grants program for non-profit organisations.</p> <p>Action in Issue 14 to support community groups in the municipality that promote responsible pet ownership.</p> <p>Links to trainers and resources will be updated on our website.</p> <p>This is the only feedback on inability of dog training groups to meet demand- have responded with a request to meet to discuss further</p>	
Responsible pet ownership	Support and promote awareness campaigns that encourage healthy interaction with dogs in public, including those that promote giving space to dogs (yellow leashes, Do Not Approach / Touch vests etc).	<p>State Government runs education programs on safe interactions with dogs.</p> <p>Do not want to create confusion with the yellow collars which must be worn for declared dogs</p>	
Responsible pet ownership	Issue 5 New Action for 2018-21: Point 2 - Educate prospective new owners about the importance of appropriate pet and breed selection		Amend action 2 under Issue 5 to Educate prospective new owners about

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	and make available a list of resources available in the CoGG to assist with this process.		appropriate pet and breed selection and provide resources online.
Responsible pet ownership	Provide list of training providers within CoGG area who specialise in problem behaviours To broaden reach, make information available through CoGG website for additional animal behaviour seminars and dog training classes available in the area.		Add new action is Issue 14: Link residents to dog training providers and resources
Conservation zones	The plan lacked content on the impacts of free roaming cats, both cats and dog are detrimental to environmental values and amenity of an area		Updated plan to include impact of cats under Issue 9
Conservation zones	I congratulate the council on the preparation of this plan. I would like a stronger action to exclude dogs from all areas of conservation significance as the presence of dogs will threaten reptiles and ground-dwelling birds. I support the spot checks and patrols of all areas, including conservation areas, to enforce dog control regulations. I would like to see a phone number displayed on all relevant signage for the purpose of reporting violations.	Currently have a dog order requiring dogs to be on lead in conservation areas along with areas of prohibition	Include contact phone number on new signs to report violations
Conservation zones	The fenced off conservation area in Yellow Gums Estate, Ocean Grove was being used as an off-leash dog park until the developer banned any entry. There is still the occasional off-leash dog in this area. This conservation area must remain dog free. An urgent solution is needed to this problem. I do not believe that education is sufficient as the dog owners know the status of this reserve and just don't care	To be considered in Dogs in Public Places review	
Dogs in public places	I note reference to 'effective' control. Is it not now referred to 'supervised' control? Need to be consistent in language. *	To be considered for Dogs in Public Places review. Action already stated under Issue 1	New action added to advocate for amendment to legal definition of effective control to improve clarity and practical application

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		(community education campaign about managing dogs in public places and developing resources about effective control)	
Dogs in public places	not sure why there is a need to prohibit dogs from sporting grounds. Having had a problem dog, the use of enclosed basketball areas etc enabled my dog to get some free roaming exercise time. There are so many sporting facilities that are not used most of the time that provide a service to responsible pet owners	To be discussed during Dogs in Public Places review Sporting facilities can be used whilst not in use but there is a high risk associated with dogs being in the areas during sporting use	
Dogs in Public Places	Under 'effective control" - please explain? The average dog owner (& I would suggest the majority of key decision makers in this very issue) would not really understand the true meaning of "effective control"	Covered under action: develop resources that provide information about effective control (Issue 1: Dogs in Public Places).	
Compliance	The document could have more emphasis on compliance, in particular PINS.	Compliance, patrols and issuing of fines addressed throughout the plan	
Compliance	Increase fines for not picking up dog poo to \$500. Increase surveillance so dog owners are apprehended for not picking up poo. Increase fine for cat owners, \$500 for at large cats out after dusk. Unregistered dogs and cats fine to be increased to \$750	Penalty units set under Local Government Act and any increases would need to be in proportion to the penalty rates for non-	

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		animal offences.	
Compliance	<p>Change in structure around release penalties – the decision to substantially increase release fees at Geelong Animal Welfare Society needs to be reconsidered to decrease the pressure on the animal rescue organisations as well as to better allow reunification of owners with their pets. By having fees at a level that often leaves families with no choice but to surrender their pets, this causes stress to the animals and their families. From time to time, animals may escape their homes through no fault of the owners. This includes animals escaping while trades people are entering the property or animals becoming anxious and fence jumping due to thunderstorms, fireworks or other loud noises.</p> <p>A “three strikes” rule would be a much more community minded approach to penalties, with the first and second strike being a nominal fee for release, then from third strike</p>	We currently have a process where if a registered dog escapes the first instance is a warning. The increased fee is required to offset increased operational costs at GAWS.	
Animal identification and lost animals	Issue 7-new action to promote the positives of having your pets identifiable for you and your pet	This is covered in Issue 7 Action 7 (offer free microchipping days, incorporating the update of details with Central Animal Records.	Add new action: Promote need to keep pet registration and microchip details updated.
Visibility/animal management team	Issue 11 would be good to promote Councils enforcement efforts from court cases to PINS through media outcomes. This would benefit both community and Council.		Add new action: Publish enforcement outcomes via the media
Visibility/animal management team	Increased funding for additional Animal Management Officers - The small Animal Management team currently operating throughout the Geelong region appear to have a challenging task at hand.	Budget constraints but team has expanded over last 5 years	

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	<p>While this is a team of hard working professionals, it is clear that they are constantly operating at capacity. This is acknowledged in the document itself, with the comment that “The size of the municipality makes it difficult to maintain a visible community presence. This may affect public confidence, and encourage some pet owners to disregard local laws and dog control orders”.</p> <p>With the growth in population expected throughout the Geelong region, it is only prudent that the Animal Management team is expanded as well to cope with the increase in animals expected to arrive with families moving to the region. This is not just to ensure that individuals are properly caring for their pets, but also to be able to get on the front foot and increase the level of community engagement that the team can undertake. Council need to provide adequate funding to ensure the Animal Management Team are able to work on prevention rather than intervention.</p> <p>Additional staff for the Animal Compliance Division, including two extra Investigative staff and four on the ground personnel. All staff to be full time.</p>		
Geelong Animal Welfare Society (GAWS)	There is a need to regularly review GAWS and animal rescue centres business practices and where animals end up; whats the % of animals spending long life at new home. Is it working; what are the measurables?	<p>Audits are conducted.</p> <p>This is within the remit of GAWS, guided by Code of Practice.</p>	
GAWS	Significant extra funding to GAWS, as well as allocation of funds and resources to look to the relocation of GAWS to a purpose built, modern facility within the next four years, taking into account the inevitable redevelopment and subsequent	Council is paying market rates following a procurement process Redevelopment	

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	rezoning of the Moolap / Point Henry area. I am happy to meet with all Councillors to discuss this further.	plans in progress.	
GAWS	Does this section (dog attacks and public safety) needs a new action about investigating rescue dog training opportunities prior to rehousing? We are hearing more problem dogs being rehoused from rescue facilities. The system is setting these dogs up to fail and warrants a planning program to ensure the majority of these rehoused animals are suitable and manageable for new owners	This is within the remit of GAWS. GAWS adhere to the Code of Practice for the Operation of Shelters and Pounds. They undertake temperament testing before determining dogs as suitable for rehoming and attempt to match with the right owner. GAWS has a new program to focus on dog training pre-adoption.	
Animals in emergencies	Under issue 15 need to promote Pets in Emergencies .	Further details are detailed in the Emergency Animal Welfare Management Plan	
Open space needs	There are almost 250 members of 'Bakers Oval Dog Geelong' facebook page with some 10 or 15 years of community building through shared dog ownership. This could arguably be one of the biggest ongoing community groups in the area. It is a vital social community link for many people and provides ongoing dog socialisation with its associated preventative elements for the 'problem dog' issues prevalent in Geelong. For the vast majority of the year, dogs owners have a peaceful and cooperative relationship with sports oval users, but if anyone complains, there is a heavy handed response from the council and the	To be further considered in Dogs in Public Places review. The oval is first and foremost a sports ground. We have received complaints re dog poo and owners reluctant to vacate oval whilst sport is in play.	

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	<p>feeling that we are at best tolerated there rather than welcomed and encouraged. This is far from ideal. A regular dedicated time for dog owners usage on this oval with the provision of poo bags, or another dedicated space such as Sparrow Park would fulfill the needs of this important community.</p>	<p>Issue 2 action 1- conduct an education campaign about the need for owners to supply their own poo bags, and use them for disposal in any waste bin.</p>	
<p>Nuisance animals</p>	<p>As far as cats well how many are wandering around impregnating female cats time after time step up and clamp down on the owners of these cats that don't comply with the rules and regulations. So many out at night fighting etc.</p>	<p>Actions include cat trapping program, cat curfew, participation in Safe Cats campaign and annual desexing program. Many of these cats are ownerless and we will work for State government on new feral cat program.</p>	
<p>Nuisance animals</p>	<p>Certain dog breeds are not suitable for city living ie the border collie which is a dog specifically born and bred to herd livestock all day every day and is characteristically a barking dog. Why then is a family allowed to have a that type of dog in a suburban setting where it barks consistently during the day annoying the neighbours to the point of distraction simply because it wants attention and is bored and full of energy? The family is complacent as it is too much trouble to discipline the dog consistently and so the neighbours suffer. Another is the kelpie which again is bred for a specific purpose - to chase cattle and/or sheep all day. These breeds should not be allowed in suburban backyards for the sake of the people living around them and</p>	<p>Covered under breed selection. Not able to ban breeds.</p>	

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	<p>the dog itself. I live next to and very near to both these dog breeds and they are nothing but a noise nuisance to people who pay their rates to enjoy the peace and quiet of the neighbourhood. I have a dog - she is not allowed to bark - but is also a breed suited to city living and not a dog requiring endless space and entertainment. There should be regulations for this as people like myself do not get pleasure from reporting these issues to Council. We have better things to do and just want respect and consideration from others that not everyone wants to listen to dogs barking all day and night but would like peace and quiet that we show to our neighbours. Consider a ban on dogs that are not suited to city living.</p>		
Nuisance animals	<p>Barking Dogs are a pest and it is an indication of neglect by the owner. Usually they have been left alone for too long and are not getting walked. There should be education, but also the ability for the council to issue fines given to pet owners who leave their dogs for more than one night alone. The RSPCA is not active down here and as a result Geelong has a much higher incidence of animal cruelty</p>	<p>Addressed in actions on advising on pet selection, education and refinement of dog barking protocols actions under Issues 12, 14 and 6</p>	
Reporting	<p>The use of SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound) indicators would assist this document greatly. For example: current indicators are vague and use of the word "rate" contradictory to current reporting style ("77 reported dog attacks" is not a rate) and vague (A rate of what? Registered dogs? Dogs including unregistered? Overall population?) The use of the word "more" is not specific and should not be used in indicators.</p>		<p>Revision to Progress and Reporting section on page 7.</p>
Reporting	<p>Issue 4: Dog attacks and public safety More clearly outline how dog attacks are reported (is this linked to hospital admissions / vet emergency</p>		<p>New actions for Issue 4: Upgrade our database to provide more accurate data</p>

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	<p>admissions or via separate reporting to council?). Once investigated, dog attack figures should be determined as provoked / non-provoked in order to a) demonstrate the results of investigation; and b) further support the need for education on dog attack prevention in cases of provoked attacks.</p>		<p>related to dog attack severity and cause. Obtain additional data on dog attacks from local vets, hospital and doctors to assess overall trends in dog bite incidents.</p>
<p>Reporting</p>	<p>Improvement of current data collection and reporting – the improvement of data collection, collaboration and reporting would allow for Animal Management Officers to better understand up to date trends and act accordingly and allow the public better insight into the performance of the community.</p> <p>As a professional trainer, this would also allow me to better prepare classes around current trends (e.g education on proper dog meet and greets, proper recall, prevention of barking etc). Trainers would also be able to better understand, collaborate and communicate with council to ensure better messaging to the community.</p> <p>Data provided to the public is not currently complete. For example, currently data appears to be available regarding dog attacks up to 30 June 2015 here: https://data.gov.au/dataset/geelong-dog-attacks. If more recent data has been made available, I have not been able to readily find it.</p> <p>Data provided also needs to be presented in an easy to understand format so the community as well as Animal Management Officers can better understand changes. For example, by reviewing and comparing annual dog attack data, there would be a better understanding about whether the increase in attacks is purely due to an</p>		<p>Revision to Progress and Reporting section on page 7. New actions for Issue 4: Upgrade our database to provide more accurate data related to dog attack severity and cause. Obtain additional data on dog attacks from local vets, hospital and doctors to assess overall trends in dog bite incidents.</p>

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	increase in population, or whether there is an additional factor involved. These factors could be positive, such as higher community engagement leading to a higher reporting level, or negative, such as an increase in backyard breeding in the area or the Animal Management Team not being given enough funding to deal with the population increase.		
Miscellaneous	The banning of ALL live animal circuses and rodeos from COGG, including the prohibition of any Council department issuing any relevant permit that would allow such performances to proceed on land falling within the Shire, but not under their immediate control, i.e the Geelong Showgrounds. This includes, but is not limited to P.O.P.E. permits and Temporary Structure Permits issued by the Building Department.	This is outside the remit of animal management team COGG has not permitted circuses with wild animals for over 12 years but there is no official ban, as there is in Surf Coast Shire and other municipalities. Rodeos are not permitted on public land. Rodeos have taken place at Geelong Showgrounds. Possibility to address both issues should Council be supportive of bans, but outside scope of DAMP.	
Miscellaneous	(Internal feedback)	Dog attacks have been under reported	Amend to 214 attacks between August 2016 and August 2017
Miscellaneous	Overall, the wording of this document implies that the CoGG is capable of meeting the education and training requirements of residents through council services. It	This is acknowledged in the Mayor's introductory message and	

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	would be better to recognise that the majority of needs will be met by non-council providers and the added benefit of the CoGG is to provide the link between residents and providers.	within several of the actions within the plan which refer to partnerships, support for community groups and joint actions for example with trainers or housing associations.	
Miscellaneous	Reference to Committees of Management should have 'Inc.' at the end of their title.		Updated
Miscellaneous	Different areas would have different statistics regarding dog incidence and maybe there might be different plans for different areas	Issues are largely spread throughout the municipality. Targeted campaigns to address unregistered pets will be considered.	

**PROPOSED AMMENDMENTS TO CITY OF GREATER GEELONG ANIMAL COMPLIANCE AND
DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES - SUBMISSION FROM ANDY MEDDICK,
WESTERN REGIONAL LEADER ANIMAL JUSTICE PARTY, VIC.**

This submission is made in response to the call for public input to the COGG Animal Compliance regulations and Policies, and takes into account, first and foremost, that COGG has been found to be the shire in Victoria with the most recorded cases of animal cruelty, for the third year running.

This appalling state of affairs is now highlighted by the fact that the City has a dedicated vision for it's human residents that will improve their lives enormously, yet leaves out the non human residents. This submission seeks to redress that imbalance, because what I believe, is that the true goal of the Clever and Creative Future programme is to achieve progress and prosperity through a change of attitude, a change of the mindset of the people of Geelong.

This "Societal" impact can only be achieved by being fair and equal to all residents, human and non human alike across all wards.

#1. Legislating complete desexing of all domestic animals at the Vet prescribed appropriate age in all wards and all planning zones, coupled with a year round voucher system and community education programme.

#2. Outlawing of ANY breeding of domestic animals in any ward, with a penalty of seizure and tripling of current fines. Provision to be made to expressly outlaw "backyard breeding" operations. This provision to be covered under a separate clause/by-law.

#3. Additional staff for the Animal Compliance Division, including two extra Investigative staff and four on the ground personnel. All staff to be full time.

#4. Amendments in " Lock Step" to all Residential zones, including General Res 1,2 and 3, all Urban Growth Zones, Rural Living and Farming Zones to expressly prohibit breeding of domesticated animals, and the issuing of permits to thereof. Penalties as outlined above. Provision to be made to expressly outlaw so-called "puppy farm" and "kitten mill" operations. This provision to be covered under a separate clause/by-law.

#5. Significant extra funding to GAWS, as well as allocation of funds and resources to look to the relocation of GAWS to a purpose built, modern facility within the next four years, taking into account the inevitable redevelopment and subsequent rezoning of the Moolap / Point Henry area. I am happy to meet with all Councillors to discuss this further.

#6. The banning of ALL live animal circuses and rodeos from COGG, including the prohibition of any Council department issuing any relevant permit that would allow such performances to proceed on land falling within the Shire, but not under their immediate control, i.e the Geelong Showgrounds. This includes, but is not limited to P.O.P.E. permits and Temporary Structure Permits issued by the Building Department.

All these conditions are able to be funded by the Council's existent revenue from domestic animal registrations, and merely require a resolution to alter the Budget to divert those funds from general revenue.

I am more than happy to meet with all Councillors to discuss, in depth, these issues.

Sincerely,

Andy Meddick. Western Regional Leader, AJP VIC

0438615135.

2. REVOCATION OF FLOOD-PRONE AREA DESIGNATION OF NEW LOTS AT ARMSTRONG ESTATE, STAGES 22, 24, 25 AND 39

Source: City Services - Engineering Services
Director: Guy Wilson-Browne
Index Reference: SUB-16-3161

Purpose

To authorise the revocation of the flooding designation within Stages 22, 24, 25 and 39 of the development of Armstrong Estate.

Background

Council has a statutory obligation under the Victorian Building Regulations 2006 to designate land as liable to flooding where it reasonably knows it to be prone to flooding. Conversely, there is an obligation to remove the encumbrance of designation from land that is no longer considered to be flood-prone.

The current designated flood mapping (refer to **Attachment 2**) was designated by Council at its meeting of 12 December 2006, under the provisions of the Building Regulations 2006.

The subject of this report is the residential land at Armstrong Estate fronting 230 Boundary Road, Mount Duneed. Prior to subdivision the parent lot was used primarily as farmland.

Key Issues

- The flood mapping is reviewed because of the subdivision and development at 230 Boundary Road, Mount Duneed, also known as Armstrong Estate, Stages 22, 24, 25 and 39. Prior to subdivision, the parent lot was considered to be liable to flooding. Because of approved internal earthworks undertaken on this development site, flood mitigation for newly created lots is achieved for flood events up to and including the 100 year Average Recurrence Interval (ARI) event.
- The earthworks undertaken have resulted in the floodwaters from the 100 year ARI event being contained within the boundaries of the road network (refer Attachment 3).
- It should be noted that designation is separate to the creation of flood overlays within the Planning Scheme, which generally follows designation. In the case of this development, the planning scheme amendment to create post-development flood zones or overlays is proposed after the design of the proposed precincts.

Cr Nelson moved, Cr Aitken seconded -

That the Committee authorises the revocation of the Council designation of 12 December 2006 of flood affected land Armstrong Estate, Stages 22, 24, 25 and 39 as liable to flooding pursuant to Regulation 802(2) of the Building Regulations 2006.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

There is no impact to the Council's budget.

Community Engagement

A revocation of designation does not warrant public consultation as it constitutes the removal of an encumbrance on land.

Relevant Council databases and flood maps will be revised and updates sent to the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority and Building Control Commission.

Social Equity Considerations

Council have a responsibility to the community to provide the best possible information on areas that are flood prone.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The City has various statutory responsibilities for drainage management and flood management (prevention, response and recovery) as set out in the Local Government Act 1989, Local Government Regulations 1990, Planning and Environment Act 1987, Victorian Building Regulations 2006, Water Act 1989, Subdivision Act 1988 and Emergency Management Act 1986.

Council also has an obligation to disclose the flood-prone status of a property in a Land Information Certificate.

Alignment to City Plan

The recommendations of this report are consistent with City Plan, in relation to Growing our Economy and promoting a sustainable built environment, sustainable land use and development.

Conflict of Interest

There are no officer direct or indirect interests with respect to this report.

Risk Assessment

There are no known risks to Council in revoking this designation.

Environmental Implications

The revocation of flood-prone areas designation and designation of revised flood data through the design of this stage it is considered unlikely to result in any known adverse environmental impacts.

**Attachment 2
CURRENT FLOOD MAP**



**Attachment 3
REVISED FLOOD MAP**



3. REVOCATION OF FLOOD-PRONE AREA DESIGNATION OF NEW LOTS AT WARRALILY, STAGE 70

Source: City Services - Engineering Services
Director: Guy Wilson-Browne
Index Reference: SUB-16-3161 Flood Plain Management

Purpose

To authorise the revocation of the flooding designation within stage 70 of the development of Warralily.

Background

Council has a statutory obligation under the Building Regulations 2006 to designate land as liable to flooding where it reasonably knows it to be prone to flooding. Conversely, there is an obligation to remove the encumbrance of designation from land that is no longer considered to be flood-prone.

The current designated flood mapping (refer to **Attachment 2**) was designated by Council at its meeting of 12 December 2006, under the provisions of the Building Regulations 2006.

The subject of this report is the residential land at Warralily fronting 82 – 110 Stewarts Road, Armstrong Creek. Prior to subdivision the parent lot was used primarily as farmland.

Key Issues

- The flood mapping is reviewed as a result of the subdivision and development at 82 – 110 Stewarts Road, Armstrong Creek, also known as Warralily, Stage 70. Prior to subdivision, the parent lot was considered to be liable to flooding. Because of approved internal earthworks undertaken for this development site, flood immunity for newly created lots is achieved for flood events up to and including the 100 year Average Recurrence Interval (ARI) event.
- The earthworks undertaken have resulted in the floodwaters from the 100 year ARI event being contained within the boundaries of the road network (refer Attachment 3).
- It should be noted that designation is separate to the creation of flood overlays within the Planning Scheme, which generally follows designation. In the case of this development, the planning scheme amendment to create post-development flood zones or overlays is proposed after the design of the proposed precincts.

Cr Nelson moved, Cr Aitken seconded -

That the Committee authorises the revocation of the Council designation of 12 December 2006 of flood affected land Warralily, Stage 70 as liable to flooding pursuant to Regulation 802(2) of the Building Regulations 2006.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Discussion

Designation of land as liable to flooding under Regulation 802 of the Building Regulations 2006 enables the control of floor levels for acceptable building permit applications, or refusal of consent to building applications where there is likely to be a danger to life, health or safety due to flooding. Designation also enables disclosure of flood status within statutory information certificates such as the Land Information Certificate and Building Information Request Form.

Overland flows that may occur within the subdivision during the 100 year ARI flood event are now contained within road and drainage reserves in accordance with accepted best practice for development within flood-prone areas. Best practice requires that any overland flows within residential areas satisfy public safety criteria with respect to velocity and depth of flow.

Financial Implications

There is no impact to Council's budget.

Community Engagement

A revocation of designation does not warrant public consultation as it constitutes the removal of an encumbrance on land.

Relevant Council databases and flood maps will be revised and updates sent to the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority and Building Control Commission.

Social Equity Considerations

Council has a responsibility to the community to provide the best possible information on areas that are flood prone.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

Council has various statutory responsibilities for drainage management and flood management (prevention, response and recovery) as set out in the Local Government Act 1989, Local Government Regulations 1990, Planning and Environment Act 1987, Building Regulations 2006, Water Act 1989, Subdivision Act 1988 and Emergency Management Act 1986.

Council has also has an obligation to disclose the flood-prone status of a property in a Land Information Certificate.

Alignment to City Plan

The recommendations of this report are consistent with City Plan, in relation to Growing our Economy and promoting a sustainable built environment, sustainable land use and development.

Conflict of Interest

There are no officer direct or indirect interests with respect to this report.

Risk Assessment

There are no known risks to Council associated with the revocation of this designation.

Environmental Implications

The revocation of flood-prone areas designation and designation of revised flood data through the design of this stage is considered unlikely to result in any known adverse environmental impacts.

Attachment 2

CURRENT FLOOD MAP



Attachment 3

REVISED FLOOD MAP



4. GHAZEEPORE ROAD, WAURN PONDS - PROPOSED ROAD WIDENING AND FOOTPATH CONSTRUCTION - SRC 353 - INTENTION TO DECLARE

Source: Engineering Services - City Services
Director: Guy Wilson-Browne
Index Reference: Ghazeeopore Road, Waurn Ponds, Geelong, Special Rates and Charges

Purpose

To authorise the giving of notice of the intention to declare a Special Charge Scheme to partially fund the construction of a footpath and road widening along Ghazeeopore Road, Waurn Ponds (See plan – Appendix 4).

Background

A section of kerb and channel and footpath on the east side of Ghazeeopore Road, Waurn Ponds between Burgundy and Monterey Drives has not yet been completed due to progressive development of the area that has been occurring since 2002. This section represents the remaining underdeveloped piece of land in the area. The proposed new footpath will provide a missing pedestrian link and the new kerb and channel and road widening will complete the road.

Key Issues

- An 83 lineal metre section of 1.5 metre wide footpath, new kerb and channel and road widening will be constructed to provide for pedestrian access and road completion along the east side of Ghazeeopore Road, Waurn Ponds.
- One (1) property abutting the proposed works will receive special benefit. There are no Council owned properties in the scheme.
- The total estimated project cost is \$92,580. Additional works estimated at \$62,172 will be funded by Council to construct an indented bus bay for an adjacent bus stop immediately south of the proposed works. This will be a safety upgrade for the road and is not included as part of the scheme.
- The scheme has been separated into two sub scheme components the details of which are as follows:

	Sub Scheme 1	Sub Scheme 2
Works	Footpath	Kerb and channel; road widening
Benefit Ratio (s163 Local Government Act 1989)	0.095	0.288
Council Contribution	\$27,903	\$43,973
Property Owner Contribution	\$2,937	\$17,767

- The works will provide a special benefit to single abutting property owner through improved access and amenity. The property owner is the original land developer and is aware of the impending charge.

- The scheme has been prepared in accordance with the Special Rate and Charges provisions of the Local Government Act 1989 along with the 2004 Ministerial Guidelines and Council's Special Rates and Charges Policy.

Cr Nelson moved, Cr Aitken seconded -

That the Committee:

- 1) Authorises the giving of notice of the intention to declare a Special Charge Scheme in accordance with Section 163 (1A) of the Local Government Act 1989 (The Act), as follows:**
 - a) The Special Charge is declared for a period of five (5) years commencing upon the start of construction.**
 - b) The Special Charge be declared for the purpose of defraying expenses incurred by Council in relation to the construction of the footpath, kerb and channel and road widening on Ghazeepore Road, Waurm Ponds between Burgundy and Monterey Drives. The project:**
 - b1) Will provide proper pedestrian and vehicular access, improved pedestrian safety and enhancement to the general amenity for the property included in the scheme;**
 - b2) Will provide a special benefit to those persons required to pay the special charge (and who are described in succeeding parts of this Resolution); and**
 - b3) Arises out of Council's function of planning for and providing infrastructure for property owners.**
 - c) The total cost of project, be recorded as \$92,580 (Schedule A).**
 - d) It be recorded that, for the purposes of Section 163 (2A) of the Act, the special charge proceeds will not exceed the amount calculated in accordance with the prescribed formula ($R \times C = S$), the:**
 - d1) 'benefit ratio' © being calculated at 0.095 for Sub Scheme 1 and 0.288 for Sub Scheme 2 represents the special benefits to all persons liable to pay the special charge (Schedule B);**
 - d2) 'total cost' © of performing the function described in part 1 (b) of this resolution based on estimated cost be recorded as \$30,840 for Sub Scheme 1 and \$61,740 for Sub Scheme 2; and**
 - d3) 'Maximum levy' (S) be recorded as \$2,937 for Sub Scheme 1 and \$17,767 for Sub Scheme 2.**
 - e) The following be specified as the area for which the special rate is so declared:**
 - e1) The area within municipal district of Council highlighted in the plan attached to this Resolution (Appendix 4).**
 - f) The following be specified as the land in relation to which the special charge so declared:**
 - f1) Land within the area shown on the plan.**
 - g) The following be specified as the criteria which form the basis of the special charge so declared:**
 - g1) Ownership of any land described in Part 1(e) of this Resolution.**

- h) The following be specified as the manner in which the special charge so declared will be assessed and levied:**
 - h1) The property receives an access and amenity benefit;**
 - h2) The maximum levy includes an access and amenity benefit;**
 - h3) The special charge will be levied by sending a notice to the person who is liable to pay, pursuant to section 163(4) of the Act.**
- i) Having regard to the preceding parts of this Resolution but subject to Section 166 (1) of the Act, it be recorded that:**
 - i1) The owner of the land described in column 2 and 3 of Schedule C to the resolution is estimated liable for the amount set out in column 6 of Schedule C; and**
 - i2) The owner may, subject to any further resolution of or on behalf of Council pay the special charge in the following manner;**
 - i2a) The charge will become due and payable within one month of the issue of the notice requesting payment pursuant to Section 167 (3) of the Act;**
 - i2b) Interest will not be charged for six months after the issue of the notice provided the person liable makes timely payment in accordance with any repayment arrangements that may be agreed on by Council; and**
 - i2c) In accordance with Section 172 of the Act, the interest rate payable on the special charge which has not been paid by the specific date is set at Council's overdraft rate, reviewed every three months (provided that it shall not exceed the rate fixed by the Governor in Council by Order for the purposes of Section 172 (2A) in which case the rate of interest shall be the maximum rate fixed by the Governor in Council by Order for the purposes of this section).**
- 2) Refer any submissions received for consideration under Section 223 of the Act and the proposed declaration through Council's Submission Review Panel, and then by Council or its authorised Committee at a subsequent meeting, at which time Council or its authorised Committee will consider making a declaration in the form proposed.**
- 3) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to give public notice of the proposed declaration in accordance with sections 163 (1A) and (1B) of the Act and send a copy of the public notice to the person who is liable to pay the special charge in accordance with Section 163 (1C) of the Act.**

Carried.

Attachment 1

Discussion

Whilst investigating this project, it was decided to include the construction of a bus bay indent to the south of the subject site. The existing bus stop which is located on the east side of Ghazeepore Road adjacent to the property at No 1 Monterey Drive has no such indent. The width of the road does not allow for proper two way traffic whilst a bus is pulled up at the stop. For this reason, an indented bus stop would allow for two way traffic and improve safety for motorists including the bus traffic.

The indented bus bay has been separately cost estimated and is included in the total project cost as shown in the financial implications section below. This cost however is not part of the scheme.

Financial Implications

The project is a one off capital cost and there will be minimal ongoing maintenance costs. If approved, the scheme could proceed this financial year under the core footpath (C02303) and street construction (C02301) programs. Financial details are as follows:

Scheme levy to Property Owners (income)	
- Sub Scheme 1 - \$2,937	\$20,704
- Sub Scheme 2 - \$17,767	
Scheme Levy to Council	
- Sub Scheme 1 - \$27,903	\$71,876
- Sub Scheme 2 - \$43,973	
Direct funding by Council to construct the bus bay indent and bus stop including drainage (non-scheme component)	\$62,172
Total Project Cost	\$154,752

From the table above, the net cost to Council for this project including scheme and non-scheme components is estimated to be \$ 134,048

Stakeholder Consultation and Communication

Consultation was carried out as follows:

- January 2018 - Letter to affected owner informing of Council's proposal to make an Intention to Declare the scheme. Discussions with the property owner have since taken place. The property owner is aware of and is in favour of the impending charge.

Further correspondence to the affected property owner will be sent should Council make its Intention to Declare the charge.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The scheme has been prepared in accordance with the Special Rate and Charge provisions of the Local Government Act 1989 including the 2004 ministerial guidelines and Council's Special Rates and Charges Policy and community engagement guidelines.

Alignment to City Plan

This report aligns with the City Plan as follows:

Sustainably Built and Natural Environment

- Support our Community to live sustainably – Encourage increased use of alternatives to car transport and seek efficient traffic movement throughout the municipality.
- Advocate for and promote sustainable design and development – Promoting sustainable design and retrofitting.
- Acknowledge the community's desire to have their say and be involved in planning for the future of Greater Geelong.

Conflict of Interest

No Council Officer involved with this process has any direct or indirect interest in the properties.

Risk Assessment

Provision of a sealed pathway will provide safer walking conditions for pedestrians by minimising the risk of personal injuries through conflict with vehicles and the elimination of uneven and slippery surfaces. Provision of a road constructed to standards and suitably drained will provide safer passage for vehicular traffic.

There are no identified risks for Council in making its declaration of the scheme.

Environmental Implications

The provision of a sealed pathway surface provides a permanent and safe means of access. During the course of construction and the manufacture and procurement of materials, energy is expended resulting in some greenhouse gas emissions. This ceases when construction is complete.

The project does not create waste with the exception of some excavated material.

The proposal does not affect any natural habitats.

The proposal will not require removal of any nature strip trees or shrubs.

Attachment 2

SCHEDULE 'A'

The works for the construction of a footpath, kerb and channel and road pavement in Ghazeeopore Road, Warne Ponds which consist of excavation, footpath, kerb and channel, reinstatement of nature strip and driveways, miscellaneous construction works, legal advice and professional services associated with survey, engineering design, drafting, supervision and administration of the project all as included in the cost estimate shown below.

**COST ESTIMATE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FOOTPATH, KERB and CHANNEL
 and ROAD WIDENING–
 GHAZEEPORE ROAD, WAURN PONDS**

In Scheme Footpath Component					
ITEM	DESCRIPTION	QUANTIT	UNIT	RATE \$	AMOUNT \$
1.00	GENERAL				
1.01	Initial site establishment and set up, decamping and site cleanup and other fixed costs up to time of completion of works.		ITEM	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
1.02	Traffic management costs.		ITEM	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
1.03	Setting out of works.		ITEM	\$100.00	\$100.00
1.04	Service / Cable locations		ITEM	\$100.00	\$100.00
1.05	Internal supervision fee (COGG construction)		ITEM	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
2.00	EARTHWORKS & DEMOLITION				
2.01	Excavation and disposal of all materials to limits of work as indicated on plan, including trimming for new footpath.	12.5	m ³	\$60.00	\$750.00
	PAVING				
5.05	125mm concrete paving with SL72 mesh including crushed rock bedding and reinstate nature strip.	138	m ²	\$125.00	\$17,250.00
6.00	LANDSCAPING				
6.01	Top soiling and seeding nature strips.	100	m ²	\$15.00	\$1,500.00
SUB-TOTAL					\$25,700.00
Design 5%					\$1,285.00
Administration 5%					\$1,285.00
10% CONTINGENCY					\$2,570.00
CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE					\$30,840

In Scheme Road component					
ITEM	DESCRIPTION	QUANTIT	UNIT	RATE \$	AMOUNT \$
1.00	GENERAL				
1.01	Initial site establishment and set up, decamping and site cleanup and other fixed costs up to time of completion of works.		ITEM	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
1.02	Traffic management costs.		ITEM	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
1.03	Setting out of works.		ITEM	\$300.00	\$300.00
1.04	Service / Cable locations		ITEM	\$400.00	\$400.00
1.05	Internal supervision fee (COGG construction)		ITEM	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
2.00	EARTHWORKS & DEMOLITION				
2.01	Excavation and disposal of all materials to limits of work as indicated on plan, including trimming for new road pavement, excavation of soft spots and removal of concrete.	30	m ³	\$60.00	\$1,800.00
2.02	Placement and consolidation of engineered fill with approved materials in preparation for new works.	75	m ³	\$60.00	\$4,500.00
2.03	Saw-cutting of asphalt paving.		ITEM	\$150.00	\$150.00
2.04	Saw-cut of concrete kerb and channel		ITEM	\$200.00	\$200.00
3.00	PAVEMENT WORKS				
3.01	300mm compacted depth Class 2 20mm crushed rock, supplied, spread and compacted.	15	m ³	\$120.00	\$1,800.00
3.02	30mm compacted depth 10mm nominal size type N asphalt spread and compacted including emulsion prime & grit using a paver.	250	m ²	\$35.00	\$8,750.00
3.03	Prepare existing pavement for sealing.	250	m ²	\$1.00	\$250.00
5.00	CONCRETE WORKS:				
	KERBING				
5.01	B2 Barrier kerb and channel 450mm wide, including fine crushed rock bedding.	85	m	\$140.00	\$11,900.00
5.04	Concrete layback for vehicle crossing 3m wide, including bedding & formwork.	1	No.	\$300.00	\$300.00
6.00	LANDSCAPING				
6.01	Top soiling and seeding nature strips.	100	m ²	\$15.00	\$1,500.00
7.00	SIGNING, LINE-MARKING AND FENCING				
7.01	Line-marking		ITEM	\$350.00	\$350.00
SUB-TOTAL					\$51,450.00
Design 5%					\$2,572.50
Administration 5%					\$2,572.50
10% CONTINGENCY					\$5,145.00
CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE					\$61,740

Attachment 3

Benefit Ratio Sub Scheme 1 – Schedule ‘B’

Footpath

A Purpose	To construct a remant section of footpath at 23-29 Ghazeepore Road, Warne Ponds.															
B Coherence	The works will provide a missing link of footpath and will provide a special benefit to the adjoining property and the wider community.															
C Total Cost C	Total Estimated cost of works - footpath construction			\$30,840.00												
	TOTAL COST			\$30,840.00												
D Identify Special Beneficiaries	1 property is considered to receive a combination of access and amenity benefits.															
E Properties to include	Total Special Benefits (in) is apportioned to 1 property There are no Council owned properties in the scheme. Therefore: Total Special Benefits out of the scheme TSB (out) = 0															
F Estimate of Total Special Benefits	<p>For this scheme it is considered that an equal portion of access and amenity benefits apply to the property. Considering the property is relatively large, the potential for subdivision is high. We shall assume that the minimum lot potential for this property is four (4) considering the land already has a house and that the property is made up of 1 access benefit unit (BU) and one amenity BU per lot. A summary of special benefits can be shown in the following table:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Total Special Benefit (in) TSB (in)</th> <th>TSB (out)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Access</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amenity</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Special Benefits</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Total Special Benefit (in) TSB (in)	TSB (out)	Access	4	0	Amenity	4	0	Total Special Benefits	8	0	
	Total Special Benefit (in) TSB (in)	TSB (out)														
Access	4	0														
Amenity	4	0														
Total Special Benefits	8	0														
G Estimate of Total Community Benefit -TCB	It is considered that people in the community will receive an access benefit from the works as the footpath is used to access other areas considering potential destinations such as the Wearn Ponds shopping precinct. Based on estimated pedestrian movements, the estimated use of the footpath is 95% for the wider community and 5% for the property in the scheme. If 5% of the total access benefits is equal to 4BU, 95% would equate to 76BU. There are no amenity benefits associated with the wider community. TCB = 76.0															
H Calculate "Benefit Ratio" - R	$\text{Benefits Ratio} = \frac{\text{TSB (in)}}{\text{TSB (in)} + \text{TSB (out)} + \text{TCB}} = \frac{8}{8 + 0 + 76} = \mathbf{0.095}$															
I Maximum Total Levy (S)	Maximum Total Levy S = R X C			\$2,937.14												
	Council Contribution to Special Charge Scheme			\$27,902.86												

**Benefit Ratio Sub Scheme 2 – Schedule ‘B’
 Road widening and Kerb and Channel**

A Purpose	To construct a remnant section of road including road widening and kerb and channel at 23-29 Ghazeepore Road, Warne Ponds.			
B Coherence	The works will provide a continued standard of road profile and will provide a special benefit to the adjoining property and the wider community.			
C Total Cost C	Total Estimated cost of works - rural road construction			\$61,740.00
	TOTAL COST			\$61,740.00
D Identify Special Beneficiaries	1 property is considered to receive a combination of access and amenity benefits.			
E Properties to include	Total Special Benefits (in) is apportioned to 1 property There are no Council owned properties in the scheme. Therefore: Total Special Benefits out of the scheme TSB (out) = 0			
F Estimate of Total Special Benefits	For this scheme it is considered that an equal portion of access and amenity benefits apply to the property. Considering the property is relatively large, the potential for subdivision is high. We shall assume that the minimum lot potential for this property is four (4) considering the land already has a house and that the property is made up of 1 access benefit unit (BU) and one amenity BU per lot. A summary of special benefits can be shown in the following table:			
		Total Special Benefit (in) TSB (in)	TSB (out)	
	Access	4	0	
	Amenity	4	0	
	Total Special Benefits	8	0	
G Estimate of Total Community Benefit -TCB	It is considered that people in the community will receive an access benefit from the works as the roadways are used to access other areas considering potential destinations such as the Bannip Boulevard link and connection to the Waurn Ponds shopping precinct. Based on traffic data, estimated use of the road is 99% for the wider community and 1% for the property in the scheme. It is considered that the access benefit to the wider community represents 5% of the benefit to the property. If 1% of the total access benefits is equal to 4BU, 99% would equate to 396BU and 5% of this is 19.8BU. There are no amenity benefits associated with the wider community. TCB = 19.8			
H Calculate "Benefit Ratio" - R	Benefits Ratio = $\frac{\text{TSB (in)}}{\text{TSB (in) + TSB (out) + TCB}} = \frac{8}{8 + 0 + 396}$			0.288
I Maximum Total Levy (S)	Maximum Total Levy S = R X C Council Contribution to Special Charge Scheme			\$17,766.91 \$43,973.09

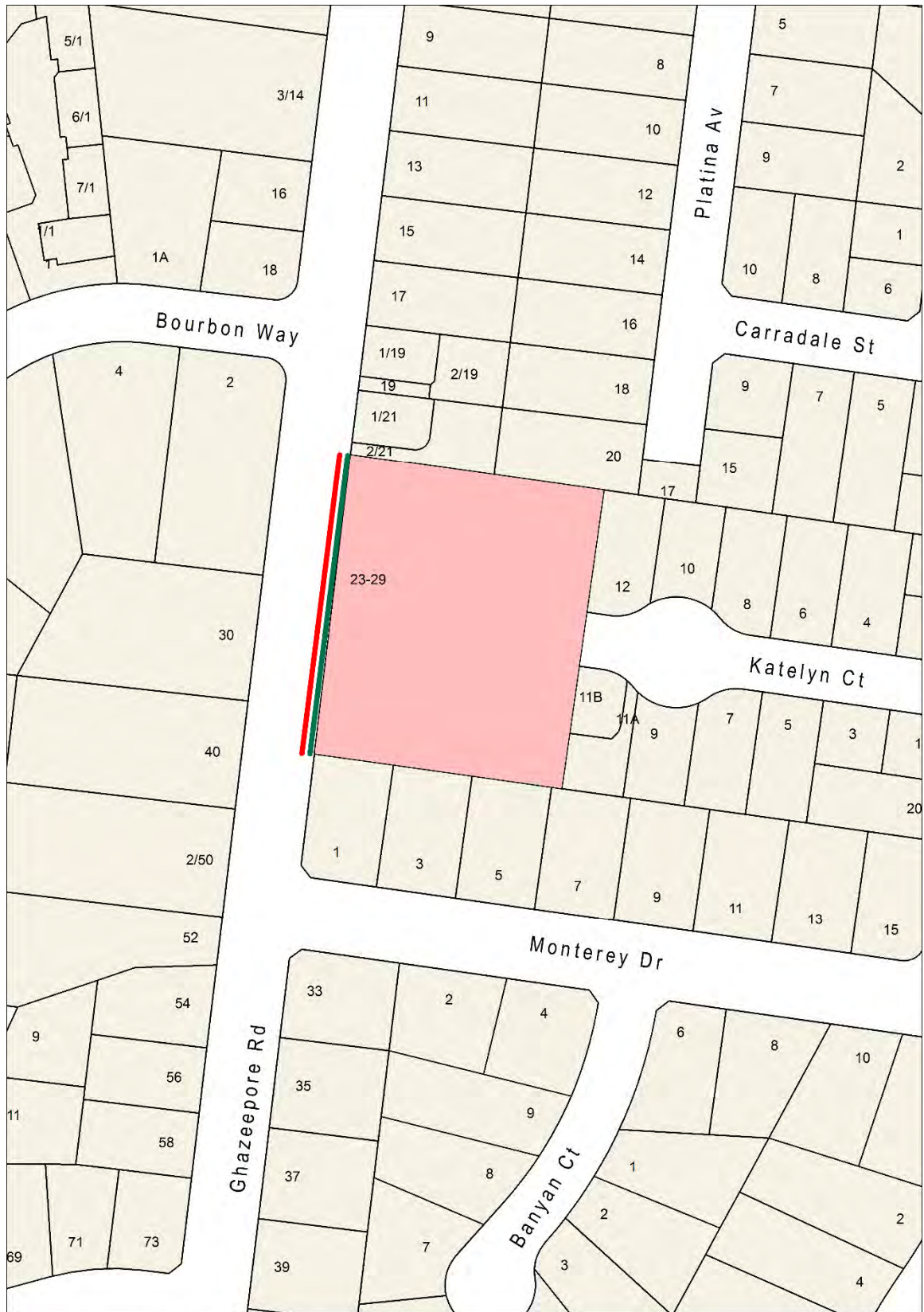
Attachment 4

SCHEDULE 'C'
SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME FOR FOOTPATH and ROAD CONSTRUCTION
GHAZEEMORE ROAD, WAURN PONDS

COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 3	COLUMN 4	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 6
Prop Key	Address	Legal Details	Footpath Cost	Road widening cost	TOTAL
346772	23-29 Ghazeeopore Road, Waurrn Ponds, 3216	Lot A PS 648604	\$2,937	\$17,767	\$20,704

Attachment 5

Plan



- Proposed Footpath
- Proposed Kerb & Channel and Road Widening

Attachment 6

PROCESS CHART

**SPECIAL CHARGE PROJECTS –
 (Section 163 – Local Government Act 1989)**

Ghazepore Road, Waurin Ponds

Stage	Status	Description
<i>Approval to prepare scheme</i>	✓	Decision made to prepare scheme following consideration of surveys of residents and feedback from the community via informal survey. Council may then place the project in the budget system or proceed immediately to prepare a scheme. Scheme preparation involves survey, design and preparation of an apportionment of costs. 2017
<i>Intention to Declare Scheme</i>	✓	Report to Council providing information on scheme including advice of impending advertising of scheme and declaration of charge. Seeks Council approval by resolution to proceed with process.
<i>Advertisement</i>		The scheme is advertised in the local newspaper and all allotted property owners are notified by mail. This advertisement indicates Council's intention and notification to 'declare' a scheme in a month's time.
<i>Submissions</i>		From the time of advertising property owners have 28 days (as set down by the Local Government Act) to lodge submissions, either in support or opposition to the scheme.
<i>Submissions Review Panel Hearing</i>		A Submissions Review Panel is convened (quorum of three Councillors) and meets to consider submissions. Some submissions are written only, and other submitters may wish to be heard before the Panel. The Panel makes a recommendation to Council regarding the scheme.
<i>Declaration Report</i>		Any time 28 days after advertising the scheme and after the Submissions Review Panel has met and considered submissions, Council considers a report and may proceed to "declare" the charges in accordance with its advertised intent. Subsequent to this the Finance Manager issues the levy notices and there is a formal charge placed on the property. This is the final step in the process for Council to make a decision on the scheme.
<i>Appeal</i>		Property owners may lodge an application for review with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) within one month of issue of the levy notice. An appeal is listed, heard and determined by the Tribunal and this process generally takes three to four months. Decisions made by VCAT are binding on all parties.
<i>Construction</i>		Council may then proceed to construct the works. Invoices are issued seeking payment of the estimated cost within one month of commencement.
<i>Final Cost Report</i>		At the completion of the works the scheme is "finalised" taking into account actual costs incurred and payments are adjusted accordingly.

CLOSE OF MEETING

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 8.38pm. Tuesday, 13 March 2018.

Signed: _____
Cr Bruce Harwood (Mayor)

Date of Confirmation: _____