AGENDA

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 25 November 2025
6:00 pm

City Hall
57 Little Malop Street, Geelong 3220

TO BE LIVE STREAMED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE:
www.geelongaustralia.com.au/meetings

COUNCIL:

Cr S Kontelj (Kardinia Ward) - Mayor
Cr R Nelson (Barrabool Hills Ward) - Deputy Mayor
Cr E Sinclair (Charlemont Ward)
Cr M Cadwell (Cheetham Ward)
Cr E Wilkinson (Connewarre Ward)
Cr A Aitken (Corio Ward)
Cr A Katos (Deakin Ward)
Cr E Kontelj (Hamlyn Heights Ward)
Cr T Sullivan (Leopold Ward)
Cr R Story (Murradoc Ward)
Cr C Burson (You Yangs Ward)

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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1. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Council acknowledges the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.

1.2. Apologies

1.3. Leaves of Absence

That Leave of Absence be granted to Cr E Kontelj from 25 November 2025 to 26 November 2025, inclusive.

That Leave of Absence be granted to Cr C Burson from 1 December 2025 to 3 December 2025, inclusive.

That Leave of Absence be granted to Cr E Wilkinson from 20 November 2025 to 24 November 2025, inclusive.

1.4. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

1.5. Confirmation of Minutes

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28 October 2025 be confirmed.

1.6. Public Question and Submission Time

1.7. Petitions

1. Safety Issues – Boundary Road, Mount Duneed

2. REPORTS

2.1. Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026-2029

Source: **City Life**
Executive Director: **Anthony Basford**

Purpose

1. To present the revised Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026-2029 (DAMP) for Council adoption.

Background

2. The *Domestic Animals Act 1994* (the Act) requires all Victorian municipalities to develop a DAMP every four years. The DAMP outlines how the City intends to promote the following standards of animal management to:

    2.1. promote and encourage the responsible ownership of dogs and cats;

    2.2. ensure that people comply with the Act, its regulations and any related legislation;

    2.3. minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals;

    2.4. address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats;

    2.5. encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats;

    2.6. minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance; and

    2.7. effectively identify all dangerous dos, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in the municipal district and ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with the Act and regulations.

Key Matters

3. The DAMP 2022-25 will expire in December 2025.

4. The revised DAMP 2026-29 (attachment 1) has been developed following community and stakeholder engagement, and is now presented for Council for adoption prior to submission to the State Government by 4 December 2025.

5. This DAMP outlines how animal management services are delivered at the City, including data related to service provision and outcomes. The actions identified in the DAMP guide the work and programs that will be delivered over the coming four years.

6. The DAMP recognises the value and joy pets bring to our lives and aims to encourage and enable responsible pet ownership through increased education, promotion and support. There is a significant focus on education and targeted engagement with pet owners in the DAMP.

7. Community feedback highlighted notable levels of non-compliance in several areas of responsible pet ownership. Areas such as low registration compliance, dog owners not complying with leashing requirements, wandering cats, and failing to pick up after dogs were of notable concern. The actions in the plan aim to address these issues. The Engagement Report outlines the feedback (attachment 2).

8. The cost to deliver programs and projects has been considered in the development of DAMP actions. Community desire for programs such as free dog training, financial assistance for cat enclosure construction and free pet desexing is acknowledged, however Councils' ability to fund such initiatives is limited.

9. DAMP actions have been aligned to themes of the new Victorian Cat Management Strategy 2025-2035, which aim to ensure the wellbeing of domestic cats and mitigate issues of roaming, wildlife predation and overpopulation through responsible cat ownership and desexing.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Adopts the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026-2029 as at Attachment 1;**

2. **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer or their delegate to submit the adopted Domestic Animal Management Plan as at Attachment 1 to the State Government as required by legislation;**

3. **Notes the Domestic Animal Management Plan Engagement Report as at Attachment 2; and**

4. **Acknowledges the community for their contributions to the Domestic Animal Management Plan throughout the community engagement period.**

Financial Sustainability

10. Implementation of some projects and activities identified in the DAMP will be considered as part of Council's annual budget process. Activities identified for year 1 of the plan have been included in current budgets.

11. Animal registration fees are used to partially fund animal management services; however, the overall cost of the service is subsidised by City funds.

12. An annual levy is paid to the State Government of $4.51 per registration totalling $178,000 in 2024/25. The State Government intends to double this levy in July 2026.

13. The DAMP proposes the introduction of free first year registration for newly registered animals. This initiative supports responsible pet ownership objectives and is intended to improve registration compliance, support reunification of lost animals and allow appropriate planning and delivery of animal related projects.

14. An average of $350,000 is received from new registrations each year. Increased registration renewals in subsequent years, and the realisation of the above benefits, is anticipated to negate any registration income reduction.

Community Engagement

15. Community engagement was fundamental to the development of the revised DAMP. Feedback received has shaped our priorities, and ensured the plan reflects community sentiment in the management of domestic animals in Greater Geelong.

16. Community engagement was undertaken over a six-week period in March and April 2025 via a survey on the City's Have Your Say platform and direct engagement with internal and external stakeholders.

17. 756 survey responses and five written submissions were received. 81.4 percent of respondents owned a pet.

18. Key themes identified from the feedback included:

    18.1. pet owners not complying with laws and regulations;

    18.2. desire for more dog parks;

    18.3. cats should be contained, and the City should support cat owners to achieve this;

    18.4. desire for more animal management officer presence and enforcement;

    18.5. easier nuisance complaint resolutions are needed; and

    18.6. greater focus should be placed on education programs and promotions.

19. Community feedback has been considered and incorporated throughout the DAMP.

20. A full report of engagement findings has been prepared as at attachment 2.

Social Equity and Sustainability

21. A key tenet of the DAMP is to promote the benefits of responsible pet ownership and celebrate the positive wellbeing outcomes of owning a pet.

22. These benefits should be available to all community members regardless of demographic. For this reason, the DAMP includes free and discount registration initiatives, a commitment to re-establishing a subsidised cat desexing program, access to off leash areas for dog exercise across the municipality, and the provision of animal related resources and education across a range of mediums and languages.

23. Data gathered on key areas such as dog attacks, low registration compliance, high impound rates and nuisance reports will be used to inform where programs and services will be targeted.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

24. Section 68A of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* (the Act) requires all Victorian municipalities to develop a DAMP every four years. The Act prescribes what the DAMP must address and is required to be submitted to the State Government by 4 December 2025. The scope of the plan is limited to domestic dogs and cats, as defined by the Act.

25. The DAMP 2026-2029 provides for the review of local animal legislation, such as dog control orders.

26. There is no plan to review Councils Cat Curfew and Desexing Order 2015 during the lifetime of this DAMP.

27. The programs and activities in the DAMP have been aligned to the themes and objectives of the Victorian Cat Management Strategy 2025-2035.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

28. This report aligns with the Council Plan 2025-29 strategic priority:
Healthy and Caring Community

29. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.
People feel safe wherever they are.

Conflict of Interest

30. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

31. If the DAMP 2026-2029 is not adopted by Council by 4 December 2025, Council will not be compliant with the Act.

32. The presence of dogs and cats in the community can present risks to people, native wildlife, the environment and neighbourhood amenity. The DAMP aims to reduce the

negative impacts pets can have by establishing compliance programs and services and promoting the value of responsible pet ownership to reduce these risks and enhance community safety.

33. As a large municipality, with high animal ownership rates and several growth corridors, there is increasing pressure on animal management service delivery and the provision of open space for dog exercise. Ensuring sufficient resources to deliver programs and services will be a challenge for the duration of this DAMP.

Environmental Sustainability

34. Irresponsible pet ownership can have negative implications for native habitats, waterways and open spaces. Programs and initiatives to minimise these impacts including enforcement of leashing requirements, promotion of cat containment and targeted pet owner education have been included in the DAMP.

Attachments

1. Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026-29 [**2.1.1** - 19 pages]
2. DAMP 2026-29 HYS Engagement Report (Detailed) [**2.1.2** - 91 pages]

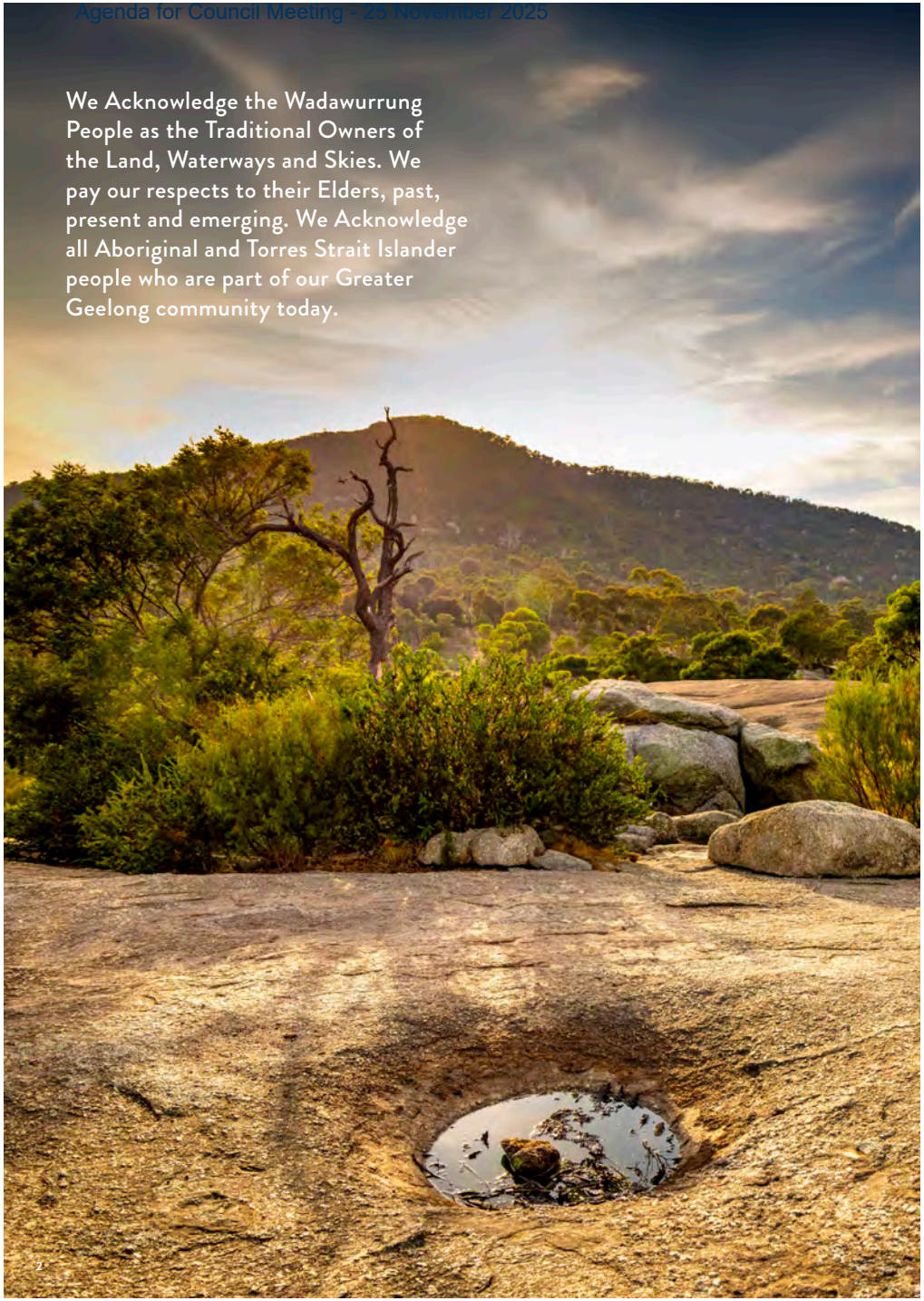
THE CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

2026 - 2029



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG



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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



For many of us, our pets are cherished members of our families.

Our four-legged friends provide companionship, teach us responsibility, and enrich our lives in many ways.

The City of Greater Geelong has one of the largest animal populations of any Victorian municipality, with 35,019 registered dogs and 10,428 registered cats as of December 2024.

As our population grows, so too will our community of animal lovers and pets. That's why we need clear plans to account for our future pet PAWpulation, as outlined in the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026–29.

This plan is a direct result of valuable community feedback and aims to support both pet owners and the wider public. It balances the needs of all residents, addressing a range of issues from responsible ownership and public space use to animal health and safety.

Most of us encounter pets daily when venturing into Geelong's public spaces. We wanted to create a plan that reflects our broad community attitudes toward domestic animals, so we to continue to share our spaces safely, have healthy pets and protect the environment.

Our Animal Management team responded to over 7,500 animal-related requests in the last financial year, and this plan will also serve as a vital resource to help them meet the changing needs of the region.

Whether you're a pet owner, a park visitor, or a resident, this plan provides a clear framework for how we can continue to share our spaces safely and responsibly. By working together, we can ensure our pets stay healthy, our community remains safe, and our unique native wildlife is protected.

Cr Strech Kontelj OAM
Mayor, City of Greater Geelong

OUR PURPOSE

The City aims to help our residents, cats and dogs live harmoniously alongside each other in the beautiful habitats our region calls home.

Our four-legged friends are part of our families, often encouraging us to live healthier lifestyles, reduce stress, build connections and live longer.

The City celebrates the joy pets bring to our lives, while also balancing the needs of animals with those of residents, community groups, native wildlife and the environment.

The City's Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) 2026–2029 seeks to encourage and support responsible pet ownership through increased education, promotion and assistance, while also strengthening our Animal Management Services.

The DAMP guides our educational and community-focused pet projects, as well as general services and amenities, and aims to improve outcomes for cats and dogs across the region.

OUR REGION, PEOPLE AND PETS

POPULATION

OUR PEOPLE

The City of Greater Geelong is a large and varied geographical council area, measuring 1,252 km² and includes metropolitan, coastal, rural and forest areas.

Our municipality has experienced a great deal of growth over the five years between our last census' in 2016 and 2021, with more than 271,000 people calling our region home – an increase of 16.1 per cent.

At the time of the last census in 2021, the three areas with the highest levels of growth were Armstrong Creek/ Mount Duneed 312.9 per cent, Curlewis 265.6 per cent, and Marshall/Charlemont 219.0 percent.

According to .id (2024) the 10 suburbs (or combined suburbs) with the highest populations currently are:

- Highton/Wandana Heights – 22,931
- Lara – 19,014
- Ocean Grove – 17,714
- Armstrong Creek/Mount Duneed – 16,997
- Corio – 15,497
- Belmont – 15,066
- Grovedale – 14,869
- Leopold – 13,272
- Newtown – 10,445
- Geelong West/Manifold Heights – 10,026

It is estimated that by 2041, 407,540 people will call Greater Geelong home.

OUR PETS

The City of Greater Geelong has one of the largest animal populations of any Victorian municipality, with 35,019 registered dogs and 10,428 registered cats as of December 2024.

Data collected from microchip registries in 2023 indicates there are over 101,000 pet microchips linked to our region, implying that many of the domestic animals residing here are not currently registered.

Registration of domestic animals (cats and dogs) with Council is a legal requirement, as prescribed by S10 of the Domestic Animals Act 1994. In addition to being a legal requirement, registering pets with Council is imperative to understanding the number of animals in each region. Accurate animal registration numbers will allow us to ensure our services, projects and programs are planned, budgeted and delivered appropriately.

Just as importantly, pets who are registered, get reunited. Accurate registration details are the most efficient and effective way to return cats and dogs to their owners, avoiding the distress and financial burden impounding causes pets, their owners and the City.

TOURISM

Our region is a popular holiday destination for both people and their pets. Over the summer months, the municipality's population increases significantly, placing greater demand on animal management services.

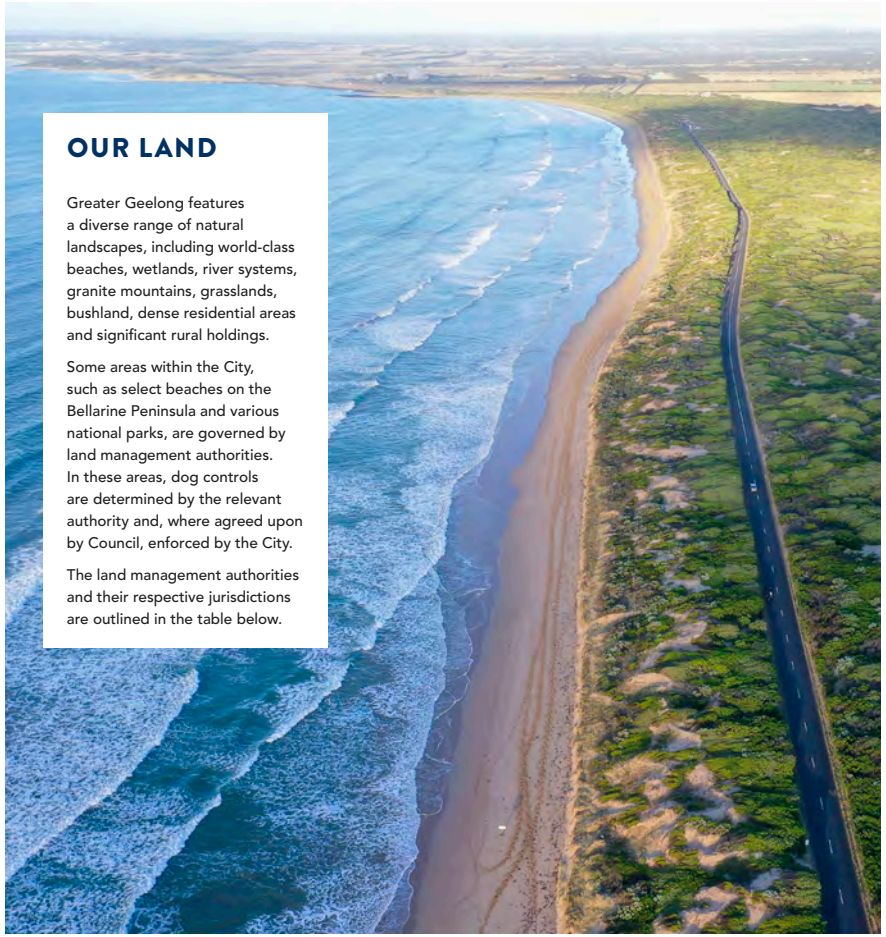
The most recent data from 2018 shows that 1.14 million overnight visitors stayed on the Bellarine Peninsula, and a further 713,356 stayed in Geelong's urban centre.

Daytrip visitation to Geelong and its surrounding coastal regions on the Bellarine that year was also significant with:

- 274,964 visitors to the northern Bellarine
- 350,325 visitors to the southern Bellarine
- 2,326,730 visitors to Geelong's urban centre

This overnight and daytrip tourism brought $828,661,000 of direct and indirect economic income to the Bellarine, and 908,264,000 to metropolitan Geelong in 2018.

It's projected that by 2027, visitation to our region will increase to 7.5 million people and inject $1.7 billion into the local economy.



OUR LAND

Greater Geelong features a diverse range of natural landscapes, including world-class beaches, wetlands, river systems, granite mountains, grasslands, bushland, dense residential areas and significant rural holdings.

Some areas within the City, such as select beaches on the Bellarine Peninsula and various national parks, are governed by land management authorities. In these areas, dog controls are determined by the relevant authority and, where agreed upon by Council, enforced by the City.

The land management authorities and their respective jurisdictions are outlined in the table below.

Authority	Area
Barwon Coast Committee of Management	Southern Bellarine beaches and foreshore running through Breamlea, Barwon Heads, Ocean Grove and Collendina.
Bellarine Bayside Coastal Management	Northern Bellarine beaches and foreshore running through Portarlington, Indented Head and St Leonards
Corangamite Catchment Authority	The banks of the Barwon River from Newtown to Breakwater
Parks Victoria	You Yangs, Lake Connewarre, Breamlea Flora and Fauna Reserve, Mouth of Barwon River (Barwon Heads)

To conserve these environmentally and culturally sensitive areas, and in recognition of the shared access by a variety of users, often dogs are required on leash at minimum, or may be totally prohibited.

OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The City wants to support our community of pets and people to live in "PAWfect harmony" and further enable responsible pet ownership. Community views were therefore integral to informing the development of this DAMP, which needs to reflect the views of the community it is intended to impact and service.

The City engaged with our community over a six-week period to better understand what is working well within our Animal Management Services, what isn't, what the community would like to see in the future, and whether there are areas where community members may lack knowledge of animal laws and regulations or find them difficult to follow.

OUR RESPONDENTS

- 756 survey responses were completed during our community engagement.
- 81.4 per cent (615) owned one or more domestic pets and 18.6 per cent (141) were not pet owners.
- The highest response rates came from residents of Ocean Grove (80), Lara (57), Armstrong Creek (44), Highton (41) and Newtown (36).
- Other interests cited for DAMP involvement included:
  - "Local park user" (64.55 per cent)
  - "Recreational bird/wildlife watcher" (19.44 per cent)
  - "Sports club player/volunteer/member" (8.2 per cent)
  - "Member of wildlife/conservation group" (7.14 per cent)
  - "Animal fosterer" (6.08 per cent)
  - "Member of animal advocacy or rescue group" (5.03 per cent)
  - "Animal business operator" (2.12 per cent)
  - "Vet/Vet nurse" (2.12 per cent)
  - "Registered cat/dog breeder" (1.98 per cent)
  - "Registered domestic animal business" (1.06 per cent).
- Feedback was also sought and received from Geelong Animal Welfare Society, and the internal City departments of Parks and Natural Assets, Waste Service, Urban Design and Place and Community Participation.

WHAT WE HEARD

Key areas for action identified from the feedback received, as well as themes and trends in the data, have helped shape this DAMP and its actions.

Some of these key themes are outlined below.

DOGS

- Too many dog owners letting their dogs off-leash in on-leash areas
- Many dog owners not collecting their dog's poo and disposing of it properly
- More fully fenced dog parks are desired.

CATS

- Roaming restriction for cats and dogs should be the same – that is, cats contained to their own property at all times for the benefit of wildlife, neighbours and the cat's wellbeing
- Council should support cat owners who create cat enclosures financially, by reducing registration costs, subsidising enclosure materials and/or coordinating volunteer services regarding their construction.

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

- Greater staffing numbers and presence required for patrolling, nuisance investigations and the like
- Running more education sessions and community events
- City-led dog training and animal behaviour courses
- Streamline nuisance complaint services, for faster outcomes and less burden on complainants.



WHAT CAN THE CITY DO BETTER?

1. Create more fully fenced dog parks to reduce demand on sports reserves and meet the open space needs of dog owners, particularly those living in medium to high density areas.
2. Increase our Animal Management Officer staffing levels, so that nuisance complaints can be handled more swiftly, and there is greater officer presence for patrolling and issuing infringements where necessary to increase compliance.
3. Assist the community with the construction of cat enclosures through fiscal or labour assistance.
4. Conduct more educational programs (especially in schools), focusing on dog on leash, pick up poo and effective control messaging, as well as cat curfew and containment information.
5. City-led promotions and events, such as dog training and animal behaviour workshops, pet-centric expos, registration drives and discount desexing campaigns.

WHAT CAN THE COMMUNITY DO BETTER?

1. Comply with dog regulations, especially those requiring dogs on leash unless otherwise signed, dog poo collection and effective control when in off leash areas.
2. Comply with cat curfew (dusk to dawn containment).
3. Keep cats contained to their own properties as much as possible to improve their health outcomes, reduce impoundment levels and their negative impact on wildlife and neighbours.
4. Proactively engage with pet selection tools, animal behaviour training and puppy school/dog training to reduce pet-ownership complications.



OUR PLAN

The Domestic Animals Act 1994 (the Act) requires councils in Victoria to develop a domestic animal management plan (DAMP) every four years.

The DAMP must outline council services, programs and policies established to address the administration of the Act, and Councils' management of dog and cat issues in their community. Council must review its DAMP annually and publish an evaluation of the implementation of the past year's actions in its Annual Report.

This DAMP has been shaped by community feedback, strategic planning and input from internal City departments.

To facilitate responsible pet ownership and allow all residents to live in PAWfect harmony, each section outlines what we do, what we asked, what we heard, and what we will do over the next four years. Together, these elements form the central pillar of the work we will undertake from 2026 to 2029.

The Plan is designed to address key areas of animal ownership while reflecting the City's commitment to balancing the needs of the wider community. These areas include:

- Our Animal Management Services
- Pet Registration and Identification
- Responsible Pet Ownership
- Animal Welfare
- Nuisance Cats
- Nuisance Dogs
- Community and Open Space Needs
- Dog Attacks

DAMP REQUIREMENTS

DAMPs must cover the following issues:

- Ensuring compliance with the Act, regulations and any related legislation.
- Minimising the risk of dog attacks on people and animals.
- Addressing over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats.
- Encouraging the registration and identification of dogs and cats.
- Reducing the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance.
- Effectively identifying all dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs within the district, and ensuring they are kept in compliance with the Act and regulations.
- Reviewing existing orders and local laws related to animal management to determine whether further measures are desirable.
- Reviewing any other matters relating to the management of dogs and cats in the municipal district as required.
- Periodically evaluating all programs, services, strategies and reviews outlined in the plan.



OUR ANIMAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

This section of the plan addresses the requirement of Section 68A (2) (b) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994. It outlines Council's human resourcing for animal management tasks, the teams' current skills and planned, ongoing training.

WHAT WE DO

We maintain a qualified, competent, visible and responsive team to deliver high standards of service to the community. The City's Animal Management Services team is a specialist team that sits within the Community Safety & Regulation Department, as part of our City Life Directorate. Animal Management is staffed by a team of 14 people who provide services to our municipality 365 days a year. Our services are supported by a team of business support staff, an infringements administrator and a prosecutor. Our team structure is depicted below.

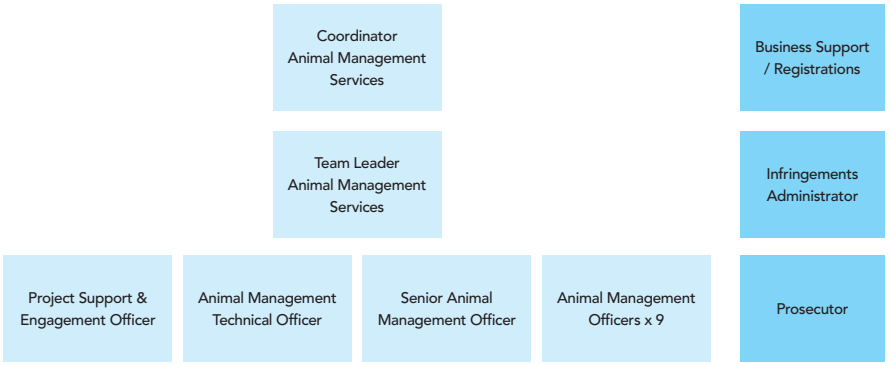
As Authorised Officers of Council, our team have responsibilities for the administration and enforcement of State and Local legislation including:

- Domestic Animals Act 1994 and associated Regulations and Codes of Practice
- Impoundment of Livestock Act 1994
- Neighbourhood Amenity Local Law 2024
- Dog Control in Public Places Policy 2018
- Cat Curfew and Desexing Order 2015.



Our team work 365 days a year to provide animal management services to our community and their pets. We provide a limited on-call service to respond to emergency situations that present a risk to community safety, including dog attacks and wandering livestock.

As a large municipality with several growth corridors and a high animal ownership rate, the City is mindful of the pressure on our animal management team and resources, and as such, will continually review staffing and service levels as the City continues to grow.



OUR CURRENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Program	Services Provided	
Identification and Registration	› Annual dog and cat registration renewal notices and follow-up processes, including text message reminders and follow up phone calls. › Online or in person pet registrations. › Reduced registration for concession card holders and appropriately trained assistance dogs. › Data collection from Central Animal Records to determine registration compliance using microchipping data.	› Officers reuniting registered pets directly with owners. › Investigation and follow up of unregistered animal reports. › Mandatory registration of impounded animals upon reclaim. › Proactive registration checks and follow up of newly adopted animals.
Dog Attack Complaints and Investigation	› Investigation and prosecution of dog attacks and menacing rushes. › Seizure of dogs for community safety pending investigation outcome.	› Immediate response for serious dog attack reports, otherwise response within 24 hours.
Dog Nuisance / Amenity Complaints	› Investigation of nuisance barking complaints. › Information materials sent to complainant and dog owner regarding barking behaviours.	› Noise monitoring used in some circumstances. › Investigate multiple animal complaints.
Cat Nuisance / Amenity Complaints	› Investigation and enforcement of cat nuisance / trespass complaints. › Delivery of cat trapping service.	› Proactive letterbox drops in areas of high complaint. › Dusk to dawn cat curfew order enforcement.
Proactive Reserve, Trail, Street and Beach Patrols	› Proactive patrols in all areas of municipality during business hours. › Additional beach patrols in summer months.	› Evening patrols during daylight savings months.
Animal Pound Facility (contracted to Geelong Animal Welfare Society)	› GAWS is open to the public seven days per week (except Christmas Day and Good Friday). › Located 325 Portarlington Road, Moolap.	› Receive and house lost and stray animals. › Reunite animals with owners.
Community Education and Promotion	› Marketing materials and communication strategy to promote responsible pet ownership, including brochures, media releases, social and print media. › Attendance at community events such as Paws for GAWS Walk, RUN4Geelong, Open Days. › Education material on City website.	› New arrival information sessions for CALD communities. › Community engagement projects. › TAFE talks for animal studies students. › Attendance at internal events upon request.
After Hours	After hours response to: › Collection of contained dogs (5pm - 7pm Weekdays, 8am - 7pm Weekends) › Dog attacks	› Livestock on roads › Assistance in emergencies or requests from Victoria Police.
Domestic Animal Business Program	› Annual audits of all Domestic Animal Businesses. › Issue annual registration renewal invoices and certificates. › Inspect and process new Domestic Animal Business applications.	› Investigate complaints and enforce where appropriate. › Proactively identify illegal Domestic Animal Businesses and prosecute where appropriate.
Dog Friendly Areas	› Dog off leash areas and fenced dog parks provided across the municipality.	› Dogs allowed off leash in sporting reserves when no sports taking place.
Subsidised Cat Desexing	› Subsidised desexing programs offered at GAWS.	› Free registration for participating animals.
Declared Dogs (Dangerous / Menacing or Restricted Breed)	› Conduct annual inspections ensuring requirements of Domestic Animals Act are complied with and enforcement action taken where appropriate. › Investigation and follow-up of all declared dogs that remain unpaid after 10 April each year.	› Proactive inspections of industrial areas to identify undeclared guard dogs. › Assess restricted breed complaints against the Standard.

REQUESTS FOR SERVICE

Our reactive service delivery is facilitated by customer Requests for Service (RFS). Since 2021/22 we have seen a 33.5 per cent growth in service requests, with a significant spike in 2024/25 where our team responded to 7,689 customer requests. See below breakdown of RFS actioned over the past four years:

RFS Type	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Barking dog complaints	1,145	1,616	1,717	1,908
Cat nuisance / trespass	187	215	257	204
Request for cat trap	527	657	291	326
Menacing / Rushing Dog	303	473	414	503
Dog at large	627	766	844	844
Animal patrol request	67	75	43	58
Unregistered animal complaint	416	261	88	516
Multiple animal complaint	64	100	121	122
Animal collection - with ID	94	73	99	140
Animal collection - without ID	1,439	1,642	1,848	1,753
Dog attack investigations (Serious Human)	11	12	23	32
Dog attack investigations (Serious Animal)	60	62	69	64
Dog attack investigations (Non-serious Human)	53	45	72	59
Dog attack investigations (Non-serious Animal)	93	85	75	96
Livestock at large	116	129	143	186
Declared dog / restricted breed assessment	0	0	18	22
Miscellaneous animal enquiry	557	610	850	856
Total	**5,759**	**6,821**	**6,972**	**7,689**

In the 2024/25 financial year our team conducted 988 hours of rostered proactive patrols, audited 57 Domestic Animal Businesses, issued 958 infringements and successfully prosecuted 11 matters in Court. See below breakdown of infringements issued over the past three years:

Offence Type	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Dog at large daytime	500	372	402
Dog at large night-time	5	6	2
Dog in prohibited public place	29	10	34
Dog or cat creating a nuisance	13	14	6
Fail to register dog/cat	504	410	427
Fail to renew registration dog/cat	87	66	57
Dog attack non-serious injury	14	18	15
Dog rush	0	7	6
Other	6	4	9
Total	**1,158**	**907**	**958**

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

Within the last DAMP period (2022-25), the Animal Management team conducted three community engagement projects regarding:

- Dogs in Public Places review and orders to cover eight new reserves and review dog orders at seven equestrian centres (2023)
- Cat curfew review (2023)
- Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026 – 2029 (2025).

From these consultations, we heard from 4,490 community members who shared their views over a total of 18 weeks, and the feedback received helped shape the decisions made regarding cat and dog controls in our region, and how we can further improve our animal management services.

TRAINING

To deliver animal services that meet the requirements of the Act and the expectations of the community, it is essential that all Animal Management Officers (AMO) receive appropriate training and have access to a strong professional development program.

Officers build their skills and knowledge through a mix of practical, on-the-job experience, structured and accredited courses and industry training. Additional training needs are identified during annual performance development reviews to support ongoing development and maintain high service standards.

Animal Management Officers are encouraged to hold, or be working towards, one of the following qualifications:

- Certificate IV in Animal Control and Compliance
- Certificate IV in Government (Statutory Compliance)
- A higher-level relevant qualification.

The table below outlines the current and planned training for Animal Management Officers.

Planned Training		Timeframe
Core compliance training		
› Manual Handling › Work Health & Safety › Anti-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity › Sexual Harassment Prevention › Workplace Bullying › Fraud, Anti-Bribery and Corruption	› Charter of Human Rights & Responsibilities › Privacy › Victorian Child Safe Standards › Electronic Communications and Social Media › Record Keeping Essentials	New officer induction and bi-annual thereafter
In House / On-the-job training		
› Animal Handling › Brief Preparation and Prosecution › Investigations and Evidence › Stock Handling	› Domestic Animal Business Auditing › Freedom of Information and Privacy › Barking Dog Management	On the job training provided by Senior Officer / Team Leader and Councils Prosecutor upon commencement and renewed as required
Building Resilience and Capacity for Emergencies (BRACE)		
› Managing Animals in Emergencies › Emergency Management Awareness › Working in an Emergency Relief Centre	› Introduction to Psychological First Aid/ Personal Support › Practical Exercises	Annual
Industry training		
› Conflict Resolution › Aggressive Animal Handling › Understanding Animal Behaviour › Basic Animal First Aid › Restricted Breed Identification › Accredited First Aid and CPR refresher		Annual Annual Annual Annual As available / required Upon commencement and renewed as required
Animal Management training		
Information sessions, conferences and seminars offered by State Government, RSPCA, Municipal Association of Victoria, LGPro, Australian Institute of Animal Management and other relevant organisations.		As available



WHAT WE ASKED AND WHAT WE HEARD

Is there enough AMO presence in the community?

"No" (62 per cent)

Where would you like to see AMOs more?

Parks (65.3 per cent)
Beaches (64.8 per cent)
Trails (38.6 per cent)

How would you rate your interaction with an AMO?

4/5

Where would you like to see AMOs focus their energy?

Patrolling; Preventing/ addressing dog attacks

WHAT WE WILL DO

- Ensure team resources are sufficient to meet service delivery requirements and community expectation.
- Enhance animal management services reputation as a team of highly skilled professionals, with the knowledge to support community and animal needs.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Ensure sufficient staffing levels to deliver efficient Animal Management services by reviewing resourcing each year	Annually	Capacity meets demand
Explore the addition of a dedicated Patrol & Safety Officer to the team, pending funding, to better meet community expectation	Year 2	Position considered
Develop and maintain a training register, detailing all the qualifications and training courses completed by each animal management officer	Year 1	Register developed
Review all work instructions and procedures to ensure they are customer focused and fit for purpose	Year 2	Procedures reviewed
Promote animal management services internally and externally by celebrating achievements and profiling officers on internal and external channels	Year 1	Promotion completed

PET IDENTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

This section of the plan addresses the requirement of Section 68A (2) (c) (v) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994. It deals with Council's programs and strategies for the registration and identification of dogs and cats.

All dogs and cats over three months of age must be registered with the City each year, as required by law. We know that many pets in the region are not currently registered. The City aims to improve registration compliance across Greater Geelong.

WHAT WE DO

REGISTRATION FEES

Animal registration fees help fund the delivery of the City's Animal Management Services and programs. In the 2024/25 financial year, these services cost $4.3 million to deliver. This includes contract payments to the Geelong Animal Welfare Society for the operation of the City's pound service. In the same year, $2.01 million was collected through registration fees, leaving a gap of $2.29 million that was subsidised by the City to maintain these services.

Registration fees help support a wide range of activities, including:

- Employment of animal management staff.
- Collection and return of animals to their owners.
- Provision of registration tags for each registered animal.
- Investigation and prosecution of animal attacks and other offences.
- Pound service delivery.
- Registration and auditing of Domestic Animal Businesses (including pet shops, boarding facilities and breeders).
- Investigation of nuisance complaints.
- After-hours services.
- Management of declared dogs.
- Maintenance of animal-related facilities across the City, including dog parks, reserves and the pound.
- Events, information materials and education campaigns.
- Programs that support responsible pet ownership.
- Mandatory levy payments to the State Government — in 2025, this included $4.51 per registered animal and $20 per Domestic Animal Business, totalling $178,000.

REGISTRATION PROCESSES

To make animal registration as simple as possible for the community, the City offers both online and in-person registration options. Renewal notices are sent each year, either electronically or by post. Reminder text messages are issued for unpaid registrations, prompting owners to make payment or update their animal's status.

To encourage registration, the City runs an annual marketing campaign during the renewal period. This campaign uses a range of channels, including print, radio, social media and billboards, to remind the community to update their details and pay their registration.

REGISTRATION STATISTICS

Despite simplified registration processes and promotion activities, registration numbers have declined over the past four years.

In 2025, 30,296 dogs and 9,061 cats were registered with the City. Registration numbers over the last four years were as follows:

Year	Cats	Dogs
2022	10,232	34,287
2023	9,151	31,461
2024	9,620	31,931
2025	9,061	30,296

Cat registrations have fluctuated slightly over this period, but overall the trend is downward. Dog registrations follow a similar pattern, with a sharper decline between 2022 and 2023. This decrease may be influenced by rising cost-of-living pressures on the community, as well as feedback from cat owners regarding a perceived lack of value for registering their pets.

Data collected from microchip registries in 2023 indicates there are over 101,000 pet microchips linked to our region, implying that approximately 60 per cent of the domestic animals residing here are not currently registered.

To combat low registration numbers, the City ran a registration amnesty for six weeks in 2024, offering free registration for new cat and dog registrations. The amnesty resulted in 2,000 new registrations, and whilst this is a positive result, our unregistered animal population remains high.

Suburbs with the highest registration numbers:

1. Lara
2. Highton
3. Ocean Grove
4. Grovedale
5. Leopold.

Top 10 registered dog breeds:



WHAT WE ASKED AND WHAT WE HEARD

Why registration is important?

54.8 per cent of DAMP respondents feel this topic needs more promotion.

How to register or renew registration online

40.6 per cent of survey respondents felt it would be helpful to share this information more with the community.

MAP for more than two animals residing at a property

63.9 per cent of respondents knew a Multi-Animal Permit was required for more than two pets on your property.

What to do if your pet goes missing

65.1 per cent thought more information on this topic would be helpful.

What to do if you find a lost pet

Over 67 per cent of DAMP survey respondents felt greater promotion on what to do with a lost pet would benefit the community.

WHAT WE WILL DO

- Encourage and ensure all cats and dogs living within our municipality and who are older than three months of age, are registered annually.
- Encourage and ensure all cats, and most dogs are desexed from three months of age, to not only improve their health outcomes but to also minimise unwanted litters and the strain caused on pound services.

Action	When	Evaluation
Free first year registration for newly registered cats and dogs in our municipality	Year 1	10 per cent increase in registrations year on year
Increase education and communications regarding registration benefits	Year 2	10 per cent increase in registrations year on year
Half price cat registration for owners who have approved cat enclosures and commit to cat containment	Year 1	10 per cent increase in registrations year on year
Request GAWS to register newly adopted cats and dogs for free as part of the adoption process	Year 1	All adopted animals are registered at adoption
Develop a comprehensive annual registration plan with a timeline to ensure all registration activities are conducted within appropriate timeframes	Year 1	10 per cent increase in renewed registrations year on year

RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

Owning a pet can be highly rewarding. Pets provide companionship, unconditional love, and can help reduce stress and anxiety. However, pet ownership also carries important responsibilities.

As a local government, the City's role is to help the community understand what responsible pet ownership involves, in order to minimise potential harm to animals, people, property, other animals, and the environment.

Helping pet owners choose the right pet for their lifestyle and home is an important first step. Dogs, for example, are great for encouraging family exercise, but they can be high maintenance. Depending on the breed and age, dogs may require significant training and grooming. Cats are more independent and generally content indoors, making them a suitable option for busy households. They are usually quiet, have long life spans, and require minimal house training. However, cats must also be properly managed to prevent problems for other cats and native wildlife.

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.
- Attends to the welfare and social needs of their animal, including vaccination, socialisation and training.
- Abides by dog control orders in public spaces.
- Minimises nuisance to others and the environment through effective containment and behaviour management.
- Has an animal that is desexed, microchipped and registered.

The City aims to empower all pet owners to responsibly care for their animals while respecting the rights of others to use public spaces safely.

WHAT WE DO

Community education aimed at understanding how to be a responsible pet owner is central to having happy and healthy pets and a safe harmonious community. We have a range of programs and services that empower our community to be responsible pet owners including:

- Regulate animal ownership through the issuance of Multiple Animal Permits.
- Provide advice, links and resources on responsible pet ownership on our website.
- Distribute brochures, fact sheets and other materials.
- Attend community events to answer questions, provide advice and materials relevant to responsible pet ownership.
- Provide information on State and local legal obligations related to pet ownership.
- Signage in areas where dogs are allowed to be off leash or where they are prohibited.
- Have a Project Support & Engagement Officer in our team focused on animal management project design and delivery.
- Employ a team who are knowledgeable and respond to every animal related request or enquiry, providing advice and information to community members.
- Patrol public spaces to promote and enforce compliance with responsible pet requirements including dog control orders, effective control and picking up after your dog.

WHAT WE ASKED AND WHAT WE HEARD

What local laws do pet owners need help abiding to?

- Dogs off leash in on leash areas
- Dog poo left uncollected or not disposed of properly
- Cats roaming at night

What are pet owners doing well?

- Cats are infrequently damaging property (48.9 per cent)
- Dogs are rarely seen chasing or attacking wildlife (37.8 per cent)
- Cats fighting other cats

What do you think are the main barriers to being a responsible pet owner?

- Self-entitlement
- Lack of care for others wellbeing/ sense of safety
- Lack of consequence when breaking the laws



WHAT WE WILL DO

- Increase education opportunities related to responsible pet ownership.
- Increase opportunities to engage with our Animal Management team.

Actions	When	Evaluation
Explore establishing access to RSPCA's "Happy Pet Portal" for all registered pet owners	Year 1	Decision made about Portal access
Targeted marketing campaign related to "doggy etiquette" in our shared public spaces	Year 3	Campaign complete
Creation of a quarterly newsletter for registered pet owners containing information on the many aspects of responsible pet ownership	Year 2	Number distributed
Review and refresh all web content on the City's pets and animals page	Year 2	Up to date information
Explore opportunities to strengthen partnerships with local dog trainers and businesses to promote and encourage puppy/dog training and behaviour correction	Year 2	Number of businesses engaged
Explore the delivery of an annual pet expo / pets in the park event	Year 3	First expo delivered
Create a forward annual marketing plan aimed at delivering key messages at appropriate times throughout the year	Year 1	Plan developed
Design and deliver responsible pet ownership program in schools	Year 3	Number of sessions



ANIMAL WELFARE

This section of the plan addresses 68A(2)(c)(iv) and 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c) (ii),(d),(f) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 by outlining programs, services and strategies to address over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats.

The City of Greater Geelong is committed to ensuring that as many animals as possible are reunited with their owners. Pets are valued members of the family, and it can be distressing for owners and animals when they are missing or being held within the pound.

WHAT WE DO

Animal Management Officers reunite registered dogs and cats with their owners wherever possible to avoid the need to impound animals. This can only be achieved where animals are identifiable; it is anticipated that as animal registration numbers increase through the actions of our DAMP, officers will be able to reunite more animals and impounds will subsequently decrease.

POUND SERVICES

Geelong Animal Welfare Society (GAWS) is contracted to deliver pound services on behalf of the City of Greater Geelong. GAWS believes "every life is precious" and as such, has a mission to "promote the welfare and value of companion animals to improve the health and wellbeing of the wider community." GAWS establish and maintain relationships with animal rescue groups and foster care providers to assist them in their work.

As the City's pound provider, GAWS conduct behavioural and health examinations on animals that have been impounded to assess if they are suitable for adoption. At the end of an eight-day quarantine period, GAWS work to rehome animals that are deemed appropriate for adoption.

Cats and dogs from the City of Greater Geelong can be brought to GAWS either via Council officers or members of the public. In the 2024/25 financial year, 1,475 cats and dogs were impounded by animal management officers: 697 dogs, 60 puppies, 500 cats and 218 kittens. A breakdown on the incoming and outgoing circumstances for each of these animals is included below:

Council-initiated Impounds		Incoming Circumstance			Outgoing Circumstance			
Animals admitted		Stray	Owner surrender	Seized	Reclaimed	Adopted	Euthanised	Other
Dogs	697	529	104	64	51 per cent	24 per cent	14 per cent	11 per cent
Puppies	60	26	30	4	23 per cent	58 per cent	0 per cent	19 per cent
Cats	500	454	46	0	12 per cent	52 per cent	20 per cent	16 per cent
Kittens	218	199	19	0	1 per cent	77 per cent	11 per cent	1 per cent
Total	1,475	1,208	199	68	23 per cent	54 per cent	11 per cent	12 per cent

*Note: "Other" outgoing circumstances involved a variety of status categories, including "preparation for adoption", "deceased on arrival", "in foster care" and "transferred out".

Community-initiated Impounds		Incoming Circumstance			Outgoing Circumstance			
Animals admitted		Stray	Owner surrender	Seized	Reclaimed	Adopted	Euthanised	Other
Dogs	331	133	191	7	28 per cent	39 per cent	9 per cent	24 per cent
Puppies	56	7	49	0	2 per cent	53 per cent	2 per cent	43 per cent
Cats	635	355	280	0	2 per cent	68 per cent	12 per cent	18 per cent
Kittens	401	298	97	6	1 per cent	82 per cent	6 per cent	11 per cent
Total	1,423	793	617	13	8 per cent	61 per cent	7 per cent	24 per cent

Incoming animals from members of the public in 2024/25 have been separately calculated. A total of 1,423 cats and dogs came into GAWS' care for a variety of reasons. A breakdown on the circumstances for each of these animals is included above.

Euthanasia rates at the City are higher for cats than for dogs. This statistic is due to large numbers of cats in our community not being microchipped or registered with Council. If a cat has no microchip, it limits the ability to trace its owner and can lead to euthanasia. Community education on the benefits of microchipping and registration is important to further reducing impoundment and euthanasia rates for cats.

SEMI-OWNED CATS

Many of the cats impounded at GAWS are categorised as semi-owned, unowned or feral. With no chance of being reclaimed by an owner, these cats place significant strain on pound and shelter resources. A semi-owned cat is a cat that has no owner but has a well-intentioned member (or members) of the community feeding it without taking on the full legal responsibility. These cats therefore receive no veterinary treatment or vaccinations and are not microchipped, registered or desexed.

Cats breed incredibly fast, which is why desexing cats to prevent unwanted litters and manage populations is so important. Feeding a semi-owned or unowned cat and not taking full responsibility can contribute to cat overpopulation issues; the cats are strong enough to reproduce and therefore more kittens are born into a life of disease and neglect. This can have significant impacts on local wildlife and create amenity issues for residents.

Educating and promoting the awareness of semi-owned cat populations with our residents is integral to minimise and address cat overpopulation in our region. The City will encourage residents who are feeding unowned or semi-owned cats to take full ownership or to call us for assistance in the removal of the cat.

In 2024, the City of Greater Geelong Neighbourhood Amenity Local Law 2024 came into effect. Clause 20(4) prohibits a person feeding a dog or cat that they do not own unless: a) the owner provides consent or, b) the animal has been legally trapped or, c) the animal is in need of emergency care and the owner is unable to be located. This provision was intended to manage semi-owned cat populations and we are working through how this can be promoted and enforced if required.

DESEXING

We recognise the importance of desexing cats as integral to managing cat populations and reducing euthanasia rates. The City have taken a proactive stance on cat desexing; we have orders and incentives in place to support cat desexing. Unfortunately, budget restrictions have hindered the City's ability to commit to a subsidised desexing program in 2024 and 2025, but it is our intention to reinstate this offering to our community again in this DAMP period.

The City has a mandatory cat desexing Order in place. Exercising its powers under Section 10A of the Domestic Animals Act 1994, Council made the Order on 16 April 2015. The Order imposes a condition on the registration of cats within the City of Greater Geelong, stating that all newly registered cats must be desexed unless exempt under the Act.

CAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY - ANIMAL WELFARE VICTORIA

Animal Welfare Victoria have developed the first ever State cat management strategy, a comprehensive, long-term plan designed to improve cat management across the State. The Victorian Cat Management Strategy 2025-2035 recognises that cat management is a shared responsibility, and success requires collaboration from multiple levels of government, community members and relevant organisations. The Strategy is built on seven key themes and outlines 24 actions for delivery. The City have a role to play in 12 of these actions either solely or in partnership with other agencies.

The themes outlined in the Strategy focus on:

- Responsible cat ownership.
- Increased desexing rates.
- Expanding cat containment.
- Urban cat population control.
- Feral cat management.
- Enhanced collaboration and information sharing.
- Improved laws and processes.



WHAT WE ASKED AND WHAT WE HEARD

What are the main benefits you feel from being a pet owner?

- Companionship
- Cuddles and comfort
- Exercise
- Socialisation with other pet owners

Do you know what to do if you can no longer care for your pet?

- 75.5 per cent of respondents want more education on this

Do you know what to do with unowned cats in your neighbourhood?

- 71 per cent respondents want more education on this

Do you know what to do if you find a lost pet?

- 67.1 per cent respondents want more education on this

WHAT WE WILL DO

- Encourage community members to take full ownership of community cats they may be feeding.
- Commitment to ensuring our animal management programs and services are aligned with the themes and aims of the *Victorian Cat Management Strategy 2025-2035*.
- Partner with Geelong Animal Welfare Society in efforts to achieve positive animal welfare outcomes for Greater Geelong's animals.
- Continued efforts to see as many cats desexed as possible and see a reduction in unowned cats entering the pound.

Actions	When	Evaluation
Review of pound services, including delivery models and future service sustainability	Year 1	Review completed
Targeted desexing drive to minimise the impact of unwanted litters, semi-owned and feral cats on the pound	Annually	Number of cats desexed
Promotion of GAWS adoption drives, campaigns and events via City platforms	Annually	Number of activities promoted
Develop a communications plan to educate residents on the impact of having unowned / semi-owned cats in the community	Year 2	Plan developed and delivered
Promote the health benefits of desexing and the long-term positive outcomes for the environment and euthanasia rates	Ongoing	Information available More cats desexed

NUISANCE CATS

This section of the plan addresses Sections 68A(2)(c)(vi) and 68A(2) (a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 by outlining programs, services and strategies to minimise the potential for cats to create a nuisance.

Whilst the City understands that cats offer loving, gentle and contained companionship and provide their owners with much joy, it is also noted that "the role of cats as pets, pests or natural pest controls varies based on cultural and ecological contexts, which sparks ongoing debates about their management. In Australia, cats are an introduced species that can have significant impact on ecosystems when they move outside the domestic environment. All cats, if given the chance, will hunt and kill small animals (both native and introduced) at any time of day. Even well-fed pet cats maintain a strong instinct to hunt". (Animal Welfare Victoria, 2024)

The City is committed to supporting the needs of our cat owners, while also aiming to proactively minimise the impacts cats have on native birds, small marsupials, lizards and frogs who often become their prey.

Animal nuisance caused by cats can also affect a person's enjoyment of their home and impact on the safety and wellbeing of community members. Educating pet owners on minimising nuisance caused by their pets will be a key focus for this plan.

WHAT WE DO

Wandering cats are a common nuisance complaint for our residents. Our Animal Management Officers responded to 204 nuisance cat complaints and 326 requests for cat traps in 2024/25.

CAT CURFEW ORDER

To protect the health of pet cats and reduce the negative impact they may have on native wildlife, environments and neighbourhoods the City has a dusk to dawn cat curfew in place.

In exercising its powers prescribed in Section 26(2)(b)(i),(ii)(iii) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994, Council made an Order on 16 April 2015 which imposes a condition on the presence of cats and their means of restriction to owners property in any area of the municipal district of the City of Greater Geelong. The Order imposes a night curfew for cats and states that all cats must be securely confined to the owner's property between sunset and sunrise each day.

Whilst not mandated in the City of Greater Geelong, we strongly encourage owners to contain cats at all times. Containment is the most effective way to ensure the health and wellbeing of their pet and avoid them becoming a nuisance to neighbours or a threat to the environment. Actions to promote this as best practice are important in this DAMP.

CAT TRAP SERVICE

The City provides a cat-trapping service for residents experiencing nuisance cat issues. Residents can request a cat trap, which is delivered and kept at their property for one week.

Cats that are humanely trapped are collected by Council officers. Registered cats are returned to their owners, while unregistered cats are impounded. Follow-up enforcement action is taken for registered cat owners where necessary.

The infringement penalty for a wandering cat is lower than for a similar offence involving dogs. The relatively low penalty may contribute to the number of cat nuisance complaints, as it may not provide a sufficient deterrent.

RETHINK ROAMING

In 2025, the City of Greater Geelong was one of six Councils identified to partner with the RSPCA on a "Rethink Roaming" campaign. This campaign is designed to encourage cat containment through education and practical tips owners can use to safely and successfully contain their pet.

The Rethink Roaming campaign provides information on:

- Injuries and illness cats are likely to sustain whist outside, and the cost of treatment for these issues.
- How far cats roam when wandering, including an interactive map to depict risks in your local area.
- How a cats life expectancy can be significantly increased by keeping them indoors.
- How owners can contain their cat, build enclosures and manage transitioning their cat to indoor life.
- Different enrichment strategies for indoor cats.
- Other key elements of responsible cat ownership such as desexing, registration and microchipping.
- Short courses and a pet behaviour helpline.

The City will partner with the RSPCA and Bunnings to provide low cost cat enclosure construction demonstrations.

WHAT WE ASKED AND WHAT WE HEARD

Did you know, cats must be contained to their property from sunset to sunrise?

Yes (98.1 per cent)

Did you know, cats can be deemed a 'nuisance' re: trespassing on neighbouring properties?

Yes (78.3 per cent)

Do you see cats roaming at night?

- Always (21.6 per cent)
- Often (23 per cent)
- Sometimes (24.3 per cent)
- Rarely (19.6 per cent)
- Never (11.5 per cent)

Do you see cats preying on wildlife?

- Always (10.4 per cent)
- Often (16.4 per cent)
- Sometimes (17.7 per cent)
- Rarely (28.7 per cent)
- Never (26.8 per cent)

Do you see cats appearing unowned?

- Always (7.1 per cent)
- Often (11.9 per cent)
- Sometimes (26 per cent)
- Rarely (27.7 per cent)
- Never (27.3 per cent)

Do you see cats fighting other cats?

- Always (3.9 per cent)
- Often (8.7 per cent)
- Sometimes (21 per cent)
- Rarely (33.2 per cent)
- Never (33.2 per cent)

Do you see cats confined to their property?

- Always (5.2 per cent)
- Often (30.1 per cent)
- Sometimes (30 per cent)
- Rarely (23.5 per cent)
- Never (11.2 per cent)

Do you see/experience cats damaging property?

- Always (3.2 per cent)
- Often (3.9 per cent)
- Sometimes (15.6 per cent)
- Rarely (28.5 per cent)
- Never (48.8 per cent)

WHAT WE WILL DO

- Promote cat containment as an effective means of reducing nuisance complaints, enabling cats to live long healthy lives and protect our natural environment.
- Support our community to transition to cat containment.
- Ensure our cat management strategies are aligned with best practice in animal welfare.

Actions	When	Evaluation
Support the implementation of the State Cat Management Strategy across as many areas of the City's cat-related services as possible	Ongoing	Alignment with Strategy
Reintroduction of a discount cat desexing program, by exploring partnership with the NDN and/or other welfare groups	Year 2	Subsidised desexing funded and implemented
Explore partnering with local community groups in our region to aid with the construction of cat enclosures for community members with low means or physical ability	Year 3	Owners feel empowered and supported
Increased promotion of cat-related messaging regarding desexing benefits and discounted programs, cat curfew and benefits of containment, "what to do when…"	Quarterly	Reduction in nuisance complaints
Advocacy for the State Government to increase the infringement penalty of wandering cats	Year 1	Submission made
Continued partnership in RSPCA's Rethink Roaming campaign	Ongoing	More cats contained, reduction in nuisance complaints

NUISANCE DOGS

This section of the plan addresses Sections 68A(2)(c)(vi) and 68A(2) (a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 by outlining programs, services and strategies to minimise the potential for dogs to create a nuisance.

Animal nuisance caused by dogs can considerably affect a person's enjoyment of their home and impact on the safety of community members. Educating pet owners on how to minimise nuisance from their pets is a key focus of this Plan.

WHAT WE DO

Animal Management respond to and investigate all nuisance dog complaints and attempt to achieve a positive resolution for all parties.

BARKING DOGS

Barking dog complaints are one of the most common nuisance complaints the City receives, with 1,908 complaints received in 2024/25. With smaller property sizes, and significant development occurring, it is anticipated that this number will increase with population growth.

Barking dogs can be a significant source of irritation for community members. Barking is a natural form of communication for dogs, but excessive barking may indicate that the dog is experiencing a problem or has an unmet need.

Barking dog complaints can be highly emotive and stressful for both the complainant and the dog owner, and they can be time-intensive for Council officers to investigate and resolve. Investigations often rely on evidence provided by complainants, such as barking dog diaries, which can sometimes increase frustration. Many complaints can be resolved quickly by notifying the owner, as they may be unaware that their dog is barking excessively and causing a nuisance.

We know that assistance is needed by the City to provide owners information on how to resolve nuisance barking, and how an aggrieved resident could resolve the matter independent of Council. The DAMP will focus on providing readily accessible information to the public relating to nuisance animals. It will also focus on ensuring our processes are transparent and evidence requirements are understood by complainants.



DOG LITTER

Dog litter is also a common cause of concern and complaint of our community. Failing to pick up after a dog can cause harm to the environment, potential health impacts to other animals and people, and cause a nuisance to members of the community.

Councils Neighbourhood Amenity Local Laws 2024 prescribes that a person in control of an animal must not allow any excrement to remain in any public place, and that a person in control of an animal must carry a litter device suitable to clean up animal excrement.

The City provide limited dog poo bag dispensers and bins across many reserves and trails. This program costs the City a significant amount of money, with each bin and dispenser costing $1,300 per annum. Unfortunately, this service is sometimes abused, where residents at times take more than what is needed for their walk. Due to cost of this service, the City is not able to expand this program, and residents need to provide their own bags which can be placed in any available waste bin.

Our Animal Management team regularly provides free portable bag dispensers at community events and to owners who are found without the necessary means to clean up after their dogs.



WHAT WE ASKED AND WHAT WE HEARD

Do you see dogs off-leash in on-leash areas?

- Always (21.3 per cent)
- Often (33.3 per cent)
- Sometimes (29.9 per cent)
- Rarely (12.8 per cent)
- Never (2.7 per cent)

Do you see dogs in playgrounds?

- Always (3.0 per cent)
- Often (14.4 per cent)
- Sometimes (27.0 per cent)
- Rarely (31.2 per cent)
- Never (24.4 per cent)

Have you noticed dogs barking excessively in your local area?

- Always (7.3 per cent)
- Often (18.4 per cent)
- Sometimes (34.3 per cent)
- Rarely (32.8 per cent)
- Never (7.2 per cent)

Do you see dogs annoying or menacing other dogs?

- Always (5.2 per cent)
- Often (17.5 per cent)
- Sometimes (35.5 per cent)
- Rarely (32.6 per cent)
- Never (9.2 per cent)

How often do you see dog poo left on the ground?

- Always (30 per cent)
- Often (35.9 per cent)
- Sometimes (24.3 per cent)
- Rarely (8.8 per cent)
- Never (1.0 per cent)

WHAT WE WILL DO

- Support our residents to ensure their dogs do not create a nuisance in the community.
- Provide valuable information across a range of mediums that assist residents in meeting their legal responsibilities.
- Empower our community to resolve issues that impact them.

Action	When	Evaluation
Review and streamline our barking dog process and provide more upfront transparency around procedure requirements	Year 1	Retrospective pulse touch with complainants regarding experience
To better communicate nuisance investigation actions, progress and outcomes, ensuring a customer first focus	Ongoing	Reduction in escalated complaints
Explore more robust messaging in public campaigns and signage related to dog poo	Year 2	Campaign delivered

COMMUNITY AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS

Limited lot sizes in new residential estates and a lack of open space for exercising dogs can present challenges for residents in growth areas. These conditions can contribute to problem behaviours in dogs, such as frequent escaping, digging, chewing and excessive barking.

To provide dog owners with opportunities to exercise and socialise their pets, designated off-leash areas are available in many reserves and coastal locations. However, these spaces are also used by other members of the community. For shared spaces to meet the needs of all users, dog owners must follow certain rules, such as keeping their animal under effective control, when their dog is off-leash.

In Greater Geelong, dogs must be kept on-leash in all public areas unless signage indicates otherwise. This requirement helps reduce conflicts between dogs and the community and protects areas of cultural or environmental significance. Due to the size of the municipality, enforcement of these rules can be challenging.

WHAT WE DO

Information regarding the City's dog control orders, including leashing requirement and areas where dogs are prohibited are depicted on an interactive map on the City's website.

DOG PARKS

Throughout our previous DAMP, the City delivered several fully-fenced dog parks across Greater Geelong including Stead Park Corio, Belmont Dog Park, Lara Dog Park and Aldershot Reserve in St Albans Park.

Dog parks are designed to give dogs a space to exercise and socialise under the close supervision of their owners. Dog parks are a great asset for everyone within our community. As well as providing fully fenced spaces for dogs to explore and play, they separate off-leash animals from those in the community who may feel less comfortable around dogs.

TIMED ACCESS TO SPORTING RESERVES AND EQUESTRIAN AREAS

In addition to dedicated dog parks, the City maintains many grassed sporting reserves where dogs under effective control may be exercised off-lead when no organised sport is taking place. Dogs may also be exercised off-lead at some equestrian areas when horses are not present.

This vastly increases the availability of open spaces for dogs to enjoy off-leash exercise and socialisation.

EVENTS

The Animal Management team attends domestic pet–focused and City-run events throughout the year, including Million Paws Walk, Paws for GAWS, Warralily Pet Market, WWRG Dog's Day Out and other relevant events as appropriate.

SAFETY

It remains the responsibility of dog owners to ensure they are acting responsibly and abiding by dog leashing requirements when out in public, including the requirement to have dogs under effective control. We know there are many in our community who feel that this does not always happen, and that improved compliance is needed for the safety and wellbeing of all open space users.

The Animal Management team completes a combined 20 hours of proactive patrolling per week, focused on many high traffic areas such as beaches, trails and reserves across Greater Geelong. This presence helps motivate dog owners to do the right thing, and in turn creates an improved feeling of safety as a result of better compliance.

WHAT WE ASKED AND WHAT WE HEARD

What are the main benefits of being a pet owner?

- Companionship
- Cuddles & comfort
- Physical exercise
- Increased social interaction
- Sense of responsibility
- Protection

Do you feel safe in the presence of domestic animals when using the City's open spaces?

- Yes, all the time (23 per cent)
- Most of the time (54 per cent)
- Sometimes (16 per cent)
- Rarely (5 per cent)
- No, never (2 per cent)

Why do you feel unsafe?

- Dogs off-leash in on-leash areas
- Lack of owner control and responsibility
- Aggressive or unpredicatable dog behaviour

What ideas do you have to improve experiences with pets in the community?

- More dog parks
- Infrastructure improvements including:
  - Added lighting
  - Water fountains for pets
  - Clearer signage
  - More fully fenced areas
- Community events:
  - Pet markets and festivals
  - Meet-the-ranger days
  - Council led dog training and pet behaviour classes
- School-based and community pet education
- Tech innovation:
  - Booking system for dog parks
  - Smart reporting apps for pet incidences
  - QR coded pet tags



WHAT WE WILL DO

- Support residents to share open spaces to improve feelings of safety for some through education and enforcement where appropriate.
- Maintain proactive patrols and expand this where possible.
- Further educate community on regulations and what it means to have your dog under effective control.
- Respond to complaints and target our resourcing to areas of high complaint.

Actions	When	Evaluation
Commitment to building a minimum of two new dog parks; one at Sparrowvale (confirmed and funded), and one on the Bellarine (pending funding and location)	Year 1 Ongoing	Construction completed
Design and deliver school-based pet education sessions	Year 3	Number of sessions delivered
Explore the addition of a dedicated Patrol & Safety Officer to the team, pending funding, to better meet community expectation	Year 2	Position considered
Targeted marketing campaign related to "doggy etiquette" in our shared public spaces	Year 3	Campaign completed
Explore the delivery of an annual pet expo / pets in the park event	Year 3	First expo delivered
Reviews the City's Dog Control Orders	Year 2	Review completed

DOG ATTACKS

This section of the Plan address Sections 68A(2)(c)(iii) and 68A(2) (a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 by outlining strategies to minimise the risk of injury to people and other animals resulting from dog attacks.

Responding to dog attacks remains a top priority for our Animal Management officers. Aggressive dogs pose a significant safety risk and are treated with the highest priority.

Most dog attacks occur when dogs are not contained to their property or are not adequately controlled by an owner in public. Dogs that have not been effectively socialised with other animals, or have known triggers that have not been addressed, are more likely to demonstrate aggression. Responsible pet ownership is the key theme of our Plan, and through implementing the actions in our Plan it is hoped dog attack reports will decrease over time.

WHAT WE DO

PROACTIVE ACTIONS AND EDUCATION

- We conduct inspections of properties where dogs have escaped through improper fencing, and issue Notices to Comply for rectification of improper containment.
- Inspect properties of all declared Dangerous and Menacing dogs to ensure they are being kept in compliance with requirements and take follow up actions where necessary.
- Respond to all reports of dogs at large and collect dogs found wandering to ensure animal and community safety.
- Hold dogs at the pound pending fencing rectification works.
- Dog attack prevention information distributed via brochures and on the City's website.
- Regularly review our dog attack investigation processes to ensure best practice and procedural fairness.
- Train our officers to respond to dog attacks and execute thorough investigations.

INVESTIGATE DOG ATTACK REPORTS

During the 2024/25 financial year, officers investigated 251 reported dog attacks. The dog attacks have been against people and other animals and have been non-serious and serious in nature. See below table depicting dog attack types across the previous four years:

Attack type	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Serious Human	11	12	23	32
Serious Animal	60	62	69	64
Non-serious Human	53	45	72	59
Non-serious Animal	93	85	75	96
Total	**217**	**204**	**239**	**251**

Based on the above data, dog attack numbers are increasing both in number and severity, with notably more human victims in the previous 12 months. These statistics are alarming and require further analysis.

At the commencement of an investigation, an information pack is provided to both the victim and the dog owner. This pack is beneficial in helping the parties understand the process of the investigation and manages their expectations with transparency.

The dog owner pack contains information on all aspects of an investigation, including possible dog seizure, attending a record of interview, and potential outcomes such as an appearance at the Magistrates' Court or a Dangerous Dog Declaration.

The victim pack contains information on the investigation process, providing a formal statement, giving evidence in court, and the support services available to them.

DOG SEIZURE

When a dog attack is reported, officers make an initial assessment to determine whether the dog should be seized. The primary consideration in this assessment is community safety. This decision is based on several factors, including the seriousness of the attack, any known history of the dog's behaviour, and the owner's actions and ability to securely contain the animal. In 2024–25, officers seized 64 dogs while investigations into reported attacks were underway.

ENFORCEMENT OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of an investigation and based on the available evidence, Council will determine what offences are alleged to have occurred and what outcomes are appropriate in the circumstances. Serious injury offences are prosecuted at the Magistrates Court. In 2024/25 Council successfully prosecuted eight serious dog attack matters.

Non-serious dog attack offences can be enforced via infringement; 15 were issued in 2024/25.

Pursuant to Clause 25 of Council's Neighbourhood Amenity Local Law 2024, officers can also place conditions on dogs who have previously attacked to reduce the chance of them re-offending, via an Individual Animal Permit.

We may also seek to declare dogs as Menacing or Dangerous pursuant to Section 34(1) Domestic Animals Act 1994 if deemed appropriate. A Declaration places significant control measures on dogs and their owners and as such is done so with careful deliberation, community safety being the primary consideration.



WHAT WE WILL DO

- Analyse available information to understand where and why dog attacks are occurring so as to better direct our resources and target our messaging.
- Ensure our community are empowered and educated on how to both prevent and report dog attacks.

Actions	When	Evaluation
Track where and how dog attacks are most commonly occurring; including dog breed and status, circumstances and demographics of those primarily affected to inform prevention initiatives	Year 1	Data tracking established and embedded into practice
Increase visibility of officers in public spaces	Ongoing	Reduction in dog attack occurrences
Review our website content related to dog attacks – response and prevention	Year 1	Website reviewed and updated
Establish and maintain a database of every animal that has attacked people, pets, wildlife and livestock	Year 1	Database established
Work with GAWS to offer pet behaviour expertise to our community	Year 2	Establishment of a joint education project
Consider publishing enforcement and prosecution outcomes across media platforms	Year 1	Considered and actioned if agreed

ANNUAL REVIEW AND REPORTING

This section of the Plan addresses Section 68A(3) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994, outlining review and reporting requirements.

The Domestic Animals Act 1994 states that every Council must:

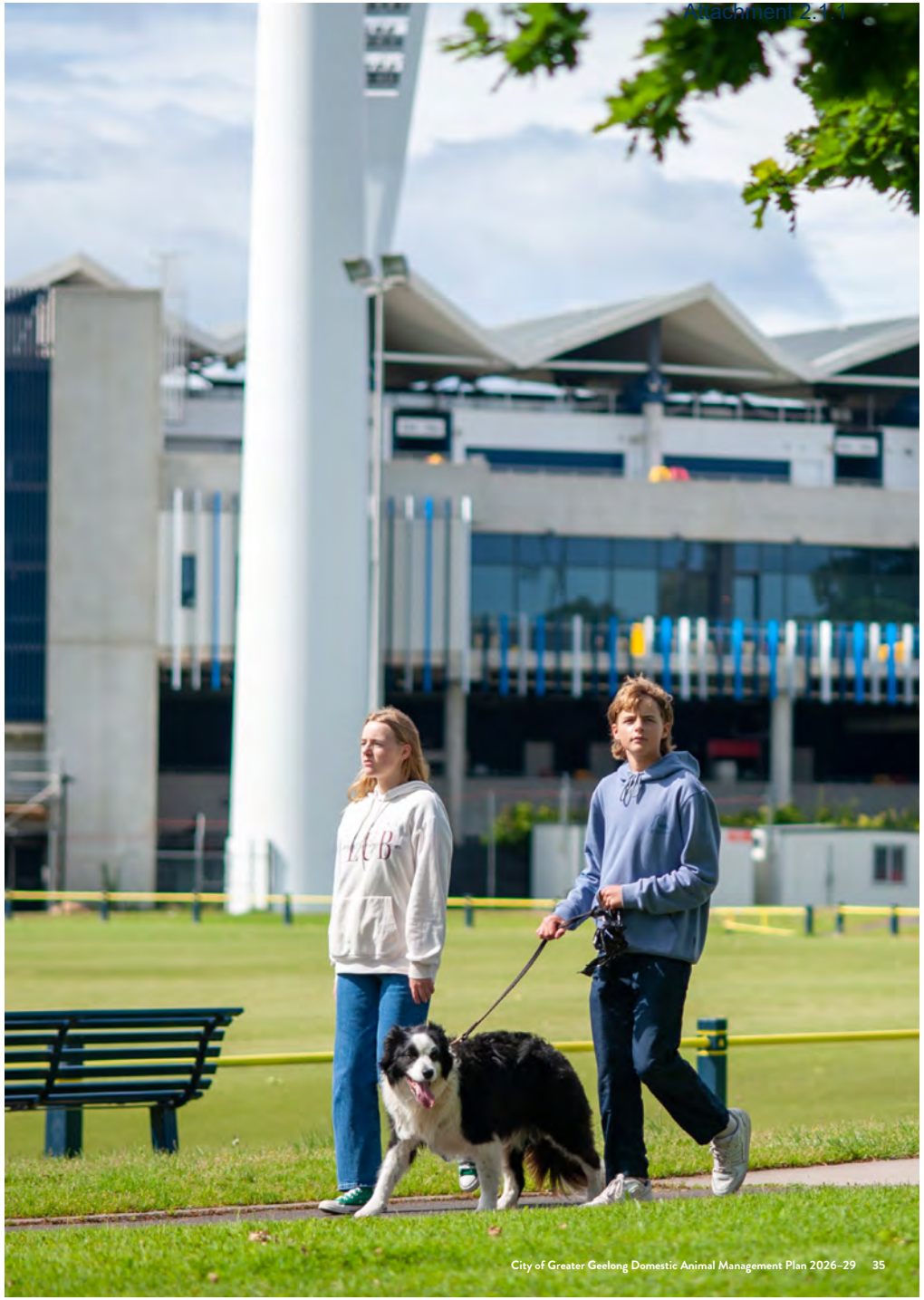
- Review its Domestic Animal Management Plan annually and if appropriate, amend the plan.
- Provide the Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan.
- Publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in its annual report.

WHAT WE DO

- Establish a yearly action plan designed to allocate resources, track actions and evaluate plan implementation.
- Identify, monitor and evaluate actions and programs through the department's annual Business Plan process.
- Monitor data and trends throughout the life of the plan to respond and amend our services where required.
- Publish an evaluation of the plan in Councils Annual Report.
- Review our DAMP annually in December and provide any amendments to the relevant State Government Secretary.
- Report annually through Council's established reporting systems, in accordance with the requirements of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 and the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework. (LGPRF)

WHAT WE WILL DO

Actions	When	Evaluation
Provide the relevant State Department Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan	December 2025 and annually thereafter	Copy provided to Secretary
Review the DAMP annually and, if appropriate, amend the plan	Annually	Review completed
Publish an evaluation of implementation of the plan in Council's Annual Report	Annually	Report published
Full review and update of plan including community engagement to inform the next DAMP	Year 4	Review completed



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GREATER GEELONG

DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026-2029

ENGAGEMENT REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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Executive Summary:

PROJECT OVERVIEW

In accordance with the Domestic Animals Act 1994, every four years all Victorian local councils must prepare a plan outlining how it will manage dogs and cats within its municipal boundaries.

As part of this requirement and process, the City was required to consult with our community regarding domestic animal matters, and consider the feedback received when developing the new version of the Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP).

All feedback received has been collated and analysed in this report, to highlight themes and trends, identify where there is community support, and where there is a need for change or further education and promotion of domestic animal by-laws.

ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

The City went out for community consultation for 6-weeks and heard from interested community members regarding cat and dog observations in our public spaces, how the City can support responsible pet ownership, and what the community would like to see going forward.

How we engaged

The consultation was designed to allow feedback from the community in a variety of ways, including an online survey, hardcopy survey, speaking to staff at scheduled face-to-face (F2F) consultations and at pop-up engagements scattered around the City's reserves and trails over the 6-week period.

Who we engaged

The City wanted to hear from residents who owned cats and/or dogs, as well as residents who didn't but utilise public spaces or are impacted by the presence of pets and want to share their feedback.

By the end of the 6-week period, we had received 754 completed online surveys, two hard-copy surveys submitted to customer service, and spoke with over 400 people through our combined F2F engagement events.

Internal City departments who manage elements of public spaces or who plan their design and location, including Parks and Natural Assets, Waste Services, Urban Design and Place and Community Participation, were also consulted with, providing the opportunity to voice what is currently working with animal management from their perspectives, and what's not.

Geelong Animal Welfare Society (GAWS) were also engaged with to understand where Animal Management Services could better support their welfare work and minimise demand on the shelter.

What we heard

Residents highlighted the request for:

- More education regarding dog-on-leash orders, animal by-laws, dog etiquette in public spaces, and what "effective control" means
- Greater patrolling and enforcing orders that are not being abided by in the community, most commonly: not picking up dog poo, dogs off leash in on leash areas and cats not contained during cat curfew hours.
- Improved protection of wildlife
- Greater Animal Management instigation of fun animal-friendly community events, along with Council run dog behaviour training and etiquette classes, and online education courses as part of registration fees
- Subsidised desexing, cat enclosure materials and reduced or entirely voided registration renewal fees if pet owners met certain criteria.

What we will do

This report will be available for public access via the Have Your Say (HYS) page, shared with internal and external stakeholders, and provided to the councillors as a supporting document accompanying the DAMP and Council report.

Additionally, the themes from the community's feedback will be used to shape the future actions outlined in the upcoming DAMP.

Introduction

PROJECT BACKGROUND

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

The Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) identifies how the City will:

- help pets, pet owners and the general community to live harmoniously 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
- promote responsible pet ownership
- address legal and animal welfare issues
- improve the experience of animal ownership.

ENGAGEMENT PURPOSE

As part of the review process, the City was required to consult with our community about domestic animal matters and consider this feedback when developing the new version of the DAMP.

The City opened community consultation for 6-weeks, asking the community what is currently working well regarding our Animal Management Services, what's not, what they would like to see going forward and if there are areas where our community are lacking knowledge of animal by-laws or are having difficulty abiding by them.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report will provide a synopsis of what was involved in our community engagement process, what the community were asked and what themes became prevalent when analysing their responses.

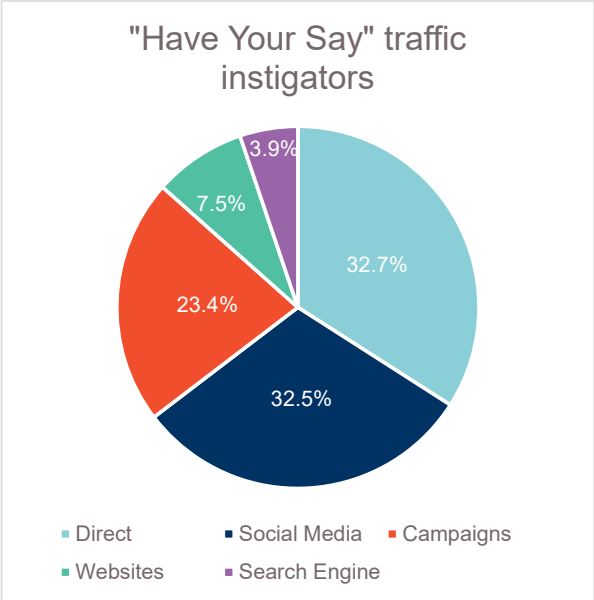
How we engaged

SNAPSHOT

A 6-week community engagement ran from 10 March to 20 April 2025 and was designed to be highly accessible and allow the community to leave feedback in a variety of formats.

An online survey was available for the 6 weeks, along with a hardcopy version at Customer Service Centres (Appendix A). In addition, six face-to-face (F2F) consultations were scheduled and advertised, and a further 12 ad-hoc pop-ups in busy local reserves and trails, to further promote the DAMP review and capture feedback.

Additionally, feedback was sought from internal City stakeholder groups who are affected by the presence of cats and dogs, including Parks and Natural Assets, Waste Services, Urban Design and Place and Community Participation, as well as from Geelong Animal Welfare Society (GAWS) who run the City's pound services.



Promotion

The community consultation was promoted in print (Appendix B) via CityNews, featured in the Geelong Times, Bellarine Times and Armstrong creek Times; and weekly on social media (Appendix C) via Facebook and Instagram.

Large A-Frame sandwich boards with a link to the survey via QR code were placed in public reserves on most days of the engagement period to help raise the DAMP consultation's profile and uptake.

There were 2517 visits to our "Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026- 2029" Have Your Say online page, and the breakdown of traffic driven to the page was as follows:

1. Direct (URL input) 32.7%
2. Social media 32.5%
3. Campaigns 23.4%
4. Websites 7.5%
5. Search engine 3.9%

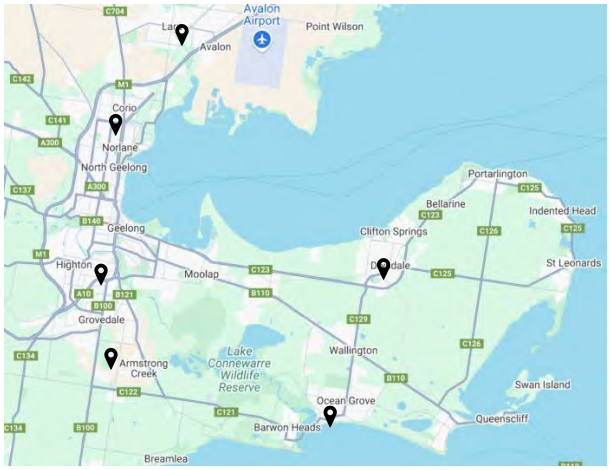
Of the 2517 visits to the HYS webpage, 1425 also opened the survey page, and 53.1% of those visiting the page completed the survey (756).

F2F consultation schedule

The following table outlines the date, location and type of each of the F2F consultations throughout the 6-week period. All were two hours long, except the Norlane ARC consultation which was part of the "Festival of Night" event that ran for four hours, and the final two pop-ups at Richmond Oval and Sovereign Park, ran for 1-hour.

Date	Location	Type of consultation event
12/3/25	St Albans Dog Park – St Albans	Pop-up
13/3/25	Barwon River Trail – Newtown	Pop-up
15/3/25	Ocean Grove Main Beach (promenade) – Ocean Grove	Advertised

Date	Location	Type of consultation event
18/3/25	Geelong Waterfront – Geelong	Pop-up
19/3/25	Belmont Dog Park – Belmont	Advertised
21/3/25	Norlane ARC – Norlane	Advertised
25/3/25	Lara Dog Park – Lara	Advertised
26/3/25	Rippleside Park - Rippleside	Pop-up
27/3/25	Stead Park = Corio	Pop-up
2/4/25	Beau Vista Trail - Curlewis	Pop-up
4/4/25	Lake Lorne - Drysdale	Advertised
9/4/25	Belchers Oval - Drysdale	Pop-up
10/4/25	Bakers Oval – Geelong West	Pop-up
12/4/25	Mirambeena Park – Armstrong Creek	Advertised
15/4/25	Belmont Dog Park – Belmont	Pop-up
16/4/25	The Dell – Clifton Springs	Pop-up
17/4/25	Richmond Oval – South Geelong	Pop-up
17/4/25	Sovereign Park – Mount Duneed	Pop-up



By providing frequent and widespread pop-up engagements in busy public spaces, it was anticipated that community members who hadn't seen the consultation advertising through other channels would still come across staff at a local reserve or trail. This approach helped raise awareness of the DAMP redevelopment and capture more moderate feedback from everyday users of these areas.

Who we engaged

WHO WE PLANNED TO ENGAGE

The City wanted to engage with residents who use shared public spaces or who wanted to express their opinions and experiences regarding the presence and behaviour of domestic animals in our community.

We also made it a priority to engage with key stakeholders who could offer valuable feedback and insights on issues affected by cats and dogs. This included internal departments such as Parks and Natural Assets, Waste Services, Urban Design and Place, and Community Participation, as well as GAWS which delivers the City's animal pound services.

FACE TO FACE DEMOGRAPHICS

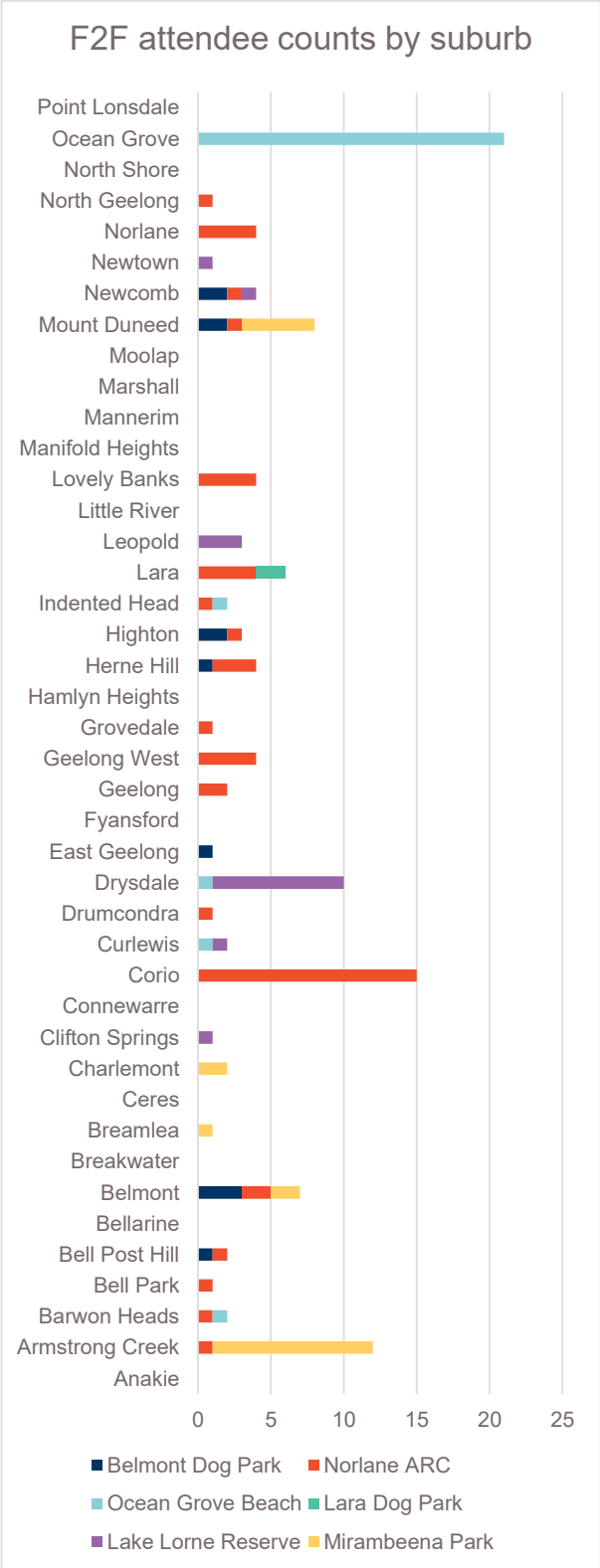
We noted the attendance of over 210 people at our scheduled community engagements, and an estimated further 200 interactions at the pop-up consultations.

At the six promoted events, staff captured key information about respondents where possible, including their animal ownership status and which suburb they resided in.

Suburb

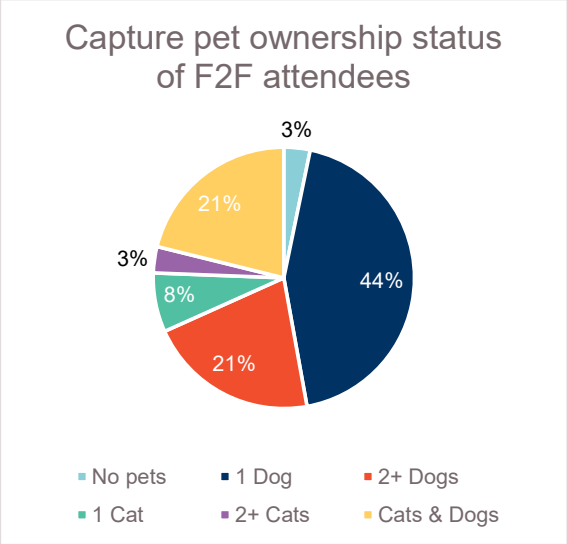
Our six advertised face-to-face drop-in sessions were held in Armstrong Creek, Belmont, Drysdale, Lara, Norlane and Ocean Grove – and at each of these, most people we spoke with confirmed they lived in the suburb of the consultation, or a neighbouring suburb.

The following chart highlights the attendance figures by suburb, for each of the promoted F2F engagements.



Animal ownership

Of the responses received, 44% stated they owned one dog, 21% owned 2 or more dogs, 21% owned a combination of cats and dogs, 8% owned 1 cat, 3% owned no animals, and 3% owned 2 or more cats.



SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS

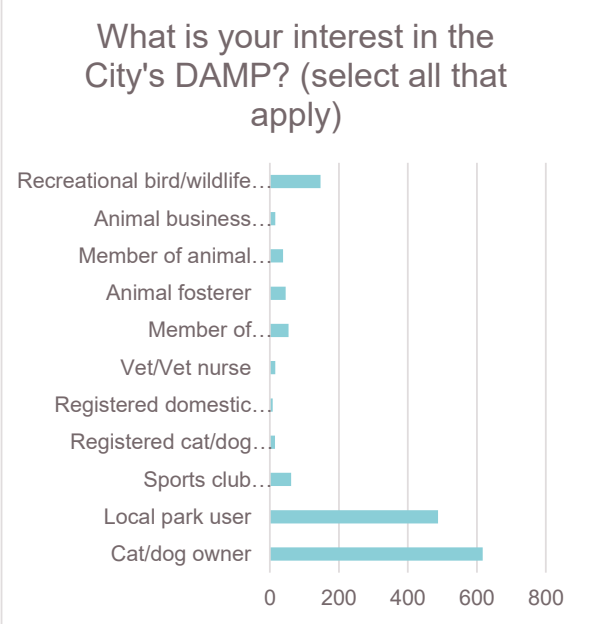
Over the course of the 6-week engagement, we received 754 completed online surveys, two hardcopy surveys were submitted through our customer service centre, and five written submissions from animal welfare and environment groups.

Within the survey, there were three questions we asked to better understand our respondents, and to allow us to further refine data to identify trends. These questions were regarding whether they were a pet owner, which suburb they resided in, and what gender they identified as.

Animal ownership

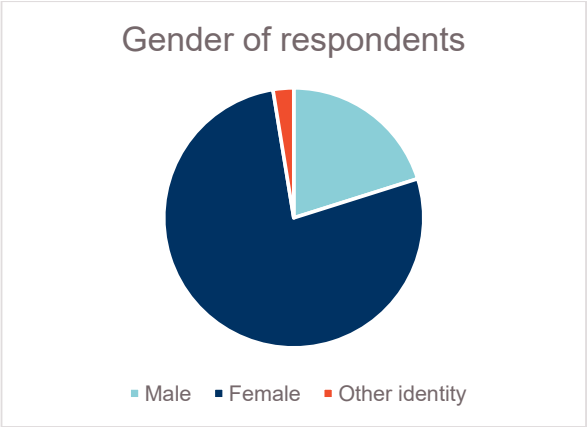
Many survey respondents had an interest in the development of the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026 – 2029, as they were cat or dog owners (81.4%).

Additionally, they could note any other reasons for their interest which included “Local park user” (64.55%), “Recreational bird/wildlife watcher” (19.44%), “Sports club player/volunteer/member” (8.2%), “Member of wildlife/conservation group” (7.14%), “Animal fosterer” (6.08%), “Member of animal advocacy or rescue group” (5.03%), “Animal business operator” (2.12%), “Vet/Vet nurse” (2.12%), “Register cat/dog breeder” (1.98%), and “Registered domestic animal business” (1.06%).



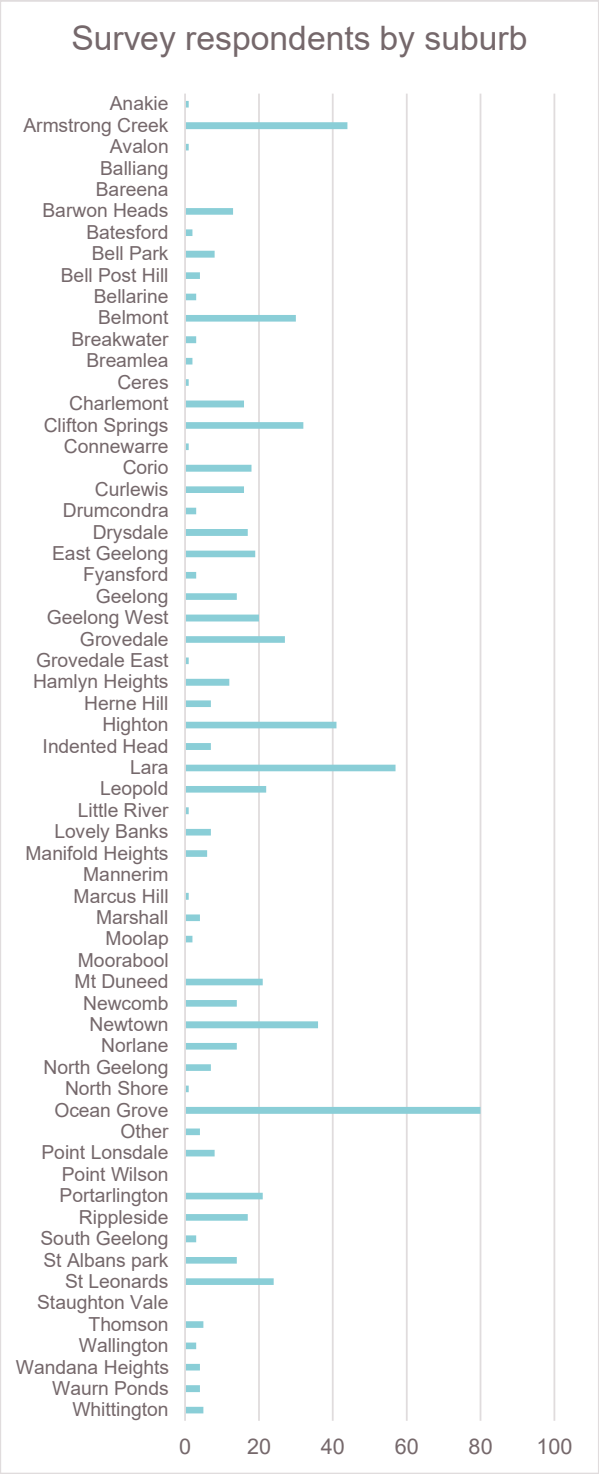
Gender

We asked respondents to confirm their gender, as this helped us understand whether safety related issues are gendered or experienced across the board, and aligns with the City’s commitment to the Gender Equity Framework.



Suburb

A breakdown of the residential location of each survey respondent was requested and is included in the following chart.



The top five residential suburbs for survey submissions (in order) were:

- Ocean Grove
- Lara
- Armstrong Creek
- Highton
- Newtown

WHO ACTIVELY ENGAGED

This DAMP community engagement was successful when analysing various markers:

- On average, over 125 survey responses received each week.
- 130+ attendees at the6 x F2F advertised consultations, plus ~80 more that weren't recorded.
- Over 200 interactions with community members at our pop-up engagements.
- Social media reach on Facebook was 43,315, and clicks, reactions, comments and shares totalled 1224 across Facebook and Instagram.
- Five written submissions received. (Appendices K, L and M)

When comparing to previous DAMP engagement levels, we had a higher response rate than both the 2022-2025 (717) and 2018-2021 versions (197).

Geelong Animal Welfare Society

A meeting was held with GAWS to discuss which areas of animal management and animal welfare they felt the City could improve on.

Internal City Departments

Members from the City's Animal Management Services team met with representatives from Parks and Natural Assets, Waste Services, Urban Design and Place and Community Participation to discuss the main animal-related issues they were encountering in shared public spaces, as well as any suggestions they had for reducing the impact.

The City's Animal Management Officers were also consulted with regarding key observations, issues and changes they would like to see going forward that would improve public safety concerns and job constraints.

What we asked

WHAT WE ASKED - SURVEY

The following is a full list of questions asked in the online "Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026 – 2029 Survey".

Participant information

- Have you read the previous Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) 2022 – 2025 document?
- What is your interest in the City's DAMP?
- Name of group/organisation/business (if applicable)
- What are the main benefits you feel from being a pet owner?
- Do you feel safe in the presence of domestic animals when using the City's open spaces?
- Why do you feel this way?

Responsible pet ownership

- Are you aware of the following laws applying to pets?
- In the last year, have you noticed the following things when our in your local area?
- What do you think are the main barriers to being a responsible pet owner?
- What is your favourite thing about domestic animals living in our community?

Animal management officers

- Do you feel this is enough Animal Management Officer (AMO) presence?
- If no, what type of public areas would you like to see them more?
- Is there a specific public place you'd like Animal Management Officers to patrol? (max 3 pin drops)
- Where would you like to see AMOs focus their energy?
- Have you had an interaction with an AMO?
- How would you rate the interaction?
- Further comment on Animal Management Officer interaction?

Suggestions

- Which of the following topics do feel the City needs to further promote?
- Do you have any cat-related feedback?
- Please share your cat-related feedback
- Do you have any dog-related feedback?
- Do you have any clever and creative ideas, as to how to improve the animal management services provided by the City?

About you

- Town or suburb
- Gender

WHY WE ASKED

Participant information

Questions within this section of the survey were asked so we could better understand the survey participant's circumstances, their understanding of the DAMP and perceived safety when in public spaces with domestic animals.

Responsible pet ownership

Throughout this section, questions were asked of the participants knowledge of orders, as well as what they witness in public spaces, so that we could identify gaps in community knowledge, and understand where to focus our education and promotion efforts.

This information also helps us target our surveillance efforts regarding which local laws are frequently being breached, should education not provide the change in behaviour we would hope for.

Animal management officers

Questions relating to our Animal Management Services team's presence and performance were asked throughput this section, with the hope to gauge how

the community values the service, where/how it can improve, and if there are locations that need addressing, signage etc.

Suggestions

This section allowed respondents to elaborate on any issues they were experiencing, as well providing an avenue to put forward any clever and creative ideas that may improve the way the City supports our pet owners, balances the needs of all public space users and manages domestic animals in our region.

About you

This section allowed us to filter down responses between genders, in case there was a difference in perceived safety based on gender, as well suburbs, to see if trends emerged according to location.

What we asked – Internal & External Stakeholders

City departments

The following questions were asked of our Parks and Natural Assets, Waste Services, Urban Design and Place and Community Participation teams:

- What are the most common issues you face regarding the presence of cats in our public spaces?
- What are the most common issues you face regarding the presence of dogs in our public spaces?
- How do you currently manage these issues?
- How would you like to see these issues managed or negated going forward?

Geelong Animal Welfare Society

- What are the biggest challenges you face regarding domestic animal welfare currently?
- What would you like to see going forward?
- How can the City support your vision for improving domestic animal outcomes, both proactively and reactively?

What we heard

KEY FINDINGS OVERVIEW

The F2F consultations, whist providing the opportunity to discuss animal related experiences with the public and record some suggestions, resulted in most people preferring to submit their feedback online through the survey, and opting to take a promotional postcard containing a QR code that would direct them to the Have Your Say page (Appendix B).

Only one person completed the survey via a City-supplied iPad during the F2F session.

F2F consultation summary

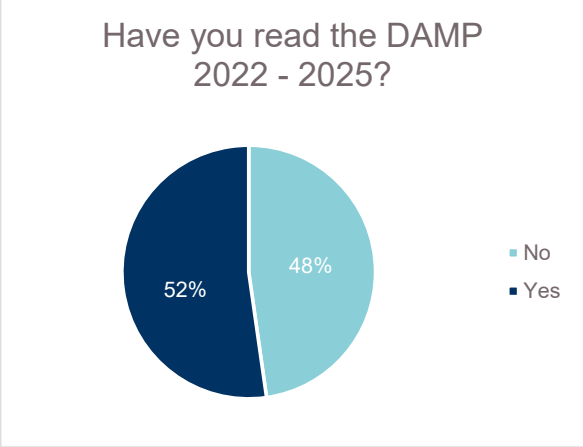
A summary of F2F conversations is detailed below:

- Signage around courtesy at dog poo bag dispensers (some people take the whole reel).
- Barwon Coast Committee of Management signs are confusing and need to be improved.
- Emergency marker system hard to see as green signs blend into foliage. Look to highlight.
- Small dog area at Belmont needs more shade and seats.
- Put timers on cat traps to indicate time of capture to allow fining of owners who don't follow curfew.
- More dog parks in Armstrong Creek/Mount Duneed growth corridor.
- More dog parks, particularly one on the Bellarine.

BREAKDOWN OF SURVEY FINDINGS

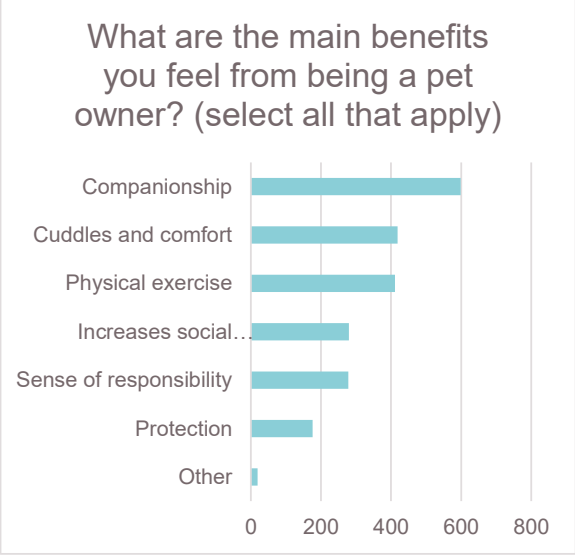
Previous reading and awareness of the Domestic Animal Management Plan

Respondents were asked to confirm whether they had read the previous DAMP.. More than half of our 756 respondents confirmed they had (52%).



Main benefits of being a pet owner

"Companionship" (97.4%), "cuddles and comfort" (68.4%) and "physical exercise" (67.1%) were the top 3 answers as to what respondents felt were the biggest benefits of being pet owners.

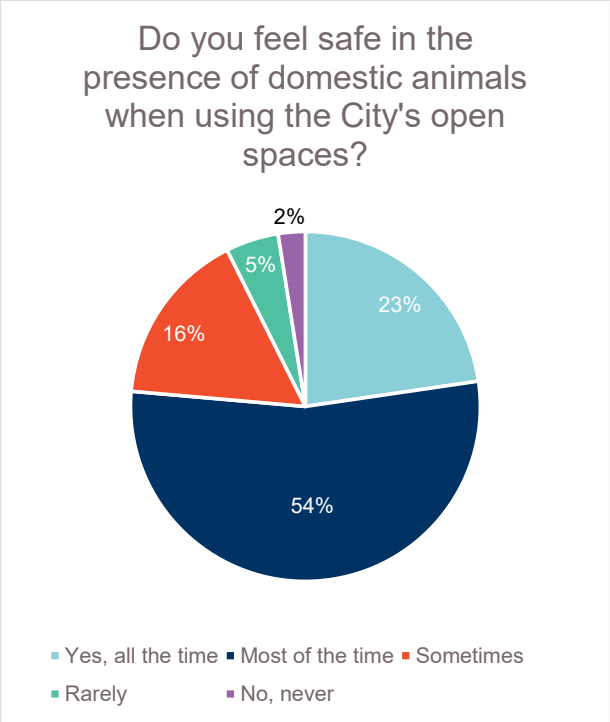


19 people or 3.1% of survey respondents noted "other", and cited additional benefits as:

- Increased personal wellbeing (8)
- Assistance dog (3)
- Rodent control (3)
- Family enrichment (3)

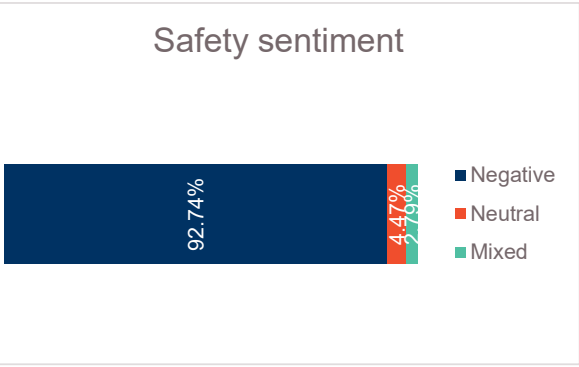
Safety in the presence of domestic animals when using the City's open spaces

When asked about safety due to the presence of domestic animals in public spaces, "Most of the time" was the most common answer (53.6%), followed by "All the time" (22.8%), "Sometimes" (16.3%), "Rarely" (4.9%) and "No, never" (2.5%).



If respondents indicated an answer other than "yes, all the time", they were prompted to answer why they sometimes felt unsafe.

179 people went on to answer this question, with a majority 92.7% negative sentiment. (166 submissions)



The top "safety" themes that were identified through this open comment section of the survey, are listed next.

1. Dogs Off-Leash in On-Leash Areas

This is the most dominant theme. Many people express frustration and fear over dogs being off-lead in on-lead areas. This is seen as a violation of rules and a direct threat to safety.

2. Lack of Owner Control and Responsibility

Numerous comments highlight that many dog owners do not have effective control over their pets. This includes poor recall, inattentiveness (e.g. using phones), and ignoring signs or laws.

3. Aggressive or Unpredictable Dog Behaviour

There are many accounts of dogs attacking or rushing at people, children, or other dogs. Even when owners claim their dogs are friendly, the lack of control leads to fear and sometimes injury.

4. Impact on Children and Elderly

Several respondents mention children being frightened or rushed by dogs, and elderly individuals feeling at risk of being knocked over. This highlights a broader concern for vulnerable community members.

5. Dog Attacks and Injuries

There are multiple first-hand accounts of dog attacks resulting in injuries to people or pets. These incidents can leave lasting trauma and suggest a need for stricter enforcement.

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6. Dog Waste and Hygiene Issues

Dog excrement—both bagged and unbagged—is a recurring complaint, especially in parks, beaches, and sports fields. This contributes to a sense of unsanitary and unsafe public spaces.

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7. Inadequate Enforcement by Authorities

Many people feel that local councils or animal management officers are not visible or proactive enough in enforcing leash laws or penalising irresponsible behaviour.

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8. Fear and Anxiety Around Dogs

Even among dog owners, there is a strong sense of anxiety about encountering off-leash dogs. This is especially true for those with reactive or anxious pets.

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9. Roaming Cats and Wildlife Impact

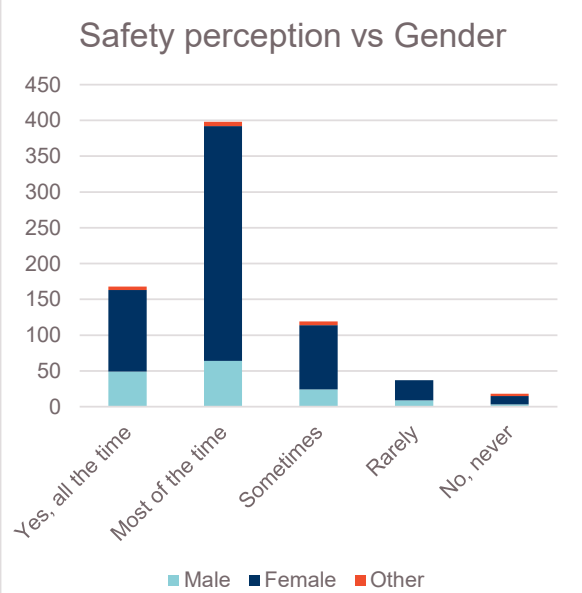
While less frequent than dog-related issues, roaming cats are mentioned as a threat to wildlife and a nuisance in residential areas, particularly for those trying to protect native birds.

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10. Calls for More Fenced or Designated Dog Areas

There is a clear desire for more enclosed, off-leash dog parks to provide safe spaces for dogs to run without endangering others. This is paired with calls for better signage and infrastructure.

To read some comment excerpts regarding perceived safety or lack thereof, see Appendix D.



Awareness of by-laws applying to pets

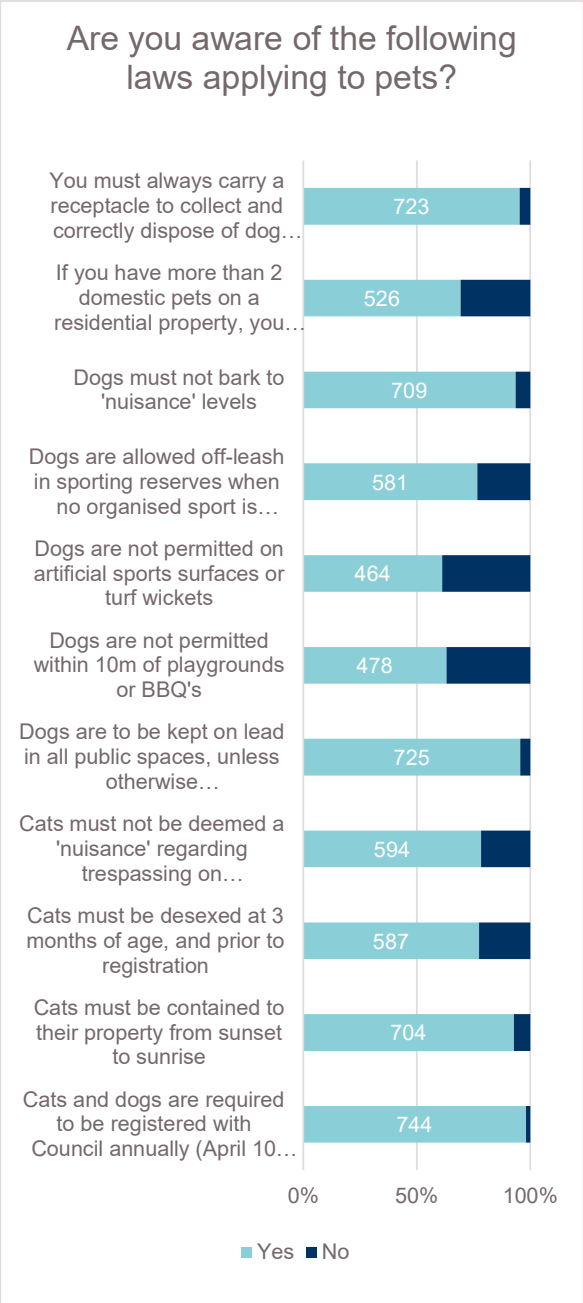
All 756 respondents were asked about their awareness of 11 by-laws applying to domestic pets in our municipality.

The three pet orders that were least known were:

1. "Dogs are not permitted on artificial sports surfaces or turf wickets" (38.6% no vs 61.4% yes)
2. "Dogs are not permitted within 10m of playgrounds or BBQs" (36.8% no vs 63.2% yes)
3. "If you have more than 2 domestic pets on a residential property, you are required to obtain a multiple animal permit" (30.7% no vs 69.3% yes)

The three orders that were most known were:

1. "Cats and dogs are required to be registered with Council annually (98.2% yes vs 1.8% no)
2. "Dogs are to be kept on lead in all public spaces unless otherwise signed/designated" (95.6% yes vs 4.3% no)
3. "You must always carry a receptacle to collect and dispose of dog poo" (95.4% yes vs 4.6% no)



All 756 respondents were requested to answer each of these questions, and the statements that received the highest response rate of “always” were:

- Dog poo left on the ground (30%)
- Cats roaming at night (21.6%)
- Dogs off leash in on-leash areas (21.3%)

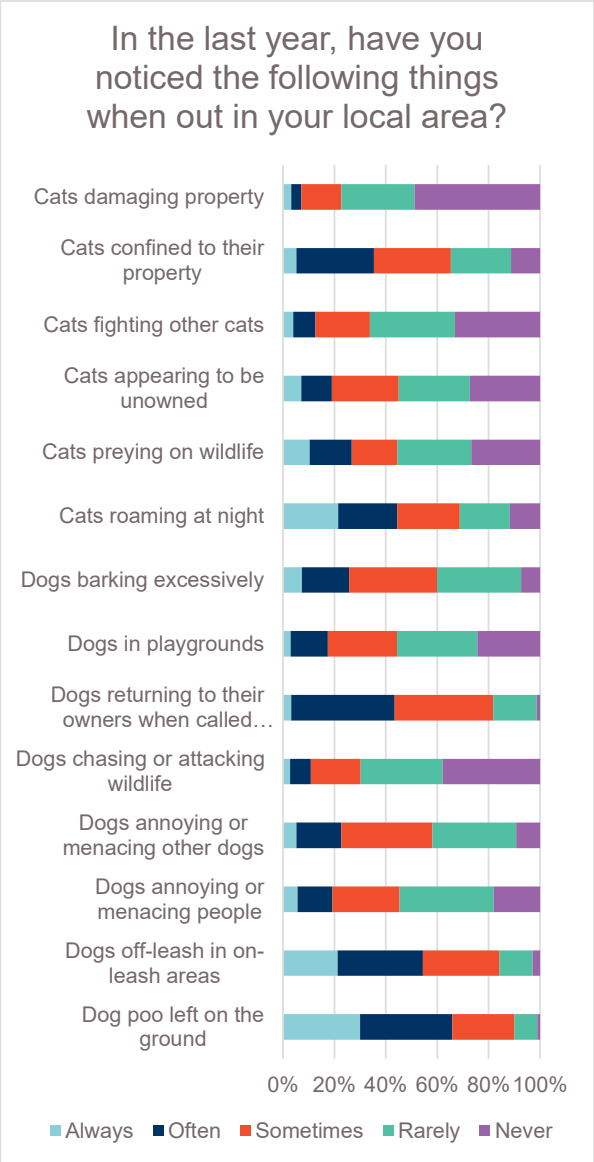
The exposures that respondents most frequently answered to “never” seeing were:

- Cats damaging property (48.9%)
- Dogs chasing or attacking wildlife (37.8%)
- Cats fighting other cats (32.9%)

A full breakdown of questions and answers is in the following chart.

What has been noticed in your area in the last year

A mixture of positive and negative comments relating to the presence and habits of domestic animals and their owners were listed, with respondents asked how often they had seen these things, with the options of “always”, “often”, “sometimes”, “rarely”, and “never”.



More frequently seen pet behaviours	Less frequently seen pet behaviours
Dog poo left on the ground (499 had experienced)	Cats damaging property (586 hadn't experienced)
Dogs off leash in on-leash areas (423 had experienced)	Dogs annoying or menacing other dogs (317 hadn't experienced)
Cats roaming at night (337 had experienced)	Dogs annoying or menacing people (414 hadn't experienced)
Dogs returning to their owner when called (329 had experienced)	Dogs chasing or attacking wildlife (529 hadn't experienced)
	Dogs in playgrounds (422 hadn't experienced)
	Cats preying on wildlife (421 hadn't experienced)
	Cats appearing to be unowned (417 hadn't experienced)
	Dogs barking excessively (306 hadn't experienced)

"Cats confined to their property" was very even when comparing positive and negative sentiment, with 268 (35.4%) stating always or often, and 263 (34.8%) stating never or rarely.

When reviewing the incidence of positive and negative exposures and removing the ambiguous answer of "sometimes", the data skew was more evident, and the following trends could be seen as listed below.

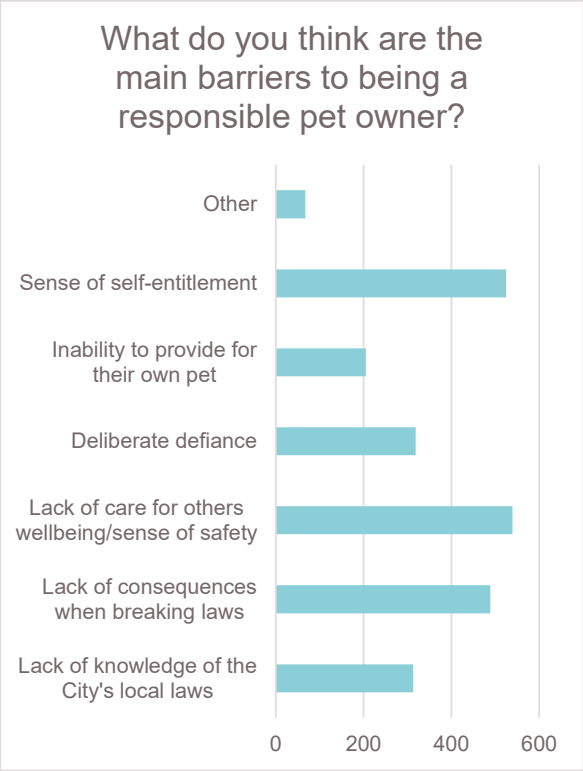
Please note all 756 respondents were required to answer each of these questions.

Barriers to being a responsible pet owner

All respondents were required to select the key barrier/s as to why they feel some pet owners are not responsible. The answers, ranking from most to least frequently cited were as follows:

1. Lack of care for others wellbeing/sense of safety (539 = 71.3%)
2. Sense of self-entitlement (525 = 69.4%)
3. Lack of consequences when breaking laws (489 = 64.7%)

4. Deliberate defiance (319 = 42.2%)
5. Lack of knowledge of the City's local laws (313 = 41.4%)
6. Inability to provide all wellbeing resources for their pet (205 = 27.1%)
7. Other (67 = 8.9%)



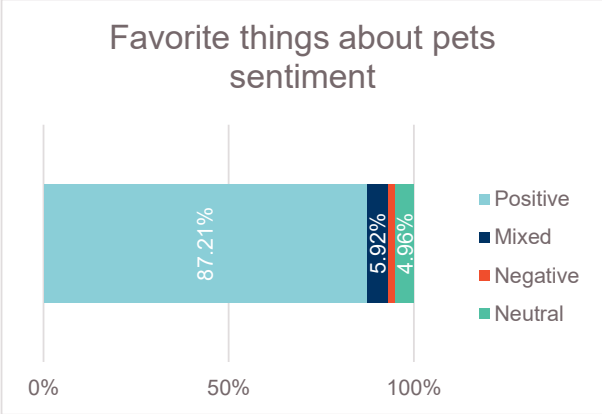
Most common "other" reasons provided were:

- Cost (9).
- Lack of understanding of issues caused/why there are laws in place (7).
- personal arrogance/ignorance (6).
- Rules aren't enforced enough by animal management (6).
- The fenced off leash areas for dogs significantly less than facilities provided in the community for other sports and activities yet the largest group in the community are dog owners (6).
- There are no barriers/excuses (4).
- Lack of education! (4).
- Think their cat *needs* to roam and not hunters (4).
- Too many rules/hard to enforce (4).

Favorite things about domestic animals living in the community

This open text question allowed respondents to write their reasons why they enjoyed domestic pets living in the community.

524 people went on to respond to this question, with a majority 87.2% positive sentiment. (457 submissions)



The top themes that were identified through this open comment section of the survey, are listed next:

1. Companionship

Many people deeply value the emotional support and friendship pets provide. This was the most frequently mentioned benefit, especially for those living alone or experiencing mental health challenges.

2. Social Connection

Pets—especially dogs—act as social bridges. They help people meet neighbours, start conversations, and build community bonds during walks or at parks.

3. Mental Health and Wellbeing

Pets are widely seen as beneficial for reducing stress, anxiety, and loneliness. Their presence brings joy, calm, and a sense of purpose to their owners.

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4. Physical Activity and Routine

Owning a pet, particularly a dog, encourages regular exercise and outdoor activity, which contributes to healthier lifestyles.

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5. Community Atmosphere

Seeing pets out and about contributes to a friendlier, more vibrant neighbourhood. People enjoy watching animals play, interact, and bring joy to others.

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6. Teaching Responsibility

Pets are seen as valuable for teaching children (and sometimes adults) about responsibility, empathy, and care.

---

7. Sense of Safety

Some respondents noted that pets—especially dogs—can provide a sense of security at home or while walking.

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8. Shared Spaces and Inclusivity

There's appreciation for dog-friendly spaces like parks and beaches, where pets and people can enjoy time together. These spaces foster inclusivity and shared enjoyment.

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9. Emotional Support and Therapy

Pets are described as emotional anchors, helping people through grief, trauma, or isolation. Some even referred to them as "lifelines."

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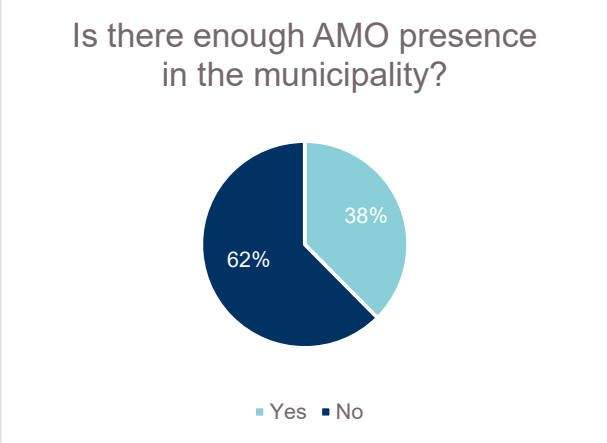
10. Joy and Entertainment

Simply watching pets play, interact, or be affectionate brings happiness to both owners and bystanders. Their presence is uplifting and often humorous.

To read some commentary regarding the best things about pets, see Appendix E.

Animal Management Officers (AMOs)

62.4% of respondents felt that there is not enough AMO presence in the community.



When the survey respondents answered "no", they were prompted to state what type of public space environments AMOs should visit more, and the "Parks" (65.3%), "Beaches" (64.8%) and "Trails" (38.63%) were the top 3 answers, followed by "Playgrounds" (33.6%), "Sporting reserves" (30.5%) and "Other" (17.9%).

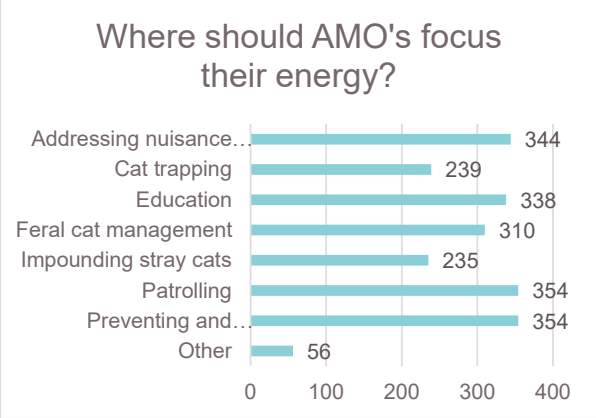
228 respondents opted to leave up to three pins on the Question Map in Q14, highlighting locations they found problematic with lack of compliance regarding pet ownership.

As the locations were very specific, the data has been synthesised to suburb level for this report, and the top suburbs pinned as problematic (and the number of pins within their boundary) were as follows:

1. Ocean Grove (100)
2. Belmont & Lara (20)
3. Geelong (17)
4. Highton (16)
5. Newtown (13)
6. Mount Duneed & Rippleside (12)
7. Clifton Springs, Drysdale & Portarlington (11)

8. St Leonards (9)
9. Leopold (8)
10. Armstrong Creek, Corio, Curlewis & East Geelong (7)

Respondents noted quite evenly where they would like to see AMOs focus their energy. See chart below for statistical breakdown.

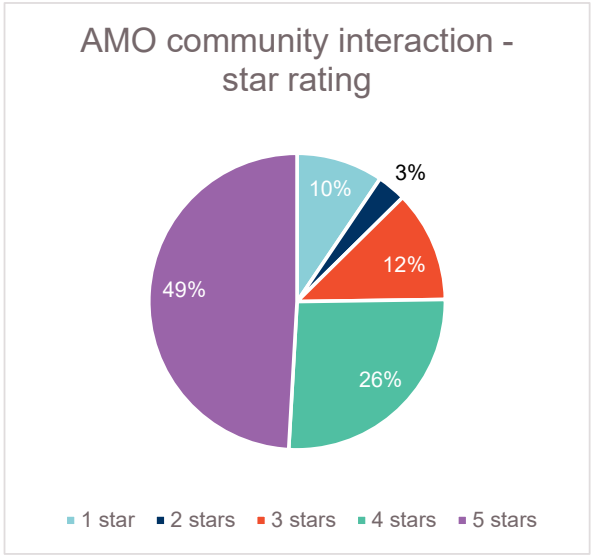


29.4% (222) of respondents said they had interacted with an AMO, and the average rating received for the interaction was 4.02 out of 5.

49.1% of the 222 respondents scored the AMO 5 stars.

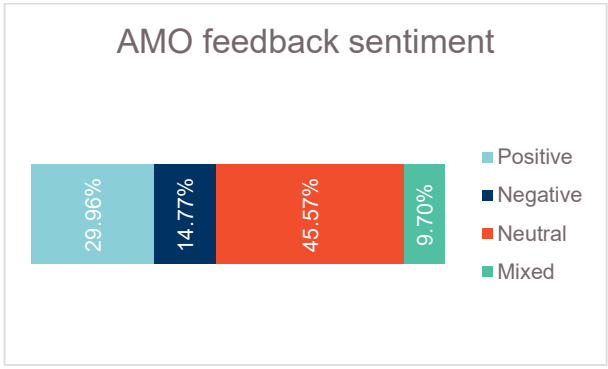
21 people, or 9.5% of respondents scored the AMO interaction 1 star.

A breakdown of the AMO interaction ratings is displayed below.



Respondents were asked if they would like to leave further comment on their AMO interaction.

237 people went on to answer this question, with a majority 45.6% neutral sentiment. (108 submissions)



The top themes that were identified within this open AMO comment section of the survey, are listed here:

1. Visibility and Presence

Many people noted they have never seen an AMO in their area, even after years of pet ownership or walking in public spaces. There's a strong desire for more visible patrols, especially in high-traffic areas, during weekends, and in response to seasonal issues like beach use or wildlife protection.

2. Professionalism and Courtesy

When interactions did occur, most respondents described AMOs as polite, professional, and helpful. However, a few noted negative experiences, including poor communication, lack of empathy, or feeling dismissed.

3. Under-Resourcing

A recurring theme was that AMOs are understaffed and overextended, limiting their ability to respond quickly or follow up on complaints. This was especially noted in relation to barking dog complaints, cat trapping, and off-leash dog enforcement.

4. Enforcement and Follow-Up

Some respondents expressed frustration that complaints were not followed up, or that offenders faced no consequences. There were calls for stronger enforcement, more fines, and better communication about complaint outcomes.

5. Education and Outreach

Several people suggested that AMOs could be more effective if they were seen as educators and community allies, not just enforcers. Ideas included:

- Handing out treats or poo bags
- Hosting info sessions at dog parks
- Participating in school or community events

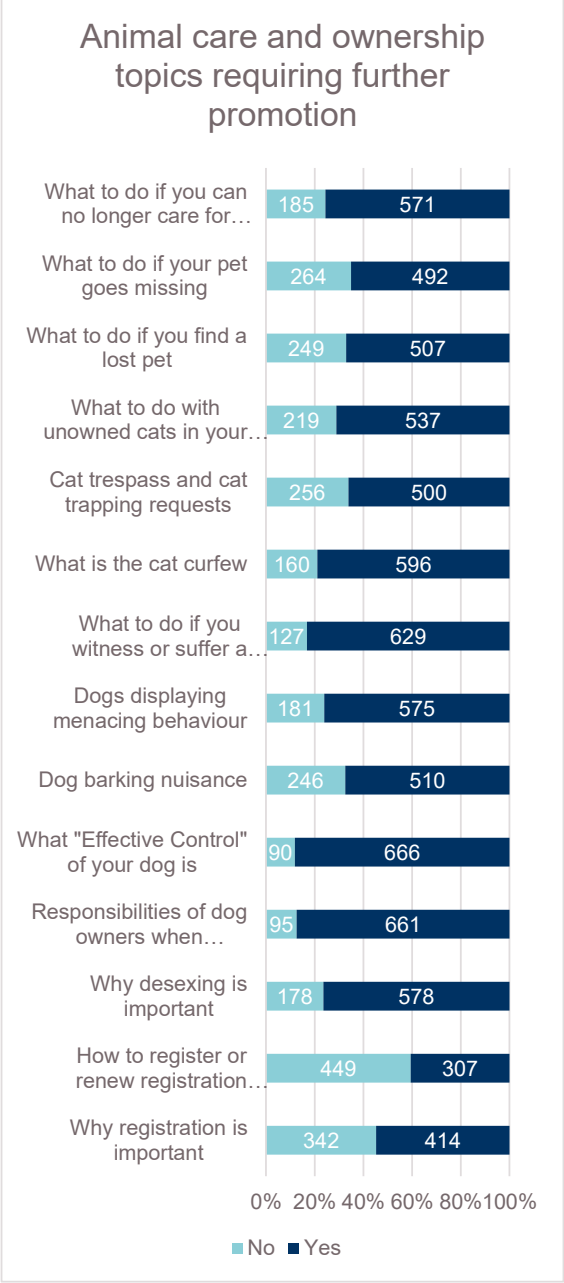
6. Response to Incidents

In cases of dog attacks or serious incidents, many respondents praised AMOs for being compassionate, thorough, and supportive. However, others felt the process was too slow or lacked transparency.

To read some commentary regarding AMO experiences and suggestions, see Appendix F.

Animal Management topics requiring further promotion

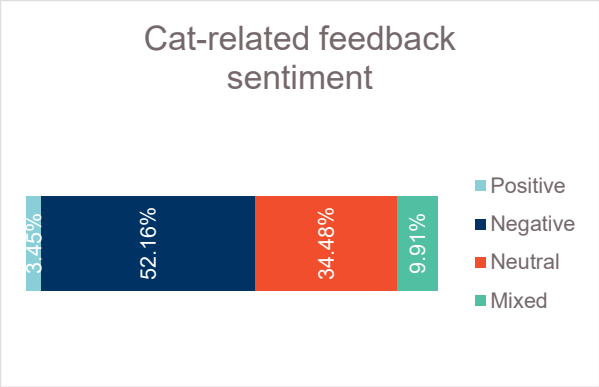
Survey respondents were asked which of the following topics they felt the community needed more education about, and they could supply an answer of “yes” or “no” to each.



Cat findings

An open text question was asked regarding respondent's experiences with cats in public spaces.

232 people went on to answer this question, with a majority 52.2% negative sentiment. (121 submissions)



The top cat-related themes that were identified through this open comment section of the survey, are listed below:

1. Strong Support for a 24-Hour Cat Curfew

Many respondents expressed frustration that a 24/7 cat curfew was not supported by Council in 2023. There is support for a 24/7 cat curfew to protect wildlife and reduce nuisance behaviour.

2. Wildlife Protection

A dominant concern is the impact of roaming cats on native wildlife, especially birds and small mammals. Many people cited personal experiences of cats killing or disturbing wildlife in their gardens or local reserves.

3. Trespassing and Property Damage

Numerous complaints were made about cats entering private properties, using gardens as toilets, spraying, and causing disturbances such as fighting or upsetting indoor pets.

4. Calls for Equal Responsibility

Many respondents feel that cat owners should be held to the same standards as dog owners—keeping pets confined to their property and being accountable for their behaviour.

5. Enforcement and Fines

There is a call for stricter enforcement of the existing curfew, including issuing fines, conducting patrols, and following up on complaints. Some suggested spot checks or mandatory containment assessments.

6. Need for Education and Communication

Several people suggested better education for cat owners through letterbox drops, community workshops, and clearer communication about responsibilities and containment options.

7. Support for Cat Containment Infrastructure

Many respondents supported the idea of subsidising or assisting with the cost of cat enclosures, especially for low-income or elderly residents, to help them comply with containment rules.

8. Frustration with Council Inaction

There is a recurring sentiment that the City is not doing enough to address the issue, with some feeling ignored or unsupported when reporting roaming cats.

9. Mixed Views on Fairness

While most support stricter rules, some respondents expressed concern about the fairness of enforcing curfews on older cats or the emotional and financial burden on owners.

10. Desire for Humane Management of Stray and Feral Cats

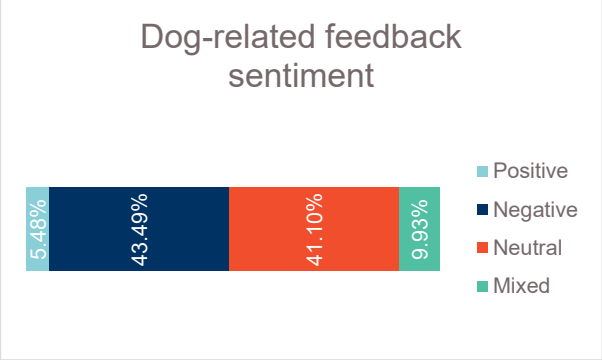
Some respondents advocated for trap-neuter-release (TNR) programs and better support for rescue groups to manage the stray cat population humanely.

To read some comment excerpts regarding cat presence in the community, see Appendix G

Dog Feedback

This open text question allowed respondents to write about their experiences with dogs in public spaces.

232 people went on to answer this question, with a majority 43.5% negative sentiment. (101 submissions)



The top dog-related themes that were identified through this open comment section of the survey, are listed below:

1. Dogs Off-Leash in On-Leash Areas

Many respondents expressed frustration with dogs being walked or allowed to roam off-lead in areas where leashes are required. This was often linked to safety concerns, especially for children, reactive dogs, and wildlife.

---

2. Dog Waste and Hygiene

Dog poo left on footpaths, parks, and beaches was one of the most frequently mentioned issues. Some owners bag it but leave the bags behind. There were also calls for more bins and bag dispensers.

---

3. Barking and Noise Complaints

Excessive barking—especially when dogs are left alone—was a major concern. Many felt that the City responses were slow or ineffective, and that the complaint process was too burdensome.

---

4. Lack of Enforcement

There is a strong call for more visible and proactive enforcement of leash laws, barking complaints, and dog park behaviour. Respondents want more patrols, fines, and accountability.

---

5. Need for More Off-Leash and Fenced Dog Areas

Many people want more safe, fenced spaces for dogs to run freely, especially in growing suburbs. Some suggested separate areas for reactive or small dogs.

---

6. Education for Dog Owners

There were repeated calls for better education on responsible dog ownership, including understanding “effective control,” dog behaviour, and the impact of dogs on others and the environment.

---

7. Wildlife Protection

Concerns were raised about dogs disturbing or attacking wildlife, particularly in sensitive areas like beaches and reserves. Some suggested seasonal or stricter leash rules in these areas.

---

8. Infrastructure Improvements

Suggestions included more bins, bag dispensers, drinking fountains, lighting in dog parks, and clearer signage about leash rules and dog zones.

---

9. Aggressive or Poorly Socialised Dogs

There were multiple reports of dog fights or aggressive behaviour in parks, often due to lack of supervision or poor training. Some called for better training facilities and stricter rules.

---

10. Community and Social Benefits

Many people highlighted the positive social impact of dog ownership—meeting neighbours, building community, and improving mental health.

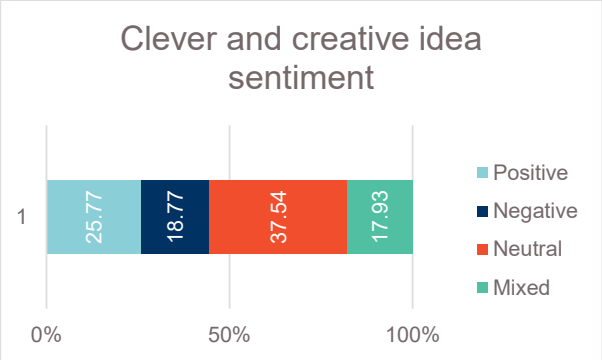
To read some comment excerpts regarding dog presence in the community, see Appendix H.

Clever and Creative ideas

This open text question allowed respondents to put forward any suggestions they think the City may be able to implement to improve the management of domestic animals in our community and balance the needs of all public space users.



357 people answered this question, with a majority 37.5% neutral sentiment. (134 submissions)



The top clever and creative idea themes that were identified through this open comment section of the survey, are listed here:

---

1. Education and Awareness

There is strong support for more education on responsible pet ownership, including:

- School programs
- Pre-ownership training
- Public campaigns
- Signage and community events

---

2. Enforcement and Patrols

Many respondents want:

- More visible animal management officers
- Weekend and after-hours patrols
- Plain-clothed officers
- Fines for non-compliance

---

3. Dog Parks and Off-Leash Areas

Suggestions included:

- More fenced and shaded dog parks
- Designated off-leash zones
- Booking systems for reactive dogs
- Greyhound-specific spaces

---

4. Cat Containment and Curfews

There is strong support for:

- A 24-hour cat curfew
- Subsidised cat enclosures
- Stricter enforcement and fines
- Humane management of stray cats

---

5. Dog Waste Management

Dog poo was a concern. Ideas included:

- More bins and bag dispensers
- Compostable bag programs
- “Pooch pouch” giveaways
- Public awareness campaigns

---

6. Desexing and Registration Support

Many called for:

- Free or subsidised desexing
- Lifetime registration options
- Discounts for responsible owners
- Support for low-income pet owners

---

7. Community Engagement and Events

Creative ideas included:

- Pet parades and festivals
- "Paws in the Park" pop-ups
- Meet-the-ranger days
- Volunteer ambassador programs

---

8. Training and Behaviour Support

There is a desire for:

- More accessible dog training
- Council-supported obedience programs
- Incentives for completing training
- Support for reactive or anxious dogs

---

9. Infrastructure Improvements

Suggestions included:

- More lighting in dog parks
- Water fountains for pets
- Clearer signage
- Enclosed areas for safe exercise

---

10. Technology and Innovation

Innovative ideas included:

- GPS tracking for pets
- Smart reporting apps
- QR-coded pet tags
- AI-monitored dog parks

To read some "clever and creative" suggestions from respondents regarding how to improve responsible pet ownership and improve public shared space use, see Appendix I.

GAWS Suggestions

Geelong Animal Welfare (GAWS) expressed the need for more proactive management of dogs and cats to prevent them from entering the shelter. They noted that providing more subsidised or free desexing programs, along with further community education, were key steps in achieving this. A Community Cat program was also a key idea they put forward, and details of this are provided in their written submission found in Appendix K.

INTERNAL CITY DEPARTMENTS

Key points raised by City departments impacted by the presence of cats and dogs in the community, included:

- Dog litter being uncollected, which poses health, waste and nuisance implications, particularly for those who belong to community sport clubs who need to clean up sports grounds prior to organised cricket, football and soccer competitions taking place
- Dog litter collected and bagged, but then thrown into vegetation or left bagged on the side of the path
- City supplied dog bags and bins are expensive to service (2-3 x more expensive than standard bins) and abused by some owners who grab 10's of bags at a time, rather than supplying their own, which is the City's requirement. Better to redistribute the funding into other areas of Animal Management and education re: pet waste
- The hunting instincts of cats and the negative impact on many species of birds, lizards and small mammals, including those who are native and of vulnerable status, as well as posing a nuisance to neighbouring properties
- New developments in growth corridors comprised of high-density housing, which in turn means little to no backyard. This leads to:

– A reliance on public spaces for exercising animals. Additional off-leash areas are required to ease the burden placed on shared sporting reserves, particularly in the municipality's southern suburbs of Mount Duneed, Armstrong Creek and Charlemont.

- Barking dog complaints are more common in these environments as there is little space for the dog to exercise and self-entertain, and the proximity to neighbours, means barking is very easily heard. These complaints are usually emotional, stressful, and slow to resolve.
- Dogs off leash in on-leash areas pose a problem to turf wickets and the additional labour to remove paw prints, particularly at Kardinia Park and Queens Park. More signage requested in these areas.
- Kardinia Park has areas within the precinct managed by Kardinia Park trust; they would like these areas to be made "dog on leash", but would need to enter an agreement with the City to have any orders enforced.
- Shared use of sporting reserves by dog owners – not always working well and questioned whether some need dog access to be revoked. Despite ovals not being constructed for the purpose of dog exercise, we need to find solutions to a growing population and therefore demand on shared spaces
- Free education courses and other animal "bonuses" supplied at time of registration to reward responsible animal ownership and promote better outcomes
- Visibility of AMOs in public spaces has clear and immediate impact on improving dog owner behaviour and compliance.

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Feedback from the AMOs who respond to animal nuisance complaints, conduct patrols, assist with lost pets, and investigate dog attacks, was as follows:

- Community education on:
  - Dogs on lead, unless otherwise signed. Aim to have signage on all major arterials entering Geelong, so visitors are also aware of orders
  - Appropriate pet selection
  - Benefits of animal desexing
- Challenges:
  - Proving the time at which cats are trapped, and therefore inability to fine for not abiding by curfew
- Preferred changes:
  - Allow adopted animals from GAWS to be registered at time of adoption, and supplied with free registration
  - Vet education packs to go out with clients regarding ongoing responsibilities with the City
  - Targeted discount dog desexing program
  - More dog parks in Mount Duneed/Armstrong Creek
- Staff requirements
  - Provide training for first aid, animal first aid and self-defence
  - Improved equipment including shields, poles, battens, microchip scanners, van fitouts, and slings for safely manoeuvring heavy animals
- Clever and creative ideas:
  - Art displays in public spaces for conveying dog orders
  - Make first year of registration free
  - Problem behaviour dogs offered discount dog training voucher, or results in a fine if not used
  - Partner with hardware providers like Bunnings to reduce cost of cat enclosure materials
  - EFTPOS for staff to register unregistered animals on the spot- and avoid issuing unregistered fine
  - Cat curfew in "high wildlife risk" areas
  - Street shoutouts and rewards for excellent compliance rates
  - Social media channel for Animal Management Services

Discussion

PARTICIPATION

The community consultation which ran for 6-weeks included an array of mediums in which interested community members could leave their feedback.

Between March 10 – April 20, almost 400 members of the public spoke with our AMO staff at 18 different event locations, 756 surveys were submitted, and five written submissions (Appendix K) were forwarded for consideration by various organisations.

The engagement aimed to be highly accessible, unbiased through careful language choices, and used to not only hear what our community would like moving forward regarding domestic animals and how to encourage responsible ownership practices, but to also understand gaps in knowledge and where education and promotional efforts need to be targeted.

KEY THEMES

There were several themes that came through from the community's feedback, and these included:

- Too many dogs are off leash in "on leash" areas.
- Many dog owners are not collecting their dog's poo, and this is a point of frustration for the wider community who use public spaces, particularly those who play on, volunteer at or use sporting reserves for organised sport.
- Cats and dogs should have similar rights regarding roaming – therefore cats should be contained to their own property at all times for the benefit of wildlife, neighbours, and the cats themselves.
- There is a need for more fully fenced dog off-leash areas.
- More AMO staff presence wanted in the community, issuing more infringements, as well as a focus on closing the loop on complaints so residents know outcomes of investigations.
- Council should support cat owners who create enclosures by:
  - Subsiding material costs.
  - Utilising volunteer services for construction (men's sheds etc).
  - Reducing or removing ongoing registration fees once an enclosure is inspected and approved.
- More City-led education (for broader public and specifically in schools) and community events to build better rapport with the community and foster increased knowledge and cooperation in responsible pet ownership.
- The community feel nuisance complaints to the City regarding cats (trespass) and dogs (barking) are not acted upon promptly enough and burdensome for the victim.
- A need for City-led initiatives regarding mandatory dog training and/or animal behaviour courses.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUCCESSES

Structure and location of F2F events

This DAMP engagement was the first run by the Community Safety and Regulation department which followed a new model regarding the locations of scheduled and pop-up consultations.

Instead of booking halls and other public buildings, we placed ourselves in widely used public locations, most of which were in open space with a marquee set up.

By being in heavy foot traffic locations, we were likely to interact with more members of the community, whether they were specifically interested in pets or not. This meant that we heard more moderate feedback and raised the profile of the engagement by being more visible and creating interest.

Survey uptake

Uptake of the online survey was the highest it has ever been for DAMP-related consultation.

756 responses provide sufficient data to extract themes, identify trends, and develop future actions.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Promotion

Whilst there was strong promotion of the engagement including several advertisements in print media, posting weekly on social media, distributing A-Frame advertising boards on busy trails and reserves throughout the municipality, placing posters in Veterinary practices and on-screen ads across various City buildings – awareness of the DAMP 2026 - 2029 consultation in the community could have been increased.

Social media statistics show that over 43,000 people were reached through Facebook and Instagram posts, 1221 people clicked, shared or liked the posts. Moving forward, we aim to improve the conversion rate from reach to meaningful engagement.

Survey fatigue

This community engagement is the first for the Animal Management Services team in 2025 but follows on from three regarding Dog Orders on Barwon Coast land (2019, 2020, 2021), 2 for Dogs in Public Places (2018, 2023), Barwon Head Village Park rezoning (2020), Cat Curfew (2023), and the previous DAMP (2021).

Nine consultations within the last seven years may contribute to a feeling of survey fatigue around animal ownership and may have impacted survey completion rates.

Next steps

NEXT STEPS

This report will be shared with all internal stakeholders, the community through the Have Your Say page, and executive and Councillors

The information contained within this report will inform the development of the DAMP 2026 – 2029, and a report to Council for its endorsement.

Drafting and formalisation of the DAMP 2026 – 2029 will continue throughout the latter half of 2025, with the final Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026 – 2029 submitted to the State Government in December 2025.

Appendix A - Survey Hardcopy

DAMP 2026 -2029 Survey

Participant information

Have you read the previous DAMP 2022 - 2025 document? (Required)

□ Yes
□ No

What is your interest in the City's DAMP? (Required)

□ Cat/Dog owner
□ Local park user
□ Sports club player/volunteer/member
□ Registered cat/dog breeder
□ Registered domestic animal business
□ Vet/vet nurse
□ Member of wildlife/conservation group
□ Animal fosterer
□ Member of animal advocacy or rescue group
□ Animal business operator (trainer/walker/groomer etc)
□ Recreational bird/wildlife watcher

Name of club, business, practice, conservation group or rescue group? (Skip if doesn't apply)

_____

If you are a cat/dog owner, what do you feel are the main benefits of having your pet/s? (Skip if doesn't apply)

_____
_____
_____

Does the presence of domestic animals leave you feeling safe when using the City's open spaces? (Required)

□ Yes, all the time
□ Most of the time
□ Sometimes
□ Rarely
□ No, never

Why?

_____
_____
_____

Responsible Pet Ownership

Are you aware of the following laws applying to pets? (Required)

Understanding where our community are lacking knowledge of local laws, helps us direct educational efforts to bridge these gaps.

	Yes	No
Cats and dogs are required to be registered with Council annually (April 10 is start of registration period)		
Cats must be contained to their property from sunset to sunrise?		

Cats and dogs are required to be registered with Council annually (April 10 is start of registration period)		
Cats must be desexed at 3 months of age, and prior to registration		
Cats must not be deemed a “nuisance” regarding trespassing on neighbouring properties		
Dogs are to be kept on lead in all public spaces, unless otherwise signed/designated		
Dogs are not permitted within 10m of playgrounds or BBQ's		
Dogs are not permitted on artificial sports surfaces or turf wickets		
Dogs are allowed off-leash in sporting reserves when no organised sport is taking place		
Dogs must not bark to 'nuisance' levels		
If you have more than 2 domestic pets on a residential priority, you are required to obtain a Multiple Animal Permit		
Your cat or dog is required to wear a registration tag at all times		
You must always carry a receptacle to collect and correctly dispose of dog poo		
In the last year, have you noticed the following things when out in your local area? Required		

In the last year, have you noticed the following things when out in your local area? (Required)

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Dog poo left on the ground					
Dogs off-leash in on leash areas					
Dogs annoying or menacing people					
Dogs annoying or menacing other dogs					
Dogs chasing or attacking wildlife					
Dogs returning to their owners when called (effective control)					
Dogs in playgrounds					
Dogs barking excessively					
Cats roaming at night					
Cats preying on wildlife					
Cats appearing to be unowned					
Cats fighting other cats					
Cats confined to their property					
Cats damaging property					

What do you think are the main barriers to being a responsible pet owner? (Select all appropriate answers)

□ Lack of knowledge of the City's local laws
□ Lack of consequences when breaking laws
□ Lack of care for others wellbeing/sense of safety
□ Deliberate defiance

□ Inability to provide all wellbeing resources for their own pet
□ Sense of self-entitlement
□ Other (please specify)

What is your favourite thing about domestic animals living in our community?

_____
_____
_____

Animal Management Officers

Do you feel there is enough Animal Management Officer (AMO) presence? (Required)
□ Yes
□ No

If no, what type of public area would you like to see them more? (Skip if doesn't apply)
□ Beaches
□ Parks
□ Playgrounds
□ Sporting reserves
□ Trails
□ Other (please specify)

If no, you can list 3 specific locations you'd like AMOs to patrol? (Skip if doesn't apply)
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Where would you like to see AMOs focus their energy? (Required)
□ Patrolling
□ Addressing nuisance complaints (barking dogs & cat trespass)
□ Education
□ Cat trapping
□ Feral cat management
□ Preventing and investigating dog attacks
□ Impounding stray cats
□ Other (please specify) _____

Have you had an interaction with an AMO? (Required)
□ Yes
□ No

If yes, how would you rate the interaction? (Skip if doesn't apply)



Further comment on AMO interaction? (Skip if doesn't apply)

_____
_____

Which of the following topics do you feel the City needs to further promote? (Required)

	Yes	No
Why registration is important		
How to register or renew registration online		
Why desexing is important		
Responsibilities of dog owners when exercising their dogs		
What "Effective Control" of your dog is		
Dog barking nuisance		
Dogs displaying menacing behaviour		
What to do if you witness or suffer a dog attack		
What is the cat curfew		
Cat trespass and cat trapping requests		
What to do with unowned cats in your neighbourhood		
What to do if you find a lost pet		
What to do if your pet goes missing		
What to do if you can no longer care for your pet		

Do you have any cat-related feedback? (Required)

□ No

□ Yes (please specify)

_____

_____

_____

Do you have particular dog-related feedback? (Required)

□ No

□ Yes (please specify)

_____

_____

_____

Do you have any clever and creative ideas, as to how to improve the animal management services provided by the City? (Skip if doesn't apply)

_____

_____

_____

_____

About You

Before you go, can you tell us a little bit about you? In this section we are asking for information about you to help us understand who we are hearing from in the community. Any information you provide will be de-identified (i.e. anonymous) from your survey responses and managed in line with the City of Greater Geelong Privacy Policy

Town or Suburb: _____

Gender

□ Male □ Female □ Other identity

Thank you for your time and feedback. Both are highly valued.

Appendix B – Promotional materials

POSTCARD



We are seeking to better understand the role domestic pets play in our broader community, as part of the creation of our next Domestic Animal Management Plan.

We want to hear from everyone who enjoys our public spaces. Walkers, park lovers, cyclists, dog lovers, cat lovers, runners, wildlife warriors, animal workers ... the lot.

Your feedback helps us balance the needs of the various groups who use our public spaces, accurately identify animal-related issues, benefits, topics you need more education on, and how our Animal Management team can better serve you.

Scan the QR code or visit **geelong.link/DAMP** to have your say by **5.00pm, Sunday 20 April 2025.**

LATEST NEWS:

- CityofGreaterGeelong
- @GreaterGeelong
- @CityofGreaterGeelong
- CityofGreaterGeelong

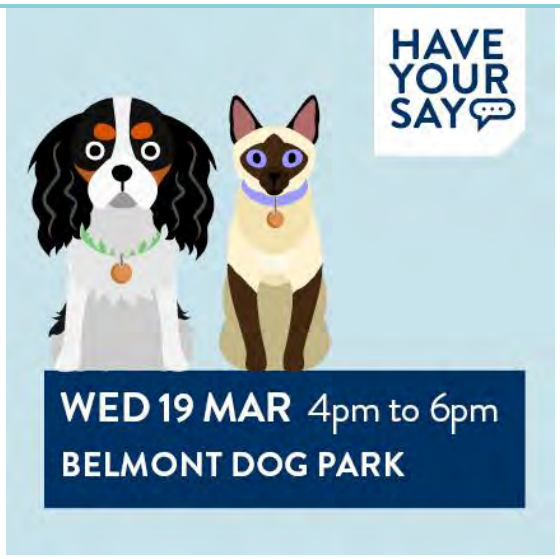
Appendix B - Promotional materials

CORFLUTE SIGN (600 X 900MM) AND A3 POSTER



Appendix C – Social media posts













Appendix D – Safety commentary

Walk the river and irresponsible owners let their dogs charge, bark and scare the crap out of you. Dogs should not be off lead on that path ever.

Owners rarely pick up dog poo. If they do there are no bins supplied by CCMA or Council on the river so they throw it in the bushes.

Dogs off leash, owners have little if no respect for others

People don't always obey the law. They don't use leads in areas requiring a lead.
My dogs are nervous and people just leave their dogs to run up in their face. Others are too busy looking at their phone than what their dog is doing.

Over 80% of dog owners don't know how to manage their animals effectively. their animals aren't under control and they don't correct them for bad / aggressive behaviour towards other people or animals.
Many dog owners ignore the rules and allow their dogs to roam freely on the waterfront when they're jogging.

I am old and not good on my feet, I often feel that I will be knocked over by the larger dogs whose owners have little control of.

When walking my dog on lead in local parks and areas, there are always some dogs off lead.
I have a dog that does not like unknown dogs approaching her, so the off lead dogs are always a problem as I have no idea whether they're going to approach my dog or not. I find it amazing that even in a place such as Lake Lorne in Drysdale, which is a designated and signed wildlife area, there are multiple dog owners that think it is ok to have their dog off lead! Even in other areas, such as Griggs Creek area in Curlewis, The Reserve in Drysdale and The Rail trail, there never fails to be dogs off lead when walking my dog.

There are people that let their dogs off in on lead areas and say "don't worry my dog is friendly" I foster a blind rescue dog who scares easily and is known to bite when scared.

Was attacked by a dog when age 4 so strange dogs scare me.

Far too many irresponsible dog owners who think it's okay to have their dog's off-leash. It is not okay

Many dog owners allow their dog to roam off lead with no control. This occurs in off leash areas and on footpaths in my local area, often more than 100m away from their dog or distracted by taking calls/texting. In addition, some owners allow their dog (on or off leash) to approach children/elderly or other animals without consent.

Often off leash dogs get too close to my young children
I have a very anxious dog and people always try and pat her even when I am telling them no and she has her tail between her legs and barking because they are still trying to pat her when it's unwanted
I've had my dog attacked by another dog because the owner had no control

Numerous people with dogs have zero control over their pet and continue to let them off lead. My own dog has excellent recall and doesn't leave my side owing to the time, effort and financial effort I have put in, but other

dogs constantly run up to mine, which she is not interested in engaging with them and has been attacked in the past so she is on edge. Often the owners are not even within earshot of their pet, and are oblivious to me trying to keep their pet away from mine. I have had to separate more fights than I care to remember, simply because other dogs have no manners and constantly run up into my dogs' space and cant read her uninterested vibes. This also causes avoidable arguments between me and the other owners. *At dog beaches*
Using the dog park in Belmont, my dog has been sick after attending this area leading me to believe owners are not only not training their dogs appropriately, but also not having their dogs seen by the vet and vaccinated regularly either.

Particularly on sports ovals when my kids are practicing dog owners still gather and don't see the potential danger for the children. Also the ovals are always covered in dog poo which becomes the responsibility of the club to remove.
I have also had my late dog attacked whilst on lead which resulted in my dog requiring surgery this was an on lead area I was in.
Lots of dog owners don't have effective control and even though their dog might be friendly, their dogs run up to my children.

My on-leash dog was attacked by an off-leash dog. My dog was mauled and required 2 surgeries that week. I am traumatised by the experience years later.

Unwanted interactions with other people's dogs i.e. dogs not on leash in public areas with the owner saying "they're fine, they're friendly" but I'm not actually wishing interaction for myself, my family member or people I support.

I have had a serious injury as a result of being chased by a dog off lead causing me to fall off my bike while on a bike path. I have also been rushed at by large dogs in areas where they should be on lead. When requested their owners have refused to put the animals on lead
Neighbours 3-4 cats allowed to roam and almost caused another injury when one of them got into my house, causing me to fall off the back step as it rushed out. They also stalk birds.

Too often dogs are off lead on soccer pitches in Lara, I take my children there to play and they have dogs running up to them, there's dog poo all over the pitches.

Too many people with their did off lead and under no effective control. I stick to on lead areas to feel safe but am constantly harassed by off lead dogs

Too many irresponsible pet owners with lack of consequences for disobeying regulations/lack of pet command in public spaces

Too many irresponsible owners with their heads in their phone rather than managing their dogs, particularly when off leash. Even when on leash owners seem to have a disregard for others and allow their dogs to pull them over to another dog.

Too many dog owners ignore rules and have their dogs off lead, my dog has been attacked in the past and can now be reactive towards certain dogs, I feel like there is no where that I can confidently take her for a walk without coming across an off lead dog.

Too many dogs off lead around the streets with entitled owners.

Still feel there are too many areas where dogs are permitted off lead. We need more safe spaces for Wildlife and the community and better enforcement of the on lead areas.

Due to unpredictability of dogs on the loose. I have had 37 years as an intensive Care Paramedic and I have had to deal first hand with the injuries and harm caused by so called friendly dogs who would do no harm. Even those dogs in their owners homes have caused severe and life threatening injuries. Have a park that is fully fenced where the dogs can not escape and let them loose in there but not in public places.
As for cats, I am so annoyed at having to clean cat faces out of my garden. Sadly there are owners who do not keep them in at night and during the day, they are out and free to roam. We have worked hard to develop a garden to attract birds back into the area however we have had native birds taken in our back yard by cats. Cats don't discriminate between sparrows and other native birds.

I am uncomfortable with dogs I don't know.

Too many dogs are off-lead in designated on-leash areas and never under control by their owners. This particularly occurs with large dogs, often with one person walking multiple animals that they cannot possibly control. Sometimes there are children walking a dog twice their size that they have no hope of controlling even if on a lead. I have never seen a ranger along the Geelong waterfront issuing infringements for dogs off lead, but have been told that if they do attend, they give warnings that owners then ignore. I no longer feel safe walking on tracks and in parks near my home because of this flouting of on-leash rules by dog owners and lack of action by council officers. Young children are also at risk of a serious dog attack, particularly on Rippleside and St Helen's beaches, where dogs often rush at them on the sand.

There are too many irresponsible dog owners who think it is their right to have dogs off lead in on dog lead areas. Yesterday we watched at least 3 people do that by Lake Lorne in Drysdale, where there is native birds/animals. They just don't care. Dogs on leads feel threatened when rushed at by off lead dogs, so no, I don't feel safe.

Increasing number of irresponsible dog owners and what appears to be insufficient council patrols to manage/reduce/educate owners on leash requirements and cleaning up after their dogs.
Also insufficient poop bags and bins placed in common areas to promote clean up

Dogs are often out of control, they run at you, they bark at you, they chase you, they bite you, they bite your children, they are off lead when it specifies they should be on lead.

Appendix E – Best things about pets

One of the best things about Geelong is how dog-friendly it is. It is great to see so many people out walking and playing with their dogs, whether it is in parks, along the waterfront, or just around the neighbourhood. Dogs bring so much energy and connection to the community, getting people outside, socialising, and enjoying the area. It really adds to the friendly and welcoming vibe of the area.

If people need animals, fine. Just make sure they:
* Don't attack wildlife
* Cats to stay in their yard
Honestly these two items are the biggest issue

The human animal bond is critical given the state of society at the moment

I love domestic animals, but are exasperated at the feeling of entitlement many pet owners have when their pets are in public areas, and think their pets can go wherever they humans go.

They provide social connection for people - they always pat dogs at shops and chat. Often isolated and lonely elder folk as well

Companionship, exercise, social interactions and friendships that otherwise wouldn't exist. A sense of community and getting to know neighbours.'

Important for some people for social//physical/psychological needs, e.g. people living on their own and assistance dogs.
Important for children to grow up learning about animals and their care.
I enjoy seeing people walking their dogs even though I don't want to own one myself.
(I have nothing much positive to say about cats, though I'm sure they help some lonely people.)

The way they encourage a sense of community with casual low level interaction between strangers.

Little at the moment. People following the rules are outnumbered by those who don't - it's not a small minority of irresponsible owners.

The love, joy and companionship they bring to our lives. The are part of our family, and a well adjusted member of the community. Our dog loves the space, air and beach that living in the City of Greater Geelong brings. There is a great sense of community that being a dog owner and walking on the beach brings.

Honestly, I live across the road from a conservation reserve in Armstrong Creek. There is constantly dog poop on the ground. The signs at the entrance say ON LEASH. Most dogs are off leash. People stop right out the front while their dog poops and then they walk off. Just yesterday I asked a lady if she was going to pick it up. She pretended to ignore me, and I asked her again, she said, "Oh sorry I didn't realise." Then she continued on her way, then I asked again, and she said, "Sorry I don't have any bags." I gave her a bag.

Dogs are great for our community, encouraging people to get outdoors, exercise, and socialise. Walking or playing with a dog benefits both owner and pet while fostering a stronger sense of community.

In contrast, many cat owners ignore regulations and allow their cats to roam freely. This leads to cats trespassing on private property and, more importantly, endangering native wildlife. Unlike responsible dog owners who keep their pets under control, free-roaming cats hunt birds, reptiles, and small mammals, contributing to wildlife decline.

The rare people who follow and know the law, and help trap outdoor cats, and report unruly dogs due to owner negligence and ignorance.

Pets provide companionship, loyalty, and can teach children responsibility.

Responsible pet ownership is essential. Just as dog owners manage their pets, cat owners should also keep their animals contained. Enforcing these rules would protect wildlife, reduce disturbances, and create a more respectful community for all.

Health benefits - mental & physical.

I love pet animals, they need to be kept safe and happy.
Cats should be kept confined 24 hours a day, dogs should be well trained from birth, they should be confined within property and not able to rush people passing the property. Kept on leash when off property.
Both cat and dogs fully vaccinated and registered.
Both provide company and enjoyment of the owner.

At present, I cannot afford to keep any domestic animals so they remain healthy, happy and registered, therefore I choose to not own an animal

Having animals around enriches our lives in so many ways, even those of us who don't own them

Cats roaming free. Locking cats in houses, especially overnight is disgusting. Grow a set and tell the 5% of our community to shut up. If I have to live with 25 dogs around my house that bark ruthlessly all the time and the council forces me to make a log book, then people can get over cats having any basic liberties

Domestic animals bring people together, start conversations and can be a good comfort. I have seen a number of dogs, aggressive breeds included off leash at playgrounds and parks with no way to resolve it without confrontation with the owner who clearly wouldn't care anyway.

Facilitate interactions; impetus for making new friends; add richness to suburban living; provide interest & stimulation

Companionship. Keeping fit. Interacting with other dog owners, building community ties. People's kindness to each other and willingness to assist e.g. walking another dog when owner isn't well. Animals give a lot of love.

Domestic animals bring boundless benefits. Irresponsible owners are the problem. Dog parks are fun but dogs should all wear muzzles. My dogs don't need one but many do. So make it a rule for all. We walk our dogs daily on leads, don't let them roam or approach others without consultation in case they're scared of dogs, register them, regular vet visits, pick up after them when walking, etc. But we have stopped going to the dog park in Lara. Too many aggressive dogs and also greyhounds. Our Westie was attacked by a greyhound and the owner just said "Sorry, she does that sometimes." ???

That the council takes dog ownership seriously, the rangers are responsive & helpful & there are many dog friendly spaces to walk in

Companionship

Seeing responsible dog owners walking their dogs on leash and picking up after them. It's a nice way to interact with others if they have a well behaved dog.

Lovely thing that people can own a pet for company and other reasons, however, this comes with responsibilities. Owners should consider it a privilege to own their pets and respect others at all times. These responsibilities include, controlling their pets at all times in public spaces, picking up their droppings at all times and obeying all Council rules.
We are daily walkers on the river circuit around the Barwon river, from Buckley Falls, over Red Gum Island to

Fyansford, back to the one lane bridge, back around Queens Park golf course side to Buckley Falls. We see blatant disregard for Council rules and respect for other people on a daily basis. Only some people pick up after their dogs. Some leave droppings in the middle of the path, which then gets run over by bikes, prams and walked on by other users. This really is disgusting, disappointing and disrespectful towards everyone else.

They are very good for mental health.

Appendix F – AMOs

The Officer themselves were quite helpful but waiting almost 2 weeks for a cat trap was unacceptable.

Not enough officers to effectively patrol areas.

Never seen one patrolling my areas

The AMO has come to my house and the interaction was positive and professional the AMO was polite and knowledgeable. This reinstated my confidence in dealing with the council and their AMO as I have had bad experiences in NSW.

Initially response was great to concerns however no outcome and continuation of dog and owner behaviour occurs without consequence.. and now approved dog park where entitled owners will continue poor behaviour with their dogs and home. Owners don't feel safe to aggressive dogs off lead and poo on nature strips and property.

I've never encountered one so they should probably be more visible

I worked at GAWS for several years and met many officers. Some were completely clueless, others seemed well educated but there was often a lack of empathy for the animals being managed.

I sometimes see the animal vans driving (great visuals on their vans) but I think the council might be under resourced in this area for such a big council area. It would be great if council could approve more officers so the community could view these officers out in the community regularly.

I live on a corner in Norlane & have multiple interactions with the rangers as a few dogs roam around pretty freely & then some seem to become absconders & are frequently out. The problem of inter generational trauma & mistrust of authority is huge in this area & rangers do a great job in trying circumstances. Not sure increased fines is the key to compliance but it needs to be addressed as the minority off dog owners cause concern for many

I have called regarding dogs off lead many times and running at our dog. They always follow up and come out however most people are gone. AMO have always been great.

I think people should be fined if their dog isn't recalled or intruding on peoples space. Education doesn't work in my opinion.

I expect the AMOs are doing their best, they can only charge/prosecute if they catch the perpetrator. Not easy - if an AMO is see I would imagine those not following the rules quickly shift direction and put their dog back on leash. It's difficult for the AMOs to be in 'all places at once'. More AMOs are probably needed to randomly patrol parklands, streets and beaches but that's not easy when funds are always limited.

I am a Hooded Plover volunteer, have been for over 10 years. This last summer was by far the worst year for policing the beach, I got abused multiple times, did not see a COGG Officer once. It was disgraceful. You just get volunteers to help wildlife and provide no support. There is no interest in the COGG to protect anything.

Had a noise complaint against my dog. Officer was polite, informative and fantastic to deal with

For their job to become effective there needs to be more appointed

Fantastic. Very kind, understanding fair and understanding. They have a very hard job.

Excellent. My dog, a whippet, was on a lead and was violently attacked by another dog, totally unprovoked, at Memorial Park in Ocean Grove in 2023. Owner left without giving me their details. My vet bill was $2000. Officer was understanding and said she would keep my report on file for one year. I felt she listened and I had done what I could to prevent other dog attacks.

As a volunteer at GAWS I meet with AMO on regular basis and know how hard it is for them to carry out their duties with little, or no public involvement. It seems they can’t ever get on top of the cat population.

A change of attitude would help - move away from "enforcement" and regulation, and accept that pet ownership is a significant contribution to community well-being. Less action like quasi-police officers and more about support for pet owners - after all their title includes "management", so manage, not "enforce"

Appendix G – Cats

It is incredibly disappointing that despite large volumes of feedback from the community regarding the 24/7 cat curfew, and the fact that it had 2/3 MAJORITY SUPPORT, Council did not uphold the wishes of the community!! If Council is so committed to being transparent and representative of their community, it is a blatant slap in the face to not uphold the wants and needs of the majority who left feedback. The Cat Curfew consultation was to reflect the whole community's experience, not just cat owners - and when I read the report, over half the cat owners agreed with the 24/7 curfew!!!
Shameful and has created a lot of distrust that Council will actually listen to anything we have to say.

Please make cats stay within their property 24/7. I love cats but I love my guinea pigs more. We have cats coming into our yard at night and harassing our guinea pigs.

Cats should be confined to owners property 24 hours a day, at all times. It is ludicrous the Geelong council backed down on this ruling last November. Everyone knows cats are a menace to our wildlife. No matter how much we love our cats they should not be able to kill our wildlife. Australia has a disgraceful record of animal extinction and it is time to get tougher on cat owners.

What is the benefits for cat registration? Especially if kept inside at all times. Should be much cheaper than dogs rego as they have dog parks, bins with consumable bags, etc. seems unfair and a disincentive to register a cat.

Disagree with logic and implementation of cat curfew. Very hard to change ways of a 15 year old cat. Would be better for the cat if it was put down than make it a prisoner

Enforce curfew so people bring their cats inside over night.

Cats aren't being contained within their properties and cat owners have no obligation to clean up the mess they leave in other peoples gardens. Cat poo can cause toxoplasmosis and yet it's fine for feral and unrestrained cats to use wherever they want as their toilet with no consequences for the owner. I hate the stink of someone else's cat using my garden as a toilet and shouldn't have to clean that up. Cats also kill so much wildlife. There shouldn't have been a back-track on making people keep cats confined to their properties. If people can't /won't comply they shouldn't have a cat.

The extent to which pet cats roam for hunting and killing of wildlife by pet cats is not understood or accepted (or perhaps cared about) by those owners (70%) who allow their cats to roam. Tracking research shows that an individual roaming pet cat kills 186 reptiles, birds and mammals per year, 59% of these being native species - per km2 this is 30-50 times more than feral cats do in the bush.
The proximity of our town to the beach means that cats (whether feral or roaming pets) have good access to the dunes and therefore the Hooded Plover breeding areas. We see cat prints on the sand each breeding season.
From tracking research in Tasmania: One domestic cat that was tracked over 24 hours travelled almost four kilometres, visited 16 different backyards, crossed three roads and explored a nearby bushland reserve at night.
It is quite unclear on the CoGG website what constitutes a 'nuisance cat'. A link takes you to AgVic where it states that legally you can't let your cat trespass on someone else's property. If this is the case in our municipality, it is not explained. And if it is not the case, it should be. For my own issue of a neighbour’s roaming cat, I was asked to provide evidence of multiple occasions of its visits before CoGG would take action like fining the neighbour.

Cat are made out to be the villain of wildlife killing, where Vic parks kill more native birds with 1080 poisons than any amount of cats.
Cats should be contained within the owners property at all times not just sunset to sunrise. All responsible cats owners would agree with this. Cat owners should have a fully fenced area for their cat.
Cat registration should not be charged to owners who have their property inspected for a fully enclosed cat area, have their animal desexed, and microchipped their should be a one of fee for registration for the council records in case this animal so how escaped the confines of their home. Why should responsible owners pay for irresponsible owners. Animal management officers can inspect the owners premises and then allow cancellation of all further animal registration charges if criteria is met. If you have a car that is never used on the road you don't have to pay registration fees so why should council charge for a cat confined on owners property 24/7, like our cat is.

I was bitterly disappointed when, after adopting a 24-hour cat containment policy a year or so ago, the council rescinded this on the basis of cat owner hardship (financial and mental health). While understanding and appreciating these concerns, the initial policy could have been supported by a greater lead-in time and one/two year program to help owners work out how best to contain their cats, with subsidies for those who needed it and engagement with the Men's Sheds, Bunnings etc for practical assistance. Engagement too with owners who already have cat runs, as examples, and especially any renters who have managed containment. This could have been supplemented by educational materials (see my response to your last question) and perhaps even some local cat tracking data to show how far roaming cats travel, and what they do when out and about.
Please consider the re-introduction of this policy, alongside a thorough engagement and roll-out program. It is not acceptable to preference pets over wildlife.

Can we PLEASE finalise the 24 hour cat curfew? Greater Geelong has a whole range of native wildlife including birds, reptiles, amphibians and small mammals. The science is clear on domestic cats - they kill wildlife, even when their owners think they don't hunt or roam. Cats are a fantastic pet but they are a natural hunting disaster.

A neighbour's grey cat has decided that she loves my garden. She comes here to leave her poos, and hunts the birds that I have carefully planted my garden to attract. I do not want her.
I have spoken in a friendly fashion to my neighbour many times. She says the cat runs out between their legs when they open the door. They cannot control her. For some weeks she was absent altogether from their home. I think she was spending much of her time under my house.
I was delighted to see that last year COGG Council had voted that cats must remain under control at all times, and most disappointed that this had been subsequently rescinded.
I cannot understand why.
Dogs are not permitted to range freely. Cats ought not to either.
Why should I be imposed upon by this cat, and indeed, her owners?
Cats can live perfectly healthy lives indoors. Their lifespan is greater if they do so.
Please reinstate this law, for healthier and happier cats, and a more peaceful Geelong.
Cats (the four-legged kind!) must be confined.

I own no pets but have at least 4 different cats roaming through my property on a daily basis. One consistently tries to get in my house. I have a cat allergy and just a bit over it.

Wild life experts strongly suggest that a 24 hour cat curfew Is required to protect our wildlife.

People cannot stop their roaming cats being a nuisance - once the cat is off their property there's no way to prevent it entering my property. It's nonsense to say cats can roam but aren't allowed to trespass - there's no way to stop them.

We installed full cat netting on our property because we were told by an officer it was coming into law in November 24 but from this survey I've discovered it's not required so I'm not appreciating having wasted $8k.

If a cat is restricted 24/7 I don't believe registration should be required

We constantly have neighbouring cats roaming our yard at night. Occasionally we smell cat piss. It also bothers out dogs to find or smell them in the yard. I don't really believe our neighbours care to follow any rules about cat curfew. Other than paying to collect a trapped cat, a fine or an in person visit from the council as a warning could deter them?

I am sick of digging up cat poo in my garden beds! It's disgusting and health issue.

many people don't adhere to the curfew and allow there cats to roam and harass and spoil other people's homes - there is not enough deterrent for cat owners to stop this.
Being that I work in rescue and regularly am called to help trap stray cats or get cats and kittens dumped on the rescue I think stricter rules need to come into place with cats. And higher fines and actions if they aren't followed. People aren't listening and it's only getting worse and at the end of the day it's the animals suffering.

Commendable that Geelong did not go ahead with a 24/7 cat curfew, this was great to see.

Cats should have to wear a bell on it's collar to keep wildlife safe

We have a Cat curfew in place but it is not enforced. I have always had my Cats in for the curfew but none of my neighbours ever have. This is my 4th home & at every house I have had a problem with neighbours cats on my property after the curfew fighting with my cats through windows or doors! Council wanted to introduce a 24hr curfew but can't police the dusk til dawn curfew they have at the moment. Get the curfew we have now patrolled & make owners responsible.. If they take the cat to GAWS a lot of owners will just leave them there & get a new one & repeat the pattern. Take the cat back to the owners & fine them. If they do it again a bigger fine & a 3rd time even larger, 4th time compulsory acquisition & banned from owning a cat for 12mths. Repeat it after 12mths 2 strokes & no owning for 2yrs. 3rd time offending life time ban. We need to be tough, too many cats are out & about & breeding or getting injured. I support a 24hr curfew as long as we get discount on registration & building a cat run or 6mth notice to save & get a run built. I have a 14yo farm Cat who will not take to 24hr indoor life so I will need to build a run.

For environmental reasons, cats should be confined to their own properties and be kept indoors overnight. There should be no signs of cats in the community. This is common practice in some municipalities and is not cruel. It keeps both the pet safe (think misadventures with cars and cat fights) as well as our fast dwindling wildlife, especially birds, reptiles and even insects and butterflies. Both my daughters have cats that are very happy to live indoors, with day time excursions to an enclosed area in the garden. This keeps everyone happy and the owner is being responsible and caring towards their pet.

We need access to cat traps to get rid of animals that are allowed to roam freely at all hours, and to punish owners for being so lazy.

have fostered for GAR for 10 years, and the numbers of kittens and cats needing care and adoption are not decreasing, despite desexing all animals coming into rescue groups.
The desexing message is not getting through.
Council need to provide a free or largely subsidised (MEANS TESTED) like Project Meow, desexing program. In fact council could do with adopting Project Meows values. A blanket desexing program for 2 years would reduce the number of unwanted kittens substantially.
Also council need to man up and enforce the containment of all cats 24 /7. No wandering, no unwanted litters. Birds and wildlife so much safer, cats safer and healthier.

I'm disappointed the 24 hr cat curfew was not implemented, our wildlife is being decimated by cats. Maybe council could offer some incentive or subsidy or reduction in their rates for installing a cat cage to keep cats contained to owners properties.

Yes, there is a clear lack of awareness among cat owners about the rules regarding cat containment. However, an even bigger issue is those who know the rules but choose to ignore them. Too many cats are roaming the streets at all hours, trespassing on private property, and posing a serious risk to native wildlife. Unlike dog

owners, who face strict penalties for allowing their pets to wander, cat owners often get away with breaking the rules. Harsher fines and stricter enforcement are needed to ensure responsible pet ownership and protect our community and environment.

I am a cat owner and I love cats. We need a 100% ban on cats going outdoors, not a curfew.

we have already done a survey not long ago on cat curfews and COGG back flipped last minute. Why are they allowed out of the property during daylight hours. Change that as a starting point. Empower community to take matters into their own hands if you're not going to do anything about cats.

A previous review of cat curfew showed overwhelming support for 24-hour curfew. However, this step was never taken by council. It should be revisited as the danger to wildlife is ever-present within the City of Greater Geelong and much research indicates that cats are efficient killers no matter whether they are feral or domesticated.

Cats as you know have a huge impact across cities and country areas, killing a huge amount of birds and small mammals
Cats in my view should be contained within a house or secure area at all times to reduce this unacceptable situation
Why should cats come before our native birdlife and animals??

My cat is very well behaved
He loves his outside time lying in my garden and visiting my neighbours
I cannot afford to build an enclosure and don't believe this is necessary

I own a cat that is contained at all times. I firmly believe cats should be contained at all times. They are a menace to wildlife during the day as well as at night.

I want cats to be eventually banned from the country. In 20 years, we would have no cats and therefore more wildlife. No cat should be allowed to leave its owners property, day or night. If it does, increasing fines, then confiscation are needed.

Cats such as my neighbour's cat should not be allowed to roam freely up and down the street, including into my garden and surrounding gardens, into the children's park and playground 100metres away.
I no longer have Honey Eaters, Eastern Spinebills and other small birds in my bird friendly garden.

My cats are inside 24/7, but the amount of hate and vitriol cats and cat owners experience is disgraceful. The sort of people that don't like cats, are the sort of people that are emboldened to hurt cats intentionally if councils put too much emphasis on certain aspects of cat ownership. I see problem dogs every single day, but rarely any cats causing any problems.

We have an adult daughter on the spectrum that we are trying to get more engaged in the community including just walking outdoors. Her fear of dogs is constantly reinforced by regularly seeing dogs off lead just looking out the window of the home or car. It impacts her level of physical activity and quality of life in being too scared to go out of the house to walk or even catch a bus in case of encountering an off lead dog. Responsible dog owners who not only keep their dog/s on lead but control them around people or other dogs are so rare and stand out so much because of how rare they are. There are many days I wish there were dog free communities that we could live in but in lieu of that, getting to a point where my daughter feels safe to walk down our street would be a great start. Meantime we continue to work with support workers for year after year trying to get her more engaged despite this particular challenge.

Cat registration should not be charged to owners who have their property inspected for a fully enclosed cat area, have their animal desexed, and microchipped their should be a one of fee for registration for the council records in case this animal so how escaped the confines of their home. Why should responsible owners pay for irresponsible owners. Animal management officers can inspect the owners premises and then allow cancellation of all further animal registration charges if criteria is met. If you have a car that is never used on the road you

don't have to pay registration fees so why should council charge for a cat confined on owners property 24/7, like our cat is.

Appendix H – Dogs

More dog owners should keep their animal under control and spend less time being distracted by their mobile phone

Most dog owners do the right thing but there's a small percent giving others a bad name by not having control of their dog/following leash rules in crowded areas.
Some kids also need education on not approaching and patting dogs without owner permission - the parents of those kids probably need the education too.

Council seems to take too long in newer suburbs and more recently acquired reserves to put up dog-on-lead signage, so that down the track (time I mean) people can't say things like 'but we have always had our dogs off lead here', 'always had our dog enter the river for a swim or drink in summer', etc. There are reserves with indigenous vegetation, river access, wildlife still present (despite the loose dogs) which have not been gazetted through the state government. In particular, Fyansford and Highton sides of the Barwon River, Red Gum Island (Fyansford) downstream of the Ring Road and upstream of Queen's park (bridge). Council reserves, not managed by Corangamite CMA.

Geelong and the community would greatly benefit from a Greyhound specific dog park. There is a strong Greyhound community in Geelong, demonstrated in the high attendance to the weekly Greyhound walking group, and interactions on the Facebook page. It would be great for these pets and pet owners to have a safe place to bring their Greyhounds to socialise and exercise, as this breed is excluded from local dog parks.
Please keep open safe spaces free for our dogs. In my local area I have met so many wonderful people. It brings a sense of community. These interactions are important for human wellbeing.

Further education is a massive issue in the community. Every owner should undergo compulsory education to in turn try and ensure all owners are aware of the relevant laws and try to mitigate preventable dog attacks.

Just education of owners and using leads. Number of times we are walking and I put my dog on a very short leash, and random let their dog come and say hello because 'theirs is fine', and then mine reacts and it's my fault???

Most people don't mean to do the wrong thing they just don't know what do. They are also reactive not proactive. I would be MORE a than happy to collaborate with council.

Dog owners on beaches are a major issue. Many people are terrific and respond positively to information about beach nesting birds for example and how to protect them and also understand that their dogs could be a nuisance to other beach goers if not controlled. However, a small minority are arrogant, aggressive, self-entitled and very unpleasant to volunteers -- this leads to volunteer drop off.

Dogs are often poorly socialised (as are some owners) & this leads to issues down the track. Upon first registering a dog owners should be required to provide a certificate of completion for puppy classes or dog obedience level 1

A significant number of people clearly do not understand what effective control means and also that dogs can behave quite differently on beaches (with all those lovely birds to chase!) to the way (even if properly trained) they do in domestic settings.

I live in Portarlington and own 2 dogs who get 2 walks per day. Between 2021-2025 I have never seen AMO presence in Portarlington and the Bellarine Bayside precincts. I appreciate officers have a big city to patrol and respond to complaints however unless there is regular visibility of AMO officers in locations like Bellarine Bayside, some dog owners will continue to ignore dog restrictions to the detriment of responsible dog owners and people enjoying open spaces and beaches particularly during peak holiday seasons.

More enclosed areas for off-lead use - this could include a booking system and would be highly beneficial for non sociable dogs to ensure they too can run and explore.

I would like to make a recommendation about Dogs off Leash on beaches and walking tracks in St Leonards / Indented Head /Portarlington. I know that dogs must be on leash from late December until the end of February - but this rule is almost never observed by dog owners, and is never enforced by the Council.

I have lived in multiple states and multiple countries and I can't remember ever seeing dog poo so prevalent in public spaces as I do in Geelong. Every walk or run even multiple dog poo bags simply discarded on the side of the path.

I would like to recommend that the Council change its policy and dogs should by on-leash from 1 November until 30 April the following year. There are more and more people/tourists coming to the beaches with their dogs and taking them off-leash in November & December as well as in March & April. I have observed many dogs chasing wildlife including swans which travel along the water. I have had conversations with some dog owners who have basically either ignore, get aggressive towards me or inform me that their dogs are allowed off-leash. When I inform them that they need to be in control of their dogs and they must prevent them from chasing the swans, all I get is they are allowed to be off leash and they are dogs - they are going to chase birds.
For this reason, I believe that the dates should be changed as mentioned above to have dogs on-leash from 1 November until 30 April. I hope this makes sense and the Council will give it serious consideration.

People who take their toddlers to play parks, should not bring their dogs too. They feel rules only apply to others.

Off lead dogs that run up and jump up with owners who have zero control and / or make zero effort to ensure the safety and wellbeing of others and their dogs are the main irritation of my life, and ruin many a walk or outing, especially if I have grandchildren or my dog with me. So over it.

Many dog owners are very entitled, dogs dominate the local beach experience around Ocean Grove to the detriment of enjoying nature, and cause disturbance to local species. Should be excluded from known hooded plover nesting beaches

There are very few places that accommodate off lead dog walking sufficiently. On ovals when no one else is on there is not accommodating and welcoming. It is more like tolerating when no-one else wants to use it. Fyansford common is good. Belmont dog park is fine, but we need a bunch more around Geelong. As a previous resident in multiple suburbs of Melbourne and a 30 year dog owner, I can say that Geelong is the most unfriendly place I've ever lived when it comes to dogs. Even this survey is about regulating and controlling rather than encouraging and accommodating and acknowledging the great communities that come from dog ownership, social connectedness and mental health.

As a dog owner I see too many unsupervised dogs in public areas but in particular owners who think they are above the law and can do what they want.
In off leash areas I have witnessed many dogs not under effective control and have had dogs rushing at and bowling over my very small dog and again owners who don't care that they do.

You want people to apply for multiple animals permits but the cost its prohibitive. You pay your registration plus the permit each year. It's easier to register them under someone else's name.

In the City of Greater Geelong Domestic Animal Management Plan 2022 - 2025 report, the number 1 issue of that report deals with Dogs in Public Places and it states very clearly - Dogs must be kept on leash in all public areas, unless signs indicate otherwise. The response to that point in the report was Recommendation 2. Organise a community education information campaign to promote that dogs must be kept on-leash in Greater Geelong unless otherwise signed. I have seen no evidence of a community education information campaign. If there has been, I would like to know the details of that campaign and how the success of that recommendation has been measured.

I believe that there is a public misconception that dogs are permitted to be off-leash in all public areas, unless signs indicate otherwise. Perhaps, instead of having signs that have 'Keep your dog on a lead', have every single existing sign changed to read:

DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON A LEASH IN ALL PUBLIC AREAS, UNLESS SIGNS INDICATE OTHERWISE

There is an ever increasing number of people choosing to walk their dogs off-leash in on-leash areas. I walk my dog daily and find it very difficult when training my dog to walk on lead and ignore other dogs when there are constantly other dogs running up to us often barking and growling as well.
When walking around local streets there are often dogs roaming outside their homes (unattended) - often barking/growling, running up to or choosing to follow a dog walker.
Also, when sitting at an outdoor café no-one wants an off-leash dog running up to their table regardless of whether they have a well behaved dog sitting there with them or no dog at all.
If and when you're brave enough to ask someone to put their dog on lead the response is often "oh, but my dog doesn't like the lead" or you are simply met with a barrage of abuse.

Bellarine Dog Activities Group has been providing training classes and activities for dog handlers of the Geelong Region since 1996. We provide foundation training at beginner to advanced levels, and we offer specialist classes including, agility, scent detection, rally, and occasionally, accredited training for assistance dogs and their handlers. We employ positive, motivational training methods which are force-free and fear-free. We are a not-for-profit club of some 140 members with some 15 volunteer instructors and assistants. Anyone can join the club.
We operate from the cattle pavilion at Geelong Showgrounds, which severely limits our capacity to provide services to the Geelong community. We always have a wait list of people wanting to train, and often this extends out to 12 months. Our training venue is too small, and training classes often have to be cancelled at the whim of the showgrounds management to accommodate agricultural and other endeavours. Dog training is not a priority for the showgrounds administration

Encouraging dog owners to stop letting off-leash dogs run up to people and think it’s enough to say “It’s okay, he’s friendly” - it can be less about the dog being friendly and more about the person having an aversion/fear of dogs

There needs to be more fenced off lead areas. Not all dogs can be under effective control at all times, sometimes people and dogs make mistakes. it's like putting a playground next to a highway without a fence and being like oh to bad your kid got run over you should have watched them better - it only takes a moment of inattentiveness or 1 time for a dog to not recall for tragedies to happen. The stupid thing is most ovals are 98% fenced it's like the council purposely leaves gaps for no reason. (For example the Mt Duneed pony club oval mowing gates were replaced with a swing gate that does nothing, all the oval needs is a pedestrian gate and the old gates back to be 100% enclosed). Often a switch of gate types or a few extra metres of fencing could fully enclose and oval giving puppies and friendly foster dogs in training a safe play to play and work on recall during quite times of the day

Appendix I – Clever and creative ideas

More signs posted around, perhaps comedic type posters about cleaning up after dogs and not letting cats out at night. Perhaps ones that belittle those who knowingly do the wrong thing.

Offer volunteer positions i.e.: "Animal Management Assistant" for people with relevant experience/education in animals, use free labour to assist the cities management and get extra support, I guarantee you'll have a BUNCH of people happy to assist

Get schools involved in developing posters, AI social media posts. Get kids involved they will train their parents.

1. Change every single sign pertaining to dogs changed to DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON A LEASH IN ALL PUBLIC AREAS, UNLESS SIGNS INDICATE OTHERWISE.
2. Contact every Geelong Dog Walking group on Facebook and inform them of the number one issue of the 2022-2025 DAMP document.
3. Submit an article to The Geelong Advertiser revealing issue number one of the 2022-2025 DAMP document
4. Have advertisements placed in the Geelong cinemas prior to feature films revealing issue 1.
5. Have it printed underneath Rates Notices. e.g.
   2024-25 RATES, VALUATIONAND CHARGES NOTICE
   DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON A LEASH IN ALL PUBLIC AREAS, UNLESS SIGNS INDICATE OTHERWISE.
6. Bring to the attention of the mayor, all councillors and Geelong staff that Dogs must be kept on a leash in all public areas, unless signs indicate otherwise.

It will be great to have lighting at dog parks (especially Lara) so I can feel safer exercising my dogs after work. The solar sensor lights for example which are not running all the time, just when motion is detected.

More visible patrolling by AM officers late in the afternoons when people are walking their dogs after work/school. Also weekend mornings around 11am onwards.

If funding to cover all weekends with animal management officers is not feasible, find sufficient budget to move weekday shifts to cover one weekend a month, on a random basis, so that surprise patrols can occur in high traffic public spaces, particularly where non-compliance has been reported. Weekends is the most likely time for recreation and 'out of routine' activities.

Yes BIG signs that say NO DOGS WHICH MAY NEED TO BE CHANGED SEASONALLY. Allow wildlife volunteers to issue fines to dog owners for non compliance. We're on the beach in tourist season protecting hoodies anyway we have working with children checks and done various courses about interacting with the public etc.. Makes sense and would save you a lot of money. Just need to volunteers to be wearing body cams and maybe a short training course.

Some sort of campaign that makes it clear to dog owners that being the guardian of an animal is a privilege, as they don’t have the right to take their animal everywhere or have it interfere with other people.

Institute City run dog training classes where numerous dogs congregate. To cover obedience training, agility, top and tricks.
How to exercise a dog's mind to prevent boredom

Maybe do plain clothed walks with a dog , in certain areas. See it through a dog walkers eyes.

As said above, bring a roaming cat straight back to the owner & fine them on the spot. I lot will not go to GAWS & get there animal back, it's too easy to get a new one. Enforce the curfew make people abide by it.

Have pet education/interaction days where people and pet owners can get together with experts and council animal management officers to listen to talks on the issues raised in the survey, watch obedience training dogs, talk to dog trainers etc. These days could be fun, informative and social events for the whole family. You could include things like best animal costume, smallest dog etc with prizes that relate to pet care.
Having more signage, doggy poo bags and bins at entrances and exits of walking tracks and sporting ovals.

1. Smart Dog Parks with Monitoring & Education
   Install AI-powered cameras in off-leash parks to monitor dog behaviour and alert council officers to conflicts.
   Provide interactive education screens with videos on dog body language and socialisation.
   Use QR codes linking to responsible pet ownership resources.
   2. Community Pet Education & Social Integration
   Run free education sessions at parks and events on leash training and dog etiquette.
   Launch a campaign on safe dog introductions and recognising stress signals.
   3. City of Geelong Pet Census & Data Dashboard
   Conduct an annual pet census to track registrations, compliance, breed trends, and adoption rates.
   Publish real-time data on a public dashboard comparing Geelong's pet statistics with other councils.
   4. Geelong Pet-Friendly Accreditation Program
   Certify businesses and public spaces that offer safe and responsible pet-friendly environments.
   Develop a rating system to highlight pet-friendly businesses and encourage best practices.
   5. Public Pet Policy & Advocacy Hub
   Centralise pet-related laws, off-leash area maps, and emergency contact information on a council website.
   Host a quarterly forum for residents to provide feedback on pet policies.
   Pet Ownership Data
   Geelong has ~80,000 registered pets, one of the highest rates in Victoria.
   Casey (~60,000 pets) and Wyndham (~50,000 pets) face similar challenges.
   Nationally, 69% of households own a pet, highlighting the need for better urban planning.
   Conclusion:
   By prioritising education, data-driven policies, and structured pet-friendly initiatives, Geelong can enhance public safety, community engagement, and responsible pet ownership.

Signs. Not focus groups. No consultants. Not fact finding missions to Spain. Signs. Put up some signs, double the ranger staffing levels and make the fines meaningful.
Employ more officers for afternoon and weekend work to fine people as no signage or education is working anymore. People just simply ignore the laws.

Maybe the city could put together a 'puppy pack' for people who register a new pet with a lead, poop bags and information on council laws.
Most of the time when a post is posted on Facebook it is reposted to community groups which is great

Employ more officers! And have them work after hours more often. Its not rocket science.
Maybe provide training for individuals who are checked and responsible to assist after hours if you're too broke to pay for proper services. We can become champions..

Who is filling the void for 'pocket pets' now that GAWS are no longer taking them in? The lack of duty of care for these animals from COGG is unacceptable

The City of greater Geelong, in conjunction with Barwon Coast, should revisit its Hooded Plover Action Plan to establish a Shorebird Protection Zone at Thompsons Creek estuary (Breamlea beach), which would integrate both sides of the estuary. Thompsons Creek has been nationally listed as 'endangered' under the 'Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) and is described in the Surf Coast Distinctive Area and Landscape Statement of Planning Policy (DAL) as of "Outstanding environmental significance". The Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (GORCAPA) already has a Shorebird Protection Zone on their side of the estuary, with a 'dogs on leash all year round' regulation. However, this does not match the current Barwon Coast/City of Greater Geelong dog regulations which is seasonal 'dogs on leash' during the Hooded Plover breeding season

and then reverts to 'Under effective control' (dogs off leash) from April to August. These regulations do not provide the appropriate protection for migratory and local shorebirds and waders. Continuity of signage for land managers on both sides of the estuary would provide clarity to dog walkers and assist by-laws officers with enforcing compliance.

Some pop up community interaction days at council dog parks. Animal management officers with a marquee for shelter spending a day of interaction & advice We are noticing a lot of inexperienced dog owners now who don't understand dog behaviour, what is acceptable & what needs correcting, don't recognise anxiety, some people who know their dog has some issues but don't know where to turn for help (e.g. suggesting dog behaviour classes, help from trainer etc) A lot of positive things could come from this interaction. This day would be advertised at the entrance in advance and could be supported by pet businesses in the region. The animal management might even reward well behaved dogs, diligent owners or anything they deem relevant with discount vouchers or promotional donations from the supporting businesses (e.g. my own vet would possibly donate free dog wash vouchers for their hydro bath). I could see this really helping to promote responsible dog ownership and give COG a great image in this area.

Pretend to be a dog walker on the beach and take a camera.
Check dogs at owner's vehicles in car parks for registration tags on collars.
The Dog Park on Woodlands Drive, for example, does not need a private contractor to empty a dog poo bin. Use Council garbage trucks, and ask the driver to save us money.

Stop putting in by-laws that cannot be policed effectively and quickly.

Patrol neighbourhoods at night to check for compliance

As above - I think dog training by an "accredited" trainer is important. One suggestion would be that there would be less need for AMO interaction if dogs were trained properly (by a registered trainer). An incentive to do this would be to reduce dog rates and possibly increase for others (other than those on benefits).

Nothing clever or creative! Just a desperate plea for more resources and a proper implementation of all the items in the 2022-2025 plan and a tightening for the next plan, e.g. 'Explore the possibility/feasibility of providing more resources, needs to be 'Provide more resources'.

Feedback is related to more safe enclosed spaces.
These spaces could have a booking system and or small fees that go towards upkeep and maintenance.
I intend to look into Greyhound adoption in the near future and I am keen to explore permitted spaces where they can be potentially off-lead, given the rules and regulations associated with their breed. It would be great to have a space in Geelong where dog owners, whether of restricted or reactive dogs, who have a safe space to bring their pet. This may help reduce dog attacks or people doing the wrong thing if there was more options available to take their dog.

Off leash pens with identifier showing if owner is comfortable with a doggy play date. Reactive dogs need to have a run too and honestly some people are just unbelievably stupid, oblivious and inconsiderate of this.
Dog poo drop off points in (bus stops maybe) in addition to public bins, in the neighbourhood. People may be more inclined to pick it up if they know a “dump” point is nearby.
Incentivising foster carers to save (primarily) dog and cats lives. There is a crisis in our country with people surrendering their beloved/unwanted pets. Too many animals are being euthanised for space.

So much of the problem is related to education of owners, especially those who seem to have more concern for their pet than for members of the public. If they can't be educated they should be penalised.

A key solution to many of the dog issues expressed in the DAMP is the training and education of dogs and dog handlers. Bellarine Dog Activities Group (BDAG) provides this type of training, however we cannot meet the level of demand in Geelong. We are currently fully booked, and we have no capacity to expand our services. We are a volunteer organisation with limited financial capacity, and we could do a lot more with additional support.

RE dogs . First and foremost, COGG needs to allocate more funds for Animal Management Services . It has so many roles and so many areas/locations to cover . There needs to be dedicated patrol officers for beaches . These patrols need to take place on weekends too . And when I do my Maths , more AMOs could be employed if so many more infringement notices were handed out . Collected fines would add heaps to COGG coffers.
Add some more creative signs in busy dog areas , with happy little dog images with speech bubbles. (E.g. I cant read I want to do the right thing")Many councils have adopted this sort of approach . E.g. lots of great signs on Largs bay beaches in Adelaide. And some good ones re poo at Cronulla Syd .
Put out sandwich boards on beaches at times to reinforce "dog banned Beach " and to keep dogs near you etc on dogs allowed beaches .
Most areas have a local Facebook page . COGG , councillors AMO s should be regularly reminding dog owners of their responsibilities and that not everyone loves their dog . And honestly , regular non compliant owners should have their dog photographed and posted with .."IS this YOUR DOG " . Time for calling out poor behaviour .
Owners need to be reminded the beaches are for all for recreation and relaxing. Beaches should not be seen as "dog walking parks " Get rid of the saying .. "dog Beach " . There are only " shared" beaches . Or of course dogs banned beaches .
AMOs or Councillors need to walk the OG bike/ walk track regularly and put a paint marker or stick with "was this your dog ." on all seen dog poo . Or chalk around poo on hard surfaces .
AND COGG needs to build some fenced dog parks .. lots . Ocean grove and Barwon heads both need one . Don’t wait for dog owners to ask . Just do it
In summary COGG must dedicate more funds to AMS. Its a no brainer . Helps this precious coastal environment if dog owners doing the right thing and makes a safer environment /town for ALL.

The development of a purpose-built dog training and event facility for Geelong would improve our ability to deliver dog training classes. Such a facility could be shared by a number of dog clubs. The facility could also be used for dog events - for which there is a huge and growing demand. This could make a major contribution towards attracting dog-event tourism to Geelong. There is a very substantial gap to be filled in the region and in Victoria more broadly.

We recommend that CoGG explore the potential for providing a purpose-built dog training facility for Geelong to enable clubs to meet the demand for dog training, and for dog events. We would be pleased to further discuss this with CoGG, and we would be happy to renew our conversation with Council in this regard.
We can be contacted at bdag.training@gmail.com

- provide free or heavily subsidised cat & dog desexing service (some Australian councils have already done so with substantial cost savings to them & reduction in euthanasia & suffering by animals e.g. Banyule & Gold Coast Councils)
- Educate public that kittens can become pregnant at 4 months, puppies at 6 months or earlier
- Fun signs on trails, sports ovals advising responsibilities of dog owners
-Pop up (annual?) info sessions at supermarkets or sports ovals with giveaways, onsite dog registration
-Fridge magnet sent to cat & dog owners after they register with fun info on their pet responsibilities
-Radio advert for animal registration dates & advising pet ownership responsibilities
-Info pack for real estate agents to give to newcomers to area (rental or property owners) about pet ownership with dog poo bag holder &/or poo bags or cat or dog-shaped keyring or children's colouring sheet with dog or cat image & small packet of coloured pencils

Don’t think people listen. Money better spent on animal control officers.

Not necessarily creative but animal breeding control in known areas of stray cats. i.e.. cemeteries, school grounds, parks and beach resorts as well as bush blocks where animals get dumped.
More half price desexing, Cheap registration periods, and consider reducing costs to reclaim their animal from GAWS. Too easy to get another and the dumping cycle continues.

Dedicated greyhound slip track in Geelong

Lifetime one off registration would be fair, not yearly fees.

More ethical consultation with pet owners shouldn’t need to be said but after last year’s debacle, sadly it’s needed.

Registered dog owners should get a "pooch pouch" that attaches to their lead to put their recycled plastic bags or poo bags in to reduce poo on footpaths, nature strips, parks, etc. The COGG used to issue each owner that registered or renewed their dog registration with these bags, even if this was done every 2nd year this would help. On the bags could be printed the 2 rules / laws the city is working on the most each year, thereby educating owners.

An idea in UK is the local ‘guardian’ if a park or reserve.
They may be a resident, living close to the park, who often walks through the park & can readily assess a need and alert the City officers to a problem.

Not sure if this is already done as I haven't had a pet for about 6 years, it would be helpful to send with the registration renewal notice a list of the top 4 or 5 rules to keeping a cat or dog (depending on the type of registration) as a reminder, in decent size print - maybe with a clear simple image depicting the rule. Too much text means people just don't bother reading the rule.
Having fun education sessions in primary schools - young children love pets and knowing how to care for them and keeping pets safe. Could also provide fun quizzes to schools which depict the main rules for keeping dogs and/or cats - such as Word Search, Crossword, Spot the Difference pictures, colouring in pages etc.
Do the groups that 'sell' pets, whether rescue centres or pet stores, when selling a cat/dog, hand out a simple one-page (clear concise) list of the council rules that apply to that pet?

Provide a service at a reasonable rate (not for profit making) to help owners assess their property and set up cat-proofing in their backyard. Most people have no idea how to do it or even afford it. If the council can set up a team to assist people who want to contain their animals, I believe it would generate a big interest. Forget making a profit and do it for genuinely wanting to bring change and control to the domestic pets in society.

It makes no sense that you can have 2 dogs, 2 cats, 2 rabbits etc but more than only 2 dogs needs a permit. It should be an accumulative total rather than based on species.

Unfortunately not because all the problems are caused by self entitled and/or idiot owners and I’m not sure there’s a clever or creative idea to solve human stupidity.

Could possibly offering owners free or discounted basic training with their dogs. As many dog owners may not have the finances to do so.

More patrols, higher fines, promote indoor pets. Offer more desexing at reasonable cost, enforce cat curfew, men’s sheds making cat enclosure

I think this is a hard one. I work for council in a different department and totally understand how hard managing funds is. So its all well and good to say all these things need to be done but that isn't necessarily going to happen due to costs.
I think education is very important. I think it should be compulsory for an education program for people to attend that own an animal.
And school based education. Often kids learn how to deal with animals from their parents so we need to change that

Appendix K – GAWS Written Submission

AUSTRALIAN PET WELFARE FOUNDATION

Community Cat Program

2024 Update

For further information, please email info@petwelfare.org.au



Australian PET WELFARE Foundation

COMMUNITY CAT PROGRAM
Protecting people, cats & wildlife

AUSTRALIAN PET WELFARE FOUNDATION YEAR 2024

A Word From Our Director

Dear friends and colleagues,

It is with a sense of pride and optimism that I share the latest developments from our Community Cat Program with you.

This past year, despite the hurdles we faced, including a scarcity of vaccines and limitations in desexing capacity, I am heartened to share the encouraging results achieved in target areas.

We have also made significant headway in the realm of research, publishing a paper from the data we've meticulously gathered, and will publish two to three more later this year. These forthcoming publications will shed light on the rapid impact our community cat programs have had in reducing shelter intake and euthanasia rates. Most rapid progress is particularly evident in country towns, associated with greater community engagement of stakeholders, including animal management officers and veterinarians.

I look forward to sustaining this momentum and seeing the tangible benefits of our initiatives. As we continue to learn how best to efficiently implement community cat programs, we will share with you our learnings to enhance the welfare of cats and the people who care for them.



JACQUIE RAND

Jacquie Rand

Executive Director & Chief Scientist, Australian Pet Welfare Foundation
Emeritus Professor, School of Veterinary Science, The University Of Qld

Real Impact

- **Desexed 2,750 cats in target QLD suburbs by April 2024.**
- **Achieved goal of greater than 30% reduction in cat intake & 50% less euthanasia in target areas.**
- **Published 6 papers, 4 upcoming in 2024.**
- **Engaged in 4 conferences, 7 talks, and 1 radio interview.**
- **Responded to draft Feral Cat Threat Abatement Plan with 3 submissions.**
- **Made 13 additional submissions to State & Federal governments advocacy for Community Cat Programs.**

AUSTRALIAN PET WELFARE FOUNDATION YEAR 2024

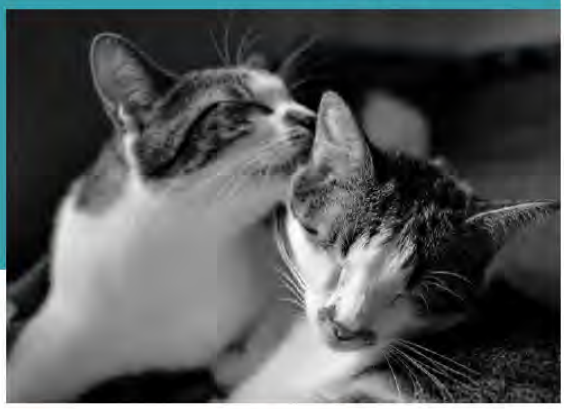
About the Community Cat Program

The **Australian Pet Welfare Foundation** is leading an ambitious initiative in the City of Ipswich, Queensland, as part of the broader **Australian Community Cat Program**. This program aims to address the challenges posed by cat overpopulation through a strategic, research-driven approach. By focusing on **high-intensity, targeted cat desexing,** coupled with a robust ecological perspective, the program seeks to revolutionise current practices and establish a sustainable model for urban cat management.

Traditionally, the management of urban cat populations has been reactive, with shelters and pounds overwhelmed by the **influx of kittens and poorly socialised adult cats**. This approach not only leads to distressing euthanasia rates but also imposes significant financial burdens on communities. Moreover, the **reactive nature of these measures fails to address the root cause of the problem,** perpetuating a cycle of overpopulation and associated issues.

The overarching goal of the **Australian Community Cat Program** is to demonstrate the efficacy of a **proactive approach to curbing cat overpopulation**. By preventing the birth of kittens through **targeted desexing efforts,** the program seeks to achieve long-term solutions that prioritise the welfare of animals, humans, and the environment. Rather than simply reacting to the consequences of overpopulation, the **program aims to intervene at a systemic level,** thereby mitigating the need for euthanasia and reducing the financial strain on local authorities.

> “[I’m] relieved because I know they can’t have babies anymore...”



Target Suburb Review & Statistics

Target suburbs for the Community Cat Program are Rosewood, Goodna and Redbank Plains, Ipswich QLD. These suburbs were chosen **due to their high cat intake and euthanasia at local shelters.** Shelter intake (of cats) is typically highest in areas that are considered **low socioeconomic** and can sometimes be more than 10 times higher than more advantaged areas. Due to high costs related to cat care, these areas also see higher numbers of stray, or semi-owned cats.

Since the program's implementation, there have been significant reductions in both intake and euthanasia across all three suburbs. Overall, in 2023/24, target suburbs saw a **63% reduction** in **intake** and **70% reduction** in **euthanasia.**



Intake

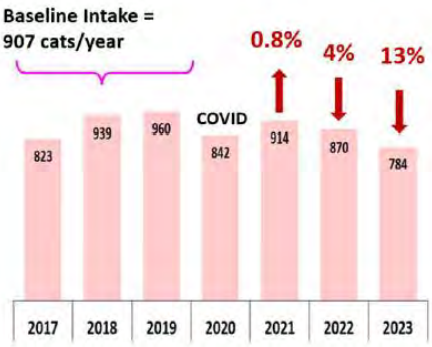
Target vs. Non-Target Suburbs

AUSTRALIAN PET WELFARE FOUNDATION YEAR 2024

Target Suburbs



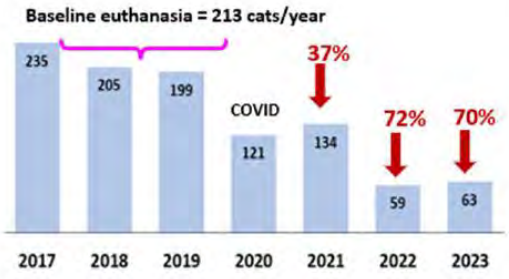
Non-Target Suburbs



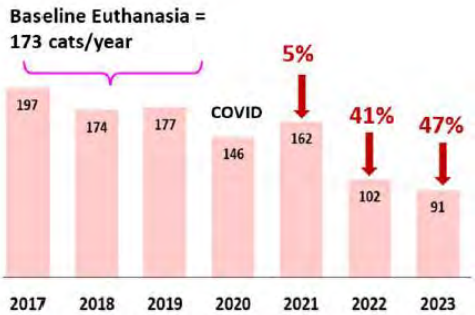
Euthanasia

Intake vs. Euthanasia

Target Suburbs



Non-Target Suburbs



Decreasing cat intake in target areas, especially of shy and timid cats which have longer lengths of stay in shelters and higher risk of euthanasia, frees up shelter resources to help other cats have shorter stays and better outcomes.

Learnings & reflections from past year

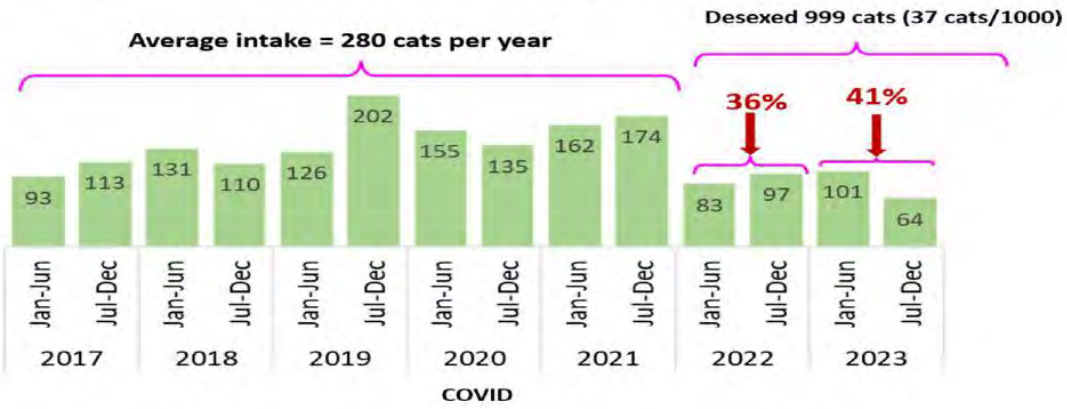
Of the 2750 cats desexed in the program, **80% were considered owned**, **11% were considered semi-owned but became owned** by the carer when desexed (90% owned at desexing), **7% remained semi-owned** (considered "restricted matter" by DAF). These "restricted matter' cats were microchipped with APWF as the secondary contact on the microchip database and were also ear-tipped.

Of the approximately **200 "restricted matter" cats,** approximately **10 were return-to-field cats**. These cats were found as strays and were healthy adults but were too poorly socialized to be rehomed. After desexing, microchipping and ear-tipping, they were returned to where they were found on the **premise that someone was feeding them** because they were in good body condition and healthy.

Return to field (RTF), also called shelter-neuter-return, is life-saving for healthy, poorly socialized cats and protects the mental health of shelter workers.

Redbank Plains pop 27,000 in 2023 (20,000 in 2017)

Intake / 6 months



Although it's premature to assess **the impact of lack of vaccines** and subsequent **closure of desexing services** at RSPCA Wacol for disease control, the last six months of data from Redbank Plains were encouraging. Unfortunately, **only 12 cats were desexed over 4 months** since mid-December. How this will impact the financial year data is unknown.

We are very **thankful to AWL Qld and Greencross Silkstone-Booval** for helping desex the most urgent cases to prevent surrender or impoundment.

Our **key takeaway** is the **critical importance** of engaging with Animal Management Officers (**AMOs**) and encouraging them to **embrace assistance-based rather than compliance-based cat management.** This is essential for making CCPs successful and more efficient.



Transporting cats for desexing rather than for impoundment, and possible euthanasia, is more effective long-term, and leads to **improved job satisfaction for AMOs**.

AUSTRALIAN PET WELFARE FOUNDATION YEAR 2024

Keeping Cats Safe At Home



> ***Complaints have reduced dramatically*** *since this program of desexing began. Clearly the program has had a significant impact on unwanted litters and roaming cats in Walgett*
>
> ***Paul Flint,***
> *Regulatory Officer*

> ***Working with,*** *instead* ***of against people has achieved this result.*** *Community feedback indicates an enormous appreciation and praise for the program and effort provided by all stakeholders that have been involved.*
>
> ***Allison Knowles,***
> *Weddin Shire Council*

In partnership with the **NSW Government, the RSPCA NSW** embarked on a four-year project aimed at **changing human behaviour and reducing domestic cat impact** on the environment by **encouraging cat caregivers to desex, and register their cats, while also preventing them from roaming**.

Through social media marketing campaigns, information resources, school education, and targeted desexing and microchipping programs, **Keeping Cats Safe at Home** has been a great success. In Paramatta alone, there was a **reduction in the intake of cats and kittens** to the RSPCA Sydney shelter of **46%, cat-related nuisance complaints to council of 49%** and **cats arriving** at the **council pound of 41%.**

The project has also contributed to research efforts, with **three articles published** in 2023 utilising the data collected.

Overall, **Keeping Cats Safe at Home has been a great success**, and the results go a long way to show that **targeted desexing combined with education** can help **reduce nuisance calls**, and **cats impacts on the wider community and environment.**

For more information see
https://www.rspcansw.org.au/blog/animal-care-information/impact-report-2/

Dr Gemma Ma:
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NSW GOVERNMENT

RSPCA New South Wales

AUSTRALIAN PET WELFARE FOUNDATION YEAR 2024

Social Science Recently Published

animals

DOI: 10.3390/ani13213423

MDPI

Article

Solutions-Based Approach to Urban Cat Management—Case Studies of a One Welfare Approach to Urban Cat Management

Caitlin Crawford [1,2,*], Jacquie Rand [2,3], Vanessa Rohlf [4], Rebekah Scotney [3] and Pauleen Bennett [4]

Our Aim:

- To document how the Community Cat Program has impacted multi-cat carers (semi-owners) social and psychological well-being.

How we did it:

- We interviewed 11 **multi-cat carers** who had been assisted by the Community Cat Program to have the cats they cared for desexed, given preventative healthcare and microchipped.
- Questions focused on **cat carers' relationship with the cats, their mental and physical wellbeing before and after** they received assistance from the program, and their perception of support from different agencies such as the council and the Community Cat Program staff.

"I wouldn't be without them. They are the reason I get up."

"They are my babies. It's sort of like they are my kids."

Quotes from Mutli-Cat Carers

What we found:

- **Multi-cat carers form a strong bond with the cats** they care for. This is consistent with the levels of attachment recently reported for cat caregivers (semi-owners) to the cats in their care, which were found to be nearly identical to those previously reported by cat owners (Neal 2023, A Cat Is a Cat: Attachment to Community Cats Transcends Ownership Status.
- The Community Cat Program's staff **created a positive relationship with the community** and were trusted by semi-owners to do what was right for them and the cats. This is essential for the success of cat management programs.
- We were also able to identify challenges and problems before carers were helped, and how the Community Cat Program benefited semi-owners, the cats and community engagement.
- **Most cats were microchipped as community cats and ear-tipped,** with secondary contact details for Australian Pet Welfare Foundation (APWF). This is permitted under **a research permit** provided by the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to the University of Queensland and operated by the APWF.
- **Legislative changes are required across Australia** to make it legal to effectively manage semi-owned cats in this way. These cats are often found at multi-cat sites, frequently on private property. As un-desexed cats, they are often a source of complaints and subsequent impoundment and are at high risk of euthanasia.

AUSTRALIAN PET WELFARE FOUNDATION YEAR 2024

Social Science – Pending Publication

animals MDPI

Article

Impacts of a local government funded free cat sterilization program for owned and semi-owned cats.

Jennifer Cotterell [1], Jacquie Rand[1, 2], Tamsin S. Barnes[2] and Rebekah Scotney [2]

In 2013, the city of Banyule (VIC) funded a program offering free desexing, microchipping and registration, particularly targeted to three low-socioeconomic suburbs with the highest rate of cat-related complaints and impoundments. Over 8 years, **33 cats/1000 residents were sterilized in the target suburbs, and 6.5 cats/1000 residents city-wide.**

The program was **operated by the Animal Management Officers and microtargeted to locations of calls to council for cat-related complaints and found cats.**

Over the 8-year program, there was a city-wide **decrease** in **impoundments by 66%, euthanasia 82%,** and **cat related calls by 40%.** The council realised **cost savings of $440,660** associated with **reduced costs for cat-related calls** to council ($137,170) and **charges** from the contracted welfare agency ($303,490), for an outlay of $77,490 for desexing costs.

Read the Animals Journal end of May 2024 for the article
https://www.mdpi.com/journal/animals/special_issues/Advances_Sheltering

Pending submission

Cat Ownership, Semi-ownership, And Preferences For Stray Cat Management In An Australian Community



This study aims to increase understanding of factors and behaviours associated with cat ownership and semi-ownership. Additionally, it investigates the attitude within Australian communities regarding stray cats and **preferences for how stray cats should be managed and their predictors.**

When given no additional information regarding wellbeing benefits for humans, animals and the environment, the **majority of respondents preferred desexing (65%) as a means of stray-cat management, compared to 35% who preferred killing,** which aligns with previous research (Rand 2019, Kim 2023, Deak 2021).

Respondents indicated that for cat management programs, the greatest importance to them was to **stop kittens being born (94%) and to decrease killing of birds and small native animals (91%). These outcomes should be incorporated into community messaging to increase support for community cat programs.**

AUSTRALIAN PET WELFARE FOUNDATION YEAR 2024

Social Science -Current & Future Projects

A One Welfare Approach To Rural Cat Management: Exploring The Lived Experiences Of Farmers Managing Multiple Farm Cats

- Our previous research indicated that farmers have a different relationship with farm cats, indicating that they view them more as **valuable working animals** than as pets.
- The aim of this study is to document the **impact** of assistive-centered cat management, based on **cat desexing**, on those who live and work on farms, and to explore the perceived impact on the welfare of the cats. We also are also investigating **farmers' opinions and potential impacts for them of the Australian Tax Office classifying cats on farms as working cats**, allowing their care, including desexing costs, to be tax deductible.
- Initial findings are that diary farmers indicated that **cats save money** and are a **necessity on diary farms** to **prevent costly and disruptive rodent damage** to **electrical wiring** and to **avoid** having to use **toxic rodent baits**.
- Some farmers mentioned that **their cats do more work than their working dogs**.
- Their **working dogs and rodent poisons are tax deductible**, so farmers questioned **why aren't cats?**
- They said it would provide an **incentive to desex the cats** and provide more care, **improving their welfare**, reducing nuisance issues and **benefit wildlife**.

Shifting Towards An Assistive-centered Urban Cat Management Strategy: The Impacts On Animal Management Officers

- The aim of this study is to explore the impact of assistive-centered cat management, based on desexing, **on the animal management officers who are implementing it**.
- We aim to interview animal management officers who have **previously used enforcement-centered cat management** but have started **implementing assistive-centered cat management based on desexing**. We hope to document the impact the new management strategy has had on animal management officers' **wellbeing, job satisfaction and relationship with the community.**

If you are interested in supporting these or other future projects, please contact info@petwelfare.org.au for more information



"I have no problems because I know the Program is going to do what's best for the cat and what's best for me, and I trust them."

AUSTRALIAN PET WELFARE FOUNDATION YEAR 2024

Ecology Research Update

- The Community Cat Program **aims to sustainably reduce stray cat populations** through desexing cats in urban areas with high free-roaming cat densities, targeting overpopulation and euthanasia reduction. As of April 2024, 2750 cats have been desexed, helping control population growth and support wildlife coexistence.

Aims of Ecology Research

- The aim of our ecology research is to determine if the **numbers of free-roaming cats** decrease over 5 years **after implementing a community cat program**, and how cats and land-use influence wildlife numbers.
- Combining targeted cat desexing with rigorous monitoring, the program is committed to **evidence-based practices to manage urban cat populations overpopulation while promoting coexistence with native wildlife.**

Methods of Ecology Research

- We are using **motion-detecting cameras (camera traps) in 3 target suburbs** (Rosewood, Goodna, and Redbank Plains) where the community cat program began in 2020 -21. With the help of staff and volunteers, we are gathering data for longitudinally quantifying the **urban free-roaming cat population and understanding the dynamics between urban cats and wildlife.**
- Despite theoretic calculations of alarming numbers of native animals killed by cats, the few Australian studies published to date have **not demonstrated any measurable effect of the presence of cats in urban areas on populations of birds and small native mammals**. However, it is **critical more population studies are performed** in other locations (none are from Queensland). Factors such as housing density, distance from bushland, and vegetation characteristics were demonstrated to play crucial roles in determining wildlife abundance and diversity.
- We are incorporating landscape use patterns into the analysis to **discern the factors influencing wildlife** presence in urban areas, **thereby informing effective management strategies benefiting both cats and wildlife.**



Left – typical day-time image of cat on camera trap (night images are grey & white).

Right – Dr Kate Dutton-Register installing camera-trap.



AUSTRALIAN PET WELFARE FOUNDATION YEAR 2024

Ecology Research Update (cont)

Progress to date

- Now in its **fourth year**, we are deploying 50 cameras biannually (during both summer and winter) per suburb, documenting activity. **Since 2000, 8 data rounds have been completed**, with the 9th beginning soon.
- Improvements in camera deployment have **optimised image capture and processing,** reducing setup times and image backlog, enhancing efficiency.
- These improvements have streamlined both the camera deployment process and image processing, **reducing the setup time from three to two days** and the number of images per round from 700,000 in the early rounds to approximately 175,000 in the latest round. This efficiency has **allowed for faster processing and reduced the backlog of images** needing review.

Data analysis

- For camera image processing, we have transitioned to using '**EcoAssist'**, This **software categorises images for quicker processing**, supporting volunteer identification efforts.
- Approximately **1.6 million images have been processed to date** and are currently investigating the scope of **AI tools for animal identification** at the individual level to further refine the process.
- Images for the baseline rounds (Round 1 and 2) are still in progress due to the large volume of images to be processed (~1.2 million). Previous date errors have now been fixed and Round 1 is approximately 60% processed**. Processing is complete for Rounds 3 - 6; Round 7 is 80% complete and Round 8 is currently in progress.**
- By leveraging **data-driven insights and collaborative partnerships**, the program strives to achieve **sustainable reductions in stray cat populations** and **create healthier environments for both animals and humans alike.**





Top to Bottom – day-time image of bird on camera trap vs night images of cat.

> "[The Community Cat Program has] allowed us to make a difference and having that support has meant that I can now think of what else I can do in the community to help."

AUSTRALIAN PET WELFARE FOUNDATION YEAR 2024

Team Spotlight

Dr Kate Dutton-Regester



Dr. Kate is our Ecology Research Officer. With a background in Wildlife Reproduction and Veterinary Epidemiology, Kate seamlessly integrates her expertise into our operations. Kate leads our Community Cat Program, overseeing camera monitoring and cat tracking initiatives. Her role involves data collection, analysis, and publication preparation, alongside coordinating our invaluable volunteers.

Kate shares her knowledge on Wildlife Reproduction and Veterinary Epidemiology as a lecture at The University of Queensland. Her passion for animal welfare and wildlife conservation drives her commitment to our research efforts, aiming for evidence-based improvements in stray cat management. Off duty, Kate enjoys motherhood with two children and shares her home with two ginger cats, embodying her dedication to family and feline welfare.

Kate competed her PhD in the reproductive biology of short-beaked echidnas.

Thanks To Our Partners

Core

AWL Qld, Bridgette Bardot Foundation, The Cat Protection Society (NSW), Cheltenham Cat Rescue, Greencross Vets (QLD), Ipswich City Council, Maneki Neko Cat Rescue, Microchips Australia, MSD Animal Health, Neighborhood Cats (USA), Pet Rescue, Petbarn Foundation, Pets Regardless Foundation, RSPCA (QLD), SPCAi, Sydney Dogs & Cats Home

National Network

AIAM, Animal Aid Victoria, Animals Australia, AWL NSW, Cat Haven, Cherished Pets Foundation, CANA, Department Of Agriculture And Fisheries (QLD), Four Paws, GAWS, G2Z, Just Cats, Meow & Friends Community Vet, Pets Medical Crisis, SCAR, Westside Community Desexing, WIRES (NSW)

International Network

Alley Cat Advocates (USA), Human Animal Support Services (HASS), International Cat Care (Icc), International Companion Animal Management (ICAM), SPCAi, Vier Pfoten International

For further information, email info@petwelfare.org.au

COMMUNITY CAT PROGRAM
Protecting people, cats & wildlife

Implementation of a Community Cat Program

BENEFITS:

30-50%
reduction in cat intake/impoundments in first year*.

50-80%
reduction in numbers of cats and kittens euthanased in first year*.

Long-term reduction in cat management costs for councils & animal welfare groups.



Reduced calls regarding found cats & nuisance complaints.

Less burnout of animal management & shelter staff.



Reduced wildlife predation.

Improved environment for residents - less noise disturbance and nuisance behaviours from cats & less disease risk for humans, pets and wildlife.

Residents are more satisfied & supportive of council animal management services*.

Donors & supporters happier with fewer cats being euthanased in shelters & pounds*.

*Based on observed results from high-intensity desexing programs recently conducted in Australia.

How to Implement a Community Cat Program

11 STEPS:

PHASE 1: Evaluate Data

✔**Step 1**

Calculate cat intake or impoundments per 1,000 residents^ or cat-related calls per 1000 residents for each suburb in your service area.

✔**Step 2**

Rank and prioritise suburbs in descending order based on the highest cat intake or impoundments per 1,000 residents or calls per 1,000 residents.

PHASE 2: Plan budget for 1-3 years & select target suburbs

✔**Step 3**

Allocate budget for free desexing, microchipping & registration for the next 1-3 years.

✔**Step 4**

Negotiate with service providers on the cost per cat for desexing & microchipping and how many desexing surgeries they are willing to perform. (If the local vets have insufficient capacity or are unwilling to provide a discount, check if your local animal shelter is willing to be involved).

✔**Step 5**

Identify top-ranked suburbs to target in the first year where your budget will allow you to achieve 30 cats desexed per 1,000 residents (based on observed results from high-intensity desexing programs recently conducted in Australia).

In selecting a target suburb, also consider factors necessary for a successful project, including distance from veterinary clinics, access for staff and volunteers, community involvement, etc.

PHASE 3: Implement program

✔**Step 6**

Identify owners, semi-owners, and multiple-cat carers in the target suburb whose cats are not desexed. Particularly focus on locations where impoundments or cat-related calls are coming from using flyer drops, doorknocking, social media and community announcements. Offer free desexing, microchipping and registration.

✔**Step 7**

Encourage semi-owners (cat carers/guardians) to take ownership of their cats, including having their name on the microchip.

✔**Step 8**

For community members caring for multiple cats, rehome kittens to reduce numbers if possible. Encourage the carer or property owner where the cats are located to have their name on the microchip. (Check how to manage multi-cat situations legally within state government legislation and local by-laws).

✔**Step 9**

Offer assistance to catch timid and poorly socialised cats for desexing, assist with scheduling desexing appointments, supply carry-containers and provide transport if needed.

PHASE 4: Offer services in non-target suburbs

✔**Step 10**

In non-target suburbs, provide referrals to services for subsidised desexing & microchipping.

PHASE 5: Maintain & expand program

✔**Step 11**

Maintain high-intensity desexing for 1 to 3 years until a 50% to 75% reduction in cat intake or cat-related calls occurs, and then maintain desexing at about 5 to 10 cats per 1,000 residents in your yearly budget for the targeted suburbs. Expand the Community Cat Program to the next suburbs down the priority list.

^To calculate cat intake per 1,000 residents, divide cat intake over 12 months for the suburb by the human population of the suburb, and multiply the result by 1,000.

For more information, please contact info@petwelfare.org.au

How targeted, high-intensity, free cat desexing programs are reducing biosecurity risks in urban areas of Australia

Jacquie Rand[1,2] and Emily Lancaster[2]
Correspondence: info@petwelfare.org.au
[1] School of Veterinary Science, The University of Queensland, Gatton, Qld 4343; [2] Australian Pet Welfare Foundation, Kenmore, Qld 4069

The Australian Community Cat Program is a research project initiated and led by the Australian Pet Welfare Foundation, which is a not-for-profit organisation focused on reducing euthanasia in animal welfare shelters and local government facilities.

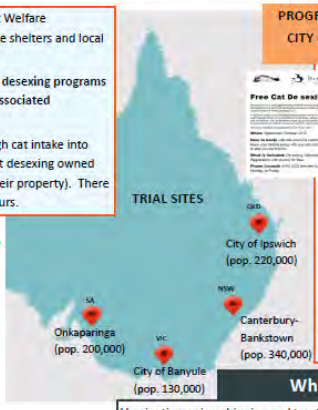
The aim is to demonstrate that a proactive approach to managing cats, using high-intensity, free desexing programs that prevent kittens being born, is an effective method to humanely reduce their numbers and associated biosecurity risks in urban and peri-urban areas of Australia.

This collaborative project is being run across four Australian States and targeted to areas with a high cat intake into shelters and pounds, or high numbers of cat-related complaints to councils. It is primarily aimed at desexing owned cats and those being cared for by semi-owners (defined as people who did not regard the cat as their property). There is also a focus on converting semi-owners to owners and increasing responsible cat caring behaviours.

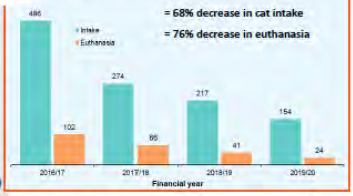
OBJECTIVES

- Decrease number of free-living and free-roaming cats and increase proportion of responsibly owned cats and cat caring attitudes and behaviours (e.g. desexing and confinement)
- Reduce biosecurity risks from free-living and free-roaming cats, including wildlife predation and disease risks to pets, humans and wildlife
- Reduce nuisance behaviours (e.g. cat fighting and property soiling) leading to fewer cat-related complaints to local government and requests for trapping equipment
- Decrease intake and euthanasia of cats in shelters and pounds and reduce recurring annual management costs (as a result of reduced cat admissions & impoundments)

PROGRESS OF THE COMMUNITY CAT PROGRAM IN CITY OF BANYULE, VICTORIA (population 130,000)



After 3 years of a free, high intensity, targeted desexing program for owned and semi-owned cats, cat impoundments decreased from 4 to 1.2 cats/1,000 residents (compared to Victorian average of 7 cats/1,000 residents), and just 24 cats were euthanased (0.2 cats/1,000 residents, compared to the Victorian average of 3.3 cats/1000). Cat-related complaints fell from 11 to 4 calls/1,000 residents.



PROGRESS OF THE COMMUNITY CAT PROGRAM IN THE CITY OF IPSWICH, QUEENSLAND

TARGET SUBURBS

Selected based on their high cat and kitten intake into RSPCA shelters, including high proportion of healthy or treatable strays, low proportion desexed (<25%) and over representation of pre-weaned kittens and poorly socialised adults.

Queensland = 7 cats / 1,000 residents
Ipswich = 15 cats / 1,000 residents
2017-2021 RSPCA intake and outcome data
Rosewood = 25 cats / 1,000 residents
Goodna = 25 cats / 1,000 residents
Redbank Plains = 21 cats / 1,000 residents

CHARACTERISTICS AND ATTITUDES OF RESIDENTS IN TARGET SUBURBS

Residents indicated their **most important priorities for cat management are to stop kittens being born (93%), decrease wildlife predation (90%)**, reduce risk of disease to humans, pets and wildlife (86%-88%) and stop nuisance behaviours (65%-74%).

Cats are owned by 34% of residents (of which 89% are desexed) and 7% of residents feed a stray cat that they do not perceive is their property (semi-owners). Some semi-owners also own a cat.

2020-21 survey of residents in Rosewood, Goodna and Redbank Plains, City of Ipswich (n = 245)

UNDERSTANDING OWNERS, SEMI-OWNERS AND THE CATS THEY ARE DESEXING

- **Most considered themselves owners (80%), but some (20%) considered themselves** carers or feeders and the cat was not their property (semi-owners).
- Only 44% of semi-owners actively "got" the cat, versus 73% of owners. In most cases the cat came from a family member, friend, neighbour, or advertised as free give-away. Over half of the cats (56%) enrolled by semi-owners were "found" or "just appeared" at their property, versus only 27% of those enrolled by owners.
- •Owners and carers trying to do the best they can to care for cat with the resources they have – they are "responsibility" caring for these cats. In addition to food and water, they provided healthcare (78%), shelter (74%), vaccination (38%), veterinary care for injuries/illness (36%), microchips (21%).
- **Most owners and semi-owners attempted some containment** so the cat could not wander off their property all the time (49%) or just at night (30%).
- Most people enrolling a cat have a close relationship with it (even semi-owners). **Many talk to the cat (80%)**, stroke, rub its chin or pet the cat (67%), cuddle/relax with the cat (56-58%) multiple times per day.
- Importantly, **90% of semi-owners said "this cat helps me get through tough times" and "gives me a reason to get up in the morning" (60%).**
- At the time of enrolment into the program, residents had typically owned or been caring for the cat for 8 to 9 months.
- **A higher proportion of females cats were enrolled (58%) and 30% of those had already had at lease one litter of kittens (owners = 23%; semi-owners = 68%).**

What is the single most important reason why you have not yet had this cat desexed?

Couldn't afford desexing costs = 90 %

What is the single most important reason why you are getting the cat desexed now?

Free-desexing = 70 %

Did not want it to have kittens = 12 %

2021-21 survey of owners and semi-owners enrolling cats in program (n = 228)

To desex and microchip a female cat typically costs from $350 to $500. In these low socio-economic areas >20 % of households (with 2.4 people) live on <$650/ week.



What's included?

Vaccination, microchipping and treatment for endo- and ecto-parasites for all cats being desexed. Healthcare is also provided to improve the welfare of the cat (at no cost to the resident) if deemed necessary. Those utilising the service typically have 1-2 cats.

Total value to residents approximately $300-$500 per cat

Information on practical implementation of responsible cat caring behaviours (e.g. practical tips for affordable cat containment, fence attachments, walking on a lead) is also provided.

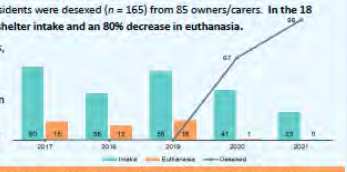
Letter-box flyers and door-knocking used to maximize the number of cats desexed.



PROGRESS SO FAR...

The pilot program in Rosewood (Qld) is now complete. Baseline cat intake before the program commenced was 25 cats/1,000 residents, more than triple the Queensland average of 7 cats/1000 residents. Rosewood is a small town of 2,800 residents, but its initial cat intake reflects the situation faced by **many regional towns across Australia that are struggling with excess cats**. High intensity desexing commenced August 2020. As at 31 December 2021, 57 cats/1,000 residents were desexed (n = 165) from 85 owners/carers. **In the 18 months after the project commenced, there was a 50% decrease in shelter intake and an 80% decrease in euthanasia.**

The program has extended to other suburbs in Ipswich. Over 20 mths, **1,257 cats were desexed, and 98% were owned or became owned**. Most were owned cats (80%); 18% were semi-owned but became owned; 2% remained semi-owned, cared for in multi-cat situations on private property (covered by DAF Scientific Research Permit— PRID000664). 46% of cats were under 6 mths and 59% were females, with the potential to produce over 3,600 kittens in the next 12 mths.



MEASURING THE LONG-TERM EFFICACY OF HIGH-INTENSITY, TARGETED DESEXING

1. Monitoring the intake and outcome statistics for cats and kittens entering council pounds and animal welfare shelters

2. Monitoring the number of free-living and free-roaming cats in the target suburbs with STREET-LEVEL CAT COUNTING

Undertaken in November/December and March/April each year, before and after kitten season. Research assistants walk approximately 120 km across the three trial sites during each round of transect walking. For the first trial site (Rosewood), at baseline (2019), 44 cats were observed equating to 17.6 cats per km^2. Most sighted cats have been on driveways or in gardens at the front of residential properties (not contained), although some have been spotted in stormwater drains. The 4th assessment round is complete.

3. Monitoring the number of free-living and free-roaming cats in the target suburbs with WILDLIFE CAMERAS

Motion-activated wildlife monitoring cameras are deployed twice a year (commenced June 2020). Cameras are placed on residential and commercial properties at approximately 250 m increments (total of 50 cameras) for 3 wks. A visual/scent lure is placed in front of each camera to attract cats. Over 1 million images have been collected.

Most cats are detected from dusk to dawn (4pm to 7am). Monitoring activity patterns over time will also determine whether encouraging night-time containment (part of program) has been successful.





KEY TAKEAWAYS

Most owners and semi-owners care greatly for the cats that they are enrolling in the free desexing program. They already undertake a variety of responsible pet ownership practices with the limited resources they have. Cost is the major reason why owners and semi-owners had not already had the cat desexed. When this barrier is removed, the proportion of un-desexed cats in the community is rapidly decreased. It also provides an opportunity to educate residents about responsible pet ownership, including the importance of identification and confinement.

FEEDBACK FROM RESIDENTS

"Being able to access the community cat program helped the 2 kittens my family rescued, it made sure that they could have desexing, microchipping and their vaccinations done as soon as possible without delay after coming into our care suddenly and without funding to do so immediately ourselves." AC, Redbank Plains

"I had 2 cats done that I had rescued. Without the help of the program, I would not have been able to afford to get them spayed...No more roaming. Stay in and getting fat cats." NH, Redbank Plains

"We never chose Buddy to be our cat. Buddy chose us. This program gave us the ability to get him desexed and integrate him into the home (with our other cat and young child) and get him off the streets. Getting him desexed, vaccinated and pest treated unfortunately wasn't in our budget, as we never planned to have two cats and the additional food costs in itself adds up."
LH, Redbank Plains

"At the time I wouldn't have been able to afford it, so I jumped at the opportunity before it was too late! I was so grateful to have that chance as I wanted to do the right thing by our kitten and by our community."
S, Rosewood

"I had planned desexing but now being on a limited income and having been recently hit with massive vet bills for other pets, the desexing had to keep getting postponed. It was always a firm priority, but just financially out of reach each time another animal needed assistance." S, Redbank Plains

"As a single mother (she are a bit tight, I was very impressed that you offered this service to my suburb as I just received a kitten from a neighbour who had trouble finding a home for my beautiful girl. I didn't want the same problem happening to me, so getting her desexed was the right choice for my family."
TH, Goodna

"We've never had pets/ever, but when a few stray cats came into my backyard searching for food I couldn't turn them away. They were multiplying anyway and I couldn't bear to see them starve. So we adopted a few and took them in, but I couldn't afford to pay to get them desexed. This program really helped me out financially as I have now had my cats desexed and they're doing well healthwise, so a huge thank you for the program." KI, Goodna

"Tigger came to me as a giveaway and I wanted, as most people do, to give her the best possible life, and part of that is to ensure that she does not add to the cat population. I wanted to have Tigger desexed as soon as recommended, and with the help of the desexing program this was possible. Many people including myself are suffering financially due to the current economic downturn and cannot afford to have their pets desexed." LM, Rosewood

There is much more to this multi-faceted project than could be shown in a poster! Scan the QR code to see what else is involved and follow the progress of the Australian Community Cat Program.

Correspondence: info@petwelfare.org.au

COMMUNITY CAT PROGRAM
Protecting people, cats & wildlife



The Australian Community Cat Program is supported by financial or in-kind contributions from 29 national and international partners (2021): **6 Australian animal welfare agencies** (Australian Pet Welfare Foundation, Cat Protection Society NSW, Sydney Dog and Cat's Home, Fenhaven, Moreton Nett, Cheltenham Cat Rescue); **3 veterinary and pet-care companies** (Greencross, MSD Animal Health, Rosewood Veterinary Services); **3 local governments** (City of Banyule, Shepparton City Council, Ipswich City Council); **5 national and international foundations** (Pets Regardless Foundation, Brigitte Bardot Foundation, Bissell Foundation, Waltham Foundation); **2 international partners** (Neighborhood Cats, Dr John Boone); **5 universities** (The University of Queensland, Latrobe University, University of NSW); **7 veterinary clinics** (Brimbank Veterinary Clinic, Chatswood Cat Palace, Haberfield Veterinary Hospital, Kensington Vet Clinic, The Paddington Cat Hospital, Kingwood Veterinary Clinic, Werribee Vet Clinic). **The Brigette Bardot Foundation is the biggest single cash supporter for the desexing program having contributed $140,000 to desex 3,000 cats. MSD Animal Health is the biggest single provider of in-kind support to date, providing F3 vaccines and Bravecto Plus for endo and ectoparasite control for all cats. Pets Regardless Foundation is the biggest single supporter of the vital research component of the Community Cat Program.**

Appendix L – Community group written submissions

OGC Association

Ocean Grove Community Association Inc.
Reg. No. A0044603T
ABN: 55 375 287 652

Chairperson
Andy McKoy
0452260051

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www.facebook.com/oceangrovecommunityassociation

20th April 2025

CITY of GREATER GEELONG, DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026 - 2029

Ocean Grove Community Association supports and congratulates the City of Greater Geelong for their implementation of the Domestic Animal Management in our community.

Ocean Grove Community Association brings forward the following points for consideration in the preparation of the next iteration of the Domestic Animal Management Plan.

Ocean Grove Community Association recognizes that there is a partnership between authorities for management dogs; pet-companion, under an agreement by Council, applied over the coastal reserve abutting the township, this partnership is supported, (refer as Dog Control Order).

Ocean Grove Community Association recently made a submission to Barwon Coast Committee of Management Inc. - Foreshore Management Plan, where observations were made regarding community members behaviour and opportunities with a dog(s); pet-companion, in the coastal zone.

This submission brings forward the matters of interest regarding future focus on, Education, Enforcement, Equity for the community management of domestic animal, in township open space, nature areas and the adjoining coastal zone where Council adopted Dog Control Order is applied.

- Increase community education, for the community member to pick up and remove animal excrement,
- Supported is the provision of waste disposal bags and bins at nature areas and open space locations,
- Increase enforcement activity, as practical, for compliance with expectation to pick up excrement,
- Increase community education, for community members to have their dog on leash on defined beach paths,
- Increase community education, for community members to have their dog under effective control where dog permitted to be off-leash [described as Supervised Control in Dog Control Order],
- Improve quality of signage (readability), to support community safety in permitted Supervised Control (off-leash) zone(s) on the beach, make prominent on signage the guidance – effective control applies, not simply dog off leash,
- Improve beach use opportunity at Collendina beach (the 150m section) with education, beach signage and enforcement, Dog Control Order indicates a dog on leash zone,
- Enable greater community opportunity (equity) to experience the beach for a person with limited mobility with a pet-companion dog, that dog with or without limited mobility (on-leash) through use of the all-abilities pedestrian ramp near Surf Life Saving Club to move along the beach toward Barwon River,
- Support threatened species such as Hooded Plover breeding activity and community volunteer support action as guardians, on the beach through Dog Control Order amendment making, where a breeding area is appropriately defined and signed, this area is not permitted to have a dog enter, this being a control where an infringement penalty applicable, (supports City's Hooded Plover Management Plan),
- Apply equitably across adjoining community areas the control zones as defined in the Dog Control Order, it is observed that dog prohibition zone for Barwon Heads not applied in line with zone delineation in the dog control order,

14 April 2025

Submission to Greater Geelong Council- Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-2029

The Australian Pet Welfare Foundation (APWF) is a peak research body and advocate for pet welfare in Australia. As a not-for-profit organisation, APWF uses science-based research to enhance community well-being and improve the health and welfare of animals and people. APWF specialises in evidence-based solutions to prevent euthanasia of healthy and treatable companion animals in shelters and pounds and the associated mental health damage to staff and community residents. We share research knowledge with the community, shelters and pounds, state and local governments and veterinarians to create change and save animal and human lives. APWF is led by Chief Scientist Dr. Jacquie Rand, Emeritus Professor of Companion Animal Health at The University of Queensland (UQ) and a registered specialist veterinarian in small animal internal medicine. She has worked extensively in shelter research over the last 17 years, including collaborative studies with the RSPCA, Animal Welfare League and local governments. While at UQ Dr Rand taught Urban Animal Management and since 2013 has co-authored over 30 peer-reviewed articles on urban animal management including management of semi-owned and unowned cats. Dr Rand is an AVA member.

You can read more about us and our vision on our website: https://petwelfare.org.au.

Executive summary

The Australian Pet Welfare Foundation (APWF) advocates for a paradigm shift in domestic animal management, emphasizing proactive, evidence-based strategies over traditional punitive measures. Central to this approach is the implementation of Community Cat Programs (CCPs), which have demonstrated significant success in humanely reducing stray cat populations. By collaborating with local communities, councils, and shelters, CCPs focus on desexing, microchipping, resulting in a 30-50% reduction in cat impoundments over one to three years.

APWF's research underscores the importance of addressing the root causes of pet overpopulation through supportive interventions. Legislative reforms should facilitate free or subsidized desexing programs, particularly in disadvantaged areas, and promote responsible pet ownership education. By shifting from enforcement-centric models to community-supported initiatives, councils can achieve sustainable reductions in stray animal populations, enhance animal welfare, and alleviate the burden on shelters and pounds.

Australian Pet Welfare Foundation

Evaluation of animal control services provided by the Council

While the guiding principles of the DAMP are commendable, there are several areas where the plan lacks clarity or presents challenges. Notably, the plan does not provide sufficient detail on how key services and initiatives will be measured or evaluated. Without clear metrics or mechanisms for assessing effectiveness, such as tracking reductions in nuisance complaints, increases in desexing or registration rates, or improvements in animal welfare outcomes, it is difficult to determine whether the plan's objectives are being met or whether adjustments are needed over time.

Additionally, while the emphasis on partnership and proactive education is positive, the plan does not fully address how support will be provided to vulnerable pet owners, such as those in low-income or marginalised communities, who may face barriers to compliance. Nor does it outline how council will manage semi-owned or unowned cats, an increasingly significant issue in both urban, peri-urban and rural areas. Greater attention to equitable service delivery, community engagement in high-need areas, and evaluation frameworks would strengthen the plan and ensure its long-term success.

Training of authorised officers

The 2021–2025 Domestic Animal Management Plan outlines several new initiatives aimed at addressing key operational challenges, particularly around visibility, resourcing, and professional development. These include developing a business case to support additional staffing, reviewing internal processes to align with best-practice standards, exploring the feasibility of proactive weekend patrols, and increasing professional development for animal management officers in areas such as livestock handling, investigations, and animal behaviour.

It is understandable that resources may be constrained, especially given the volume of complaints handled, as reported in the plan. However, a significant shortfall is the absence of clear timelines or target dates for the completion of these initiatives. Without specific milestones or deadlines, it becomes difficult to assess progress or hold the responsible parties accountable for delivering improvements. This lack of temporal structure undermines the plan's effectiveness and may contribute to ongoing gaps in service, particularly in relation to public visibility and community confidence. It is really commendable you ask about officer interactions in your survey, this is a great initative, understanding most of the job is dealing with complainrts.

To enhance transparency and ensure meaningful outcomes, future iterations of the plan should include defined timeframes, measurable indicators of success, and regular public reporting on the implementation status of each new action.

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Programs to promote and encourage responsible ownership of dogs and cats

While the City of Greater Geelong has committed to increased patrols and enforcement, it is essential that a proactive assistance and support as a first approach is prioritised in non-serious cases before any formal enforcement action is taken. Many pet owners may be unaware of their obligations, such as the meaning of "effective control" or the need to pick up faeces after their dog, rather than deliberately non-compliant. Providing clear, accessible information, and engaging directly with residents at community events or via targeted campaigns, will foster greater understanding and voluntary compliance. Enforcement should remain a tool for serious or repeated breaches, but a strong, supportive education framework will be more effective in building a culture of responsible pet ownership and long-term behaviour change.

The Dogs in Public Places section of the Domestic Animal Management Plan (2021–2025) highlights the challenge of enforcing leash laws across a large municipality and outlines several actions intended to improve compliance and community safety.

A key initiative included the installation and maintenance of dog order signage in over 360 reserves to help the community understand local rules around dog control. This represents a significant financial and logistical investment, yet the plan does not specify whether this action has been fully implemented or evaluated for effectiveness. In the absence of reporting on whether the 360 signs were actually installed and maintained, it is difficult to assess whether this costly initiative has delivered the intended benefits in promoting responsible pet behaviour and reducing conflict in public spaces.

Community feedback from prior consultation suggests that dog owners are only complying with on-leash requirements about 50% of the time, and that signage, while adequate in some areas, remains insufficient in key high-use locations such as beaches, the Barwon River, the Waterfront, and new housing estates. This disconnect between planned actions and observed outcomes indicates that simply installing signs—without strategic placement, enforcement, or community education—may not be enough to drive behaviour change. Recognising the community's call for more off-leash areas, the council responded by implementing the *Dogs in Public Places Policy* in 2018, which allowed for the use of grassed public sporting reserves as off-leash spaces when not in use for organised sport. This practical solution led to the creation of 21 new off-leash areas, addressing some of the pressures faced by dog owners in high-density suburbs.

The ongoing openness to reviewing dog order statuses across reserves suggests a continued commitment to balancing the needs of pet owners with broader community use of public space.Furthermore, despite the plan outlining several supportive education and engagement strategies (e.g. campaigns, school programs, open days), no clear timeline or accountability measures have been included to track their rollout or success, it can only be assumed there will be evaluation in the 2026-2029 plan. Future planning

must include transparent reporting on the implementation and impact of high-cost actions such as signage and ensure that investment in infrastructure is matched by adequate community engagement, evaluation, and follow-through.

To ensure that people comply with this Act, the regulations and any related legislation

The 2021-2025 plan recognises that trespassing cats and barking dogs are the most common sources of nuisance complaints from the community. While the council is committed to investigating all such reports and promoting constructive outcomes, the complexity of these issues often presents significant challenges. The current approach includes subsidised desexing, trap loans, education on responsible cat ownership, and support for cat confinement, but these efforts appear to be reactive rather than part of a structured, long-term strategy. Notably, the plan does not provide any statistics on the volume, nature, or resolution of nuisance complaints, making it difficult to assess the scale of the problem or evaluate the effectiveness of current interventions.

Recognising, barking complaints are another ongoing source of frustration for both residents and officers. While the plan includes investigation protocols and education for dog owners, community feedback indicates dissatisfaction with the current complaint process. In response, new actions such as reviewing barking dog investigation procedures, exploring technology to support these investigations, and partnering with the Department of Justice to implement alternative dispute resolution mechanisms are welcome steps forward. However, these initiatives would benefit from clearer timelines, performance indicators, and public reporting. Implementing the actions outlined in the 2021–2025 DAMP should be in animal management best practices and community outcomes, providing a strong foundation for continued progress and reported on in the 2026-2029 DAMP.

Cat Definitions

The APWF recognizes and supports the definitions of cats as delineated in the findings and recommendations from the RSPCA Australia's 2018 report, "Identifying best practice domestic cat management in Australia." These definitions categorize cats as Feral and Domestic (owned, semi-owned, unowned).

Domestic cats

Domestic cats live around where people live and frequent. Cat management strategies should recognise three subcategories of domestic cats, as recommended by RSPCA (2018 report) including:

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➢ **Owned cats** – these cats are identified with and cared for by a specific person and are directly dependent on humans. They are usually sociable, although sociability varies. These cats are also called pet cats.

➢ **Semi-owned cats** – these cats are directly dependent on humans and are intentionally fed by people who do not consider they own them. These cats are of varying sociability and are sometimes called stray cats.

➢ **Unowned cats** – these cats are indirectly dependent on humans and receive food from people unintentionally, such as via food waste bins. These cats are of varying sociability and are sometimes called stray cats.

Feral Cats

- **Feral cats-** Feral cats have no relationship with or dependence on humans (neither direct nor indirect), survive by hunting or scavenging for food, and live and reproduce in the wild (e.g., forests, woodlands, grasslands, deserts). Feral cats do not live in the vicinity of where people live and they do not receive food from humans intentionally (direct feeding) or unintentionally (e.g. via food waste bins). Feral cats are completely unsocialised to humans and have none of their needs fulfilled by humans. Feral cats are not found or trapped in the vicinity of where people live, are not the subject of nuisance complaints and do not enter Australian council pounds or animal shelters.

Failure to recognize and apply these definitions in cat management programs can have severe consequences, leading to ineffective strategies and unnecessary euthanasia. When semi-owned and unowned domestic cats are misclassified as feral, they are often subjected to lethal control measures rather than being included in community-based desexing and rehoming programs. This misclassification undermines the effectiveness of proactive, humane solutions such as targeted desexing, which have been shown to stabilize and reduce free-roaming cat populations over time. Additionally, conflating domestic cats with genuinely feral cats can result in misguided policies that penalize community members who provide informal care to semi-owned cats, discouraging public participation in effective management strategies. Without clear distinctions, councils may rely on reactive, punitive measures rather than investing in sustainable, evidence-based programs that reduce intake at shelters, improve animal welfare, and ultimately decrease the number of free-roaming cats in the long term.

Recognising these definitions is essential to ensuring that cat management policies are humane, effective, and aligned with best practices in animal welfare. Research demonstrates that pet cats can respond with more aggressive behaviours to humans when highly stressed than genuinely feral cats. It is critical that before a decision that a cat is euthanised on behaviour, it is given sufficient time to a adapt to a stressful environment. Outcome decisions relating to euthanasia based on behavioural characteristics must be deferred to allow the cat sufficient time to habituate to the unfamiliar environment (e.g., shelter or pound), given the likelihood that these cats will

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experience high levels of fear in a trap cage or unfamiliar environment. By not allowing a stressed cat to settle into the environment, this may result in the cat exhibiting signs of being unsocial and ultimately lead to higher euthanasia.

It is noted that part of the Geelong's action plan is to provide residents and businesses with the use of cat traps to reduce stray and feral cat populations, therefore more cats will be impounded, needing rehousing or will be euthanised. The reliance on euthanasia for cats that could be supported through alternative means suggests **a gap in Geelong's capacity or willingness to pursue innovative life-saving options**, contrary to contemporary welfare models that prioritise "live outcomes."

Community Cat Programs

The APWF supports the expansion of innovative desexing initiatives such as that implemented in the City of Banyule (Cotterell 2024). These programs must include clearly defined, measurable objectives over 3–5 years and be targeted to suburbs with high shelter intakes or cat-related complaints. Within these areas, microtargeting specific streets or neighbourhoods where cats are most at risk of impoundment or surrender ensures greater impact. Effective programs also require sufficient intensity, desexing 30 cats per 1,000 residents annually in targeted suburbs or 10 per 1,000 with microtargeting, otherwise objectives are unlikely to be achieved.

Strong local partnerships are essential for success. Collaborating with veterinarians and welfare agencies can expand low-cost or free desexing, particularly for people who cannot access or afford private clinics. Programs should be adapted to local needs and barriers. A limiting factor is veterinary capacity, which constrains broader rollout. High-volume clinics offering early-age desexing should be supported, and animal welfare agencies encouraged—potentially funded—to develop such facilities for public access. Effective cat management requires coordinated community-wide efforts and cannot rely on a single agency.

Cat impoundments are highest in low-income regional areas (Chua 2023, Albertson 2016), where veterinary services may be inaccessible. These regions need affordable desexing options. Mobile clinics could service towns without a vet, including farming communities. Alternatively, transporting cats up to two hours to a clinic is safe and commonly practised in remote areas of the USA. Desexing and transport services should be supported by partnerships with local veterinary practices.

To reduce unwanted cats, economic barriers to desexing must be addressed, particularly for low-income households or to assist residents with financial stress. This requires affordable programs and grants targeted to vulnerable Victorians. Success depends on microtargeting based on data from cat-related calls and impoundments. Positive, assistive AMO engagement with people who own undesexed cats, especially those experiencing disadvantage, is essential. The Banyule model (Cotterell 2024,

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Cotterell 2025) demonstrates how such engagement in disadvantaged areas can reduce shelter intake and euthanasia.

Many cat carers struggle, especially during the current cost-of-living crisis, cannot afford desexing, especially when managing multiple cats. These individuals require fully subsidised or very low-cost services. Council grants available through Animal Welfare Victoria, to enable AMOs to facilitate desexing for such cases would be highly effective. Transport assistance may also be required, and using AMOs to support transport to surgery is a more constructive use of their time than impoundment.

While general desexing promotion is helpful, programs not targeted to those most in need may have limited impact (Frank 2007), often substituting the source for those who would have desexed their pets anyway. It is essential that programs are place-based, microtargeted to areas of need (those who will never desex), and free from access barriers such as requiring pension or concession cards. Vouchers for local clinics may not be effective due to vet shortages and rising service costs. Based on RSPCA NSW experience (Ma 2023), only half of participants in microtargeted programs held benefits cards, highlighting that many who need help fall outside traditional criteria.

Addressing cat overpopulation effectively requires community partnerships and tailored, microtargeted responses. **The APWF strongly supports place-based desexing programs that combine suburb-level targeting based on nuisance cat reports and impoundments, with local outreach by program staff**. This dual approach, targeting where the problem is greatest and providing direct support to residents, offers the best chance for lasting, measurable impact on cat overpopulation and welfare.

To minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals

The information provided in the 2021-2025 DAMP clearly highlights the significant personal, legal, and financial impacts of dog attacks and reinforces that with proper education and management, many of these incidents are preventable. While the City of Greater Geelong responds promptly to dog attack reports and maintains a database to track incidents, there is a critical opportunity to strengthen early intervention through proactive community outreach. Many residents are unaware they should report dog-related incidents or do not understand what information is needed to initiate an investigation. This gap in public knowledge delays preventative action and may allow recurring issues, such as inadequate fencing or poor supervision, to escalate into serious attacks.

To prevent escalation, council officers should implement a standardised practice of conducting property visits after reports of dogs at large or nuisance behaviour. These visits offer an opportunity to ask owners how the dog got out and collaboratively develop a management plan to rectify the issue, such as repairing

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fencing, adjusting routines, or providing behavioural support. Offering advice and resources early, before an attack occurs, helps build trust and encourages responsible pet ownership. This community-first approach not only reduces the likelihood of repeat incidents but also shifts the focus from punitive responses to proactive prevention, improving safety outcomes for both the community and the dogs involved. Incorporating annual reporting of key statistics into the plan would improve transparency and accountability, enabling both government and the public to assess the effectiveness of council interventions in reducing incidents over time.

To address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats

To effectively address overpopulation and reduce high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats, a shift from enforcement to support-based strategies is essential. One of the key barriers to reclaiming or taking ownership of a cat is the high upfront cost, which may include microchipping, desexing, registration, and impound fees. These costs are often prohibitive for lower-income households and semi-owners who care for unowned cats out of compassion. Research consistently shows that **mandatory desexing without financial assistance leads to low compliance**, particularly among semi-owned and unowned cats, which remain the primary contributors to cat overpopulation. While containment measures such as cat curfews may reduce nuisance complaints and help protect wildlife, they are not effective in lowering euthanasia rates unless coupled with targeted, high-intensity free desexing programs.

Best-practice evidence supports the use of fully subsidised desexing, microchipping, and registration, especially in high-risk communities and for carers of semi-owned cats. Most semi-owners are willing to take full responsibility for the cats they care for when these services are made free. According to Rand 2024 (Dutton-Regester 2024), the top five reasons carers chose to take ownership included: free desexing, avoiding kittens, preventing nuisance behaviours, concern for the cat's wellbeing, and a desire to do the right thing. The barrier is not a lack of education but a lack of resources. Notably, mandatory containment laws and two-cat limits often discourage semi-owners from taking formal ownership, undermining council efforts to reduce impoundments and euthanasia.

To maximise impact, the City of Greater Geelong should expand Community Cat Programs using a microtargeted approach, such as the "red flag cat model," which identifies hotspots based on complaints or sightings of free-roaming cats. These areas often signal the presence of multiple unowned or semi-owned cats and should be prioritised for proactive outreach and support by Animal Management Officers (Spehar & Wolf 2019). This approach is more humane, cost-effective, and sustainable than enforcement alone, and it builds stronger relationships between council and the community while delivering tangible reductions in shelter intake and euthanasia.

Promote pet registration

Although annual registration and microchipping are legal requirements for cats and dogs in Victoria, registration rates in Greater Geelong do not reflect the apparent increase in pet ownership seen during recent years. The number of unpaid registrations doubled between 2019 and 2020, suggesting a large number of domestic animals remain unregistered. This presents a challenge for councils aiming to reunite lost pets with their owners and reduce impoundments. To address this, a shift towards proactive engagement strategies is needed, moving beyond compliance checks to community support initiatives that increase registration uptake and strengthen responsible pet ownership.

The City of Greater Geelong should consider implementing a suite of proactive programs to incentivise registration and support vulnerable pet owners. These could include offering free registration in the first year for adopted animals, discounted registration for recognised foster carers, and expanded access to free or low-cost microchipping events. By removing financial and logistical barriers, such initiatives encourage early compliance, improve the chances of lost pets being returned home, and reduce pressure on pound services. Paired with education campaigns focused on the importance of keeping contact details up to date, these initiatives will build trust and foster a more cooperative relationship between council and the community, ultimately improving animal welfare outcomes across the municipality.

To minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance

The 2021-2025 plan recognises that trespassing cats and barking dogs are the most common sources of nuisance complaints from the community. While the council is committed to investigating all such reports and promoting constructive outcomes, the complexity of these issues often presents significant challenges. The current approach includes subsidised desexing, trap loans, education on responsible cat ownership, and support for cat confinement, but these efforts appear to be reactive rather than part of a structured, long-term strategy. Notably, the plan does not provide any statistics on the volume, nature, or resolution of nuisance complaints, making it difficult to assess the scale of the problem or evaluate the effectiveness of current interventions.

Recognising, barking complaints are another ongoing source of frustration for both residents and officers. While the plan includes investigation protocols and education for dog owners, community feedback indicates dissatisfaction with the current complaint process. In response, new actions such as reviewing barking dog investigation procedures, exploring technology to support these investigations, and partnering with the Department of Justice to implement alternative dispute resolution mechanisms are welcome steps forward. However, these initiatives would benefit from clearer timelines, performance indicators, and public reporting. Implementing the actions outlined in the

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2021–2025 DAMP should be in animal management best practices and community outcomes, providing a strong foundation for continued progress and reported on in the 2026-2029 DAMP.

Other matters

The City of Greater Geelong faces a range of unique challenges in managing companion animals, due to both its size and rapid population growth. As one of Victoria's largest municipalities in terms of both land area and registered pet numbers, Geelong must oversee animal management across a diverse 1,250 square kilometre area that includes urban, rural, and coastal communities. As of 2021, there were over 37,852 registered dogs and cats in the municipality, a number that is expected to grow significantly in line with the city's projected population increase to more than 330,000 residents by 2031. This growth will inevitably lead to higher rates of pet ownership, increasing demand for animal management services, infrastructure, and proactive community engagement.

The complexity of managing animal welfare and public safety is further underscored by the high number of reported dog attacks—618 incidents over a three-year period, and the doubling of unpaid animal registrations from 2019 to 2020, likely linked to financial stress and administrative disruptions during the COVID-19 pandemic. These trends highlight the strain on council resources and the importance of implementing efficient, accessible systems for registration, enforcement, and education. With 50 domestic animal businesses operating locally, coordination between council, community, and industry stakeholders is critical. Addressing these challenges will require a proactive, well-resourced approach to ensure the safety, wellbeing, and harmonious integration of animals and residents across the municipality.

Thank you for allowing us to provide feedback, if there is any further information you would like please get in touch at info@petwelfare.org.au

Best wishes,

Jacquie

Emeritus Professor Jacquie Rand, BVSc (Melb), DVSc (Guelph), MANZCVS
Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine

March 2025

Attention: Katie Young - Project Support Engagement Officer

Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026 – 2029 Have your Say

Woofers and Walkers Responsible Dog Owners' Group Portarlington wish to provide the following feedback as part of the development of the DAMP 2026 – 2029. Briefly, Woofers and Walkers has been in place since 2009 and aim to advocate, encourage and support responsible dog ownership within the Northern Bellarine. (Please refer to our brochure about our group).

The following feedback is some key points specifically in relation to the existing Dog Control Orders on the Northern Bellarine:

- Over all these are working well with the majority of dog owners responding positively to the existing orders, zones and conditions.
- The benefits are various, most importantly these provide clarity and certainty for everyone to respectfully share and enjoy the Northern Bellarine.
- Seasonal conditions and zones ensure fair and equitable access to foreshore reserves for all users.
- They provide consistency across the Northern Bellarine.
- Signage is clear and highly visible.
- There is a small number of dog owners that totally ignore the dog control orders and consistently allow their dogs to run off-lead in on-lead zones throughout the Summer.
- Summer requires greater presence of animal management and fines imposed to change the behaviour of those ignoring the seasonal control orders. This Summer I saw the animal management van only once along the Portarlington foreshore area.

Actions by Geelong Animal Management Officers that will provide greater support for these orders are:

- Education is an ongoing necessity for dog owners in relation to what is required of them to be a responsible dog owner.
- As responsible dog owners we support dogs being well socialised, trained and most importantly dog owners understanding and having the skills and confidence to have effective control of their dog at all times.
- A definition of effective control is well explained in 'Taking the Lead on the Northern Bellarine'. What is required is greater patrolling of officers to educate and apply fines for non-compliance of dog orders.
- Visibility is an essential part of education as it continually reinforces good behaviour and applies consequences for dog owners who do not comply. This requires much greater presence of the animal management patrolling the coastline.
- Summer holiday period would be an excellent time to set up a marquee with Bellarine Bayside perhaps near the Portarlington pier to provide education around the importance of the orders being complied with throughout the year.
- Shared open spaces need to be safe for all users and irresponsible behaviour demonstrated by dog owners needs to be responded to appropriately.

The previous Domestic Animal Management Plan has been a good one and served the community well. The main priority is the need for greater education and emphasis on execution of the plans to make behavioural changes in dog owners who act irresponsibly.

J[redacted]
Secretary of Woofers and Walkers Responsible Dog Owners' Group Portarlington

Animal Management Policy – review for 2025 and coming years!
B[redacted] and J[redacted] – submission to this review – 20 April 2025
Let's start by reviewing what our Mayor said in release of this current policy in 2021!!
a. Owning a pet can be a source of great pleasure in life.

Having a constant companion who gives you unconditional love is invaluable, as is the responsibility and lessons that children learn in looking after a furry friend. In fact, scientific studies have found owning a pet can increase a person's physical and mental wellbeing through lower stress levels, increased fitness levels and more opportunities to socialise. As the owner of many cats and a few dogs in my life, currently one of each, I can attest to these benefits and more.
This was a great opening statement and basically mirrors what all pet owners have in mind when obtaining a pet and certainly having a sense of companionship which comes with responsibility! All well and good for a greater majority of owners.
b. With around 37,000 registered animals in Greater Geelong already living across 1,250 square kilometres, and forecast population growth likely to lead to higher density living, the importance of helping pets, owners and the general community live together harmoniously will only grow.

Again, we see the massively expanding animal ownership within CoGG environment and this has and will continue. This would therefore provide a greater initiative for the CoGG Animal Management team to make a more determined effort to provide a higher support structure in maintaining an increased presence in management on the ground!
c. The community's feedback has helped to shape the City of Greater Geelong's Domestic Animal Management Plan 2022–25.

If this is true then the community needs to have confidence in providing feedback, advice and reports to the team knowing and receiving sound advice from the team with appropriate actions.
d. This plan not only outlines our organisation's role in animal management, but is also intended to have an

educational focus, encouraging and teaching community members that it's every owner's responsibility to take care of their pets. By doing the right thing, we can all continue to enjoy safe shared spaces, have healthy pets and protect our unique native habitat.
Whilst this plan, as depicted in the mayor's comments, has some short comings in action and community understanding on the ground, and in the places where we find animals either exercising with owners, running free without supervision or in a manner which does not provide safety and confidence for the general community.
e. Over the last four years, we have accomplished a lot in animal management, including the construction of new dog parks, branding of animal management fleet for greater visibility and increasing the availability of open space areas for dogs.

Some work was completed in some of these areas mentioned but one can count or point to a number of areas where this did not happen and examples of restrictive management has
been displayed and issues not addressed appropriately to residents' satisfaction, with almost none or very little tangible understanding, feedback or concrete timely positive actions.
f. In the coming few years, we are committed to doing more, including: constructing two additional dog parks for supervised off-leash dog socialisation; investigating and advocating for the purchase of sustainable dog poo bags; increasing proactive patrols across trails, reserves, parks and beaches; and exploring the viability of an extra cat desexing month each year.

This was admirable in the context of the future, but, can it be truly said that as with pet numbers exploding, has enough been done in achieving such aims? Much more seem to be legitimately required in this arena when there is very little, if any, reported evidence of how the KPI's of Animal Management is ever seen by the residents and community in general.
g. By working with the community, we can continue to ensure that pet owners, their animals and the broader community can continue to enjoy a high quality of life.

Evidence would indicate by survey of the general populous around CoGG environs that there is a very high degree of negative comment on Animal Management, particularly with animal owners and even those residents who interact with owners of animals. We have the policy but not the policing!
Summary and comments:

It appears from a community perspective about how this policy works in reality and how much has changed since 2022!
Seriously, the clear evidence from the community when asked shows that nothing has changed and there is no evidence to be seen by the community on what CoGG Animal Management team have achieved in nearly three (3) years!
Even the data used on numbers of dogs and cats in the municipality are as of 2021…really 4 years ago!
Yes, we do see registrations up, as well as population and housing in Greater Geelong, and one can expect that registrations rise accordingly.
But, where have we seen evidence in respect of numbers, incidents, fines, permits, education, inspections etc through CoGG reports including annual reports to Council?
The only aspects of animal management seen in reports are 100% of prosecutions have been achieved! We would be interested to know!
We have bylaws, legislation, vehicles with glossy advertising, land management controls and of course Victorian State Laws which, when all that lands on the community, we see an ad hoc approach to management in terms of "on the ground" activity toward meaningful outcomes!
Making complaints to Animal Management are always 99.99% voice based with an email to tell the complainant how to follow through with at least 14 days of logs and then a voice call in most cases to indicate that the evidence is not enough to proceed!
In our experience all communications, if you can call it that, is voice based without any correspondence as either follow up, or conclusion to any complaint. We may be wrong but we have canvassed numbers of the community and find this is a pretty clear outcome!
In fact, any written communication comes from a clerical base and not the officers themselves, with information out of a "biblical like phrase" book! Even some of this correspondence is incorrect in information!
Where is the community education, and when and how, as there also appears that this does not happen!
Evidence is that the officers do not, and cannot achieve any significant outcome, due simply to possibly inadequate training, and the apparent avoidance, simply on the basis of "non conflict" with individuals or even complainants!
Officers in the field are not resilient or understanding, and offer very little in discussion with those whom they come in contact with, and when questioned on any operational activity, tend to shut the community member down, even to the extent of refusing to entertain substance on a matter!
When CoGG talk about risk management in respect of dog attacks and unwieldly behaviour, there does not appear to be procedures for this risk management in the community, as all the community see or hear, is the poor outcomes of such behaviour by dogs and their owners. Additionally, the only outcome most media reports indicate is "under investigation" which provides little confidence in the community! There is certainly no feedback in the media to enlighten the community on any positive outcomes.
Attendance at advertised meet and greet for discussion, usually when a decision is about to be made on a change of operation, almost always appears to be a talk fest with officers and some management, but we have almost never seen notes being taken on initiatives or actions suggested by attendees and in many cases the suggestion is immediately overridden with "we could not do that because…"!
When CoGG talk about minimising cat or dog nuisance situations, it seems to be the absolute responsibility of the receivers of that nuisance to go to great lengths to "prove" that the nuisance is significant enough to be investigated, and generally CoGG will rule out the nuisance on a basis of "we consider" it not to be a nuisance.
The CoGG policy clearly states that "ANY" noise or disturbance is sufficient for action to be taken by the Animal Management Team….BUT when asked about this fact….the policy is overruled by Victorian State law which requires verified proof of the nuisance and degree of nuisance. What a farce! Why not change the policy in favour of the State Law??
Could the team please inform the community when and if there are justifiable overpopulation of animals, and high rates of euthanasia in areas of the CoGG region, with education to prevent this as a risk in the earliest instances?
One can only imagine how the team could or would address the "potential" for dogs and cats creating a nuisance in any neighbourhood or precinct … an interesting concept to say the least!
For CoGG Animal Management to work with Land Managers and GAWS in their contractual plan is pretty basic stuff which is welcomed as an ongoing concept, but it does not provide any community understanding of "how and what" this means to the community in everyday actions and behaviours!
A clear and ridiculous situation was regarding a cat curfew proposal by the team to council last year. This saw one councillor completely ruin the issue with comments of one instance of such a burden on the community to restrict cats overnight and all the work went down the drain…..cats are running rampant with wildlife eradication, noise, excrement in neighbours yards, doorsteps and smell abounds! What exactly do the Animal Management team do about this….A Policy…Not likely!
Who exactly is running this carnival??
We have caught such a cat in roving overnight circumstances, taken it in to GAWS and within 36 hours the cat is back roaming as before, which appears to be pay a fine and return the cat to do more damage!

Listed hereunder is the extract from the 2022 document in summary! Our comments above are attributable to these statements!

CoGG …… 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
• encourage registration and identification of dogs and cats
• address overpopulation and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats, where they exist
• 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 (GAWS) to deliver our pound service
• work with land management authorities to develop local dog control orders.

According to the previous Domestic Animal Management Plan the following should have been the priorities:

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.

Some critical and observant understanding of what these principles really mean or even say!

• • If and only if management was as proactive as they appear in the above statement we would be in a much better space with regard to operations and community support!

• • We have already said above that there appears a decisive lack of animal management and certainly education under the previous plan and probably from many years past!

• • There appears no partnership agreement or indeed supportive actions to achieve any outcomes under the plans as they appear in the document.

• • Where are the actions and positive management that the plan talks about?

• • We need verbs and action statement not the sort of words that we see in this document…. were are the “we will achieve by the end of 2025…” or “A monthly education seminar or workshop will be held in the following centres in the third Saturday each month!”

• • Or even in reports to council showing how many instances of dog attacks in parks, on beaches etc with numbers of fines issued along with revenue generated to council?

• • What happened to the number of non-paid dog or cat registrations in the past year or years, and what revenue was generated or even did the registrations just disappear off the register?

• • Land Managers have no authorisation in any shape – CoGG are the jurisdiction actors!

• • The “Park your Pet” App does not work currently!

• • CoGG appear to be handing developers the job to provide fenced off leash areas for dogs!

• • Why does public signage not list the applicable fine associated with the displayed sign…a deterrent would be a good starting point!

• • Where are the euthanasia stats if we are to highlight an discourage the numbers particularly in a post Covid era?

Finally:

Our thanks to CoGG for allowing us the opportunity to critically review this Domestic Animal Management Plan and to add comments and provide our view on what happens on the ground in our part of suburbia of Ocean Grove. We value our space and our surrounds but it does seem that with numbers growing by the day generally the majority of pet owners are doing the right thing in the community BUT we need a tidy up a lot “going forward”, to use a council phrase!

B and J

04 and 04

Appendix M - Submission from Parks and Natural Assets

- Regulations
    - Frequent changes to dog regulations at a location can be confusing for people.
    - People want to finish their walking route so often disregard dog regulations when moving from a dog off leash area to a dog on leash area or a no dog area.
    - Consistent rules for where dogs **can't** go is important for setting community norms.
    - We need to reestablish the 'no dogs' within 10 metres of waterways and wetlands regulation
    - Is there a regulation that dogs must be on leash on shared paths as off-leash dogs are a hazard for bikes?
    - Can we ban cats from neighbourhoods adjacent to nature reserves?

- Education
    - More Animal Management presence in reserves to encourage correct behaviours
    - Increase temporary signs (i.e. A frames) communicating patrols are regularly occurring at hotspots for non-compliance.
    - Promote messages of why dogs need to be on leash – could do social media posts or similar
    - Promote off leash reserves and messaging around benefits of taking dogs to these locations.
    - Clear signage at the interface where dog regulations change from dogs off leash to dogs on leash / no dogs.
    - More education of where dogs can go off-leash and where they are not permitted.
    - Some people are scared of dogs so can use this in the messaging as to why dogs must be on leash.
    - Review dog reg signage – especially time share signs as these are often confusing for dog owners
    - More Dogs Breakfasts to promote positive pet ownership.
    - Partner with Zoos Vic to promote Safe cat, Safe wildlife program

- Enforcement
    - We could always do with more enforcement of dog regulations on our reserves.
- 24-hour cat curfew – Cats must be confined at all hours.
- Incentives / program ideas
    - 'Dobb in a d***head dog owner'
    - Reward people who are doing the right thing.
    - Offer Discounts for desexed cats which are kept indoors
    - 'Catch a cat' program

- Disincentives
    - Increase the cost of registering animals and the cost of repatriation of captured cats.

2.2. Endorsement of Names- Biyala Community Hub and Yirrama Community Hub

Source: **City Life**
Executive Director: **Anthony Basford**

Purpose

1. To present and seek approval of facility names for two Council community facilities currently under construction in Armstrong Creek and Charlemont.

Background

2. The City of Greater Geelong is delivering two new community hubs adjacent to newly established primary schools in Armstrong Creek and Charlemont. The community hubs are designed to support early years services, allied health and community programs.
3. The Bloinks Community Hub (interim name) is located at 2119A Warralilly Boulevard, Armstrong Creek, adjacent to the new Biyala Primary School opening 2026. This community hub will open in 2026.
4. The Horseshoe Bend Community Hub (interim name) is located at the corner of Precinct Boulevard and Amber Drive, Charlemont, adjacent to Yirrama Primary School opening 2026. This community hub will open in 2027.

Key Matters

5. Officers sought names from the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) for the two new community hubs. The WTOAC provided Council with the names selected for the adjacent Primary Schools. Both names have undergone WTOAC's internal cultural governance approval process.
6. The proposed name for the Bloinks Community Hub (interim name) located at 2119A Warralilly Boulevard, Armstrong Creek is Biyala (pronounced bee-ah-lah) which is a Wadawurrung word meaning 'place of many river red gums.'
7. The proposed name for the Horseshoe Bend Community Hub (interim name) located at the corner of Precinct Boulevard and Amber Drive, Charlemont is Yirrama (pronounced yi-rah-mah) which is a Wadawurrung word meaning 'in the morning.'
8. The Victorian Government preferences First Nations language names for new schools in an initiative to further promote First Nations self-determination, language, and culture across the state. New school names are chosen with input from Traditional Owner groups, Geographic Names Victoria (GNV) and via public consultation before approval by the Minister for Education.
9. The names Yirrama and Biyala were approved for the adjacent Primary Schools by the Minister for Education following a community engagement process which considered three Traditional Owner names for each school.
10. As the names have been through a community engagement process as part of the school naming, GNV have granted an exemption from the *Naming Rules for Places in Victoria* requirement to undertake further community engagement.

11. It is a statutory requirement for the City to register a name with GNV following principles of the Naming Rules for Places in Victoria. GNV have advised that the use of the Biyala and Yirrama for both the school and the community hub adjoining is acceptable.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Approves the naming of the community facility located at 2119A Warralilly Boulevard, Armstrong Creek as Biyala Community Hub;**

2. **Approves the naming of the community facility at the corner of Precinct Boulevard and Amber Drive, Charlemont as Yirrama Community Hub; and**

3. **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer or their delegate to notify Geographic Names Victoria of its decision accordingly.**

Financial Sustainability

12. The capital project budget will fund the signage to reflect the approved names, as well as payment to the WTOAC for naming rights and associated cultural governance processes.

Community Engagement

13. Community consultation was undertaken on the names as part of the school naming process undertaken by the Victorian School Building Authority. Three names were consulted upon with the community, with Yirrama and Biyala being the preferred names.

14. GNV has granted an exemption from the need to undertake community engagement on the use of the names for the community hubs, as this has already occurred as part of the school naming.

Social Equity and Sustainability

15. The proposal promotes and respects Aboriginal culture, helps build relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians and promotes education of Aboriginal history and culture within Council and across the community.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

16. All Geographical Place Names Act 1998 guidelines and Council policies have been followed and met in relation to the naming proposal.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

17. This report aligns with the Council Plan 2025-29 strategic priority:
    Healthy and Caring Community

18. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
    An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.

Conflict of Interest

19. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

20. The project team have liaised with GNV to ensure the facility name and process meets requirements.

Environmental Sustainability

21. Not applicable.

Attachments

Nil

2.3. Introduction of Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines 2025 into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme

Source: **Placemaking**
Executive Director: **Tennille Bradley**

Purpose

1. To adopt the Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025 (Attachment 1).

2. To forward a request to the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation and exhibition of a planning scheme amendment to introduce the Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025 as an incorporated document under Clauses 15.03-1L and 72.04 of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.

Background

3. Heritage design guidelines provide clear, practical advice to guide alterations, additions, infill development, and new works within heritage overlays. They include principles for appropriate scale, form, and siting of new development, integration of sustainable design and accessibility improvements, demolition, conservation, and repair of heritage fabric, and use of materials, colour and detailing that complement heritage character.

4. Heritage design guidelines assist applicants in preparing proposals that respect heritage values and support consistent, transparent decision-making by Council.

5. The City of Greater Geelong Heritage and Design Guidelines, 1997 have provided an effective framework for guiding development in heritage areas for more than two decades. They have supported good design outcomes and contributed to the conservation of Geelong's built heritage.

6. However, the 1997 Guidelines were prepared in a different policy context. Recent changes include increased focus on sustainable design, accessibility and contemporary architectural approaches. The 1997 Guidelines require updating to reflect updated planning policy, community expectations, and best practice heritage management.

7. Introducing the Greater Geelong Heritage Guidelines, 2025 as an incorporated document under Clauses 15.03-1L and 72.04 of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme gives them statutory weight, providing greater certainty and consistency for applicants and Statutory Planning. The planning scheme amendment process includes consultation providing an opportunity for community input.

8. The Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025 have been prepared in consultation with heritage specialists and Council officers and benchmarked against best practice examples from other Victorian local government authorities.

Key Matters

9. The introduction of the Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025 aligns with Council's strategic objective to protect Geelong's heritage while managing growth and supporting design excellence as a designated UNESCO City of Design. The Guidelines also align with the Planning and Environment Act 1987 objective of protecting Victoria's heritage.

10. The Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025 will update and replace the Heritage and Design Guidelines 1997, building on their successful legacy with contemporary design principles, sustainability standards and accessibility considerations.

11. Recent State government changes to planning policy and housing codes include Victoria's Housing Statement (2023) and Plan for Victoria (2024) to increase housing supply and streamline development approvals. These reforms highlight the importance of clear, locally tailored heritage design guidelines to ensure that growth and development occur in a way that enhances, rather than erodes, Geelong's valued heritage character.

12. The Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025 are proposed to be introduced as an incorporated document under Clauses 15.03-1L and 72.04 of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. This ensures the Guidelines have statutory weight, requiring planning applications with heritage overlays to be consistent with their objectives and provisions.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Adopts the Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025 (Attachment 1);**

2. **Approves the revocation of the City of Greater Geelong Heritage and Design Guidelines, 1997 as an incorporated document from the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme;**

3. **Supports the preparation and exhibition of an Amendment to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme to introduce the Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025 as an incorporated document under Clauses 15.03-1L and 72.04 of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme; and**

4. **Requests the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation and exhibition of the Amendment.**

Financial Sustainability

13. The planning scheme amendment is Council initiated. Cost to prepare the planning scheme amendment will be met through existing recurrent planning scheme amendment budget.

Community Engagement

14. Community engagement will commence as part of the planning scheme amendment process, in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Engagement will include:

    14.1. A formal submissions process enabling individuals and organisations to provide written feedback on the amendment and proposed Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025; and

    14.2. Feedback received through these channels will be reviewed and summarised in a report to Council (or under delegation) following the exhibition period, with recommended responses and any proposed changes to the Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025.

Social Equity and Sustainability

15. The amendment will have positive social equity and sustainability effects by promoting and contributing to equitable access to heritage places, more inclusive design outcomes, and positive environmental and climate objectives by:

    15.1. Supporting community identity and connection through the protection of Geelong's heritage;

    15.2. Providing clear, publicly available guidance to ensure transparent, consistent decision making;

    15.3. Enabling diverse housing opportunities within heritage areas by supporting contextually appropriate infill and adaptive reuse projects; and

    15.4. Promoting retention and adaptive reuse of existing buildings, reducing demolition waste and embodied carbon emissions.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

16. The Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025 are required for Council to satisfy its obligations in:

    16.1. Meeting the objectives of planning in Victoria as defined by the Planning & Environment Act 1987, including section 4 (d) to conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, other otherwise of special cultural value and complying with Planning Practice Note PNO1: Applying the Heritage Overlay; and

    16.2. Implementing the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, including clauses 02.03-5 Strategic Directions, 15.03-1S and 15.03-1L Heritage Conservation, and introducing the Guidelines as an incorporated document under Clause 72.04.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

17. This report aligns with the Council Plan 2025-29 strategic priority:
Heritage and Culture
Core and Critical Infrastructure

18. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
A destination that attracts local and international visitors.
An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.
Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

19. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

20. The risk to Council of not proceeding with incorporating the Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025 into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme will be:

    20.1. Outdated guidance as the existing Heritage and Design Guidelines 1997 would remain the primary reference;

    20.2. Reduced heritage protection and incremental loss of character and erosion of community identity;

    20.3. Lost opportunity for sustainability gains advanced through heritage projects; and

    20.4. Missed alignment with recent State Government Planning Policy.

Environmental Sustainability

21. The amendment will not have any adverse effects on the environment. Protection for heritage places will retain existing infrastructure and resources. Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines, 2025 promotes sustainable development through conserving valuable resources and economizing on materials, balanced against the demands for development.

Attachments

1. Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines [**2.3.1** - 98 pages]



Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines

2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.

Figure 1 View of the *You Yangs* from Geelong.

NOVEMBER 2025 DRAFT

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Planning permits

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Figure 2 Deakin University Waterfront Campus, Geelong

A successful example of adaptation that celebrates the heritage fabric of the former woolstores.

Introduction

Places of cultural significance enrich people's lives, often providing a deep and inspirational sense of connection to community and landscape, to the past and to lived experiences. They are historical records, that are important expressions of Australian identity and experience. Places of cultural significance reflect the diversity of our communities, telling us about who we are and the past that has formed us and the Australian landscape. They are irreplaceable and precious.

– The Burra Charter 2013, p.1

The City of Greater Geelong's heritage has been shaped over generations by a variety of communities, beginning with the Wadawurrung People, the Traditional Custodians of Country.

These Guidelines focus on the City's built and (in part) landscape heritage, which play a key role in defining Greater Geelong's unique identity.

As a UNESCO City of Design, Geelong has long been a leader in design innovation, and many of its modern buildings may be recognised as heritage places in the future.

The City's heritage represents a lasting legacy of thoughtful design, strong community ties, and a commitment to sustainability.

Today, Greater Geelong boasts a rich array of historic buildings and places, but the need for rapid housing growth and higher urban density poses challenges. Careful planning and thoughtful design is needed to ensure the preservation of Greater Geelong's valuable heritage.

Purpose

The purpose of the Heritage Design Guidelines is to assist property owners, developers, designers and planning consultants, in addition to Council officers that manage change to a heritage place. The Guidelines help to interpret the Heritage Overlay: to respect the heritage fabric while achieving quality, contemporary design solutions.

These Guidelines apply to all planning permit applications under the Heritage Overlay in Greater Geelong. They must be considered in addition to any other provisions of the Planning Scheme, including (but not limited to) the decision guidelines at Clause 43.01-8.

These Guidelines are intended to provide guidance on the typical and common heritage contexts in Greater Geelong.

Other non-heritage planning permit triggers to places under the heritage overlay are not part of the purpose of these Guidelines.

Planning permits

These Guidelines relate to heritage places in the Heritage Overlay.

To find out if your property is heritage listed in the Heritage Overlay, refer to the **Victorian Heritage Database.**

To find out more about the planning permit process, refer to the **City of Greater Geelong Planning webpage.**

When applying for a planning permit for change to a place in a Heritage Overlay, it is best to check heritage-related provisions in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.

What is heritage?

A heritage place

A heritage place is an individual site that has heritage value – these types of places can be buildings, bridges or engineering structures, or cultural landscapes

A heritage place can also be an area that contains a group of buildings and landscapes such as a historical town, suburb, small residential area, or large complex site

Heritage significance

Heritage significance is the reason the heritage place is important for aesthetic/ architectural, historical, scientific, social, or spiritual reasons.

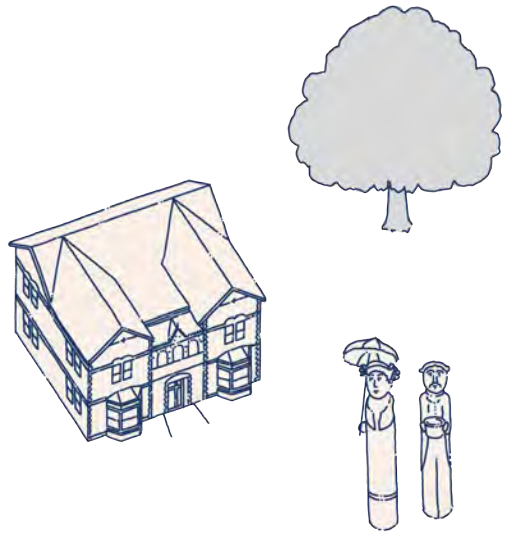


Figure 3 Examples of heritage places

Levels of significance

Throughout these Guidelines the term 'significant heritage building' refers to a place of State, Regional, Local or Contributory Significance (the buildings of State Significance are those included in the Victorian Heritage Register).

A Level - State Significance

Most places of State Significance are in the Victorian Heritage Register, administered by Heritage Victoria.

B Level - Regional Significance

Places of Regional Significance are included as Heritage Overlays in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. These places are significant to the Greater Geelong region.

C Level - Local Significance

These places are significant to a particular locality in Greater Geelong. Places of Local Significance are included as Heritage Overlays in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.

D Level - Contributory Significance

Places of Contributory Significance are included within heritage area overlays identified in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. Collectively, these places define the significance of a heritage area.

Non Contributory - Not significant

Places that have no significance that are situated within heritage areas also require a planning permit for external buildings and works because of their location in an important heritage area.

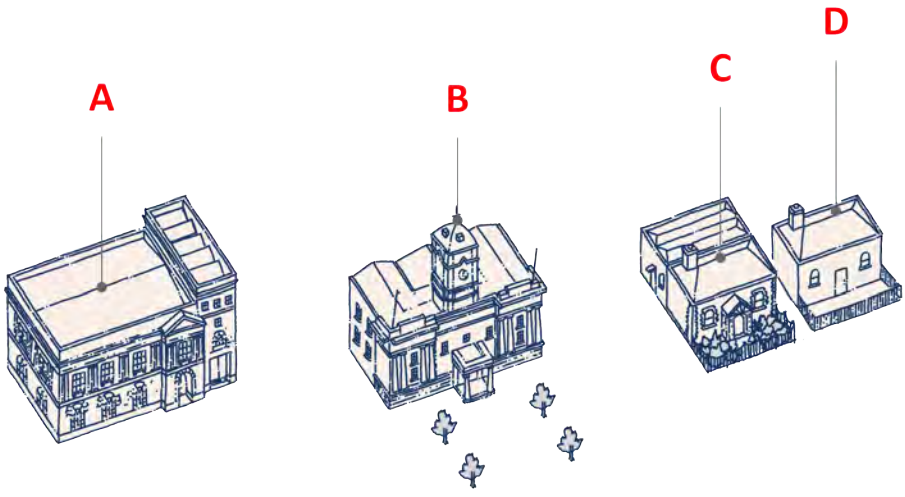
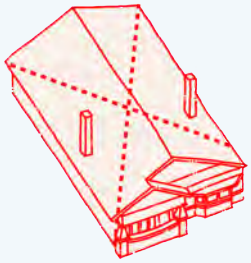


Figure 4 Levels of significance

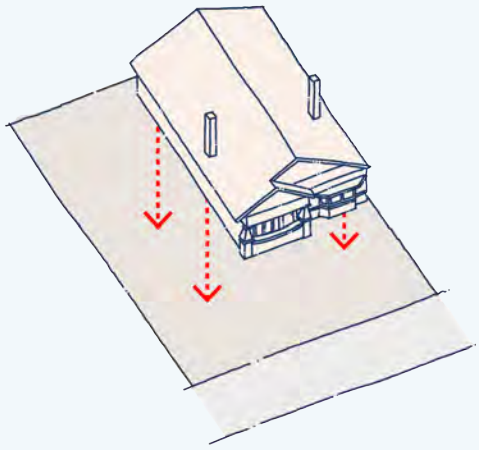
How to use these Guidelines

The following pages contain illustrations and photographs to visually communicate The City of Greater Geelong heritage objectives.

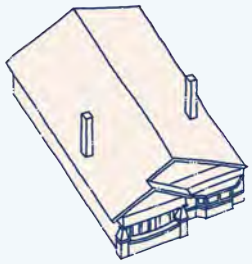
1. Demolition



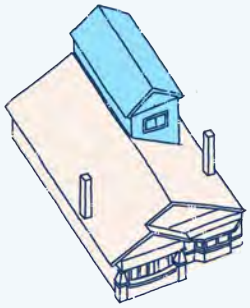
2. Relocation



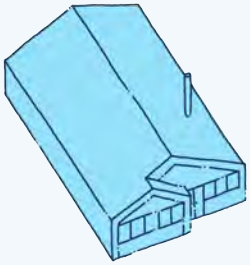
3. Conservation



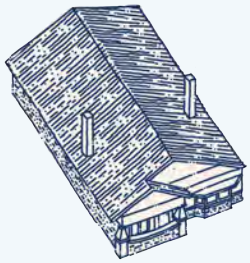
4. Additions



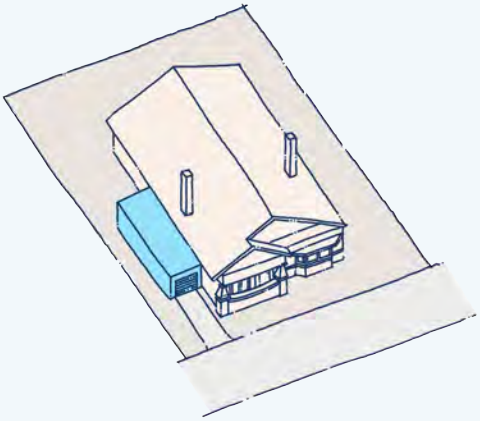
5. New buildings



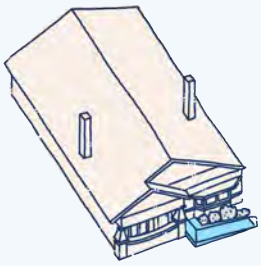
6. Exterior finishes



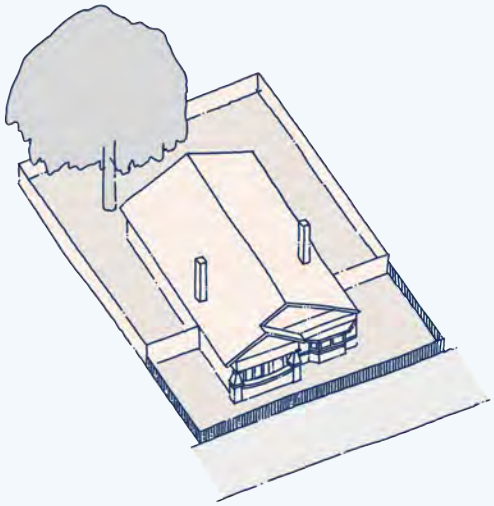
7. Vehicle access & accommodation



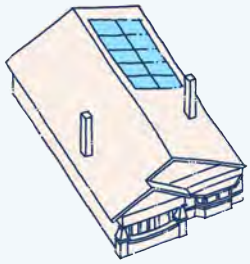
8. Accessibility



9. Settings



10. Sustainability



11. Subdivision & consolidation

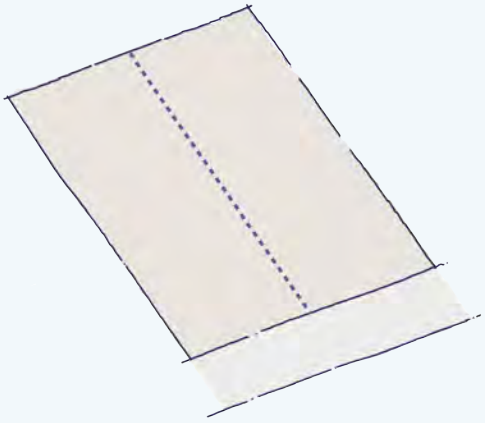




Figure 5 Dwellings, Geelong

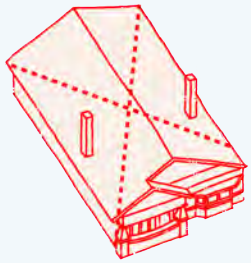
These dwellings have been constructed with designs independent to the prevailing heritage character of the area but where no adverse affect on significance has resulted because of the lower order integrity of the street.

The Guidelines

1. Demolition

Demolition of significant fabric of a place is generally not acceptable. However, in some cases minor demolition may be appropriate as part of conservation. Removed significant fabric should be reinstated when circumstances permit.

– Burra Charter 2013: Article 15.3



The primary objective of heritage conservation is to retain and conserve significant heritage fabric and therefore demolition is discouraged except in exceptional circumstances.

The preferred approach is to repair, reinforce, or adapt existing structures rather than demolish and replace them. This is because the significance of the heritage place is embodied in the building fabric, including its three-dimensional form. Additionally, retention and adaptive reuse of heritage buildings is preferred over demolition for environmental reasons.

For demolition, the existing condition of a building is not the overriding factor used in determining a permit application outcome. 'Demolition by neglect' by which a heritage building is left unused and unmaintained with a view to justifying future demolition is unacceptable.

Key issues to consider are:

- Is the place habitable?
- Is the place ruinous?
- Is the place a public safety concern?
- Can the place be repaired and respectfully changed to provide for a new use, address safety, and an environmentally sustainable outcome?
- Can the place be brought up to the required building standards by introducing new structure or fabric to make it compliant without negatively impacting its significance?

Demolition of a heritage building, or a significant part of a building, will only be considered if:

- It has been demonstrated that the building is beyond reasonable repair (physically and financially) as supported by independent structural engineering and heritage advice.
- The integrity of the place has been undermined due to exceptional circumstances such as fire, flooding, or accident.

Demolition of a building

- The significant portion of heritage buildings should be retained in its entirety even if it is not visible from the public realm.
- A non-contributory place may be demolished if the replacement building does not affect the significance of the heritage area.
- Removal of unsympathetic or non-contributory additions may be supported if it enhances the heritage value of the heritage place.
- Significant buildings also include outbuildings if identified in a heritage study and therefore should be retained.

The significant portion of a heritage building

The significant portion of a heritage building is considered to be the main three-dimensional form and fabric of significance (including the roof form and cladding, exterior walls and cladding, and overall structural integrity which support the three-dimensional form, and all features such as windows, doors and chimneys) of the heritage building.

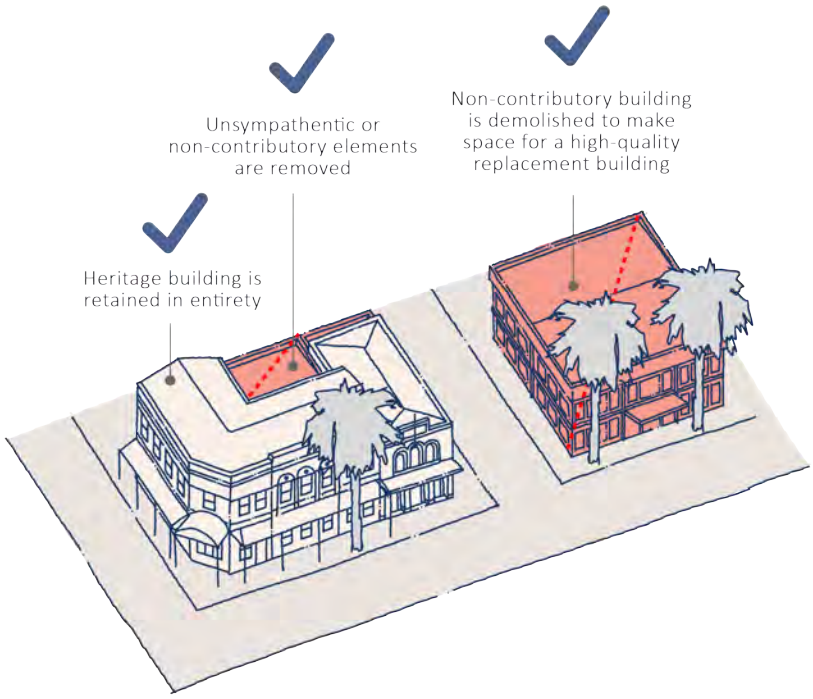


Figure 6 Demolition of a building.

Partial demolition

- Partial demolition of a heritage building may be supported if it does not undermine the heritage significance of the place and supports adaptive reuse.
- Partial demolition should retain significant fabric and the building's three-dimensional form.
- Partial demolition must not result in the retained portion of the heritage building being vulnerable to damage or instability.
- Chimneys of heritage buildings should be retained.

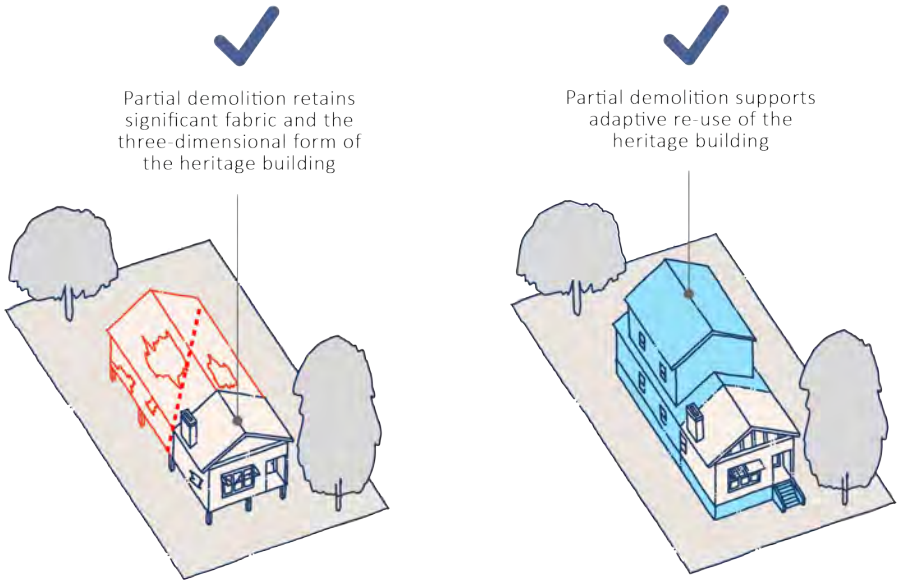


Figure 7 Partial demolition.

Outbuildings and fences

- Fences and outbuildings of significance should be retained.

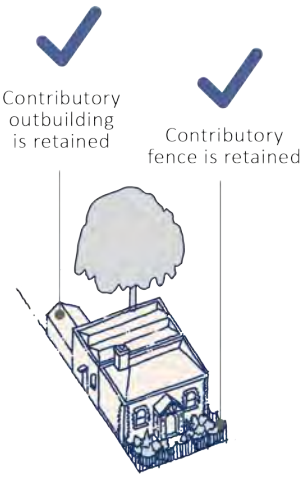


Figure 8 Outbuildings and fences.

Application considerations

If a heritage building or element is structurally unsound, demolition should be supported by an engineering assessment and a proposal for reconstruction or replacement.

Any proposal should be accompanied by a demolition method statement outlining that the retained fabric will be safeguarded during demolition and construction (structurally propped, weatherproofed and not damaged).

For complete demolition, a structural engineering assessment report is required, prepared in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, addressing the extent and nature of deterioration; the feasibility of repair, reinforcement, or adaptive reuse; and a cost comparison between repair and replacement of essential remedial works (to rationalise why retention cannot be achieved).

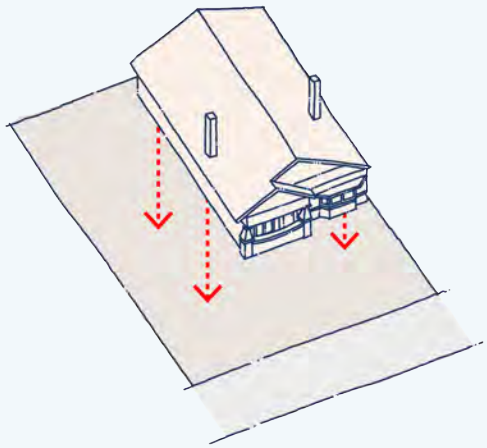


Figure 9 *Dwelling, Geelong.* Partially retained, restored and repaired dwelling that was safeguarded during demolition and construction.

2. Relocation

The physical location of a place is part of its cultural significance. A building, work or other element of a place should remain in its historical location. Relocation is generally unacceptable unless this is the sole practical means of ensuring its survival.

- Burra Charter 2013: Article 9.1



Relocation of heritage buildings is discouraged. The preferred approach is always to retain and conserve heritage buildings in their original location, as this preserves their historical context and integrity. It also ensures that the building fabric is not undermined by relocation.

Relocation may be considered if it is the only means of ensuring the building's survival and does not adversely affect the significance of the heritage place.

Relocation of heritage buildings

- Heritage buildings should be retained insitu.
- Relocation of a heritage building may be considered if:
  - » there is a proven history of relocation
  - » the building was originally designed for relocation
  - » the building's significance does not specifically relate to its current location and setting and does not contribute to the setting of the heritage place.
  - » In its current location the building is under immediate physical threat.
- The relocation should:
  - » not diminish the building's significance.
  - » maintain or enhance the building's historical and visual context.
- Detailed records such as photographs, drawings, or a written history of the building and its original location should be made before a heritage building is relocated.
- Relocation should allow for the possibility of returning the building to its original location if circumstances change.

Application considerations

For relocation, a structural engineering assessment is required, prepared in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter. The assessment should outline a procedure for:

- relocating all significant fabric (including all ancillary elements such as chimneys and verandahs).
- how the significant building and fabric will be safeguarded during transportation.
- how the building will retain its original appearance once relocated (including reconstruction of the ancillary elements).

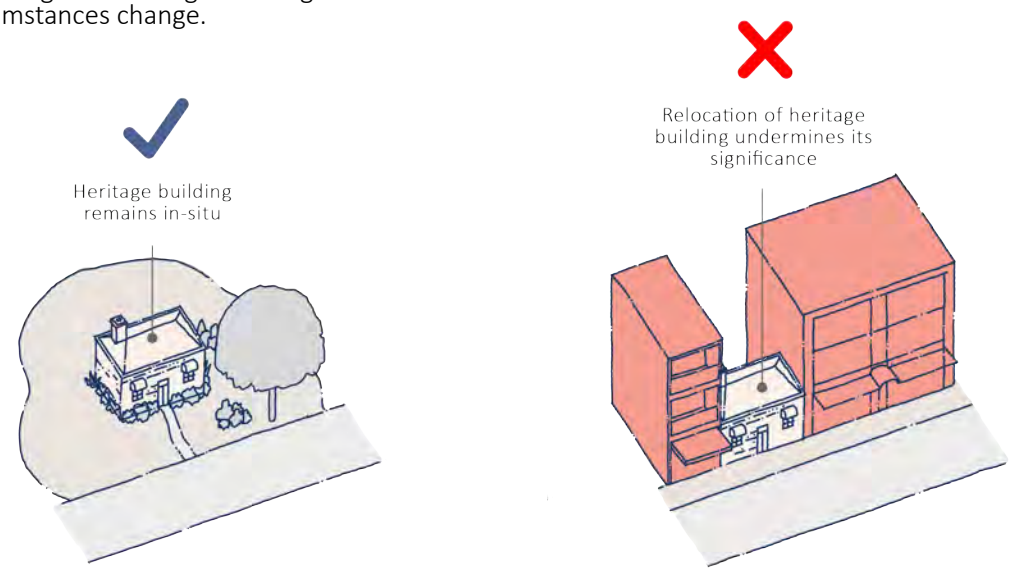
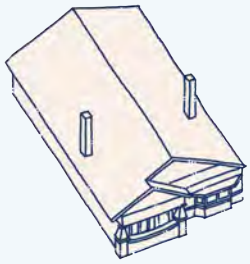


Figure 10 Relocation.

3. Conservation

Conservation is based on a respect for the existing fabric, use, associations and meanings. It requires a cautious approach of changing as much as necessary but as little as possible.

– Burra Charter 2013: Article 3.1



Conservation ensures heritage places are retained for the future. Any work on heritage fabric should be based on a proper understanding of the significance of the fabric. Use of compatible materials and construction methods will help to ensure that the building is being conserved the right way.

Heritage buildings and structures move, deflect and weather. This does not mean that they are inherently inadequate and require replacement. Engaging suitably qualified or experienced practitioners in the conservation process will ensure a quality outcome.

Conservation should always be undertaken according to the principles of the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter. The Charter sets out the meaning of conservation and can involve maintenance (protective care), preservation, restoration, reconstruction and adaptation (Refer to **Definitions** for further details).

Conservation works

- Follow established conservation standards, such as those outlined in the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter.
- Follow an evidence-based approach, informed by a thorough understanding of the heritage building's significance including its history, context and fabric.
- Preserve original materials, features, and finishes wherever possible. Only remove or alter elements if absolutely necessary for safety or preservation.
- Conduct only the work required to stabilise, repair, or conserve the building. Avoid unnecessary restoration or reconstruction.
- Ensure new work is distinguishable from original fabric.
- Prioritise repairs that prevent serious or irreversible damage.
- Ensure a heritage building is actively maintained so that the building remains weatherproof, secure, and safe.
- Where possible, design new elements so they can be removed without damaging the original fabric. Use non-invasive fixing methods and compatible materials.
- Involve heritage architects, conservators, tradespeople, and other qualified professionals in planning and executing conservation work.
- Use materials and construction techniques that are compatible with the original building's period and style. This includes:
  - » mortar and render repairs that match existing in strength (composition/mix), texture and colour;
  - » roofing materials including:
    - ◦ slate (ensure the same profile, size, texture and colour).
    - ◦ terracotta (ensure size, profile and colour match the original as close as possible.
    - ◦ metal roofs- refer to section on **Exterior finishes**.
- Establish a schedule for ongoing maintenance to prevent deterioration. Address issues such as water ingress, structural instability, and pest control promptly.

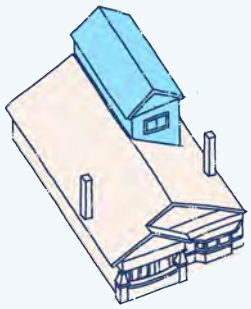


Figure 11 *Bungalow, Newtown, 1920s*. Bungalow featuring distinctive brickwork construction enhanced by tuckpointing repairs.

4. Additions

New work…may be acceptable where it respects and does not distort or obscure the cultural significance of the place or detract from its interpretation and appreciation.

– Burra Charter 2013: Article 22.1



The primary objective when considering an addition, is to retain and conserve significant fabric and features, and not overwhelm them.

The design of additions should be an evidence-based approach tailored to the site's unique setting. The design of the new work cannot be considered in isolation and should respond to the visual characteristics and appearance of the heritage place including consideration of character, scale (i.e. height, bulk, density, grain), form (i.e. shape and volume), siting (i.e. setbacks and location), detailing (e.g. chimneys, fenestration, verandahs), materials and colours, fences and setting (i.e. landscapes, streetscapes, and gardens).

Unless specified in a statement of significance or policy for the heritage place (individual property or heritage area), the rear yard of a property is the most ideal location for additions, even where the new work is substantial. This allows for the retention of the significant three-dimensional form, character and appearance of the main heritage building from the street.

Additionally, boundary-to-boundary development may also be possible at the rear if there are only incidental views of the new work from the public realm and where side setbacks are a predominant characteristic at the front (that is, side setbacks are retained for most of the existing building).

4.1 Residential

General residential considerations

- New additions should complement, but not mimic features of the heritage building or streetscape.
- Ensure the addition:
  - » is located to retain the visual prominence and the three-dimensional form of the heritage building.
  - » has minimal impact on the context and setting, and maintains the established streetscape pattern.
  - » retains unobstructed views to the heritage building from the public realm.
  - » is sympathetic in scale, proportion, form and massing to the heritage building or streetscape.

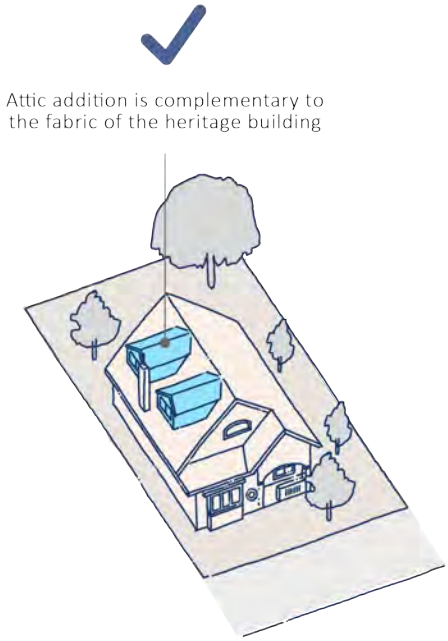


Figure 12 Residential additions.

Rear additions

- Locate rear additions:
  - » where they will allow for retention of the three-dimensional form of the heritage building.
  - » where views of the new addition are limited from the public realm.
  - » within the rear yard of a heritage building, unless the rear yard is specified in a statement of significance or guideline for the heritage place.
- Ensure that additions are respectful of the character and appearance of the heritage building, including roof form and articulation.
- Ensure the new addition appears distinguished from and not seamless with the heritage building.
- Where a rear addition is proposed to be equal to or greater than the footprint of the heritage building, consider a separate physical entity connected to the heritage building by a link.
- Rear additions may be designed with different forms and complexity if there are minimal views from the public realm.

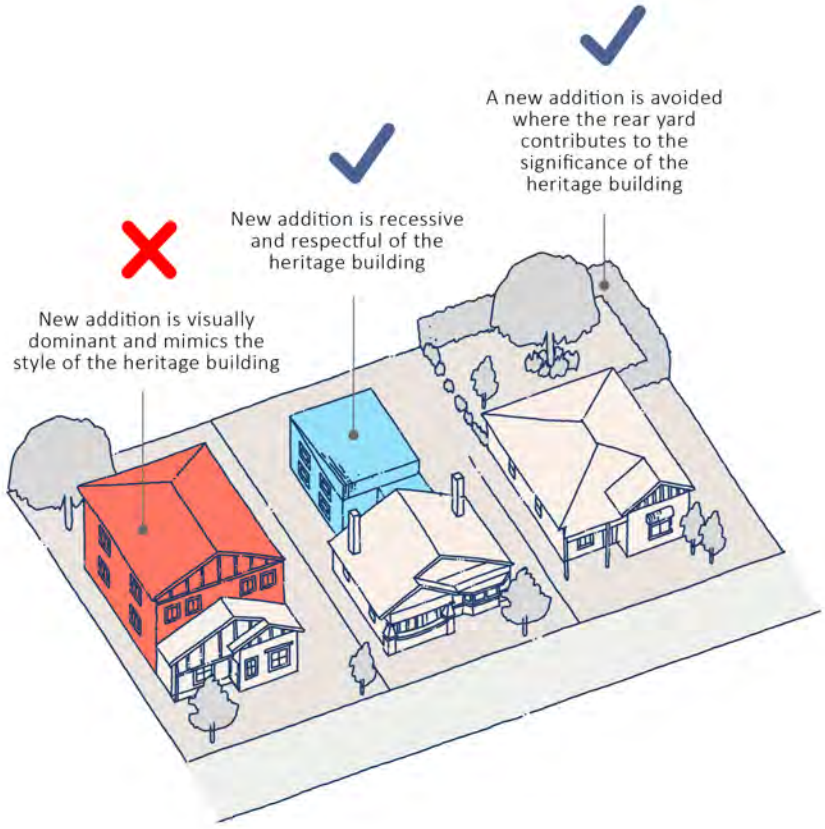


Figure 13 Rear residential additions.



Figure 14 *Dwelling, Geelong West.* Contemporary two storey additions as a separate entity at the rear with minimal visibility from the street. The garage is recessive and is a contemporary interpretation of the dwelling given its exposure at the front.

Two storey additions

- The height of the proposed two storey addition should respond to the prevailing heights of neighbouring heritage dwellings.
- Two storey additions should be setback and designed to minimise visibility and dominance from the public realm.
- For corner sites two storey additions should be setback in alignment with the prevailing setbacks of heritage buildings along both streetscape frontages.
- Two storey additions above a dwelling should:
  - » be visually recessive from the principal frontage of the heritage building when viewed from the public realm.
  - » be setback in alignment with the traversing roof ridgeline or apex point of the heritage dwelling and neighbouring heritage dwellings where applicable. Otherwise, a minimum 5 metre setback from the existing front wall plane should be considered.
  - » reflect the roof forms, lines and proportions of the heritage building to break up bulk and avoid a monolithic appearance.
- Two storey additions that are to be constructed as separate visual entities to the existing building, should be:
  - » Located at the rear (see **Rear additions**).
  - » Carefully connected to the existing building by a link. They may be designed with different forms and complexity if there are minimal views from the public realm.

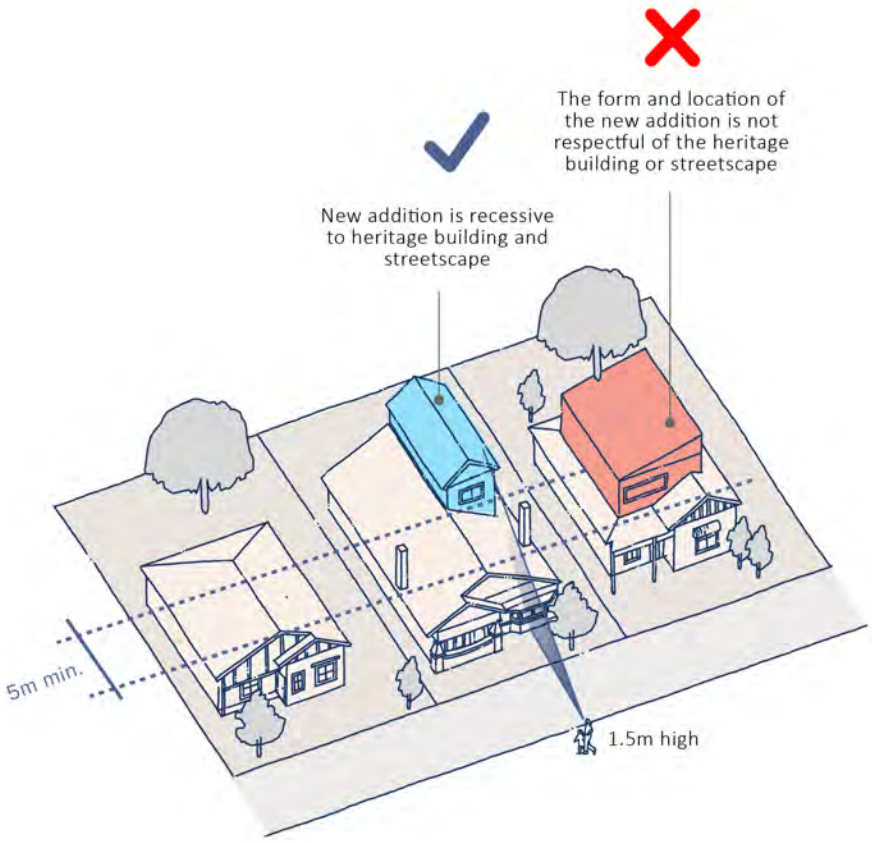


Figure 15 Two storey residential additions.



Figure 16 *Dwelling, Geelong.* The two storey addition at the rear has minimal visibility from the street.

Side additions

- Side additions should be avoided if the side setback is important to the significance of the heritage place.
- Side additions should be highly recessive, modest in scale, and read as a separate visual entity to the heritage building.
- Side additions should be setback by a minimum of 1 metre from the frontage of a heritage building on the site, and any adjoining heritage building.
- The roof of any side addition should be located under the eaves or gutter line of the heritage building

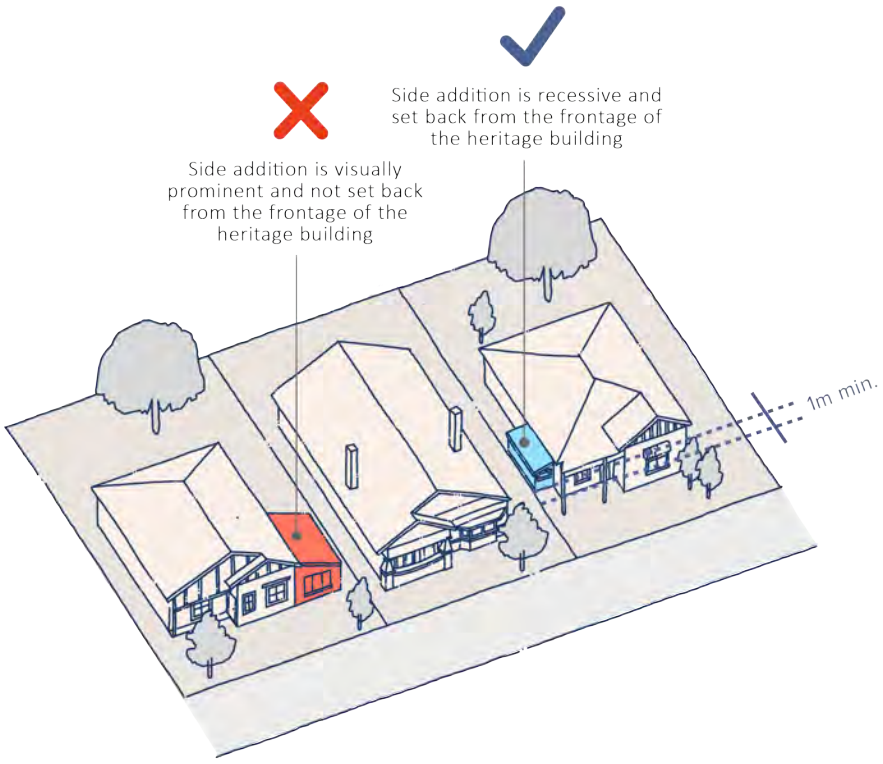


Figure 17 Side residential additions.



Figure 18 Dwelling, Geelong

This side addition is highly recessive and modest in scale, located under the eaves of the heritage dwelling (source: City of Greater Geelong).

4.2 Commercial

General commercial considerations

- Additions should not physically or visually undermine the significant fabric and setting of the heritage building.
- Additions should maintain the visual prominence of the heritage building.
- Additions should retain the three-dimensional form and construction of the heritage place, and avoid facadism. The retention of only the front facade provides limited appreciation of the building's significance.
- Ensure additions have regard to the scale and height of the existing building and the heritage context.
- Ensure that the additions are setback at least 6 metres from the front wall plane of the heritage building. For corner buildings, the upper level addition should also be set behind the secondary street wall plane.
- The addition should use materials and finishes that respect but do not replicate the character and appearance of the heritage building and neighbouring heritage buildings.
- New additions should respect the form, architectural expression and rhythm of the heritage buildings and neighbouring heritage buildings.

Commercial considerations in Central Geelong

- In addition to the general considerations:
  - » Additions should provide free air space from the retained portions of the heritage building and neighbouring buildings (Figure 17).
  - » For upper level and tower additions, in addition to the general commercial considerations, reference should also be made to Figures 17 and 18.

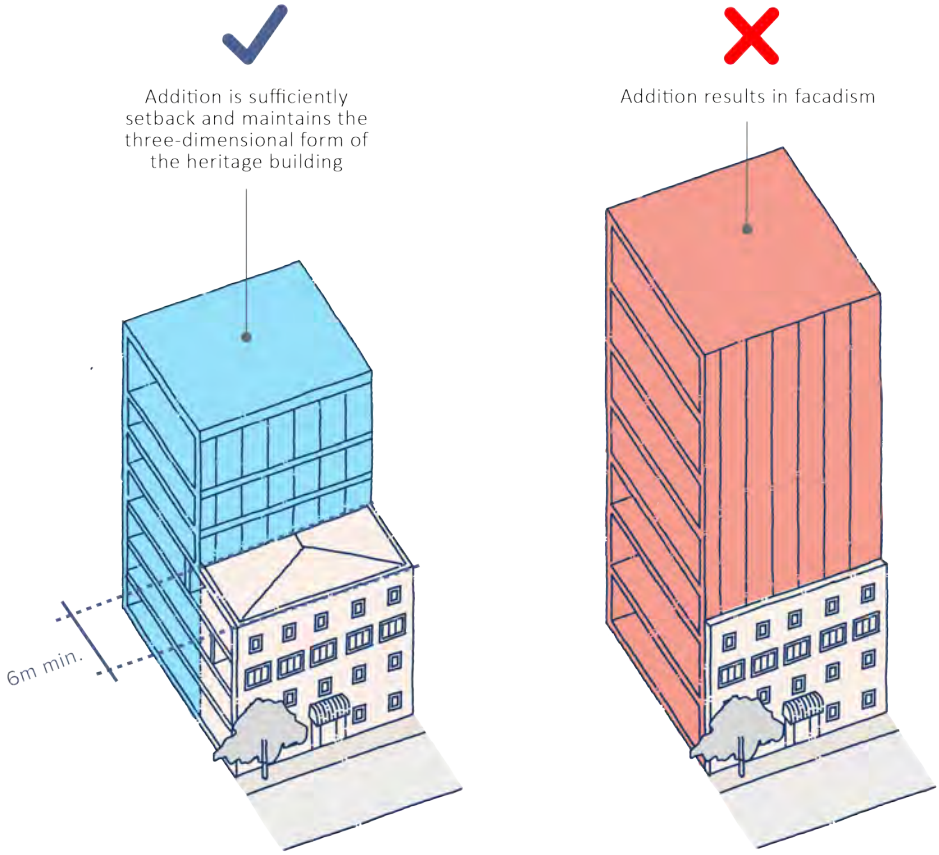


Figure 19 Commercial additions.

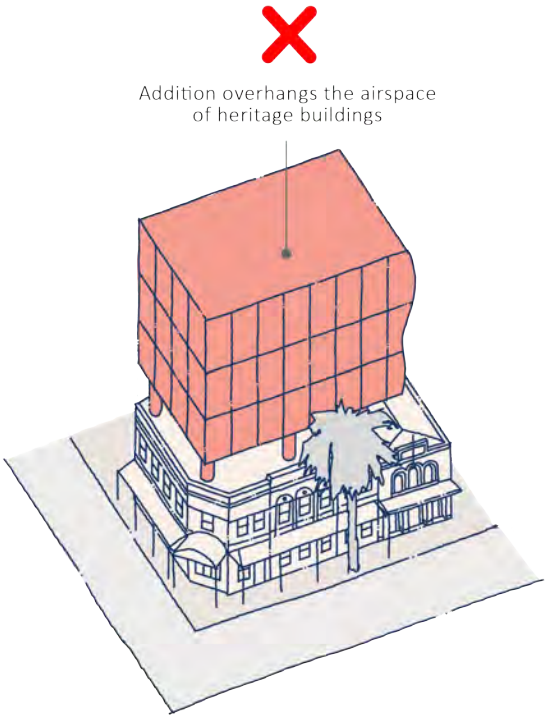


Figure 20 Commercial additions above the air space of a heritage building.

Verandahs in Geelong

Existing and reconstructed verandahs are an important part of our streetscapes.

From the 19th century Geelong's commercial streetscapes have been characterised by a range of verandah types influenced by stylistic and technological advancements and evolving legislation. This includes post supported verandahs with standard verandah types initiated by the Geelong Town Council in 1893. The first cantilevered verandah was built in Geelong in 1911.

Verandah additions

- The reconstruction of a street verandah should be based on historic and/or physical evidence.
- Where no evidence of an original verandah exists, a contemporary interpretation of an original street verandah could be considered.

Verandah reconstruction

- The reconstruction of a street verandah in Central Geelong may be considered if it aligns with the policies and recommendations in the **Geelong Verandah Study (2006)**.
- The reconstruction of a street verandah in Pakington Street, Geelong West, may be considered if it is based on historical, physical and/or comparative evidence. This evidence might include historic photographs or drawings, evidence of verandah roof outlines on the front walls or from a comparative perspective, original verandahs as part of stylistically similar buildings.



Figure 21 *Moorabool Street, Geelong.* Looking south from Malop Street showing post-supported verandahs, c.1910, State Library of Victoria.



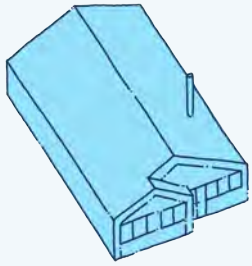
Figure 22 Commercial building at 160-162 Moorabool Street, Geelong

Verandah reconstruction is sympathetic of the existing character of the heritage building.

5. New buildings

New work should be readily identifiable as such, but must respect and have minimal impact on the cultural significance of the place.

– Burra Charter 2013: Article 22.2



A thoughtful design approach for new buildings is encouraged to respect and enhance the heritage significance, character and appearance of the heritage place. Therefore a contemporary design approach is needed that is evidence-based and considers scale, form, materials, and streetscape context.

Contemporary interpretation can have a variety of meanings. In this case it is an analysis of the nearby buildings in the heritage area; the significance of the heritage place; and its integrity. Combined these considerations will assist in determining the type of contemporary interpretation that will best suit the site.



Figure 23 *Dwelling, Drumcondra (centre).* An example of conservative middle infill.



Figure 24 *Dwelling, Geelong West (centre).* An example of creative middle infill.

5.1 Residential

General residential considerations

- Maintain view lines to and from heritage buildings.
- New buildings should not visually dominate or obscure heritage buildings when viewed from the public realm.
- New buildings should be sympathetic in proportion, and match prevailing heights, forms and lines of neighbouring heritage buildings.
- New buildings should respect and respond to existing significant heritage features of neighbouring buildings such as verandahs, and fenestration with contemporary design solutions.
- New buildings should not mimic features of heritage buildings.

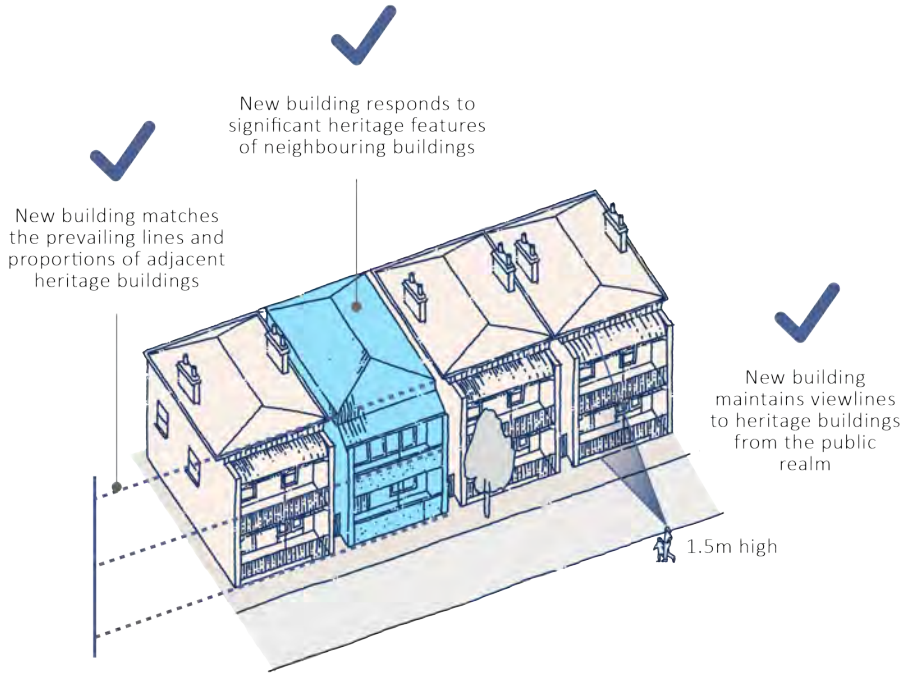


Figure 25 General residential new buildings.

Setbacks

- The front setback of a new building must match the predominant pattern of front setbacks of neighbouring heritage buildings.
- If there is no predominant pattern, the new building should be set back within the range established by adjacent heritage buildings.
- For corner sites, the setback to the secondary street traditionally may be smaller given that in most situations dwellings on corner sites were 'bookends' in the streetscape.
- New buildings should not be set closer to the front boundary than the closest adjacent heritage building.

Height and form

- The height, massing and form of new buildings should respond to the scale and pattern of neighbouring heritage buildings.
- The street-facing elevation should align with the established parapet or eave heights of significant neighbouring buildings.
- Where the streetscape context is varied, the height of the new building should transition between adjoining lower and higher elements.
- The roof form and overall shape of a new building should be sympathetic to the predominant forms and building shapes of the heritage context.
- The footprint of the new building should be consistent with the established pattern (e.g. detached or semi-detached).
- New buildings should avoid visual prominence.
- Upper storeys of new buildings should be:
  - » visually recessive from the principal frontages of an adjoining heritage building when viewed from the public realm.
  - » setback in alignment with the traversing roof ridgeline or apex point of neighbouring significant buildings where applicable, otherwise the upper storey component should be setback 5 metres minimum from the proposed front single storey wall plane.

Innovative design solutions

Innovative solutions might draw on the principal roof forms in the heritage streetscape. Any 'atypical' elements should be recessive and secondary to ensure that the proposal contributes to the rhythm and character of the street.

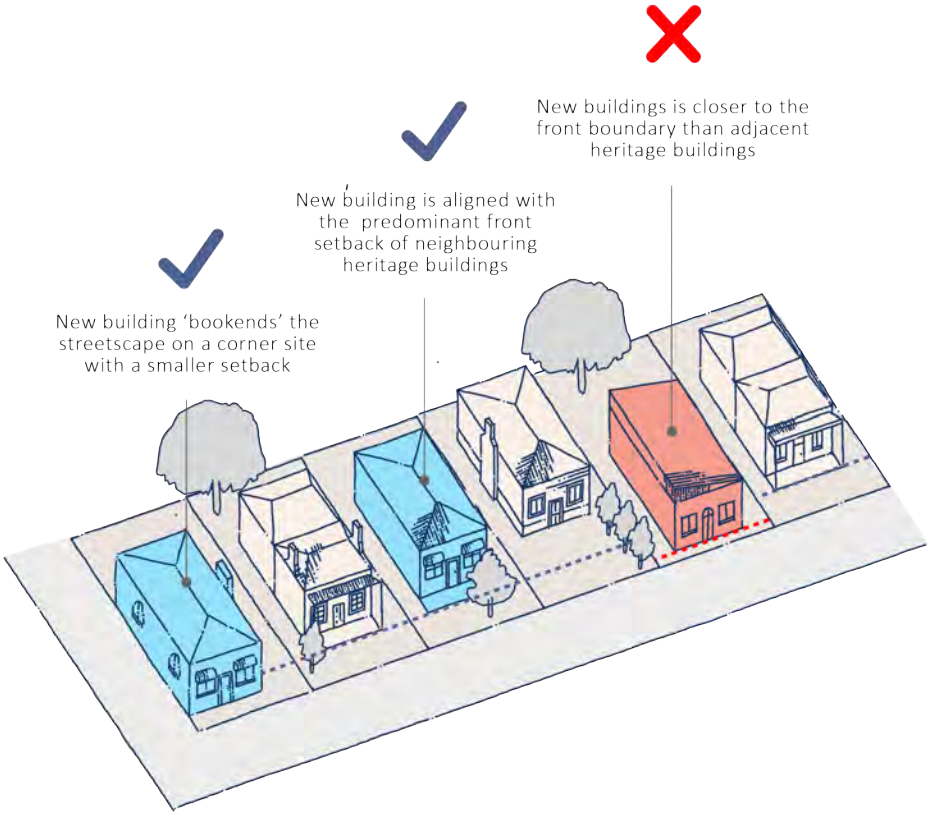


Figure 26 Setbacks of new buildings.

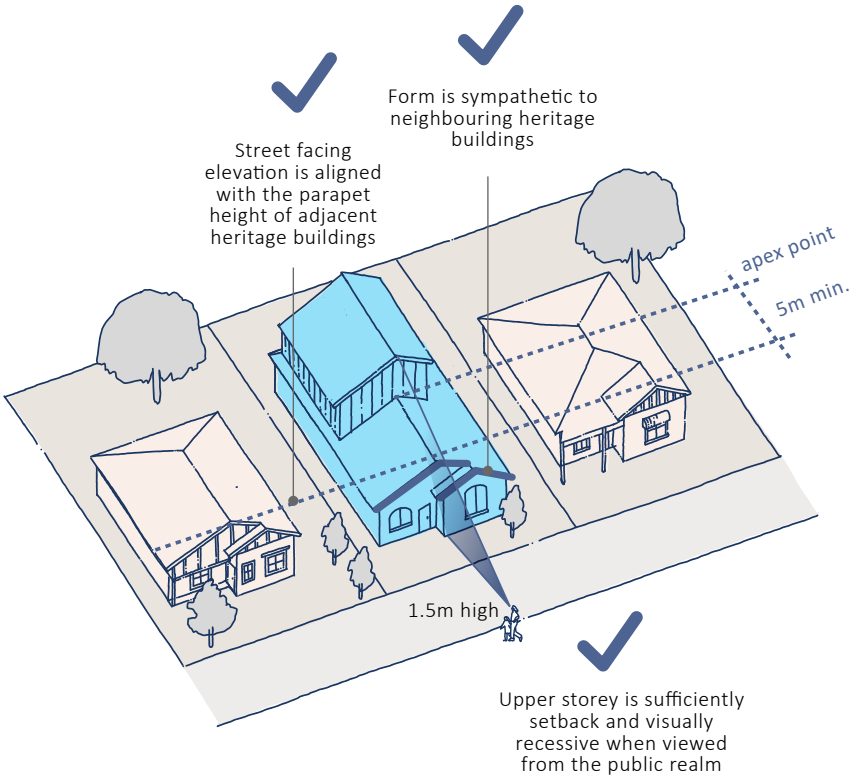


Figure 27 Hight and form of new buildings

5.2 High density residential

Higher density residential and mixed-use developments

Higher density residential and mixed use development may be considered to address the critical demand for housing where it does not compromise the integrity of significant heritage settings.

Large individual heritage sites

- Ensure the retention and conservation of significant heritage assets on the site.
- Ensure any existing principal views from the public realm are retained and not diminished.
- Ensure that the setbacks, scale, and form of new development respects the visual strength and character of the heritage assets and does not overwhelm them.
- Encourage new development to be a contemporary interpretation of the heritage assets on the site where visually connected to the heritage assets on the site.
- On sites that are isolated within or next to heritage places, and do not face a heritage streetscape, there may be potential for development at a significantly larger scale than nearby heritage buildings, provided it responds appropriately to the surrounding context.
- Ensure any new development is setback, with the massing/volumes articulated to retain key views and that the new work does not become dominant focal points within the heritage area.
- Ensure that the new development is not visually overwhelming as a backdrop when viewed from the heritage streetscapes surrounding it. The height, scale and forms of new development should ensure minimal visibility from the public realm.
- Materials and finishes should be non-reflective, and their application should not replicate the neighbouring heritage buildings.
- Ensure vehicular access uses existing thoroughfares. Where this is not possible, proposed thoroughfares should be in locations that minimise adverse affect on neighbouring heritage places.

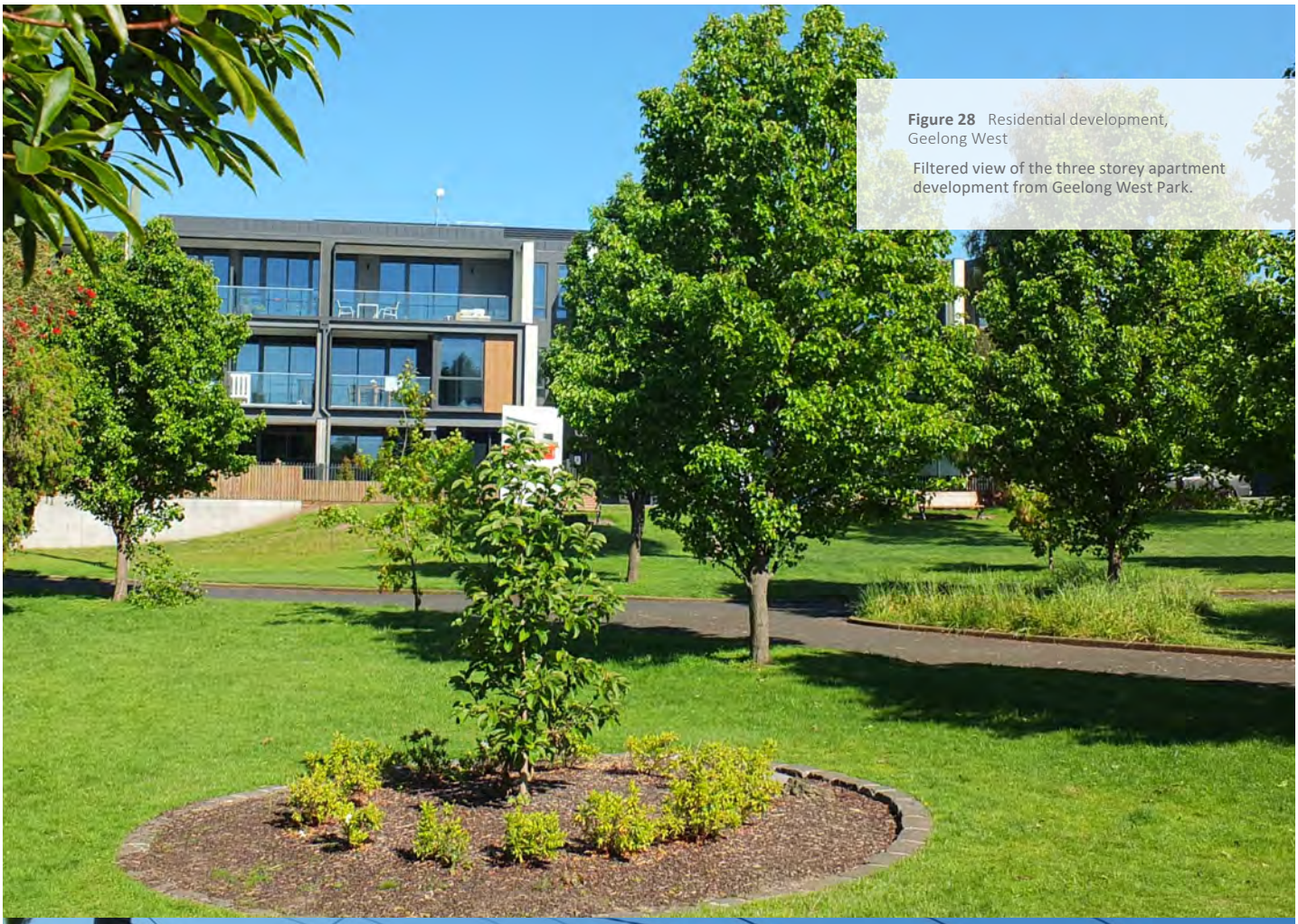


Figure 28 Residential development, Geelong West

Filtered view of the three storey apartment development from Geelong West Park.

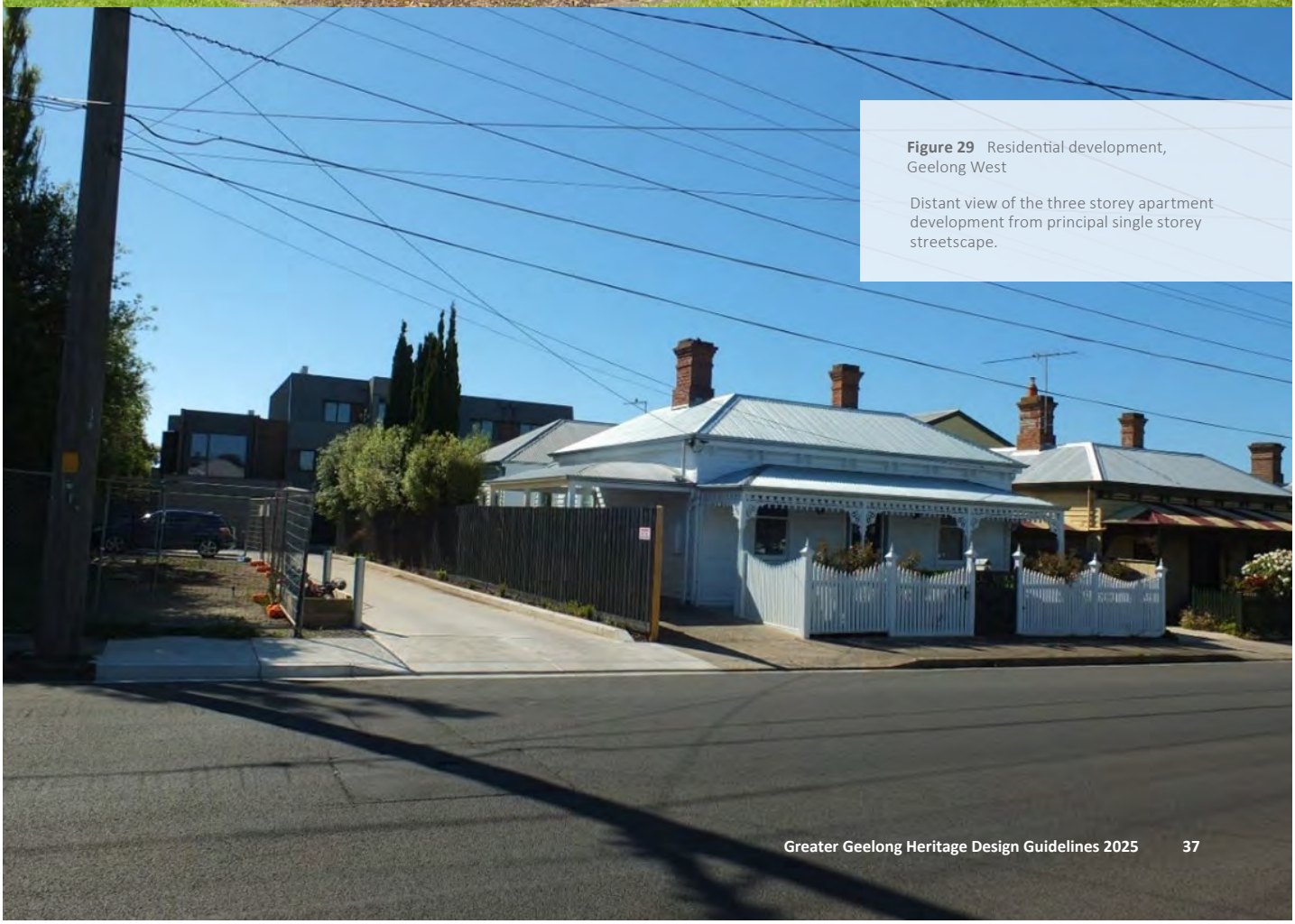


Figure 29 Residential development, Geelong West

Distant view of the three storey apartment development from principal single storey streetscape.

5.3 Commercial

Commercial infill developments

New commercial developments within a heritage context require careful attention to how the building presents to the street, particularly its elevation, height variation, fenestration, and architectural detailing, to ensure it integrates sensitively with adjacent heritage buildings. Additional consideration is also needed for taller elements, such as towers, especially where they are permitted under non-heritage planning controls.

New commercial buildings

- Ensure that the street facade of the new building aligns with the front elevations of neighbouring heritage buildings.
- The street wall height (podium) of the new building should align with the height, proportion, and façade articulation of neighbouring significant heritage buildings.
- Ensure that the detailing of the street façade is an innovative interpretation of the fenestration, wall and parapet of neighbouring significant heritage buildings. Replication of heritage details should be avoided.
- Upper floors should:
  - » be set back from the street wall height by at least 6 metres.
  - » respect the architectural expression and rhythm of the frontage of neighbouring heritage buildings
  - » not overhang the airspace of adjoining heritage buildings.
- The materiality and proportions of the new building must not visually overwhelm neighbouring heritage buildings.
- New buildings should maintain the prominence of neighbouring heritage buildings without visually overwhelming them.

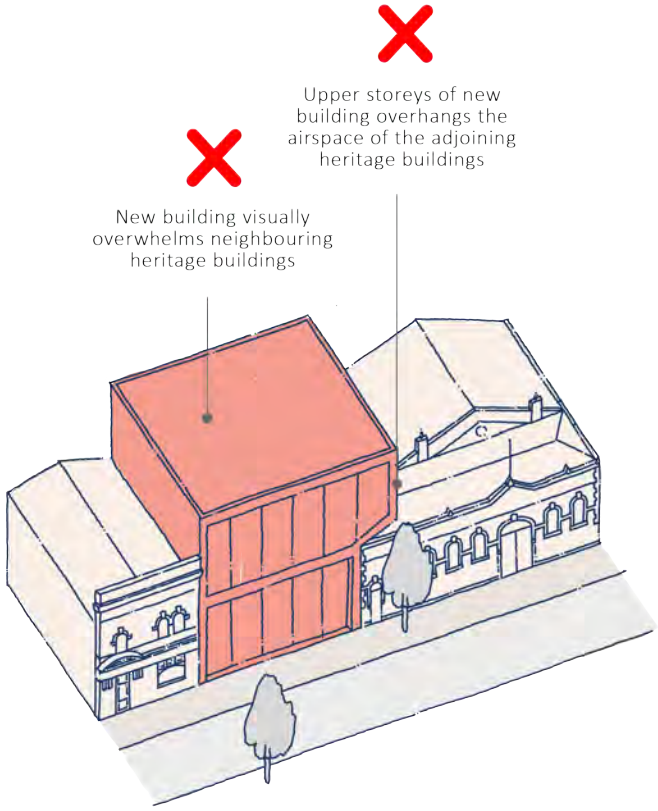


Figure 30 New commercial buildings.

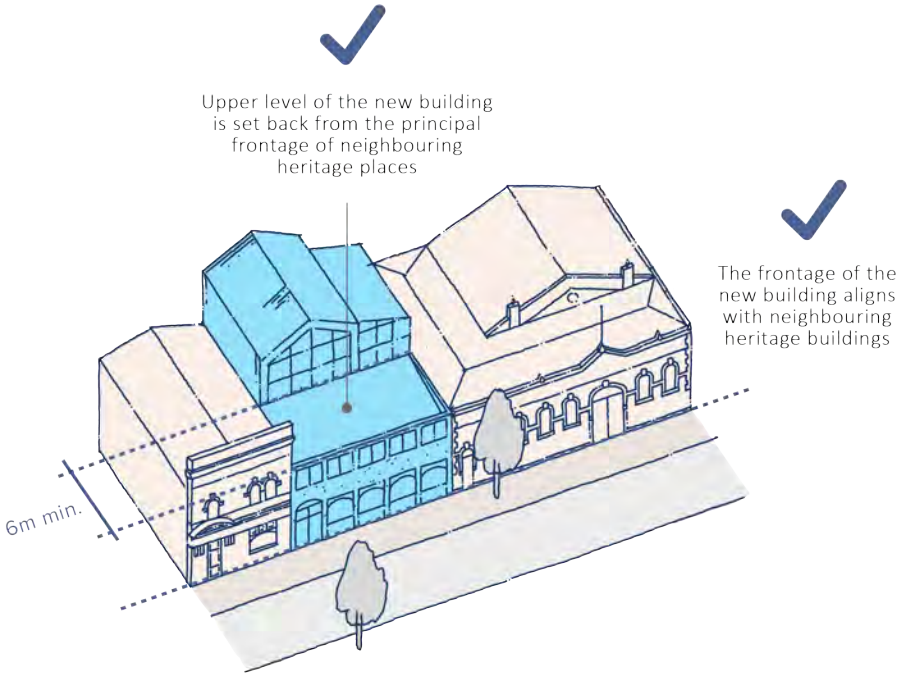


Figure 31 New commercial buildings.

Verandahs

- Verandahs may be considered to new buildings where they form a significant part of the character and appearance of neighbouring heritage buildings.
- Innovative design solutions and contemporary interpretation of verandahs on neighbouring heritage buildings are encouraged.
- Replication of original verandahs are discouraged.

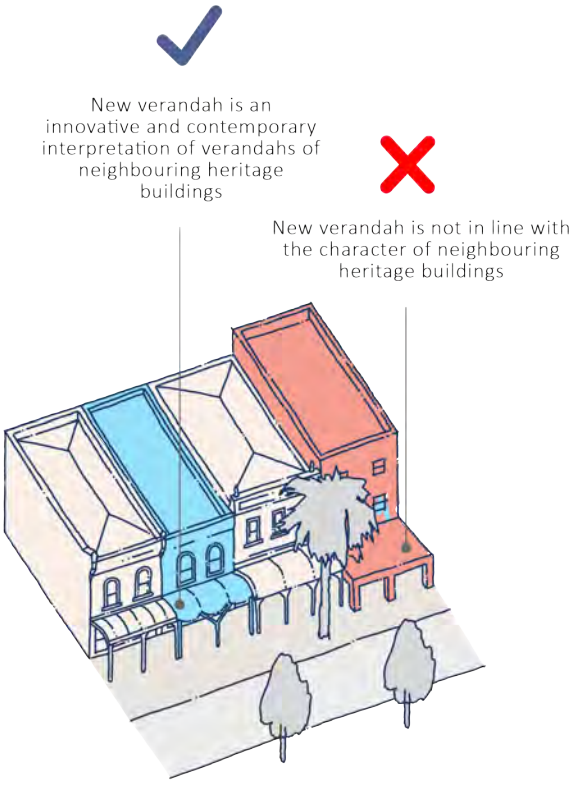


Figure 32 New commercial buildings with verandahs.

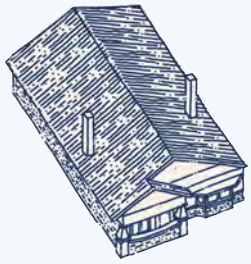


Figure 33 *Dalgety and Co. Ltd. building at 1-7 Malop Street, Geelong.*

The height, cuboid form, streamlined details of the infill podium are a respectful contemporary interpretation of the neighbouring interwar Classical Revival building

6. Exterior finishes

Treating heritage buildings with new finishes requires careful consideration of existing finishes, appropriate paint types, and colour schemes that respect the building's significance. Surface finishes, including original paint, render, or brickwork, often contribute to the historical significance of a place.



It is important to assess whether existing finishes are original and should be retained, or if early finishes could be revealed or reproduced to enhance heritage value.

Colour schemes for heritage buildings should respond to the visual characteristics and appearance of the heritage place. A variety of colours or tones should be used to pick out details such as window frames, doors and verandah fretwork.

New additions and buildings in Heritage Overlays should use materials and colours that complement the heritage character of the area.

This includes using appropriate materials, forms, and colours that are sympathetic to the surrounding heritage context. For example a dark metal wall cladding or dark or face brickwork may be visually prominent when set in a streetscape with predominantly light weatherboard clad buildings.

Painting schemes for new buildings should be carefully considered to ensure they do not detract from the heritage values.

Colour schemes for new work should be muted to mitigate visual dominance which can occur from using strongly contrasting colours or bright tones and colours.

Exterior finishes to heritage buildings

- Determine if existing paint is original, introduced, or needs to be removed or reproduced.
- Choose paints and finishes that are compatible with the building's materials and historical period.
- Prioritise breathable, vapour-permeable paints for rendered surfaces for heritage buildings.
- Retain original colour scheme wherever possible.
- Use colour schemes that reflect the architectural style and era of the building and highlight architectural details such as architraves, window frames, sashes, doors, verandahs or eaves detailing with traditional colour contrasts.
- Alternatively, apply contemporary colour in a traditional way such as contrasting the colour between painted walls and painted details.
- Avoid painting previously unpainted surfaces.
- When removing introduced paint, use only approved poultices that do not damage the underlying material.
- Avoid abrasive methods such as sandblasting, which can cause irreversible harm.

Identifying original finishes

Information about original or historically significant finishes may require specialist expertise. Historic photographs, paint scrapes and heritage colour swatches in local paint shops are some sources that may be useful.



Figure 34 *Geelong Covent Garden, Moorabool Street, Geelong*, showing introduced overpainting to the facade and the introduced shopfronts and verandah.



Figure 35 *Geelong Convent Garden, Moorabool Street, Geelong,* showing the exterior as largely originally intended. The overpainting was removed by approved poultice method, leaving the surface of the brickwork and tiles undamaged.

Exterior finishes to new buildings and additions

- Select materials and finishes that harmonise with those of the heritage building and area. This may involve the use of weatherboard profile and rendered masonry for walls where timber buildings predominate in the streetscape.
- Consideration may be given to other lightweight wall claddings that are not visually prominent and therefore do not undermine the significance of the heritage place.
- For roof cladding ensure that the pattern and material is respectful to the heritage building and/or the heritage place. Traditionally corrugated profile sheet metal roofs, and galvanised steel predominated. Today the more common equivalent is Zincalume® which is not particularly compatible with galvanised steel and remains highly reflective for a longer time period. Colorbond®, which is a pre-finished coating, may be a suitable alternative.
- For new work exposed to public view, contrast roof and wall construction, with metal cladding limited to roofs.
- Apply simple colour schemes for new work utilizing muted tones and colours without replicating historic schemes.



Figure 36 *Streetscape, East Geelong.* A Victorian dwelling (left) with a new Zincalume® roof and a Late Victorian dwelling (right) with a new galvanised steel roof.



Figure 37 New dwelling, East Geelong

Lightweight and light-toned cladding was adopted, drawing on neighbouring heritage dwellings, with the stained timber and brick construction confined to secondary features.

7. Vehicle access & accommodation

In many 19th and early 20th century heritage areas, vehicle crossovers are not traditional street elements as most residential subdivisions before World War One did not plan for front vehicular access. Lanes were commonly provided to give rear access. Even in the 1920s, garaging was usually situated at the rear to accommodate the growing popularisation of the motor car.

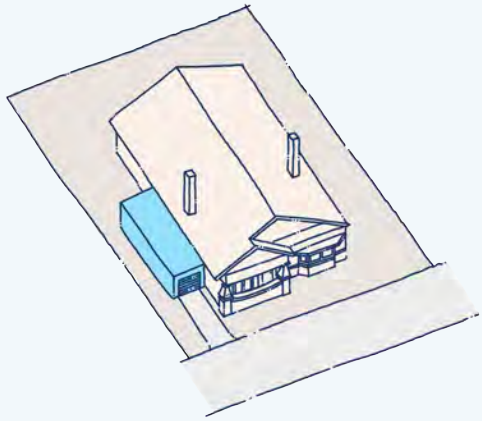




Figure 38 *Dwelling, Drumcondra.* A recessive garage to a dwelling.

New crossovers and driveways

- Avoid new crossovers and driveways to heritage buildings, particularly in streetscapes where there are few or no crossovers.
- Where required, ensure new crossovers and driveways are highly recessive, utilising existing driveways or rear lanes where possible.
- Avoid multiple crossovers to a property where this will undermine the existing setting.
- A new cross-over should be limited to a single vehicle width.
- Double vehicle driveways should be splayed to a single vehicle width at the front property boundary.
- Retain existing intact and significant kerbs and channels.
- New driveways and crossovers should be positioned to avoid loss of significant features such as original fences and trees.

Crossover and driveway materials and finishes

- Most driveways and crossovers in Greater Geelong are of concrete construction. To avoid visual prominence the concrete may require colouring in a muted tone.
- The pavement material and finish for the cross-over should be based on historical precedents where applicable or drawn from the prevailing crossover paving finish in the street.
- The finish of a new driveway should enhance the setting of the property, and so the finish will depend on the significant character of the setting.

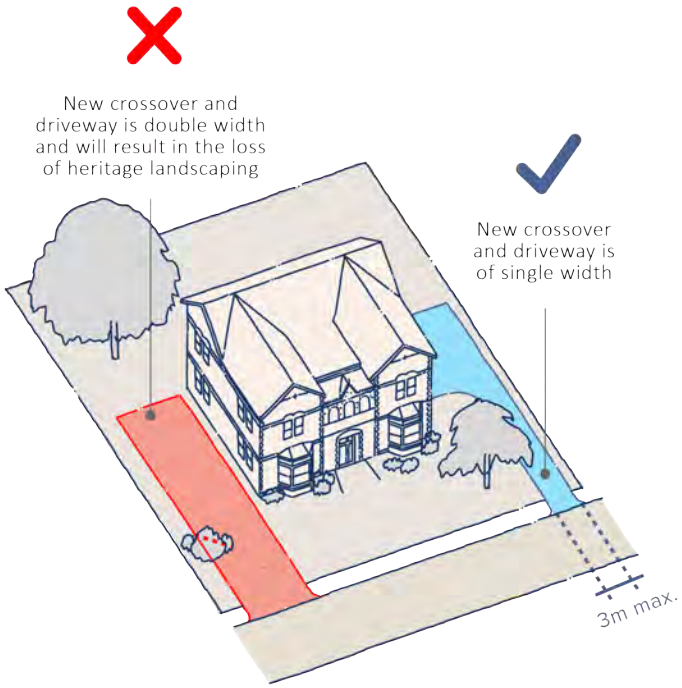


Figure 39 New crossovers and driveways.

Vehicle accommodation to heritage places

- Where possible, new carports and garages should be located at the rear of the property.
- Avoid locating new garages, carports or uncovered parking spaces either fully or partially within the front setbacks of heritage buildings
- New garages and carports should not visually dominate or obscure heritage buildings when viewed from the public realm.
- Side located carport and garages should be setback by at least one metre from the frontage of the heritage building on the site, or the frontage of the neighbouring heritage building, whichever is further from the street boundary.
- For corner sites, where a carport or garage is proposed to the secondary street it should be aligned with the side wall plane of the heritage building.
- Existing carports and garages should not form a basis for a new replacement carport or garage in the same front or forward location.
- New garages and carports should be recessive, and match prevailing proportions, heights and forms of the heritage building or streetscape.
- New garages and carports should complement, but not mimic, features of heritage buildings.
- Materials and finishes should respect but not replicate those of the heritage building. High-quality contemporary materials are encouraged if they are sympathetic in tone and texture.
- Ensure that the eaves of a heritage building are retained when a new garage or carpark is located to the side.

Vehicle accommodation to new dwellings

- A new garage or carport should not be a dominant feature as part of a new building.
- The detailing and appearance of a new garage should be integrated with the overall character of the principal elevation to avoid a blank garage wall face.

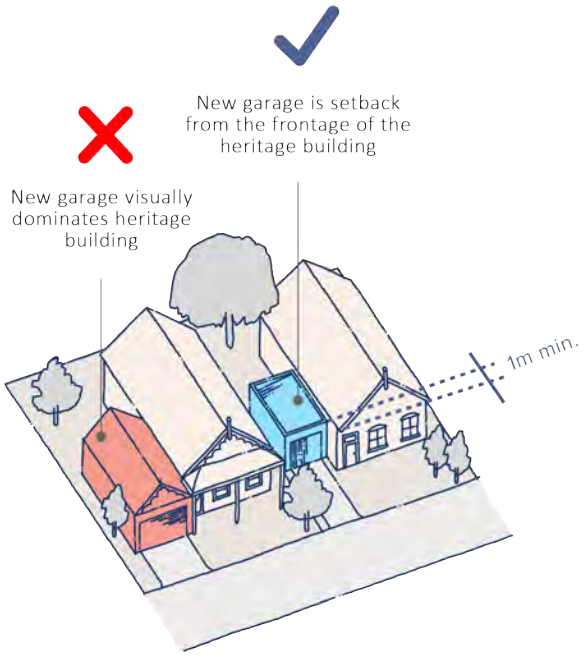


Figure 40 Vehicle accommodation setback from the heritage building front facade.

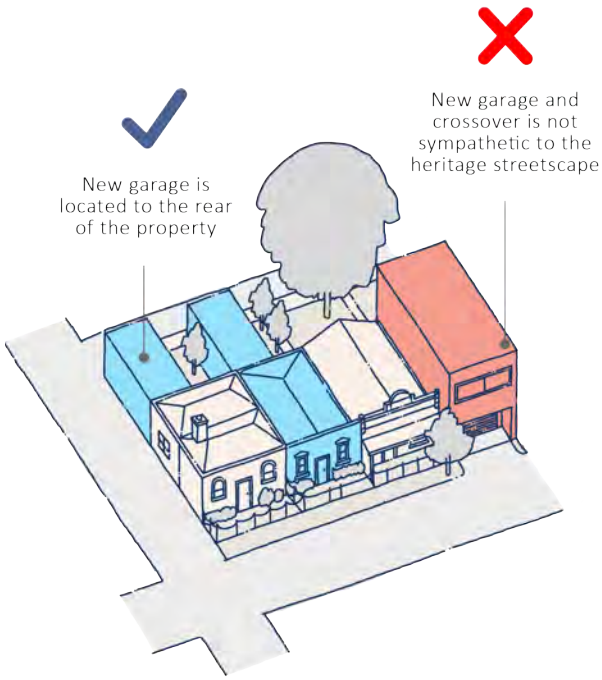


Figure 41 Vehicle accommodation to the rear of a heritage streetscape.



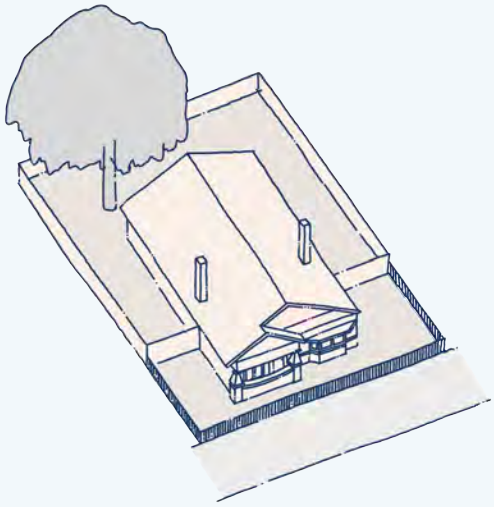
Figure 42 Dwelling, Geelong West
A recessive garage addition to a heritage dwelling.

8. Settings

Conservation requires the retention of an appropriate setting. This includes retention of the visual and sensory setting, as well as the retention of spiritual and other cultural relationships that contribute to the cultural significance of the place.

New construction, demolition, intrusions or other changes which would adversely affect the setting or relationships are not appropriate.

– Burra Charter 2013: Article 8



Heritage landscapes cover a diversity of places from private domestic gardens to public landscaped settings. These Guidelines focus on the private garden settings identified as significant to a heritage place. They also include carefully designed public parks and gardens, reserves, as well as historic rural or industrial landscapes which may demonstrate early farming, cultivation approaches, mining, or other industrial practices. New fences and landscaping should respect and enhance the character of the heritage place, maintaining the integrity of the streetscape and the original architectural context.

New fences

- New fences should be sympathetic to the architectural style and era of the heritage place.
- The design, materials, height, scale, visual permeability and detailing of new fences should match or complement the prevailing character of heritage fences within the precinct.
- Solid, high, or visually obstructive fences are discouraged unless they are characteristic of the original precinct.
- Use traditional materials such as timber, cast iron, brick, rendered masonry, woven wire and chain mesh as appropriate to the heritage style and local context. Modern or non-traditional materials should be avoided unless justified by the specific heritage context.
- The height of the front fence is dependent on the era and scale of the property. Traditional suburban fence heights should typically not exceed 1.3 metres, unless there is a historical precedent in the precinct.
- Security gates and other intrusive elements should be avoided unless they can be integrated sensitively and are justified by the heritage context.

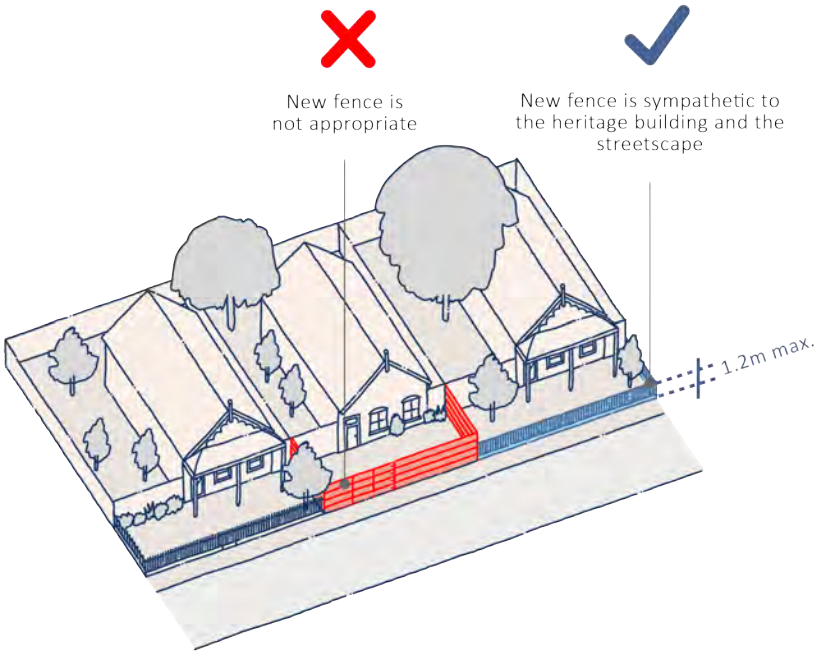


Figure 43 New fences.

Restored and reconstructed fences

- Original fences that contribute to the heritage significance should be preserved and, where necessary, restored using traditional materials and techniques.
- Where original fencing is damaged or missing, replacement sections should replicate the original design, materials, and detailing as closely as possible.
- If only part of an original fence remains new work should incorporate and respect these surviving elements.
- For heritage buildings, the reconstruction of a previous original front fence may be considered if this enhances the significance of the heritage place.
- The reconstruction should be based on historical and where applicable physical evidence.
- Where historical and physical evidence does not exist consider traditional fences of comparable heritage properties of similar design and construction.

Types of front fences

For the types of front fences that prevailed in Greater Geelong throughout the 19th and 20th centuries refer to **Appendix - Fence Styles.**



Figure 44 *Dwelling and new front fence, East Geelong*

The new visually permeable, capped timber picket front fence and gate is in keeping with the Edwardian character of the dwelling.

Heritage landscaping

- Retain original trees, hedges, garden beds, pathways, fences, and other landscape elements that are significant to the heritage character of the site. Their removal or significant alteration should only occur where absolutely necessary.
- Undertake regular maintenance of original landscape features, including trees, to preserve their condition and heritage value.
- Consider reinstating lost or altered heritage landscape features such as historic garden beds, paths, or boundary treatments.
- Ensure that new works, including paving or construction, do not damage the root systems of existing significant trees. A report from a qualified arborist should be obtained.

New landscaping

- New landscaping and tree planting should be sympathetic to the historical character of the area. Use plant species, materials, and design styles that reflect or are compatible with the period and character of the heritage place.
- Avoid introducing large, dominant, or visually intrusive elements that detract from the heritage setting. New landscape features should be subordinate to the main heritage fabric.
- Where visible from the street or public spaces, new landscaping should enhance the visual quality and historical authenticity of the streetscape.
- New trees should be planted in locations that do not obscure significant views of heritage buildings or features, or compromise the integrity of original landscape layouts.

Application considerations

It is recognised that an application for a planning permit is limited to those few heritage places where tree controls apply. This section also gives informal guidance about managing heritage landscapes and new landscaping to heritage places.

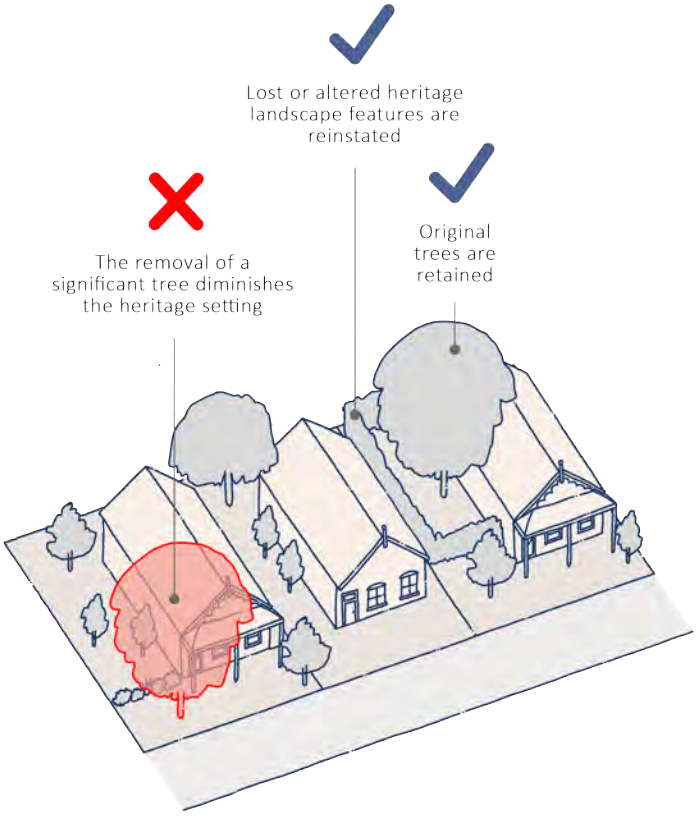
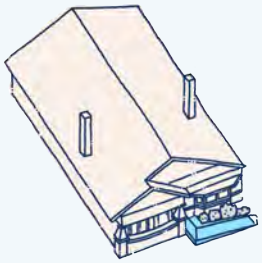


Figure 45 New and heritage landscaping.

9. Accessibility

The City of Greater Geelong advocates upgrades to heritage buildings to ensure dignified and equitable access for people with disabilities to and within the buildings, in line with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) and relevant building codes, standards and regulations.

Any changes to a heritage building should also be respectful of the historic fabric and the historic character.



Accessibility upgrades

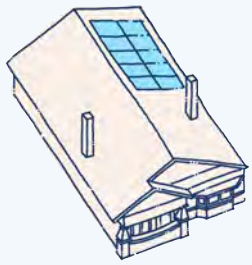
- Design new accessible features (ramps, lifts, accessible toilets) to be visually compatible with the heritage character.
- Use materials, forms, and details that respect the building's historic context by being streamlined in design and construction, and subtle in character.
- Upgrades to existing buildings should not involve the removal significant fabric.
- Ensure that upgrades do not visually overwhelm significant fabric or views.
- Where possible, make accessible upgrades reversible so that original fabric can be restored in the future without permanent damage.
- Where possible set access ramps away from significant walls to ensure the retention of existing subfloor ventilation. Drainage between the ramp and the wall maybe required.
- Ensure that new accessible elements contribute positively to the streetscape and do not detract from the heritage significance or appearance of the precinct.



Figure 46 *Former Shenton Methodist Church (now part of Geelong High School), Geelong.* New ramp and stairs added for accessibility.

10. Sustainability

Retaining and reusing heritage buildings offers significant environmental benefits. The preservation of existing fabric of the heritage place: may reduce the carbon footprint, and avoid the loss of embodied energy that results from demolition and new construction.



Many heritage buildings can be upgraded to meet higher environmental standards without altering their historic features. Heritage places can also be adapted to include modern environmental features such as solar panels, insulation, draught-proofing, energy-efficient heating and hot water systems, water tanks, and high-performance glazing where appropriate.

Beyond energy savings, heritage buildings preserve traditional craftsmanship, materials, and techniques that reflect the values of an earlier time. They contribute to a sense of memory, identity, and place within the community, offering cultural continuity in a rapidly changing world. By valuing and adapting these spaces, we not only conserve resources but also celebrate the stories and skills embedded in our built environment.

To reduce the environmental impact of demolition and rebuild, consider:

- restoration and repair of fabric.
- appropriate adaption where a heritage place is no longer used for its original purpose.
- adapting the heritage building to be more energy efficient while retaining its heritage features.

Matters to consider, while ensuring works will not have any negative impact on significant fabric, include:

- controlling moisture.
- passive heating and cooling.
- updating existing heating systems.
- installing insulation.
- installing double or secondary glazing to windows (depending on the significance of the existing window glazing).
- installing shading devices to windows.
- installing solar panels.

Solar panels and heritage

Solar panels require careful consideration about their placement to ensure no heritage impacts on the character of the building. Where possible, rear roof faces are the best heritage outcome.

Solar panels

- Placement on front roofs should be avoided where possible, with alternatives explored. Installations on outbuildings such as rear garages and sheds should be considered as alternatives.
- On side roofs the panels should be as recessive from the front as possible.
- Solar panels should be framed by, and not extend beyond the roof ridgelines.
- Solar panel installations should not involve structural change to the roof.
- Solar panels should be installed flush to the roof face where it is visible from the public realm.

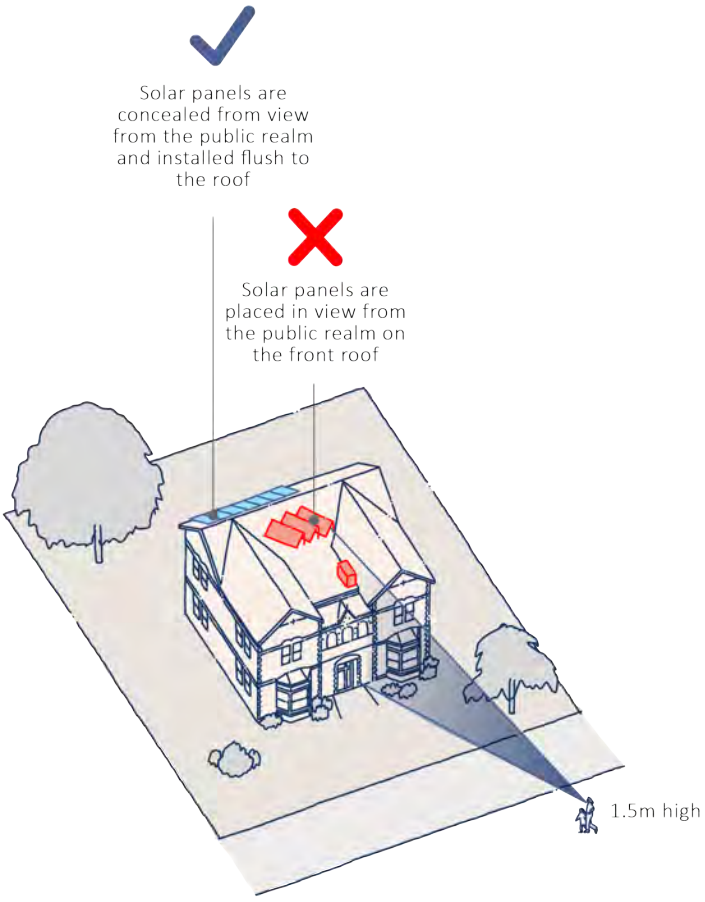


Figure 47 New solar panels.

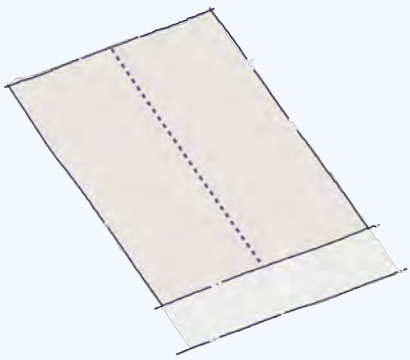
11. Subdivision & consolidation

Cultural significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations.

Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects.

Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.

– Burra Charter 2013: Article 1.2



Subdividing properties within a Heritage Overlay is a complex process that requires careful consideration of the existing heritage character. The primary goal is to conserve and enhance the cultural significance of heritage places while allowing for appropriate new development.

The significance of a heritage place is expressed in its original context and interrelationship between significant elements such as buildings, structures, fences, landscapes, and views.

Subdivision and consolidation

- Retain and protect buildings, landscape features, fences, and trees that contribute to the heritage value of the site on one title.
- Subdivision should not diminish the significance of heritage landscapes and gardens, or heritage buildings.
- Consolidation should reunite significant elements of a heritage place on one title.
- The interrelationship between the elements of significance should be maintained, including the visual setting and views of and between significant elements on the site, and views from the public realm.
- Subdivision should not be used as a justification for loss of heritage fabric.
- The subdivision of a significant heritage building should ensure that the significant exterior is retained as originally intended. Ensure that the exterior fabric forms Common Property so that it can managed in a uniform way.

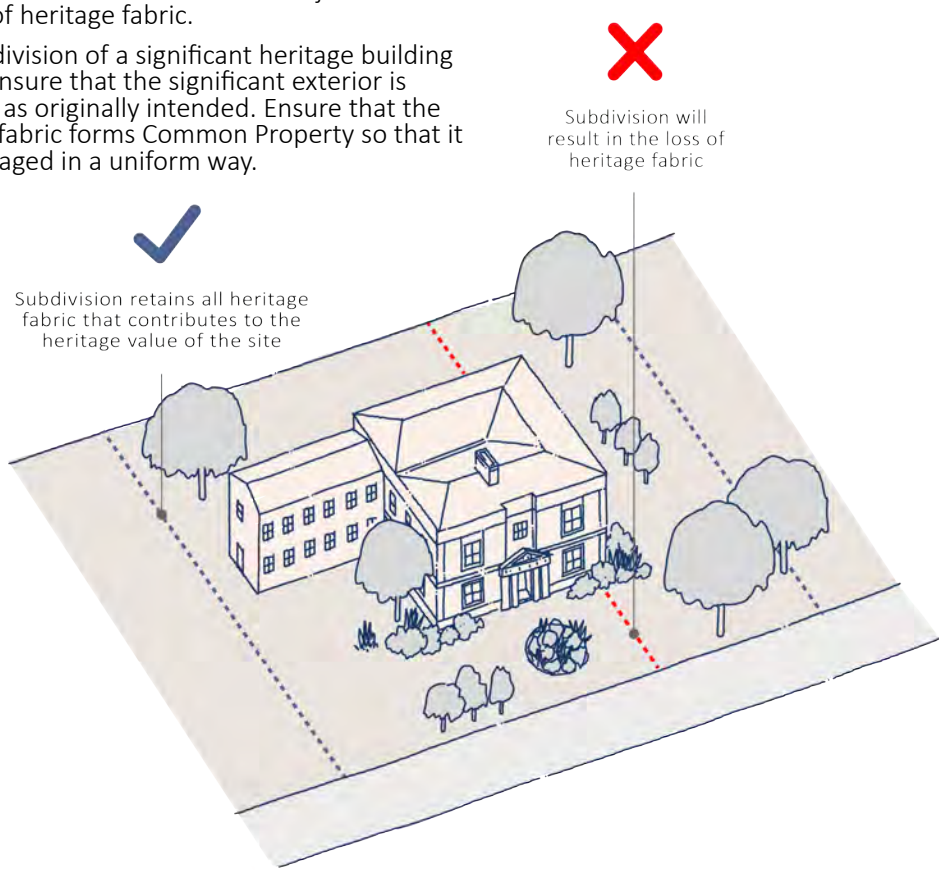


Figure 48 Subdivision and consolidation.

Heritage subdivision patterns

- Where original or historic boundaries exist, they should be used.
- Subdivided lots should reflect the prevailing subdivision pattern of the heritage area.
- Very narrow allotments that vary from the prevailing allotment pattern should be avoided.
- Rear subdivisions may ensure the retention of the existing heritage character as viewed from the public realm.

Airspace above heritage

- Avoid subdividing airspace above heritage buildings for the purpose of development.

Application considerations

A conservation management plan (prepared by a suitably qualified heritage consultant and in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter) should proceed a major development and subdivision of a large or complex site.

For a major subdivision, meaningful conservation of the heritage place should form a tangible outcome of the proposal.

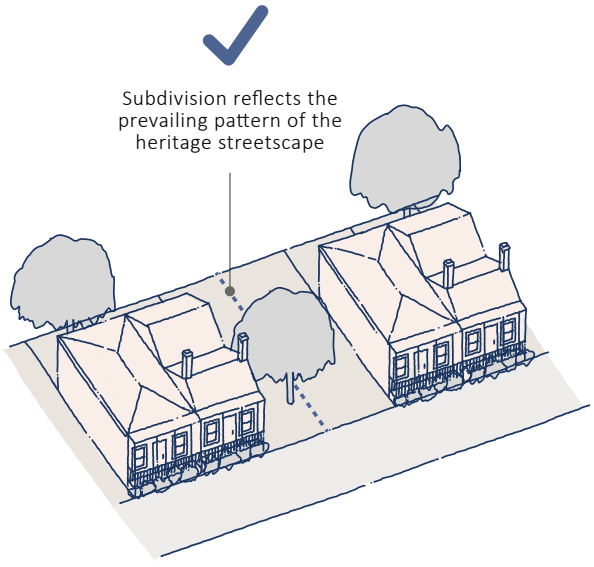


Figure 49 Heritage subdivision patterns.

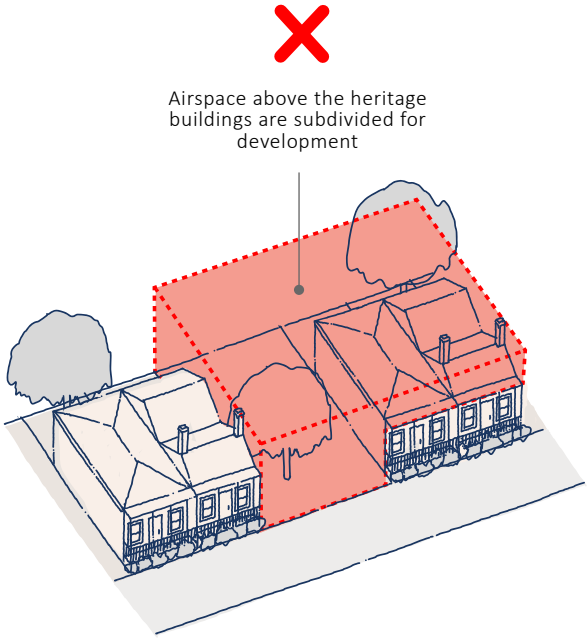


Figure 50 Subdivision of airspace above heritage.

Appendices

Architectural styles

The architectural style of a heritage building is understood through interpretation of its characteristics.

The following information has been adapted from Recognising Heritage Styles, Planning Institute of Australia, Planet Program by Dr. David Rowe.

Most heritage buildings are often defined by their architectural style which can express:

- Aesthetic/design ideas of a particular architect, designer, or owner.
- Functional role.
- Social influences.
- Historical associations.
- Technological developments and achievements.
- Local environmental conditions.

Characteristics of architectural style may include:

- Building composition (the articulation of the parts of a building).
- Shape and form.
- Scale.
- Structure.
- Construction materials.
- Details.
- Colours (exterior and interior).
- Textures (exterior and interior).
- Decoration.

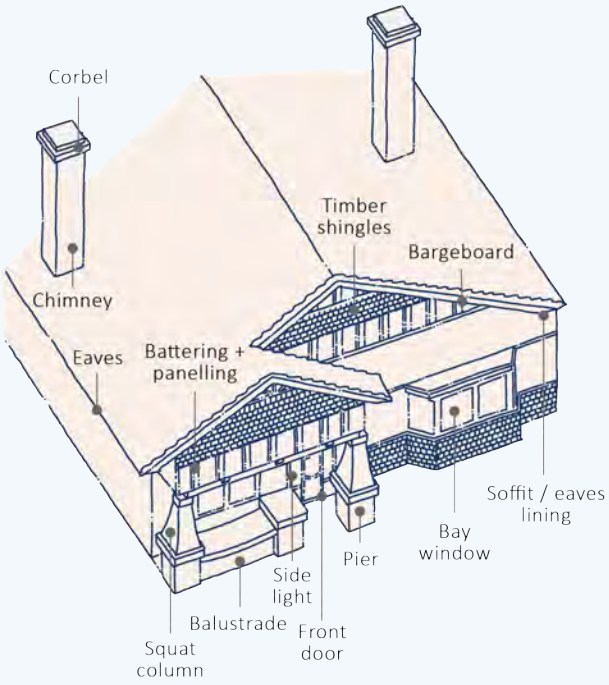


Figure 51 Characteristics of a heritage dwelling.

Georgian

The Georgian style was the basis for most architecture in Australia from 1788 until the mid-19th century. The style reached Geelong through architects including Charles Laing.



Figure 52 *Lunan, Drumcondra* (source: City of Greater Geelong).

Key Characteristics:

- Symmetry and rectangular form.
- Broad medium-pitched roof forms, with hipped roofs being most common.
- Simple Chimneys.
- Verandahs under main roof.
- Modest eaves or roofs concealed by parapets.
- Human Scale (not monumental).
- Smooth textured exposed masonry or rendered walls. Also, timber clad walls of vertical planks or slabs.
- Timber roof shingles, Morewood & Rogers galvanised roof tiles, slate or corrugated galvanised steel roof cladding.
- Rectangular, timber framed multi-paned casement or double hung windows.
- Panelled timber front door with fanlight or transom light.
- Classical detailing including portico, pediment and/or pilasters, often highlighting the main entrance.
- Quoinwork on building corners.

Early Victorian

Early Victorian is a generic term applied to cottages commonly built in the earliest parts of Geelong and suburbs following Colonisation until the mid 19th century. Symmetrical in composition, they take on a broad number of Georgian features, often in



Figure 53 *Early Victorian dwelling, Geelong West, 2008.*

Key Characteristics:

- Symmetrical and simple front facades.
- Hipped or gabled roof forms, often of 30 degree pitch.
- Front projecting verandahs with skillion, ogee or concave profiles.
- Simple and limited (if any) iron lacework or timber valances to timber verandah columns.
- Ogee or half round gutters with circular downpipes.
- Rectangular timber framed double hung windows (single windows).
- Central timber framed front doorways with four panelled doors, commonly with highlight above.
- Predominantly simple chimneys.
- Slate or galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding.
- Square or beaded edged timber weatherboard wall cladding or face brick, stone or rendered wall construction. Rendered wall construction may feature ruled ashlar markings (a smooth rendered wall with lines simulating blockwork).
- Decorative timber joinery or rendered mouldings to openings.

Mid and Late Victorian

From the 1860s, building materials such as bricks, cast iron and window glazing became more freely available. The possibility of using and enhancing a building with exposed multi-coloured brickwork, in conjunction with a graceful array of iron lacework resulted from the advances in technology and industrial processes.



Figure 54 *Corona, Newtown.*

Key characteristics:

- Symmetrical facades.
- Hipped or gabled roof forms with a pitch of 30 degrees.
- Front verandahs in skillion, ogee, concave, convex and bullnosed forms (the bullnosed forms were typically Late Victorian).
- Slate or galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding.
- Ogee form or half round gutters.
- Square edged or beaded timber weatherboard wall cladding, polychrome brick wall construction or rendered wall construction.
- Rectangular timber framed double hung windows, including front tripartite windows (windows with flanking narrow sidelights).
- Central timber framed front doorways with four panelled timber doors and sidelights and highlights.
- Decorative timber or rendered joinery (moulded window and door architraves).
- Decorative timber eaves brackets, often with panelling and paterae between.
- Complex and decorative chimneys rendered or polychrome brickwork (mid Victorian).
- Face red brick chimneys, often with strapped and/or corbelled tops (late Victorian).
- Sometimes decorative cast iron roof ridge ornamentation & finials.
- Cast iron or timber verandah columns adorned with cast iron valances and brackets.
- Cast iron palisade fences (often for more substantial, brick houses) and timber picket fences.
- Timber picket fences (often for modestly scaled timber houses).

Victorian Italianate

Italian landscape and architecture had a large influence on late 18th and early 19th century design. In the early 1800s, Pattern Books spread the styles that were to have a considerable influence on the development of both substantial mansions and more modest examples of the style. These houses took on Gothic-like asymmetrical compositions, with a projecting hipped or gabled roof or faceted bay and flanking front verandah.



Figure 55 *Warrain, Geelong.*

Key characteristics:

- Asymmetrical front facades (or symmetrical compositions with a major asymmetrical element such as a tower or projecting bay).
- Towers, often square and either with pyramidal roofs or flat roofs with parapets.
- Projecting faceted bays.
- Hipped or gabled roof forms of medium pitch clad in slate or galvanised corrugated steel.
- Ogee or half round gutters.
- Polychrome brick wall construction, stone wall construction or smooth rendered brick which may feature ruled ashlar markings. Regional examples were also commonly constructed of horizontal timber weatherboards.
- Skillion, concave, convex or arcaded verandahs or colonnaded loggias.
- Architectural detailing following Mid-Late Victorian styles.
- Timber framed double hung windows, arranged singularly or in projecting faceted bays, and often full length.
- Four or six paneled timber front doors with sidelights and highlights.
- Decorative detailing including quoinwork and Classical elements (including window pediments).
- Polychrome brick or rendered chimneys with decorative tops.
- Cast iron palisade fences or timber picket fences.

Victorian Gothic

Gothic architecture was one of the most important and enduring architectural styles of the 19th century. Domestic architecture saw a holistic approach to attractive settings of buildings and landscapes, a recurring element being the small picturesque Gothic house.



Figure 56 *Hawthorne, Newtown.*

Key characteristics:

- Asymmetrical compositions, often with projecting front gable with bay window.
- Steeply pitched gable roof forms having decorative timber bargeboards.
- Slate or galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding.
- Projecting gabled dormers in main roof forms.
- Brick, stone or rendered masonry wall construction.
- Quoining to masonry walls.
- Pointed arched or Tudor arched openings.
- Square headed window openings with label moulds above.
- Timber framed double hung or casement windows, commonly multi-paned.
- Medieval chimneys, being elongated and solid and multi-faceted.
- Timber finials and pendants in the gable ends.
- Decorative timber bargeboards in the gable ends.
- Projecting faceted bay windows and oriel windows.
- Projecting skillion or concave verandahs with simple timber or cast iron verandah valances and brackets.
- Timber picket fences.

Victorian Boom

The economic boom of the 1870s and 1880s brought about by the gold rushes of previous years centred mainly on large Australian towns and cities which flowed into a lavish “boom” style architecture which reached its most flamboyant heights in “Marvelous Melbourne”.



Figure 57 *Miharo, Newtown.*

Key characteristics:

- Asymmetrical front facades (or symmetrical compositions with a major asymmetrical element such as a tower or projecting bay).
- Towers, often square with elaborate parapets.
- Projecting faceted bays.
- Complex hipped or gabled roof forms of medium pitch clad in slate or galvanised corrugated steel.
- Ogee or half round gutters.
- Elaborate rendered brick chimneys.
- Six panelled timber doors with sidelights and highlights having decorative etched red and blue glazing.
- Smooth rendered wall construction.
- Skillion, concave or convex verandahs or arcaded or colonnaded loggias.
- Lavish stuccoed ornamentation on parapets and verandahs, or loggias, including Classical elements, orbs and urns, and/or cast iron verandah valances, brackets, valances and columns.
- Elaborately stuccoed chimneys.
- Elaborate cast iron palisade fences.

Queen Anne

The Queen Anne style was characterised by the return of some of the vernacular stylistic ideals of earlier English domestic architecture, which was inspired by the Arts and Crafts Movement. Locally, in spite of the style's name, the Queen Anne Revival had only a passing resemblance to the classical English red brick style.



Figure 59 *Pevensey House, Geelong.*

Key characteristics:

- Asymmetrical compositions.
- Complex hipped and gabled roof forms clad in Marseilles terra cotta tiles, or galvanised corrugated steel.
- Terra cotta roof ridge decoration and terra cotta finials.
- Unpainted red brick wall construction, often relieved with roughcast wall planes (under eaves or in gable ends).
- Bowed projecting bay windows.
- Oval or round windows.
- Timber framed, casement or double hung windows with leadlighted highlights, sometimes with segmentally arched heads.
- Oriel windows.
- Brick mouldings;
- Dominant face red brick chimneys, commonly strapped with multi-corbelled tops and terra cotta pots, or with rendered tops.
- Corner towers with conical or pyramidal roofs.
- Decorative timber fretwork, brackets and posts to verandahs.
- Timber shingling.

Federation

The Federation Villa combined the characteristics of Queen Anne, with other stylistic influences of the period, including Art Nouveau and Arts and Crafts design, as well as addressing local climatic conditions as advocated by the architects of the 1880s. Art Nouveau appeared in Federation style houses in window glazing, carvings, verandah details and especially in furniture and fittings in the form of stylized tulip motifs and often Australian flora and fauna.



Figure 60 *Dwelling, Geelong* (source: City of Greater Geelong).

Key characteristics:

- Horizontal emphasis on sheltering, projecting complex hipped and gabled roof forms which was based on the forms of the Australian Colonial Homestead.
- Terra cotta roof tiles. Regional variations included galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding (sometimes painted red) or slate.
- Asymmetrical and three-dimensional composition of the overall form of the building (not just the street elevation). The most common composition was a broad recessive hipped roof with projecting front and side gables linked by a return verandah. Other roof forms may include gambrel roofs.
- Corner or diagonal emphasis (chamfered building corner, verandah accentuation, diagonal roof feature).
- Dominant strapped brick chimneys with corbelled tops and terra cotta pots, or with rendered tops and bases.
- Decorative ridge cappings and finials.
- Attic balconies and dormers.
- Return verandahs (incorporated as part of the main roof or as separate roofs), with decorative timber fretwork and valances often incorporating stylized Tulip motifs or similar details, and timber posts (square, chamfered or turned).
- Rectangular timber framed, double hung or casement windows, often paired or in banks of three, sometimes arranged in projecting rectangular or bowed bays in gable ends and under verandah corners.
- Panelled front doors.
- Decorative timber joinery and eaves brackets.
- Rough cast areas on walls or as gable infill with decorative timber joinery.
- Small round windows.
- Window hoods supported by decorative timber brackets;
- Leadlighting in upper lights of windows, doors and sidelights, often with Australiana motifs (Kangaroos, Kookaburras, etc.).
- Face red brick wall construction accentuated by rendered horizontal bands.
- Rounded timber picket or capped timber picket fences, sometimes with detailing to match the detailing of the house (ie. Verandah valance). Other fences include timber post and woven wire.

Edwardian

Edwardian styled house is less elaborate and complex than the Federation Villa. These houses in Geelong typically have a single decorative street façade and are more two dimensional in overall composition.



Figure 61 *Dwelling, Geelong West.*

Key characteristics:

- Asymmetrical compositions, with a recessive hipped or gabled roof form, and a gable and front verandah that projects towards the street. Alternatively, broad hipped, gabled or gambrel roof forms.
- Galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding (sometimes slate).
- Strapped and/or corbelled brick chimneys (pressed red brick chimneys were common) with terra cotta pots.
- Timber or masonry walls.
- Skillion, convex or bullnosed verandahs at the front. Alternatively, the front verandah may be an extension of the main roof.
- Decorative timber verandah valance fretwork and brackets.
- Rectangular timber framed double hung windows (sometimes with highlights).
- Four panelled front doors, commonly with highlight and sidelights.
- Timber joinery and roughcast gable infill.
- Timber window hoods.
- Timber eaves brackets with paneling and paterae between.
- Rounded timber picket or capped timber picket fences, sometimes with detailing to match the detailing of the house (ie. Verandah valance). Other fences include timber post and woven wire.

Interwar Bungalow

The interwar Californian Bungalow style primarily has its origins in American Bungalows that promoted an idealistic, outdoors-oriented relaxed lifestyle, as identified in the low-pitched roofs with broad eaves, sleep-outs, pergolas and breezeways. During the 1920s, the Australian version became largely standardized, being largely constructed in brick in Melbourne, but often in timber weatherboards in regional cities and towns.



Figure 62 *Dwelling, Geelong.*

Key characteristics:

- Low-pitched gable hipped or jerkin head roof forms.
- Galvanised corrugated steel or terra cotta tile roof cladding.
- Street-facing gable
- Taper-cut barge board
- Gable ventilator
- Projecting faceted bay windows.
- Timber framed double hung windows, arranged singularly, in pairs or in banks of three.
- Shingling, especially in the gable and around the bay window
- Wide eaves often with exposed timber rafters.
- Plain rectangular red brick chimneys with soldier course cappings or simple projecting brick cappings.
- Brick, timber weatherboard or roughcast wall construction.
- Broad gabled or flat roofed verandahs supported either grouped or singular posts (mainly of timber construction), concrete columns or solid piers. The posts, columns and piers were often supported by face or rendered brick pedestals. Some bungalows are supported by pylons of roughcast render. Verandah variations included flat roofed porches, including projecting front porches supported by columns.
- Flat timber picket, capped timber picket, timber post and woven wire or low solid brick front fences, or fences with brick piers having geometric trussed steel panels between, or timber post and cyclone wire fences with timber cappings.

Moderne

The interwar period also heralded the rise of an architecture that departed from past styles and emphasised 'functionalism' and clean lines, epitomizing a radical progressive image. The non-conformist streamlined buildings featured asymmetrical masses of simple geometrical shapes with horizontal banded 'ribbon' windows that terminated into round bays, with solid parapets or parapets defined by steel tubing that resembled ocean liners than suburban houses.



Figure 63 *Dwelling, Hamlyn Heights* (source: City of Greater Geelong).

Key characteristics:

- Asymmetrical massing with the emphasis on horizontal lines broken by occasional vertical motifs including chimneys or stairwells.
- Low pitched hipped roof forms clad in tiles.
- Plain projecting eaves or solid or tubular steel parapets.
- Streamlined horizontal bands of windows.
- Chevron motif (inverted V pattern) – Art Deco detailing.
- Applied, stylized high-relief Art Deco motifs.
- Stepped and rounded non-functional architectural elements (Art Deco).
- Large areas of glazed windows, often featuring curved glazing in building corners or projecting bays, or more conservatively, square corner windows.
- Low solid brick front fences, or fences with brick piers and geometric steel trussed panels.

Late-Interwar and Post-war Bungalows

The immediate years after the Second World War from 1945 witnessed shortages in construction materials and skilled labour. Local Government regulations were tightened for domestic building, whereby minimum occupancy, room sizes and overall allotment areas were prescribed. This caused a shrinkage of creative house designs and subsequently a decrease in design quality.



Figure 64 *Dwelling, Geelong* (source: City of Greater Geelong).

Key characteristics:

- Asymmetrical compositions, often with an emphasis on horizontal lines through the projecting eaves, banks of windows, and flat roofed porches.
- Low pitched hipped and gabled roof forms.
- Brick veneer wall construction or sometimes timber weatherboard cladding.
- Concrete tiled roof cladding, or for timber dwellings, sometimes galvanised corrugated steel painted red or green.
- Broad plain eaves.
- Timber or metal framed double hung windows, often arranged in pairs or in banks of three at the front. The windows were often larger than those of Bungalows of the 1920s and early 1930s.
- Plain brick chimneys.
- Projecting flat roofed porches.
- Low solid brick front fences, or fences with brick piers and geometric steel trussed panels.

Postwar Modernist

A more creative response to the postwar housing boom celebrated open-planned living, eschewing the compartmentalized approach of earlier years with an absence of hall ways, combined living and dining rooms, and floor to ceiling windows to bring the outside within.

•



Figure 65 *Dwelling, Hamlyn Heights.*

Key characteristics:

- Open floor plans, with combined living and dining areas (sometimes with the living area sunken).
- Shallow-pitched gabled roof forms, hipped roof forms, flat roofs and butterfly roofs.
- Tiled or sheet metal roof cladding.
- Brick veneer and timber wall cladding.
- Floor to ceiling timber framed windows.
- Feature crazy stone chimneys and base walls.
- Terraces with deliberate landscape connection between the inside and outside.
- Integrated carports.

Fence styles

Under Clause 43 (the Heritage Overlay) of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, a planning permit is required to construct a fence if visible from a street (other than a lane) or public park.

Fences should be designed and constructed in a way that is sympathetic to the character of the heritage place.

This section provides guidance on the basic architectural styles for properties in Greater Geelong, and the traditional types of front fencing applicable to that style or era.

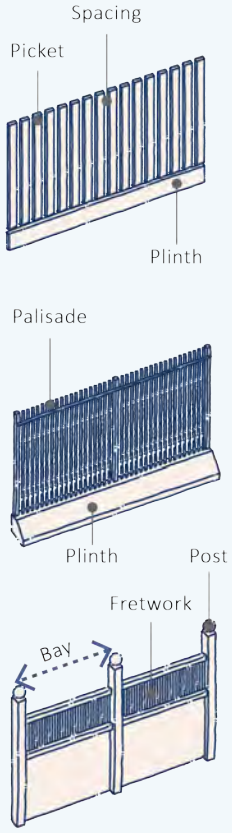


Figure 66 Illustration of the standard elements of a fence construction

Victorian dwellings

Pointed timber pickets

Pointed timber picket fences are commonly associated with Early, Mid and Late Victorian styled dwellings, built from the mid 19th century until c.1900, although variations in picket fencing continued into the early 20th century. Mid and some late 19th century picket heads were rudimentary, mainly being V-shaped or sometimes flat.

From the 1860s there were a number of more decorative picket heads available. The picket detail design was usually governed by the era of the fence construction as much as the simplicity or elaboration of the dwelling or building.

Spacings between the pickets varied between 25 and 50mm. Sometimes smaller pickets were added between the primary pickets for additional screening and decoration. Occasionally there are concerns about the potential for vandalism and the pickets being removed.

In these cases, hoop iron can be attached along the front of the pickets (where the pickets are attached to the rails).

Picket fences were constructed with or without a timber plinth. Where plinths were constructed, they were usually within the range of 140-190mm in height. Masonry bases are sometimes sought for fence reconstructions and new fences given raised garden beds behind. Any masonry plinths should not be visually dominant and they should be in proportion with the overall fence design (being no more 1-2 courses in height).

Posts were usually expressed (slightly projecting from the fence bays) and sometimes there were less decorative and smaller intermediate posts. The posts were capped in a range of ways depending on the era and elaboration of the fence design: from pointed and rounded cappings, to projecting moulded timber cappings, timber orbs or cast iron cappings.

Gates were either of a picket design similar to the fence bays or different timber designs often with timber base panelling to emphasise the entry point. In most situations, these fences were no higher than 1200-1300mm.



Figure 67 Victorian dwelling with pointed timber picket fence, expressed posts with decorative cappings and timber gate. Source: Emerald Museum.



Figure 68 Late Victorian styled brick dwelling with pointed timber picket fence.



Figure 69 Unpainted timber picket fence with hoop iron used to reinforce the pickets

Cast iron palisade

Cast iron palisade fences were common from the 1860s because iron foundries had been established which gave greater access to this material. These types of fences are mainly associated with substantial masonry (face brick, stone or rendered) mid and late Victorian and Victorian Italianate dwellings. While new cast iron palisade fences are often proposed, the lack of an existing cast iron fence may be an indicator that the original fence was of timber construction. A lack of cast iron palisade fences in the area might further suggest that they were not a traditional feature.

They commonly featured masonry plinths (usually one-two courses high with a smooth finished or rendered capping).

In some cases, substantial cast iron or masonry (stone or rendered) posts were constructed that emphasised gate openings and property corners. They were often crowned with decorative cast iron cappings, orbs or urns.

For the fence bays, there was a range of palisade heads, from simple to more decorative. Sometimes, a particular palisade head was common to an area due to the popularity and/or proximity of the iron foundry.

Gates also matched the design and construction of the fence.

The height of these fences varied, from 1200-1300 mm for modest Victorian dwellings, to approximately 1800 mm for two storey brick dwellings on larger allotments.



Figure 70 Substantial late Victorian brick dwelling with iron palisade fence having cast iron piers and bluestone plinths.

Federation & Edwardian dwellings

Pointed timber pickets

Pointed timber picket fences continued to prevail for some Federation and Edwardian dwellings in the very early 20th century. In addition to pointed pickets, rounded and other picket heads were usually associated with Federation and Edwardian styled dwellings.

Spacings between the pickets varied between 25 and 50mm. Sometimes smaller pickets were added between the primary pickets for additional screening and decoration.

Picket fences were constructed with or without a timber plinth. Where plinths were constructed, they were usually within the range of 140-190mm in height. Masonry bases are sometimes sought for fence reconstructions and new fences given raised garden beds behind. Any masonry plinths should not be visually dominant and they should be in proportion with the overall fence design (being no more 1-2 courses in height).

Posts were usually expressed (slightly projecting from the fence bays) and sometimes there were less decorative and smaller intermediate posts. The posts were capped in a range of ways depending on the era and elaboration of the fence design: from pointed and rounded cappings, to projecting moulded timber cappings, timber orbs or cast iron cappings.

Gates were either of a picket design similar to the fence bays or different timber designs often with timber base panelling to emphasise the entry point.



Figure 71 Edwardian dwelling with pointed timber picket fence. Source: News of the Week, 1919.



Figure 72 Rounded timber picket fence to a Federation era dwelling.

Flat timber pickets

Sometimes associated with Federation and Edwardian styled dwellings are rudimentary versions of flat timber.

Picket spacings were around 25mm and the pickets tended to be wider for interwar properties. A timber plinth traditionally formed the base to these types of fences, being approximately 140 – 190mm in height.

Gates often matched the flat timber picket design of the fence, or were of varying timber design or of scrolled metal and wire construction.



Figure 73 Flat timber fence to an Edwardian era dwelling.

Picket fences with fretwork cappings

Sometimes associated with Federation and Edwardian styled dwellings are rudimentary versions of flat timber.

Picket spacings were around 25mm and the pickets tended to be wider for interwar properties. A timber plinth traditionally formed the base to these types of fences, being approximately 140 – 190mm in height.

Gates often matched the flat timber picket design of the fence, or were of varying timber design or of scrolled metal and wire construction.



Figure 74 Details of Federation era picket fence with fretwork capping.

Picket fences with simple cappings

Like the flat timber picket fence, simply-capped timber picket fences were most common during the Federation and interwar eras. Sometimes, cut-out decorations defined some of the Federation era pickets (this decoration was taken from the verandah valance of the dwelling where applicable).

Timber plinths formed the base construction to a height between 140 and 190mm. Expressed timber posts projected beyond the timber capping, being finished in a range of designs. With all timber picket fences before World War 2, the pickets were arranged vertically.

Picket spacings were usually around 25mm.

Gates were usually of similar design and construction as the fence bays, or were a panelled timber gate having an open fretwork upper panel. Sometimes they were of scrolled metal and wire construction, or were of varying timber design or of scrolled metal and wire construction.



Figure 75 Edwardian styled dwelling having a timber picket fence with a simple capping.

Ripple iron and timber fretwork

Sometimes associated with Federation and Edwardian styled dwellings are rudimentary versions of flat timber.

Picket spacings were around 25mm and the pickets tended to be wider for interwar properties. A timber plinth traditionally formed the base to these types of fences, being approximately 140 – 190mm in height.

Gates often matched the flat timber picket design of the fence, or were of varying timber design or of scrolled metal and wire construction.



Figure 76 Detail of Federation era ripple iron and timber fretwork fence, wtih scrolled metal and wire vehicular and pedestrian gates.

Woven wire

In 1899, the Cyclone Woven Wire Fence and Gate Company commenced the production of woven wire. For some Federation and Edwardian styled houses, woven wire was used in conjunction with timber posts, rails and plinths, or more substantial masonry piers and plinths, reflecting the design, construction and proportions of the property.

Gates were tubular steel and scrolled metal with woven wire infill.



Figure 77 Capped timber post and woven wire fence. Source: News of the Week, 1916.



Figure 78 More substantial woven wire fence to large property with rendered piers and brick plinths.

Interwar dwellings

Flat timber pickets

Some interwar Bungalow styled dwellings traditionally featured wide flat timber picket fences. The picket spacings and construction of a plinth and gate details were similar to the flat timber picket fences built during the Federation era.



Figure 79 Flat timber picket fence to an interwar bungalow styled dwelling.

Capped timber pickets

Like some Federation styled dwellings, capped timber picket fences up to a height of 1300mm were a feature of interwar Bungalow styled dwellings.



Figure 80 Capped timber picket fence to an interwar bungalow styled dwelling.

Woven wire

The timber post and rail and woven wire fences built towards the later period of Federation styled dwellings were also popular for interwar bungalow styled dwellings.



Figure 81 Timber post and rail, and woven wire fence to an interwar bungalow styled dwelling.

Chain mesh

From 1914, chain wire mesh was available. Also known as Cyclone wire, fences with this type of mesh design became popular during the interwar period. They were often capped with timber cappings, with low timber plinths and rudimentary, expressed square timber posts.

Gates were usually of open, geometric steel design.



Figure 82 Interwar bungalow styled dwelling with a capped timber post and chain mesh front fence having open geometric steel gate.

Low solid masonry

Another popular early 20th century fence type, including for some interwar bungalow styled dwellings, was solid brick fences. These fences still allowed views to the front garden. The designs of solid fences varied depending on whether they were built in the early or later interwar period. Some early interwar era fences reflected the design and construction of the dwelling in some way (such as the balustrade curve of the verandah).

Gates were often open steel with geometric patterns.

The overall height of these types of fences was usually between 600 and 1000mm.



Figure 83 Interwar solid brick fence, being sufficiently low not to obstruct the view to the front garden.

Modern and post war bungalow

Low solid masonry

Common for Modern and postwar bungalow styled dwellings were solid brick fences. They were usually simple in design.

Gates were often open steel with geometric patterns.

The overall height of these types of fences was usually between 600 and 1000mm.



Figure 84 Low solid brick fence to late interwar dwelling.

Brick piers with open geometric steel trussed panels

A variation on the low late interwar era solid brick fence was a fence with brick piers and plinths and open geometric steel trussed panels.

The gates were often open steel, having geometric patterns that reflected the design of the open steel trussed panels.

These fences usually ranged between 600 and 1000mm in height.



Figure 85 Low solid brick fence with open bays with trussed geometric panels.

Horizontal paling fences

Horizontal timber paling fences featured as the front boundary to some properties after World War 2 and particularly from the 1950s.

They were usually no higher than 1000-1200mm and the palings were set in front of the posts (either timber or tubular steel).

The spacings between the palings were usually around 25mm.



Figure 86 Horizontal timber pailing fence to postwar bungalow. Source: Lorraine Huddle.

No fencing

Properties of postwar Modern designed after World War 2 and particularly from the 1950s may not have been bound by a front fence. Landscape treatments often formed the main feature to the front setting.

Other considerations

Fence heights

For most new fences in heritage areas the proposed height should generally be between 1200 and 1300mm.

For interwar and postwar era solid brick fences and retaining walls, the proposed height should generally be between 600 and 1000mm.

High solid fences limit social and visual interaction and are not a traditional fence type in most residential heritage areas. No matter how well-articulated these high walls might be designed, they are usually visually intrusive in the streetscape.

Arguments are often used that a high solid masonry fence may mitigate traffic noise but this is not the case as noise may penetrate from the sides and reverberate within the front setback. Dense planting (such as hedges) behind front fences may provide some sound isolation, but more effective methods of noise insulation include secondary glazing (or double glazing where windows have no heritage value) and air ventilation systems that limit noise ingress.

High fences may be valid in contexts where high solid fences form the significance of the heritage place. These places may include early masonry walls to convent, orphanage, religious, prison and industrial sites, for example. Where high and solid fences represent part of the significant setting of the place, a new fence should be no higher than existing fencing, and be a contemporary interpretation to allow a subtle distinction between the old and the new. The new fencing should not separate significant buildings, diminish the setting or obscure significant views from and within the site.

Higher fences may be possible if:

- The heritage place has individual significance and is contextually larger in scale (both in terms of the setting and building sizes), the fence therefore being in proportion to the larger scale.
- The new fence is a reconstruction of an earlier fence based on historical evidence.
- The prevailing traditional fence heights in the streetscape (for places in heritage areas) are higher.



Figure 87 Heritage high brick wall obscuring front of heritage property.

Sloping sites

Where front fences are proposed for sloping boundaries, they should be stepped or follow the footpath gradient. Fencing that extends across the frontage at the one level on sloping sites have the potential to create visual dominance as the new fence at the lower end of the site will be much higher.



Figure 88 Fence stepped along slope of boundary.



Figure 89 Fence following gradient of boundary slope.

Sloping sites

From the Federation era, hedges were used to provide greater height and privacy. No planning permit is required to grow a hedge.



Figure 90 Hedge forming front boundary.

Definitions

Adaptation	changing a place to suit the existing use or a proposed use.
Associations	mean the connections that exist between people and a place.
Building	includes— (a) a structure and part of a building or a structure; and (b) fences, walls, out-buildings, service installations and other appurtenances of a building; and (c) a boat or a pontoon which is permanently moored or fixed to land.
Bulk	building volume.
Character	the combination of the particular characteristics or qualities of a place.
Conservation	means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance.
Cultural Significance	means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.
Curtilage	enclosed or designated area of land immediately surrounding a dwelling and its yard and outbuildings.
Development	includes — (a) the construction or exterior alteration or exterior decoration of a building; and (b) the demolition or removal of a building or works; and (c) the construction or carrying out of works; and the subdivision or consolidation of land, including buildings or airspace; and (d) the placing or relocation of a building or works on land; and (e) the construction or putting up for display of signs or hoardings.
Fabric	means all the physical material of the place including elements, fixtures.
Form	means that overall shape and volume of a building and the arrangement of its parts.
Grain	means the pattern of the arrangement and size of buildings on their lots and the subdivision pattern. This pattern or arrangement contributes to the texture of an area. Fine grain is the quality or fine texture resulting from small and frequent subdivisions.
Heritage Asset	A building asset, including land, which is irreplaceable because of its unique historical, cultural or environmental attributes, and which is required by regulation to be preserved or maintained in perpetuity.

Heritage Building	means a building which is a place, or forms part of a place, that has been given heritage protection under a planning scheme. Includes both Significant and Contributory buildings.
Heritage Context	The specific character, quality, physical, historical and social characteristics of a building's setting. Depending on the nature of the proposal, the context could be as small as a suburban street or as large as a whole town.
Heritage Place	is an individual site that has heritage value- these types of heritage places can be a building, structure, fence, bridge, cultural landscape (such as a botanic garden, park, avenue of honour, ruin, monument or cemetery). is an area (known as a precinct) that contains a group of buildings, landscapes, etc., such as a historical town, suburb, smaller residential area or large complex site.
Heritage Overlay	Places with heritage significance to a local area are protected by a Heritage Overlay. A Heritage Overlay is part of a local planning scheme. The purpose of the Heritage Overlay is given as Clause 43.01 of the Planning Scheme and there is a Schedule to the Heritage Overlay which lists the heritage places with Heritage Overlays.
Heritage Significance	Heritage significance is the reason the heritage place is important (see '**Cultural Significance**').
Heritage Significance Criteria	For a place to be included in the Heritage Overlay it must meet at least one of the following assessment criteria: • Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural history. • Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural history. • Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural history. • Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places or objects. • Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics. • Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period. • Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular present-day community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. • Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Historic Character	The combination of particular characteristics or special qualities of a place related to its period or style of construction.
Infill	In the context of these guidelines, infill means a new building in an established and valued historic context. Good infill is building that is sympathetic to the surrounding buildings and historic context and creates new structures that enhance and complement the existing urban, suburban or rural character. Infill proposals require an evidence-based design approach where the setbacks, form, height, proportions and details are drawn from those heritage buildings that constitute the significance of the heritage place but in a creative (rather than imitative) way.
Integrity	How intact the building is; how much of the historic or original fabric a heritage building retains.
Interpretation	means all the ways of presenting the cultural significance of a place.
Land	Includes — (a) buildings and other structures permanently fixed to land; and (b) land covered with water; and (c) any estate, interest, easement, servitude, privilege or right in or over land.
Maintenance	means the continuous protective care of a place, and its setting. Maintenance is to be distinguished from repair which involves restoration or reconstruction.
Massing	The size and volume of a building.
Meanings	denote what a place signifies, indicates, evokes or expresses to people
Muted Tones and Colours	Muted colours are soft and gentle, not bright and strong. They are greyed or dulled and have a low saturation. The opposite of a muted colour is a vivid or saturated colour.
Place	means a geographically defined area. It may include elements, objects, spaces and views. Place may have tangible and intangible dimensions.
Preservation	means maintaining a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

Reconstruction	means returning a place to a known earlier state and is distinguished from restoration by the introduction of new material.
Restoration	means returning a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing elements without the introduction of new material.
Scale	relationship of parts of a building to the whole, or of a building to its surroundings.
Setback	required minimum distance from the property boundary line at ground level or at prescribed heights.
Setting	means the immediate and extended environment of a place that is part of or contributes to its cultural significance and distinctive character.
Statutory Heritage Listings	Legislative protection of heritage places derives from Federal, State and Local Governments. Most commonly, places of State Significance are included in the Victorian Heritage Register under the Victorian Heritage Act. Places of regional, local and contributory significance are included as Heritage Overlays in the Planning Scheme under the Planning and Environment Act.
Tree Control	Refer to **Planning Practice Note 1: Applying the Heritage Overlay**. Definition for a tree control or group of trees specified in the State of Significance or Heritage Study Citation.
Use	means the functions of a place, including the activities and traditional and customary practices that may occur at the place or are dependent on the place. Compatible use means a use which respects the cultural significance of a place. Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.
Works	includes any change to the natural or existing condition or topography of land including the removal, destruction or lopping of trees and the removal of vegetation or topsoil.

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2.4. Geelong Major Events Annual Report 2024-2025

Source: **Placemaking**
Executive Director: **Tennille Bradley**

Purpose

1. To provide an overview of the Geelong Major Events Committee (GME) activities and financial position for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

2. To note the Geelong Major Events 2024-2025 Annual Report (attachment 1).

Background

3. GME was established as a Council Advisory Committee in 1998 and formalised under section 86 of *the Local Government Act 1989* (Act) in October 1999. That 1989 Act is now replaced by *the Local Government Act 2020*, section 63 Delegated Committees.

4. In accordance with the Terms of Reference, this report is presented to Council to fulfil the requirement that the Committee provide an annual report on its activities and financial position.

5. The continued success of GME in attracting and supporting major events depends on ongoing funding from the Council. GME is committed to securing and sponsoring events that align with the objectives outlined in the Geelong Major Events Strategy 2024-2029.

Key Matters

6. The 2024-2025 financial year was the first year implementing the Geelong Major Events Strategy 2024–2029, which outlines a clear vision to establish Geelong as Australia's leading regional destination for events, where major events drive outstanding outcomes and enhance the region's national profile.

7. Between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025, the Geelong region successfully hosted 12 major events supported by GME.

8. The 12 major events stimulated economic activity and provided social benefits to our community. An estimated $93 million of event expenditure was generated in our region, which supported the equivalent of an estimated 747 full-time jobs and represents a return on investment of 56:1.

9. During the period, GME considered 15 applications for funding.

10. Of the 499,004 event attendees, 171,652 (34%) were residents from the Geelong region. In contrast, 327,352 (66%) were visitors from outside the area, highlighting the strong draw of major events in attracting tourism and contributing to the local economy.

11. The GME Strategy outlines four key targets it is seeking to achieve by 2029, with progress tracked against the targets annually:

2029 Target	2024-2025 Progress
Economic Impact Annual increase of 10% in total economic impact over the next five years to $131 million by 2029	**On track** The $93 million in economic return represents a year-on-year increase of 82%, driven in large part by the exceptional performance of the bi-annual Avalon Australian International Airshow.
Brand Marketing Impact The Major Events portfolio has 20% Anchor Events	**On track** When considering the Avalon Airshow and Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race as anchor events, the portfolio consists of 33% anchor events, representing 4 out of the 12 total events.
Community Impact Increase in local participation and attendance at major events by 30% by 2029.	**On track** Local residents accounted for 33% of the total attendance at major events in 2024-2025.
Sustainability Impact Reduce the major events carbon foodprint by 50% by 2029.	**Work to do** Current assessments show that 66% of attendees are satisfied with sustainability efforts at major events. To meet the sustainability targets, further initiatives and improvements are required. Looking ahead, greater focus will also be placed on social procurement and ensuring that events prioritise local businesses and suppliers.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Notes the Geelong Major Events 2024-2025 Annual Report (Attachment 1); and**

2. **Acknowledges the contribution that members of the Geelong Major Events Committee have made over the period.**

Financial Sustainability

12. The total Council allocation of sponsorship funding of $1,536,518 paid during the period was within budget. With $930,739 coming from the $1.2 million Geelong Major Events allocation and $605,779 for the Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race and the Avalon Australian International Airshow, paid directly from the council budget.

13. The funding allocation across the event classifications were as follows:

Event Classification	Total Number of Events	Total Sponsorship
Anchor Events	4	$1,031,518
Priority Events	7	$455,000
Developing Events	1	$50,000

Community Engagement

14. The 2024-2025 GME-sponsored events provided social benefits for the local community through participation and spectator opportunities, with 91% of funded events offering some form of free public access.

15. During the period, 295 community survey responses were received, with 89% of attendees reporting positive social, cultural, and economic impacts, and 70% agreeing the event enhanced Geelong's reputation as a leading event destination.

16. GME consists of:

    16.1 Up to six (6) external representatives of the business/media/arts or events community;

    16.2 Up to four Councillors (which includes the Chair);

    16.3 The Executive Director of Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine; and

    16.4 The Chief Executive Officer (or a CEO Proxy).

    All members have full and equal voting rights.

Social Equity and Sustainability

17. GME funding decisions are guided by the Geelong Major Events Strategy 2024-2029, the Committee's Terms of Reference, and an assessment framework that ensures decisions are strategic, well-informed, and aligned with Council's governance rules.

18. Major events in Geelong make a significant contribution to the community's social, environmental, and economic well-being. In line with the Geelong Major Events Strategy, funded events aim to minimise environmental impacts while maximising positive legacies, supporting the City's long-term sustainability goals.

19. The events staged within this reporting period provided social benefits for the local community through participation and spectator opportunities, with 11 of the major events offering some level of free public access.

20. It is estimated that 499,004 spectators attended the 12 events staged during the period ending 30 June 2025.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

21. In August 1998, Council established GME as a section 86 Committee under the provisions of the Act to stimulate and encourage events within the municipality.

22. The objectives of the Committee are:

    22.1 GME will strive to stimulate and encourage events that offer the best opportunity to provide measurable economic benefits, potential to market Geelong outside the municipality and enhance local community life through participation of residents.

    22.2 GME will support the development and sustainability of events while focusing its activities on a clearly defined strategic program.

    22.3 GME will establish and maintain strong links with the private sector, government and our communities to achieve high levels of stakeholder investment and engagement required to realise the potential of the events sector in Geelong.

    22.4 Specific actions to the achievement of the objectives include:

        22.4.1 A Geelong Major Events Strategy and Annual Business Plan in accordance with the terms of reference;

        22.4.2 Maintenance of a funding submissions and evaluation process;

        22.4.3 The development and attraction of new events;

        22.4.4 The continuous improvement of current events;

        22.4.5 Facilitation of state and federal government and private sector funding wherever possible;

        22.4.6 Recommendations to Council regarding event infrastructure needs; and

        22.4.7 Allocation of funds from the budget or make recommendations to the Chief Executive Officer or Council for funding of proposals that have satisfied the criteria and are in accord with the strategy.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

23. This report aligns with Council Plan 2025-2029 strategic priority:
    Economic Development

24. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
    A destination that attracts local and international visitors.
    An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.

Conflict of Interest

25. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

26. The funding process involves assessing the viability of an event and the level of risk it presents to Council and the GME Committee. Events are evaluated against several

categories, including event owner risk, reputational risk, financial risk, operational risk, key drawcard risk, marketing risk, timing risk, and stakeholder risk. This process ensures that any event receiving funding aligns with Council's objectives and demonstrates sound risk management.

27. The management of risks associated with events is an important aspect to protect the community and Council's assets. Significant processes are in place to ensure all events staged in the region have adequate risk and emergency management procedures in place. In addition, risk profiling is completed on all events during the application and assessment phase.

28. All high-risk major events are required to present detailed event plans to Geelong's Events Multi Agency Working Group, coordinated by Council's Event Services Unit and chaired by Victoria Police. Through this process, event organisers receive feedback and advice from key agencies and stakeholders, including Victoria Police, WorkSafe, Fire Rescue Victoria, Ambulance Victoria, Regional Roads Victoria, and the Municipal Building Surveyor, to ensure events are delivered safely and effectively.

Environmental Sustainability

29. Each application for funding to GME is assessed against a range of criteria, including environmental impact.

30. Environmental considerations include energy usage, use of renewable sources, water usage, waste and recycling generated, traffic congestion, use of non-powered transport options, pollution, damage to natural environments, and event legacies such as new or reinvigorated resources. The environmental impact of each event is assessed, and where appropriate, actions are identified to protect the environment.

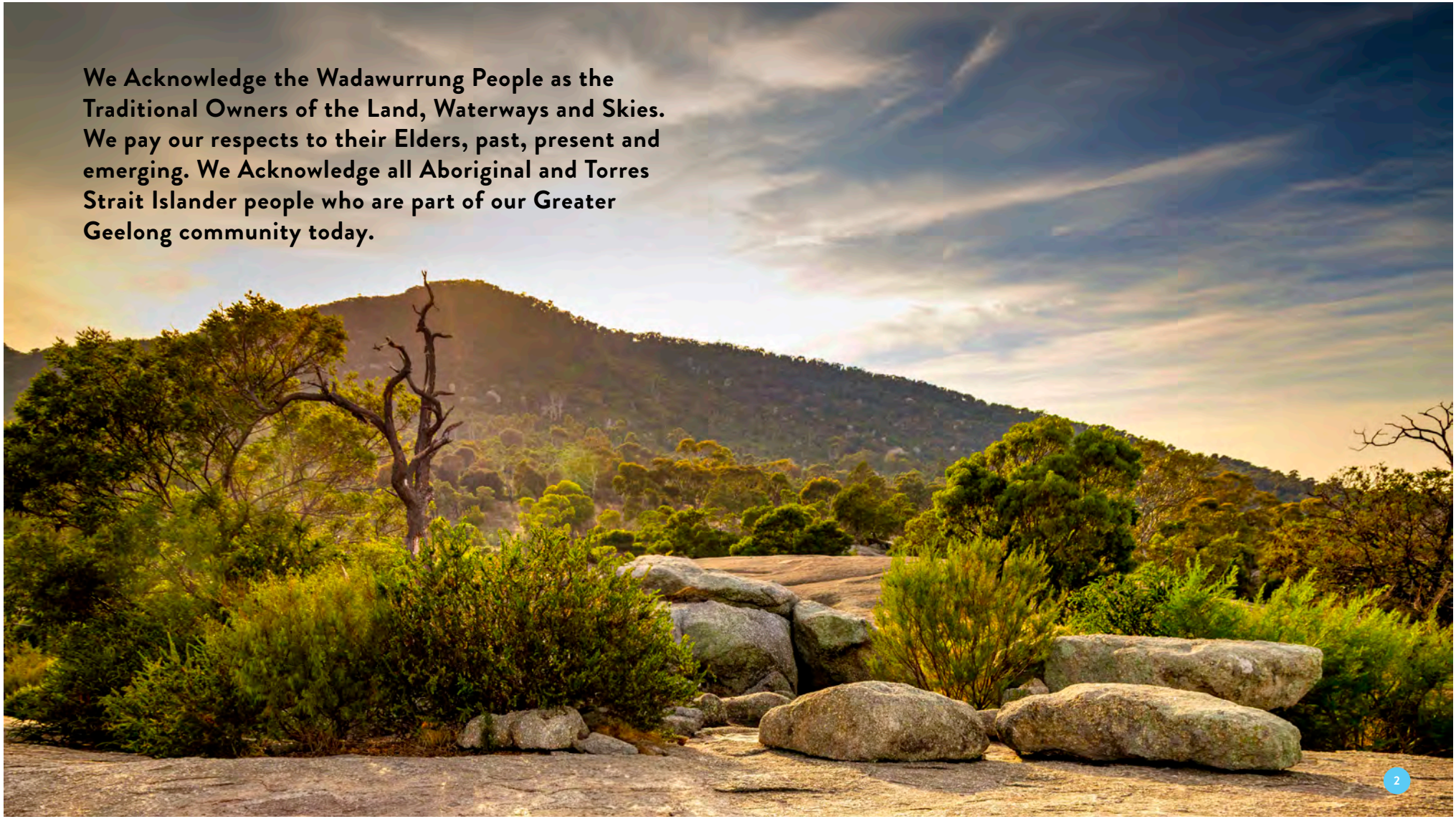
31. Council plays a leading role in working with external agencies and event organisers to ensure that environmental implications are appropriately managed.

32. Events staged during this period implemented a range of programs to minimise environmental impacts and carbon footprint, while also proactively delivering positive legacies.

Attachments

1. Geelong Major Events Annual Report 2024-25 [**2.4.1** - 13 pages]


GEELONG
MAJOR
EVENTS
ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25
CITY OF GREATER
GEELONG


We Acknowledge the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging. We Acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.
2

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



It has been my pleasure to chair Geelong Major Events Committee during 2024-25. The highlight was the successful launch and implementation of our new Major Events Strategy for Geelong, which has positioned us strongly to attract, support, and grow world-class events for our region.

In 2024–25, we proudly sponsored 12 major events, generating more than $90 million in economic impact for Greater Geelong. This achievement reflects the hard work, collaboration, and vision of our committee, regional venues, event organisers, volunteers and the broader community.

Among the year's highlights were the Avalon Australian International Airshow, Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race and IRONMAN 70.3 Geelong Pro Series all events which draw significant crowds, national attention, and exceptional benefits for Geelong. These events not only showcase our region's capacity to host large-scale experiences but also enhance Geelong's reputation as a premier destination for sport and entertainment.

Looking ahead, we are excited to expand our calendar with more arts and culture experiences, including the prestigious Archibald Prize, the vibrant Wonder Children's Festival, and a new regional program aligned with the Melbourne Fashion Festival. These events will diversify our offerings, deepen community cultural engagement, and attract new audiences to our city.

Adding to this momentum, the arrival of Nyaal Banyul, the Geelong Convention and Event Centre represents one of the most significant infrastructure advancements in our region's history. This state-of-the-art facility will unlock new opportunities for more diverse events, driving economic growth, tourism, and cultural exchange, and firmly establishing Geelong as a premier destination on both the national and international stage.

On behalf of the Geelong Major Events Committee, I extend my sincere thanks to my fellow councillors, committee members, council staff, event organisers, venues, volunteers, and community members who help make these successes possible. The future for major events in Geelong is bright.

Cr Anthony Aitken
Chair



ABOUT GEELONG MAJOR EVENTS

Operating as a Section 63 Delegated Committee of the City of Greater Geelong, (GME) is tasked with attracting, supporting and funding major events that enhance the region's profile, stimulate economic activity, and contribute to community vibrancy.

GEELONG MAJOR EVENTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2024-2025

July 2024 – September 2024
Cr Anthony Aitken – Chair
Cr Melissa Cadwell
Cr Ron Nelson
Cr Jim Mason
Ali Wastie – City of Greater Geelong CEO
Tracy Carter – Executive Director Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine
Robyn Birrell – External Committee Member
Kent Boorman – External Committee Member
Shannan Gove – External Committee Member
Julie Maxwell– External Committee Member
Brenden Caligari– External Committee Member
Natalie Valentine*– External Committee Member

January 2025 – June 2025
Cr Anthony Aitken – Chair
Cr Trent Sullivan
Cr Andrew Katos
Cr Eddy Kontelj
Tennille Bradley – Executive Director Placemaking designated proxy of CEO Ali Wastie
Tracy Carter – Executive Director Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine
Robyn Birrell – External Committee Member
Kent Boorman – External Committee Member
Shannan Gove – External Committee Member
Julie Maxwell– External Committee Member
Brenden Caligari– External Committee Member

MEETINGS DURING THE PERIOD

Strategic Meetings	Ordinary Meetings
Monday 15 July 2024	Monday 19 August 2024
Monday 20 January 2025	Monday 16 September 2024
Monday 17 March 2025	Monday 24 February 2025
	Monday 14 April 2025
	Monday 19 May 2025

Note: there was a break in the meeting schedule, and change to the committee membership following the October 2024 Council Elections.

*Natalie Valentine resigned from her position in January 2025.

DELIVERING ON THE STRATEGIC VISION AND OUTCOMES

The 2024-25 financial year marked the first year of implementing the Geelong Major Events Strategy 2024–2029, which sets out a clear vision to position Geelong as Australia's premier regional destination for events, where major events deliver exceptional outcomes and elevate the region's profile on the national stage.

Guided by this strategic framework, the GME Committee supported a diverse calendar of events that reflected the region's cultural vibrancy and international appeal. Highlights included iconic local gatherings such as the Festival of Sails and the National Celtic Folk Festival, alongside community-focused events like the Geelong Revival Motoring Festival.

Geelong proudly played host to internationally renowned events, including the Avalon Australian International Airshow and the Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race, further cementing the region's ability to attract and deliver world-class experiences.



Additionally, with thanks to Visit Victoria and the Kardinia Park Stadium Trust, GMHBA Stadium hosted the Matildas, the Australian women's national soccer team, for a landmark international match, reinforcing Geelong's growing reputation as a dynamic destination for major events of national and international significance.



WORKING TOWARDS THE 2029 TARGETS

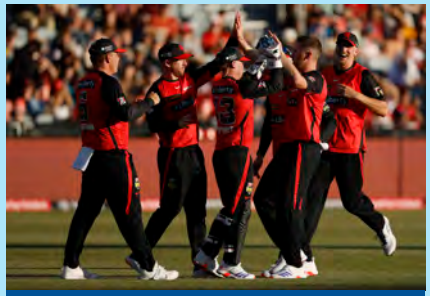


ECONOMIC IMPACT

Annual increase of 10% in total economic impact over the next five years to $131 million by 2029.

2024-25 Results: On track

The $93 million in economic return represents a year-on-year increase of 82%, driven largely by the exceptional performance of the bi-annual Avalon Australian International Airshow.



BRAND MARKETING IMPACT

The Major Events portfolio has 20% Anchor Events.

2024-25 Results: On track

When considering the Avalon Airshow and Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race as anchor events, the portfolio consists of 33% anchor events, representing 4 out of the 12 total events.



COMMUNITY IMPACT

Increase in local participation and attendance at major events by 30% by 2029.

2024-25 Results: On track

Local residents accounted for 33% of the total attendance at major events in 2024-2025.



SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

Reduce the major events carbon foodprint by 50% by 2029.

2024-25 Results: Working Towards

Current assessments indicate that 66% of attendees are satisfied with the sustainability efforts at major events. To achieve the sustainability targets, further initiatives and improvements are required.

GEELONG MAJOR EVENTS 2024-2025 IN THE NUMBERS



15

Number of sponsorship applications considered by the Committee



12

Events funded during the period



$1,536,518

Total spend



56:1

ROI



$93,503,742.29

Total Economic Impact for the region



499,004

Total overallattendance



327,355

Non-local attendance (people travelling from outside the region to attend events)



171,652

Local attendance



91%

Percentage of events with free access for the community



295

Total responses to Have Your Say surveys during the period



89%

Percentage of people that agree or strongly agree that the event they attended positively impacts the local community (economically, socially, culturally)



70%

Percentage of people that believed the event they attended strongly contributes to Geelong's reputation as a premier event destination

GEELONG MAJOR EVENTS, JULY 2024 – JUNE 2025

Major Events		Total Attendance	Local	Non-local	Economic Impact
2024 Victorian Gymnastics Championship Series	Priority	7,953	319	7,634	$789,073
2024 Geelong Revival Festival	Anchor	28,461	12,612	15,849	$5,393,963
2024 Melbourne Renegades at GMHBA Stadium	Priority	13,221	6,459	6,762	$945,771
2025 Festival of Sails	Anchor	70,814	54,006	16,808	$8,036,403
2025 Victorian Open Golf Tournament	Priority	9,256	5,408	3,851	$1,562,376
2025 Head of the Schoolgirls Regatta	Priority	10,459	1,136	9,323	$4,031,115
2025 IRONMAN 70.3 Geelong Pro Series	Priority	6,366	614	5,752	$3,092,736
2025 3x3 Hustle National Championships	Priority	850	250	600	$386,100
UCI Gran Fondo Lead in Event	Developing	452	57	369	$169,810
2025 National Celtic Festival	Priority	16,212	8,686	7,526	$3,445,266
2025 Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race*	Anchor	131,389	63,067	68,322	$19,751,128
2025 Avalon Australian International Airshow*	Anchor	203,571	19,038	184,533	$45,900,000**
TOTALS		499,004	171,652	327,355	$93,503,742

*Events sponsorship provided from the 2024-25 Council Budget

**Represents the total increase in Geelong's gross regional product. The gross regional product calculates both direct expenditures, which would not have been imposed on the Geelong in the absence of the event, and the flow-on increase in economic activity that results from the direct expenditures.

EVENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

MELBOURNE RENEGADES AT GMHBA STADIUM

The Melbourne Renegades' home season opener against the Hobart Hurricanes at GMHBA Stadium attracted over 13,000 attendees, with the Renegades winning by 6 wickets with 11 overs remaining. The event featured a Parade of Champions with 600 young players, various fan activations, a Guard of Honour by Woolworths Cricket Blast children, and a skin check activation by MSCAN. A two-minute fireworks and light show took place during the innings break.

The event delivered substantial national and international exposure for Geelong, with 763,165 Australian broadcast viewers generating $4.96 million in QI media value through coverage on Channel 7, Fox, and Kayo. Positive commentary references further highlighted Geelong's attractions and event capabilities. Internationally, Renegades matches reach across the session saw an average of 2.23 million viewers in India and over 300,000 across the UK, South Africa, and New Zealand, significantly enhancing the region's global profile.

SUMMARY OF KEY EVENT METRICS

Event Classification	Priority
Total Visitor Nights	2,408
Estimated Job Creation	7.5
Total Economic Impact	$945,771
Total Attendance	13,221

All post-event survey respondents rated the event as either "good" or "very good". The positive impact on the local community was widely recognised, with 96.43% of participants agreeing it contributes economically, socially, and culturally to the region. Furthermore, every respondent felt the event enhances Geelong's reputation as a premier event destination.



EVENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

AVALON AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRSHOW

The Avalon Australian International Airshow (AAIA) is one of Victoria's most significant major events, combining a world-class aerospace exhibition with a public spectacle of flying and on-ground aircraft displays.

Held 25–30 March 2025, the event commenced with industry-only trade days before opening to the public, Friday 28 to Sunday 30 March. The AAIA's mission is to promote Australian aviation and industrial capability while showcasing innovation and expertise in the aerospace and defence sectors.

In 2025, the AAIA attracted 203,571 attendees, including a record 55,837 trade visitors. The event featured 902 exhibitors, including 244 international exhibitors from 28 countries, 447 interstate exhibitors, and 211 from Victoria. A total of 291 official delegations from 43 countries attended, including 20 Chiefs of Air Force or equivalents.

The AAIA also plays a vital role in workforce development, welcoming more than 7,000 students to the Career Days, offering families an opportunity to share in the excitement of aviation technology and displays.

SUMMARY OF KEY EVENT METRICS

Event Classification	Anchor
Estimated Job Creation	523
Total Economic Impact	$45,900,000
Total Attendance	203,571

The AAIA delivers substantial economic benefits to the Geelong region through both direct expenditure during the event period and through flow-on economic activity. The AAIA positions Geelong as a premier event destination and highlights the region's ability to deliver world-class international events.

The Have Your Say survey responses showed 74% agreeing that the event positively impacts the local community economically, socially, and culturally. Among respondents, 68% were satisfied with the event's sustainability efforts, and 58% strongly agreed that the event contributes to Geelong's reputation as a premier event destination.



EVENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

IRONMAN 70.3 GEELONG PRO SERIES, MARCH 2025 GEELONG WATERFRONT

The IRONMAN 70.3 Geelong is an internationally recognised endurance event and in 2025 was part of the global IRONMAN 70.3 series. The event took place from Friday, 21 March, to Sunday, 23 March, with 1,649 triathletes competing across a 1.9km swim, a 90

SUMMARY OF KEY EVENT METRICS

Event Classification	Priority Event
Total Visitor Nights	12,693
Estimated Job Creation	24.74
Total Economic Impact	$3,092,736.00
Total Attendance	6,366



STRATEGY KEY ACTION AREAS

Key Action Areas	Progress Status	Comments
Governance	On Track	A governance review was completed during the period, with the Committee resolving to maintain the current Delegated Committee structure. This model is considered the most agile for making timely funding decisions in a dynamic and evolving major event market.
Funding and Budget	Working towards	Budget constraints continue to pose a challenge for the Committee. As a result, there is a strong focus on maximising funding opportunities through external sources, including Visit Victoria's Regional Events Fund.
Stakeholder and Advocacy	Working towards	Building relationships across the industry is central to the work of the Geelong Major Events Committee. There is work to do to strengthen advocacy efforts and more effectively promote the benefits delivered through the major events program.
Objectives and measurements	On Track	Objectives and measurements outlined within the Geelong Major Events Strategy guide the acquisition and funding decisions of the committee.
Processes and documents	Complete	The implementation of the Geelong Major Events Strategy has included an updated suite of application, information, and evaluation documents, which continue to evolve to meet the needs of the Committee and the organisations it works with.
Event Selection	Complete	The four-step selection process has been operationalised through a weighted assessment framework that supports and guides the Committee's funding decisions.
Event Evaluation	On Track	Metrics are provided to the Committee using geo-fencing technology to estimate event attendance, alongside accommodation occupancy data from across the region. Work is ongoing to establish best-practice methods for estimating economic impact, with a focus on using reliable and verifiable spend data.
Communication	Working towards	City promotion of major events and the associated funding program remains a key priority. Ensuring that industry and the community have visibility of major events and can effectively leverage their benefits remains a focus area for the 2025–2026 financial year.
Infrastructure	Working towards	Infrastructure advocacy remains a City-wide priority.

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CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

2.5. Fair Play Policy

Source: **City Life**
Executive Director: **Anthony Basford**

Purpose

1. To seek Council endorsement of the Fair Play Policy 2026-2029 (the Policy) following completion of a four-week community engagement period.

Background

2. The Policy (at attachment 1) outlines the fees and charges associated with the hire of outdoor recreation reserves. It has been developed based on the principles of equity, transparency, shared use and access, effective asset management, and community partnerships.

3. In July 2025 Council released the draft Policy for a four-week community engagement period. Minor updates to the Policy have been made following the closure of this engagement. The Community Engagement Report is attached for reference (Attachment 2).

4. The Policy's development has been supported by a Project Reference Group, consisting of representatives from key sporting associations.

5. The Policy will commence in the 2026/27 financial year and remain in effect for four years.

Key Matters

6. Key positions outlined in the initial draft Policy remain unchanged in the final Policy including sports lighting as 'standard' infrastructure provision, proportionate fee options, pre-season fees, school hire fees and the addition of an 'extra-large' pavilion classification.

7. The proposed annual adjustment to fees has been revised following consultation with internal stakeholders from 2.5% to 3%, to more accurately align with rising service costs. Outside of annual adjustments, fees will remain unchanged throughout the life of the Policy.

8. Commencing in 2026–27, the City will assume responsibility for the maintenance and upgrade of sports lighting as standard infrastructure. The necessary capital and maintenance budgets will need to be determined by Council in the upcoming annual budget cycle.

9. Other amendments to the Policy include increased minimum standards for kitchens and social spaces, and City contributions to other playing field fencing types, such as picket fencing.

10. The community engagement period was undertaken from Wednesday 23 July, 2025 to Friday 22 August, 2025. Highlights included: 2,679 visits to the Have Your Say page, 3 sporting club online information sessions with 70 club representative attendees, 15

one-to-one meetings with sporting clubs, 25 written feedback submissions, and 2 community drop-in sessions.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Adopts the Fair Play Policy 2026 – 2029 as at Attachment 1;**
2. **Notes the Community Engagement Report as at Attachment 2; and**
3. **Notes that the total funding allocation for sports lighting maintenance and upgrades will be finalised within the 2026-27 budget process.**

Financial Sustainability

11. As cost recovery models in the Policy remain unchanged, the anticipated revenue in 2026-27 is expected to be consistent with the 2025-26 financial year (plus the 3% nominal increase).

12. The inclusion of proportionate fees within the Policy may result in slight decreases in revenue; however, it is anticipated that these will be offset through attracting additional user groups and via revenue generated from pre-season and casual school hire fees (noting that school fees are charged at a discounted rate).

13. Costs to maintain outdoor recreation facilities will continue to be met through recurrent maintenance budgets.

14. Increased minimum provision standards for kitchens and social spaces will be considered within available budgets at the time of capital renewal or upgrade. Retrofitting of facilities will not occur.

15. The City will consider contributions towards non-standard or alternate playing field fencing types, e.g. picket fencing, up to the equivalent cost of standard chain link fencing on Community 1 playing fields (where existing fencing has reached the end of its useful life). Tenanting user groups, such as sporting clubs, will be responsible for funding any additional installation and ongoing maintenance costs associated with non-standard fencing.

16. Sports lighting as ‘standard’ infrastructure provision will have financial implications from 2026-27 as the City becomes responsible for maintenance and capital upgrade. The anticipated costs per annum are $280,000 for maintenance and $1,000,000 for capital upgrade. Confirmation of funding to support this program of work will need to be provided through the City’s annual budget cycle.

17. Sports lighting fees will apply to user groups who utilise lit playing fields. This fee will recover 15% of total maintenance costs.

Community Engagement

18. The development of the Policy was informed by engagement with relevant internal departments and a Project Reference Group consisting of representatives from key sporting associations and leagues. This included:

    18.1. AFL Barwon;

    18.2. Bellarine Peninsula Cricket Association;

    18.3. Football Geelong;

    18.4. Geelong Baseball Association;

    18.5. Geelong Cricket Association;

    18.6. Geelong Central Netball Association;

    18.7. Geelong & District Football Netball League;

18.8. Netball Victoria; and

18.9. Tennis Victoria.

19. The four-week community engagement process included communications via the Have Your Say page, targeted social media posts, 3 online sporting club information sessions, 2 community drop-in sessions, newspaper advertisements and one-to-one meetings with sporting clubs.

20. These engagement activities resulted in 2,679 visits to the Have Your Say page, a 36,000 person reach on social media, 70 sporting club information session attendees, 3 community drop-in session attendees and 15 individual one-to-one meetings with sporting clubs.

21. On the Have Your Say page, 52% of people who made a submission were from a sporting club, whilst 48% were from the general community. 76% of feedback was neutral or seeking further clarification, 8% had concerns or were not in support of a particular Policy position, and 16% supported the Policy.

22. Each respondent who indicated a desire to be contacted by the City, via their written submissions, was contacted to discuss their feedback in further detail.

23. All user groups/sporting clubs who were identified as being most impacted by the Policy were contacted and engaged directly by the City.

24. All feedback has informed the final Policy and minor updates were incorporated. Further information can be found in the engagement report in Attachment 2.

25. A summary of the engagement period has also been shared through the Have Your Say page, in alignment with the City's Community Engagement Policy.

Social Equity and Sustainability

26. The intention of the Policy is to promote equity, consistency and transparency in the application of fees, whilst supporting the long-term sustainable delivery of outdoor recreation facilities for the community.

27. A Gender Impact Assessment (GIA+) was completed for the Policy, resulting in four recommendations. These recommendations aim to assess the Policy's impact on people of different genders, and to create more equitable outcomes:

27.1. Recommendation 1: Align the Policy's implementation with the City's Fair Access Policy.

27.2. Recommendation 2: Implement monitoring and reporting on the Policy's progress by gender.

27.3. Recommendation 3: Review and adjust the Policy accordingly throughout its lifespan.

27.4. Recommendation 4: Engagement and communication with stakeholders.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

28. The updated Policy will supersede the 2017 Fair Play Strategy and will become effective as of 1 July 2026.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

29. This report aligns with the 2025-2029 Council Plan's strategic priorities:
Core and Critical Infrastructure and Healthy and Caring Community.

30. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:
An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.

Conflict of Interest

31. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

32. The inclusion of sports lighting as standard infrastructure provision has been recommended following investigations to assess best practices in its management. This investigation recommended that Council led sports lighting maintenance reduces risk through consistent compliance, maintenance and safety standards across all facilities.

33. Financial risks associated with sports lighting maintenance have been mitigated through compliance and condition assessments. Ongoing audits will form part of the proposed maintenance program to ensure that asset information remains current, and the capital upgrade program can be guided by accurate condition data.

34. All internal departments that interact with the Policy have provided input in its development. This includes the City's Parks & Natural Assets, Financial Planning & Analysis, Strategic Properties, Asset Management, Community Participation, People & Culture and Community Strengthening.

Environmental Sustainability

35. The City is committed to maintaining its recreation facilities using best practices that reduce environmental impact. As part of this commitment, all future sports field lighting upgrades will include LED lighting as the standard. LED lights are energy-efficient, last significantly longer, and cost less to operate compared to traditional metal halide lights, supporting more sustainable and cost-effective community facilities.

Attachments

1. Fair Play Policy 2026-2029 [**2.5.1** - 38 pages]
2. Fair Play Policy 2026 2029 Community Engagement Report [**2.5.2** - 9 pages]

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

FAIR PLAY POLICY

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TYPE OF POLICY:	COUNCIL
APPROVAL DATE:	NOVEMBER 2025
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AUTHORISING OFFICER:	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY LIFE

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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Introduction

PURPOSE

The Fair Play Policy establishes the framework for fees and charges associated with the hire of outdoor recreation facilities in the City of Greater Geelong (the City). The Policy is intended to promote equity, consistency and transparency in the application of fees, whilst supporting the long-term, sustainable delivery of these community spaces.

As the primary provider of outdoor recreation facilities, the City significantly subsidises costs to support user groups. However, user contributions assist in covering maintenance and operational expenses to ensure facilities are safe and fit for purpose.

SCOPE

This Policy applies to all Council-owned and managed outdoor recreation facilities, including:

- Playing fields (e.g. ovals, pitches, diamonds and athletic tracks)
- Sports courts (e.g. tennis and netball courts)
- Pavilions at outdoor recreation reserves
- Reserves (used for sport and recreation that are not playing fields or courts)
- Regional level outdoor recreation facilities
- Synthetic surfaces that are used non-exclusively (see Definitions) e.g. cricket wickets, pitches

The Policy does not apply to:

- Privately owned sporting facilities
- Indoor recreation facilities
- Golf courses
- National or State level recreation facilities
- Outdoor recreation facilities that are occupied via a Lease (i.e. exclusive use) Agreement – such as those used for lawn bowls, croquet, and equestrian.
- Outdoor recreation facilities with synthetic surfaces that are occupied exclusively such as those used for tennis.

The Fair Play Policy is supported by the Fair Play Management Guidelines (2026).

The Fair Play Policy supersedes the previous Fair Play Strategy (2017).

All fees are inclusive of GST (if applicable).

BACKGROUND

The initial Fair Play Strategy (2017) aimed to equalise how the City invests and subsidises the use of outdoor recreation facilities for both community and commercial users. Prior to 2017, fees and charges for these facilities lacked structure and were not based on a clear or consistent approach. From 2017 to 2024 (noting a period of fee hiatus due to COVID-19), the Strategy helped bring fees and charges into alignment gradually, reaching a 15% cost recovery model.

In addition to fee alignment, the 2017 Strategy introduced a more strategic approach to the provision and management of infrastructure at outdoor recreation facilities, including:

- Creating a clear classification hierarchy for all outdoor recreation facilities.
- Defining standard infrastructure provision at outdoor recreation facilities.
- Assessing the real costs to the City for delivering and maintaining outdoor recreation facilities.
- Determining fair levels to balance community access with financial sustainability.

The updated Fair Play Policy (this document) builds on the aims of the 2017 Strategy, and refines its content where needed, to ensure the City continues to provide well-utilised, fit for purpose outdoor facilities that support participation in sport and recreation.

Definitions

The following definitions apply to this Policy:

TERM	DEFINITION
City	The City of Greater Geelong organisation, led by the CEO.
Council	The City of Greater Geelong Council comprised of elected Councillors and led by the Mayor.
Casual Community Use	Use of an outdoor recreation facility on a non-regular, short-term or once off occasion. Usually by a not-for-profit organisation or event/activity with less than 12 people in attendance.
Casual Commercial Use	Use of an outdoor recreation facility on a non-regular, short-term or once off occasion by a for-profit organisation with more than 12 people in attendance.
Costs of Service	The costs to provide fit-for-purpose infrastructure at outdoor recreation reserves, specifically in relation to the maintenance of playing fields and pavilions.
Exclusive and Non-Exclusive Use	Exclusive Use: Where an outdoor recreation facility is booked for 70% or more of its capacity by a single seasonal user group. Non-Exclusive Use: Where an outdoor recreation facility is booked by multiple user groups throughout the season and/or where a single user group does not book a facility exclusively (i.e. less than 70% of its capacity).
Licence/Tenancy Agreement	An agreement between the City of Greater Geelong and the seasonal user group for the use of a pavilion at an outdoor recreation facility. The agreement outlines the terms, conditions and responsibilities of both parties throughout the duration of occupancy.
Outdoor Recreation Facilities	Refers to outdoor recreation facilities owned and/or managed by the City of Greater Geelong and primarily used for community sport. Outdoor recreation facilities include key infrastructure components such as playing fields and pavilions.
Pavilions	A habitable building located at an outdoor recreation facility that may provide spaces such as change rooms, social areas, toilets and kitchens for players, officials and spectators.
Playing Field	Any designated area utilised for community sport including for training, games, competition and casual recreational use. Includes ovals, pitches, diamonds.

TERM	DEFINITION
Pre-Season Use	Use of an outdoor recreation facility on a semi-regular basis outside of a sporting club's primary season for activities such as training and practice matches.
Regional Facility	A large-scale outdoor recreation facility that provides enhanced infrastructure to service a wide geographic area and to host municipal events and competitions.
Seasonal use	Use of an outdoor recreation facility over a typical six (6) month period, usually aligned with either the summer or winter season, and primarily during the peak times of 4:00pm and 9:00pm on weekdays and throughout the weekend.
Sport Facility Guidelines (Preferred)	Refers to a set of preferred standards that provide direction on the design, provision, operation and management of sporting facilities. These guidelines offer a best practice approach and are developed by peak sporting bodies.
Sports Lighting	Used to illuminate a playing field such as oval, pitch, diamond or court to support training and competition and to extend hours of use, particularly outside of daylight savings/winter months.
Summer Season	Use of outdoor recreational facilities from (typically) October to March.
Winter Season	Use of outdoor recreational facilities from (typically) April to September.

Policy

1. PRINCIPLES

1.1 The following key principles guide the Fair Play Policy:

KEY PRINCIPLE	OBJECTIVE
Equity and Transparency	• A clear rationale for fees and charges for outdoor recreation facilities. • Equity and transparency in the application of fees and charges for the hire of outdoor recreation facilities. • Equity in the provision of infrastructure at outdoor recreation facilities.
Shared Use and Access	• Encourage shared use of outdoor recreation facilities where possible. • Encourage participation by groups that may be under-represented in sport (as per the City's Fair Access Policy 2024). • Promote a diverse range of activities at the City's outdoor recreation facilities, including various sports and other compatible uses.
Effective Asset Management	• Ensure efficient asset management practices by clearly outlining responsibilities for outdoor recreation facilities. • Support effective asset management through appropriate cost recovery for sustainable facilities and service delivery.
Community Partnerships	• Develop a framework that supports positive community outcomes by delivering high-quality outdoor recreation facilities in partnership with user groups.

2. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

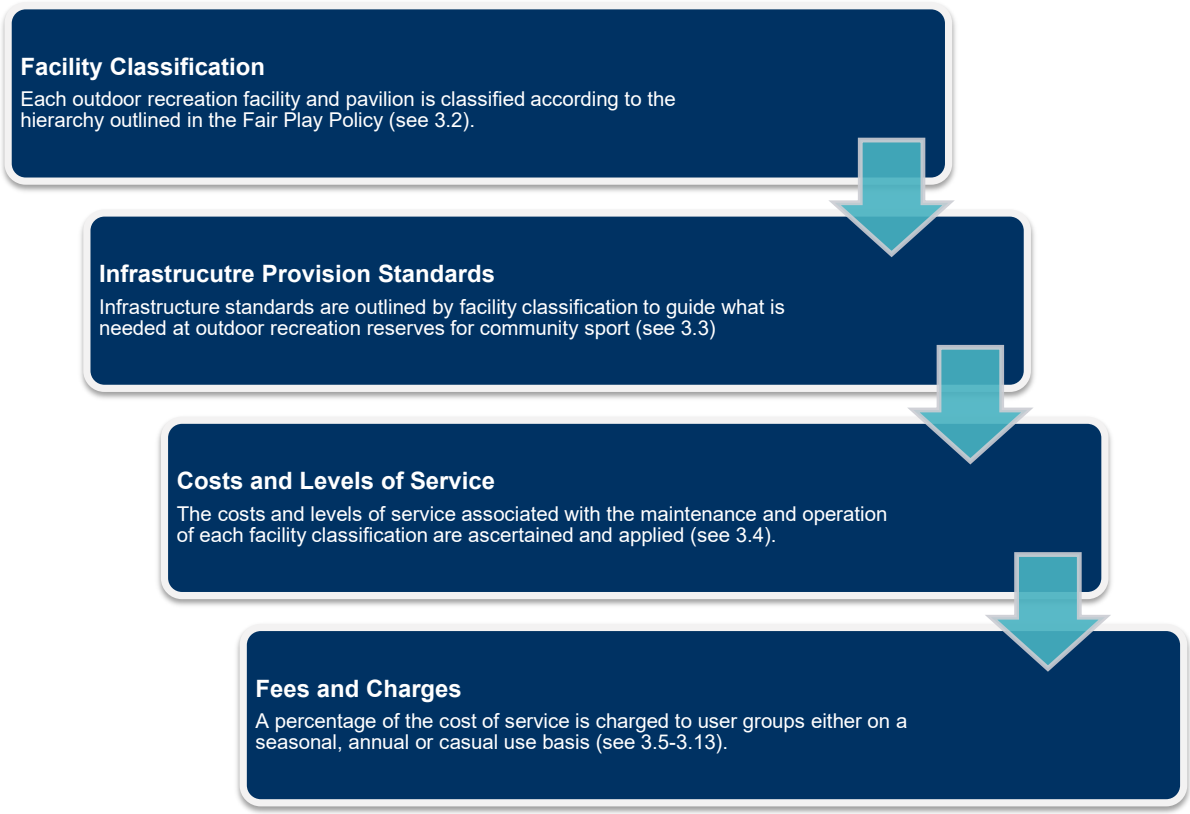
2.1 The Fair Play Policy has been developed in line with the strategic directions and aims of the following documents:

- City of Greater Geelong Our Community Plan (2025-2029);
- City of Greater Geelong Fair Access Policy (2024);
- City of Greater Geelong Child Safe Standards Management Policy (2022-2026);
- City of Greater Geelong outdoor recreation facility Master Plans and Facility Development Plans;
- Asset management, operational guidelines and financial plans;
- G21 Regional Sporting Strategies; and
- Preferred Sporting Facility Guidelines (as applicable).

2.2 The Fair Play Policy has been developed alongside a review of the previous Fair Play Strategy (2017) as well as benchmarking of like local government authority fees & charges policies.

3. FEES & CHARGES MODEL

3.1 The application of the Fair Play Policy is guided by the following steps which are detailed in points 3.2 to 3.13.



3.2 FACILITY CLASSIFICATIONS

3.2.1 Each playing field and pavilion is classified according to its infrastructure provision, size and required levels of service.

3.2.2 The classifications for playing fields are: Regional, Community 1, Community 2 or Community 3. There is also a Reserve, Court and a Sport Specific classification (see Appendix A).

3.2.3 The classifications for pavilions are: Extra Large, Large, Medium, Standard, Basic and Change Rooms (see Appendix B).

3.2.4 The City may reclassify facilities following capital expenditure or upgrades that alter infrastructure provision and service levels.

3.3 INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION STANDARDS

3.3.1 Provision standards are defined by classification and guide the required level of infrastructure at outdoor recreation reserves (see Appendix C & D). In most cases, these standards align with the preferred facility guidelines for each sport (see Definitions). Where sport-specific guidelines are unavailable, the standards for a similar sport will be referenced.

3.3.2 The City aims to provide a consistent standard of infrastructure at outdoor recreation reserves, guided by facility classification. However, this is dependent on budget availability and other influencing factors. Whilst provision of ‘standard’ infrastructure is not mandatory, the City is committed to working towards achieving it. Funding for these items may be provided through Council’s budget or alternative external funding sources.

3.3.3 The City will provide and maintain 'standard' infrastructure items with user groups expected to demonstrate reasonable care in their use.

3.3.4 Infrastructure identified as 'non-standard' (see Appendix C & D) is the responsibility of the user group to fund, provide and maintain with the City's approval.

3.4 COSTS AND LEVELS OF SERVICE

3.4.1 The basis of the Fair Play Policy's fee structure is determined through the costs and levels of service associated with the delivery of each facility classification (see Appendix E). These costs of service vary as each classification has different infrastructure requirements and service levels.

3.4.2 Costs associated with levels of service are primarily incurred through maintenance activities and insurances.

3.5 FEES AND CHARGES – SEASONAL USE – PLAYING FIELDS

3.5.1 The fee structure for seasonal use of playing fields is based on recouping or recovering 15% of the City's cost of service. This fee will differ depending on the classification that is occupied (see Appendix A, F & H).

3.5.2 Seasonal use refers to a booking of an outdoor recreation facility for the full duration of either the winter or summer season (see Definitions). Alternative use and fee structures apply for preseason (see 3.9), annual (see 3.10) or casual (see 3.11).

3.5.3 The fees for seasonal use of playing fields will remain fixed for throughout the four-year duration of the Fair Play Policy, except for an annual adjustment of 3%.

3.5.4 If a seasonal user group occupies two pitches constructed within a winged oval, a single oval fee will apply.

3.5.5 'Community' seasonal use bookings must be made by user groups that are not-for-profit, incorporated entities. If the entities are sporting clubs, they must be affiliated with a peak sporting body. Bookings should be made through the City's website and must include a copy of relevant public liability insurance.

3.5.6 All seasonal user groups must comply with the terms and conditions outlined for playing fields stipulated at the time of booking. This may include the completion of a Fair Access Club Self-Assessment Tool, in line with the City's Fair Access Policy, to support equal access to playing fields by women, girls and gender diverse people.

3.5.7 To support community access, all playing fields must remain open to the public when not in use by seasonal user groups (unless directed by the City). For tennis and netball, 50% or a minimum of two courts (whichever is greater), must also be available to the public outside of scheduled use.

3.6 FEES AND CHARGES – SEASONAL USE – PAVILIONS

3.6.1 The fee structure for seasonal use of pavilions is based on recouping 0.15% of the asset replacement value. This fee will differ depending on the classification that is occupied (see Appendix B).

3.6.2 If the pavilion has change rooms, these are charged per set of two (see Appendix K).

3.6.3 Utility costs for pavilions will continue to be the responsibility of the seasonal user group(s).

3.6.4 The fees for seasonal use of pavilions will remain fixed throughout the four-year duration of the Fair Play Policy, except for an annual adjustment of 3%.

3.6.5 User groups seeking seasonal use of pavilions must enter into a Licence Agreement with the City. This agreement outlines the terms of use and includes a summary of key responsibilities related to occupancy.

3.7 FEES AND CHARGES – SPORTS LIGHTING

3.7.1 A sports lighting fee will be charged to user groups who utilise lights (per lit playing surface - see Definitions and Appendix J). This fee aims to recoup 15% of the City's annual sports lighting maintenance costs.

3.7.2 Utility costs for sports lighting will continue to be the responsibility of the seasonal user group(s).

3.7.3 Where shared use of sports lighting occurs, secondary user groups may be asked by the primary user group to contribute to the associated sports lighting fee at their discretion.

3.8 FEES AND CHARGES – SEASONAL USE – PROPORTIONATE FEES AND USAGE

3.8.1 The City will encourage shared seasonal use of outdoor recreation facilities, including playing fields and pavilions, among compatible user groups, where capacity permits.

3.8.2 Where multiple seasonal tenants occupy a playing field, or if a playing field is used non-exclusively (see Definitions), fees will be charged proportionately based on a percentage of use.

3.8.3 Proportionate fees offer an opportunity to reduce seasonal playing field fees which may be beneficial for user groups with smaller membership basis, or when full or exclusive use (see Definitions) is not required.

3.8.4 Proportionate fees will apply to Community 2 and Community 3 playing fields only (see Appendix A & N).

3.8.5 Playing field fees for Community 1 facilities will be split equally between seasonal tenants.

3.8.6 Proportionate fees do not apply to Courts, Sport Specific or Reserve classifications. See 4.1.8 for shared use of Regional level facilities.

3.8.7 Proportionate seasonal fees will apply as follows:

(a) Monday - 10% of the total seasonal fee

(b) Tuesday - 10% of the total seasonal fee

(c) Wednesday - 10% of the total seasonal fee

(d) Thursday - 10% of the total seasonal fee

(e) Friday - 10% of the total seasonal fee

(f) Saturday - 25% of the total seasonal fee

(g) Sunday - 25% of the total seasonal fee

3.8.8 Shared seasonal pavilion use will be allocated equally (e.g. 50/50) between user groups.

3.9 FEES AND CHARGES – PRESEASON AND FINALS

3.9.1 Pre-season use (see Definitions) of playing fields will be charged in 6-week blocks, calculated using a proportionate seasonal fee (see 3.8).

3.9.2 For pre-season use of playing fields of less than 6 weeks, a standard casual community fee will apply (see Appendix L).

3.9.3 Pre-season fees for courts will be charged a casual community fee (per use).

3.9.4 Fees will not apply for finals matches.

3.9.5 Pre-season use of pavilions must be arranged via the primary seasonal user group. Fair and reasonable fees may apply at the seasonal user group's discretion.

3.10 FEES AND CHARGES – ANNUAL USE

3.10.1 Where user groups require year-round access to outdoor recreation facilities (including playing fields and pavilions), an annual fee equivalent to twice the seasonal fee will apply.

3.11 FEES AND CHARGES – CASUAL USE

3.11.1 Casual usage of playing fields will be split into two user types and charged as follows:

3.11.1.1 For casual 'community' use, a fee equivalent to 0.5% of the annual facility classification cost of service will be charged per day (see Appendix L).

3.11.1.2 For casual 'commercial' use, a fee equivalent to 1.5% of the annual cost of service will be charged per day (see Appendix M).

3.11.2 Examples of commercial use includes 'for-profit' activities, or activities that have more than 12 people in attendance.

3.11.3 Examples of community use includes 'not-for-profit' activities, or activities that have less than 12 people in attendance.

3.11.4 A bond for commercial use may be charged at the City's discretion.

3.11.5 Where casual use requires the erection of temporary infrastructure (such as marquees or arbours) an Event Permit and a once-off charge for Public Liability Insurance may apply (see Appendix L & M).

3.11.6 Casual use fees will be adjusted based on the booking duration, including a half day booking (4 hours), full day booking (more than 4 hours) or at an hourly rate.

3.11.7 Casual use of sports lighting must be arranged directly with the seasonal user group. Fees for casual sports lighting use may apply at the seasonal user group's discretion.

3.11.8 Casual use of pavilions must be arranged directly with the seasonal user group. Such use is permitted in accordance with the terms outlined in the seasonal user group's Licence Agreement. Fair and reasonable fees for casual use may be applied at the discretion of the seasonal user group.

3.11.9 All casual use of playing fields must be booked through the City's website and adhere to its relevant terms and conditions.

3.12 FEES AND CHARGES – SCHOOLS AND KINDERGARTENS

3.12.1 Local schools (i.e. those situated within the City) will be charged 50% of the casual community fee (see Appendix L) for use of outdoor recreation reserves, except for Goldsworthy Reserve and Regional level facilities, where the full casual community fee will apply.

3.12.2 Schools located outside the City will be charged the full casual community fee for use of all outdoor recreation facilities.

3.12.3 Local kindergartens (including bush kindergartens) will not be charged for the use of outdoor recreation reserves (excluding Goldsworthy Athletics Track and Regional level facilities).

3.12.4 Kindergartens outside of the City will be charged a casual community fee for use of all outdoor recreation facilities.

3.13 FEES AND CHARGES – PAYMENT OF FEES

3.13.1 All fees payable to the City for the use of outdoor recreation facilities are due as per the invoice terms specified.

3.13.2 The City acknowledges that seasonal user groups may face financial hardship affecting their ability to meet financial obligations. In such cases, requests for support will be considered in accordance with the City's Financial Hardship Policy.

4. REGIONAL LEVEL OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES

4.1 REGIONAL FACILITY FEES AND CHARGES

4.1.1 Regional level facilities are characterised by higher-specification infrastructure, including specialised amenities which require a higher level of service. Currently, the City has five (5) Regional level outdoor recreation facilities: John Landy Field, Geelong Cricket Ground, Kardinia Park Netball Complex, Stead Park Regional Hockey Centre, and the Geelong Baseball Centre.

4.1.2 To ensure equity for seasonal user groups of Regional facilities, the City will apply the same cost of service calculation for playing fields and pavilions.

4.1.3 Seasonal and annual fees (where applicable) of Regional facilities are outlined in Appendix I.

4.1.4 The management arrangement of Regional facilities will vary based on specific circumstances. This may include City-led, Association-led, Committee of Management-led, Club-led or Privately-led approaches, depending on the needs and context of each facility.

4.1.5 Where the City does not lead the management of Regional facilities, the City will ensure that the not-for-profit user groups are not be disadvantaged by any alternative fee structures that may be introduced under a different management model.

4.1.6 The fees for the use of Regional facilities will remain fixed for the duration of the Fair Play Policy (a four-year period), except for an annual adjustment of 3%.

4.1.7 Sports lighting fees at Regional facilities are not applicable. User groups however are responsible for sports lighting utilities.

4.1.8 Playing field fees for regional facilities will be split equally between seasonal tenants.

5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

5.1 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

5.1.1 The City will apply an annual adjustment of 3% to all outdoor recreation hire fees over the life of the Policy to account for increases in maintenance and operational costs.

5.1.2 The Fair Play Policy will be reviewed and refreshed at the end of its four (4) year lifespan.

Appendices

6. APPENDICES

6.1 APPENDIX A: PLAYING FIELD CLASSIFICATIONS

CLASSIFICATION	INFRASTRUCTURE COMPONENTS	
Regional	Enhanced sport-specific infrastructure that is maintained to the relevant regional standard.	
Community 1	Playing surface as per requirements for community sport Irrigation system	Turf or synthetic cricket wicket Sports lighting High level of utilisation
Community 2	Playing surface as per requirements for community sport Irrigation system	Synthetic cricket wicket Sports lighting (as demand necessitates)
Community 3	Playing surface as per requirements for community sport	No irrigation system Synthetic cricket wicket No sports lighting
Reserve	Generic reserve area	No defined playing surface/area
Court	Asphalt or acrylic surface	Sports lighting provided on a minimum of two (2) netball or tennis courts
Sport Specific	Playing surface as per requirements for community sport	For sports that are not played on turf or court surfaces

6.2 APPENDIX B: PAVILION CLASSIFICATIONS

CLASSIFICATION	PAVILION SIZE (M2)	FACILITY COMPONENTS
Extra Large	600 m2 +	Enhanced social spaces, kitchen, toilets, meeting room, storage
Large	400 m2 – 599 m2	Social space (basic), kitchen (basic), storage, meeting room
Medium	250 – 399 m2	Social space (basic), kiosk/canteen, storage
Standard	100 – 249 m2	Kiosk/canteen, social space/meeting room (basic), storage
Basic	Under 100 m2	Storage
CHANGE ROOMS (IN ADDITION TO ABOVE)		
Change rooms	Per set of 2	Each set of change rooms (i.e. 1 x home & 1 x away) are charged in addition to each classification above

6.3 APPENDIX C: STANDARD AND NON-STANDARD INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION – PLAYING FIELDS

✓ Indicates standard provision

X Indicates non-standard provision

N/A Not applicable/not required for facility classification

Note: the below listing outlines the desirable standards of infrastructure provision at outdoor recreation facilities. This provision however and its exact components cannot be guaranteed and will be considered against available budget. The City is committed however to working towards achieving as close to these standards as possible.

INFRASTRUCTURE ITEM	COMMENT	COMMUNITY 1	COMMUNITY 2	COMMUNITY 3	RESERVE	COURT
Car Park	Adequate car parking based on occupancy requirements will be provided. Either sealed or unsealed.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Coaches Boxes/Players Shelters	Integrated as part of the player shelter/interchange bench. Sizing to sport facility guidelines. Elevated structures are non-standard.	✓	✓	X	X	✓
Courts – Netball & Tennis	Provision of two (2) netball courts constructed to dimensions outlined in sport facility guidelines. Provision of four to eight (4-8) tennis courts (space and demand permitting) constructed to dimensions outlined in sport facility guidelines.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓
Cricket Practice Nets - Turf	Turf cricket practice nets are a non-standard infrastructure item however supported through a funding contribution agreement between the City and the Geelong Cricket Association.	X	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cricket Practice Nets - Synthetic	Synthetic cricket practice nets to be provided as per sport facility guidelines (up to four (4) lanes provided demand permitting).	✓	Where applicable	X	N/A	N/A
Cricket Wicket – Turf	Turf cricket wickets are non-standard however supported through a funding contribution agreement between the City and the Geelong Cricket Association.	X	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

INFRASTRUCTURE ITEM	COMMENT	COMMUNITY 1	COMMUNITY 2	COMMUNITY 3	RESERVE	COURT
Cricket Wicket - Synthetic	Synthetic cricket wickets provided as per sport facility guidelines.	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Cricket Wicket Cover	As required to cover synthetic cricket wickets for use over the winter season.	Where applicable	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Court Booking Systems	Electronic court booking systems (e.g. Book-A-Court) are a non-standard item.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	X
Fencing – Court	Provided around the perimeter of netball and tennis courts as per sport facility guidelines.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓
Fencing – Playing Fields	Standard playing field fencing is applicable to Community 1 playing fields only. Standard fencing includes metal with chain link infill. This is in line with preferred sporting facility guidelines. Fencing on Community 2 playing fields will be considered on a case-by-case basis. In this instance the standard fencing type is a pipe rail fence.	✓	Where applicable	X	N/A	N/A
Fencing – Playing Fields (other)	Non-standard fencing types (such as picket fencing) will only be considered when the existing chain link fence has reached the end of its useful life. In such cases, the City will contribute an amount equivalent to the cost of a standard chain link fence. The tenant club will be responsible for funding any additional costs associated with the installation of non-standard fencing and for all ongoing maintenance. This provision applies to Community 1 playing fields only.	Where applicable	X	X	N/A	N/A
Goal Posts	As per sport facility guidelines.	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓

INFRASTRUCTURE ITEM	COMMENT	COMMUNITY 1	COMMUNITY 2	COMMUNITY 3	RESERVE	COURT
Goal Post Padding	Non-standard item.	X	X	X	N/A	X
Goal Netting (behind goals)	Non-standard however the City will assess on a case-by-case basis where a safety issue is identified.	X	X	X	N/A	X
Grandstands	Grandstands for spectators are non-standard.	X	X	X	X	X
Irrigation	Playing field irrigation is standard for Community 1 & 2 only.	✓	✓	X	X	N/A
Playing Fields – Football & Cricket	Provision of one to two (1-2) ovals (space permitting) constructed to dimensions outlined in sport facility guidelines.	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Playing Fields - Soccer	Provision of two to four (2-4) pitches (space permitting) constructed to dimensions outlined in sport facility guidelines.	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Playing Fields - Other	Sports outside of those listed, such as 'sport specific' classifications, will have playing fields and ancillary infrastructure provided as per sport facility guidelines. Where guidelines are unavailable, a similar one will be referred to.	As required	As required	As required	As required	As required
Scoreboards	All scoreboards are non-standard.	X	X	X	X	X
Sight Screens	Non-standard item.	X	X	X	X	X
Sports Lighting	Standard provision for Community 1 and primary Courts only. Provided to Australian Standards AS 2560 or sport facility guidelines. Community 2 playing fields on a case-by-case basis (demand permitting).	✓	Where applicable	X	X	✓

INFRASTRUCTURE ITEM	COMMENT	COMMUNITY 1	COMMUNITY 2	COMMUNITY 3	RESERVE	COURT
Tennis Nets and Tennis Net Posts	The City will provide two (2) tennis nets for provision on public courts. Tennis nets and net posts on locked courts will be the responsibility of the user group.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓ See comment
Ticket Box	Non-standard item.	X	X	X	X	X
Umpire/Officials Bench	Standard for Community 1 and Courts only as per sport facility guidelines.	✓	X	X	X	✓

6.4 APPENDIX D: STANDARD AND NON-STANDARD INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION – PAVILIONS

✓ Indicates standard provision
X Indicates non-standard provision
N/A Not applicable/not required for facility classification

Note: the below listing outlines the desirable standards of infrastructure provision at outdoor recreation facilities. This provision however and its exact components cannot be guaranteed and will be considered against available budget. The City is committed however to working towards achieving as close to these standards as possible.

INFRASTRUCTURE ITEM	COMMENT	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	STANDARD	BASIC
Bar	Non-Standard infrastructure item.	X	X	X	X	X
Change Rooms & Amenities – Players	Size and provision of player change rooms to align with sport facility guidelines.	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Change Rooms & Amenities - Umpires	Sizes and provision of umpire change rooms to align with sport facility guidelines.	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Cool Room/Cold Storage	Non-Standard infrastructure item.	X	X	X	X	X
First Aid Room	Size and provision of first aid room to align with sport facility guidelines.	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Gymnasium/Fitness Area	Non-Standard infrastructure item.	X	X	X	X	X
Kitchen	Minimum 20m2 provision for extra-large and large classifications.	✓	✓	X	X	X
Kiosk/Canteen	Up to 20m2 provision as standard for most classifications.	✓	✓	✓	✓	X

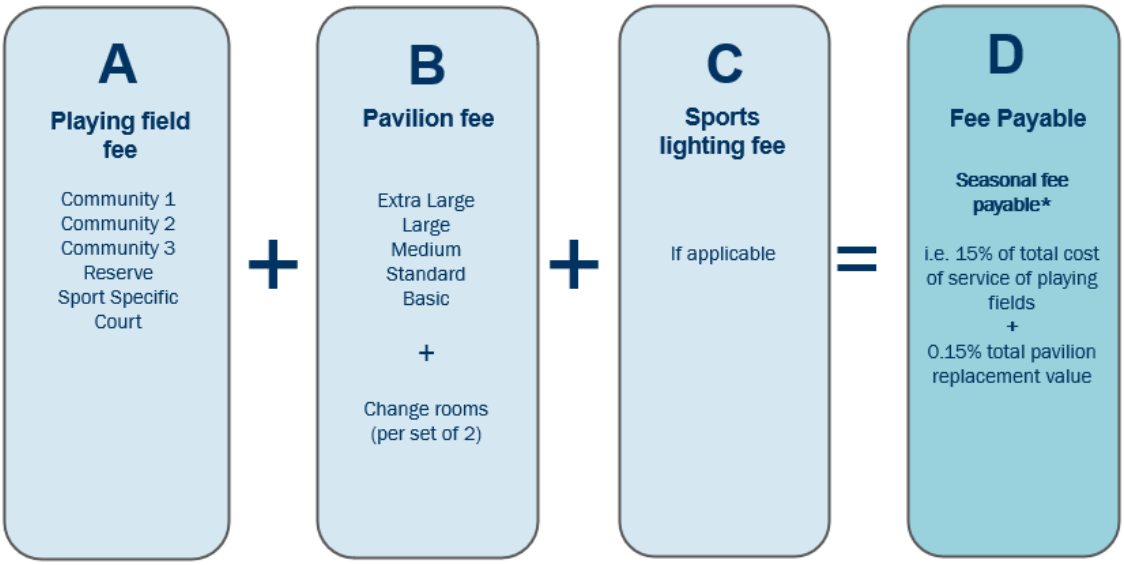
INFRASTRUCTURE ITEM	COMMENT	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	STANDARD	BASIC
Office/Meeting Room	Size and provision of office to align with sport facility guidelines.	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Pavilion Fit Out	Standard infrastructure item. Examples include lighting, joinery, fire safety systems, heating/cooling.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social Rooms	Minimum 100m2 as standard provision for most classifications.	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Storage (Internal)	20m2 or as per sport facility guidelines.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Storage (External)	Non-Standard infrastructure item.	X	X	X	X	X
Timekeepers/Third Umpire	As per sport facility guidelines.	✓	✓	If required	X	X
Toilets (Public/Spectators)	Size and provision of public toilets to align with building code requirements. User groups to refer to their Licence Agreement for maintenance responsibilities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	X

6.5 APPENDIX E: LEVELS OF SERVICE – PLAYING FIELDS

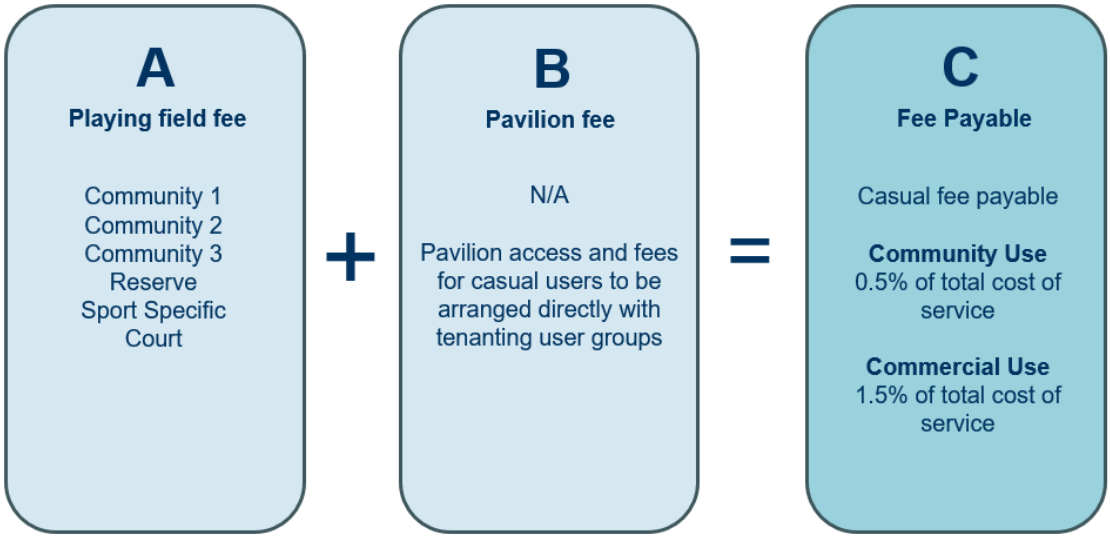
MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY	COMMUNITY 1	COMMUNITY 2	COMMUNITY 3	RESERVE	COURT	ATHLETICS TRACKS	BMX TRACKS
Aeration	✓	✓	X	X	N/A	As determined	N/A
Coring	As determined	X	X	X	N/A	As determined	N/A
Fertilising	✓	✓	X	X	N/A	As determined	N/A
Irrigation	✓	✓	X	X	N/A	✓	N/A
Oversewing (Winter Season)	✓ (cool season playing fields)	✓ (cool season playing fields)	X	X	N/A	X	N/A
Pest & disease management	✓	✓	As determined	X	N/A	✓	✓
Pre-emergent applications	✓ (warm season playing fields)	✓ (warm season playing fields)	X	X	N/A	As determined	N/A
Scarifying	✓	✓	X	X	N/A	As determined	N/A
Soil testing	✓	✓	X	X	N/A	✓	N/A
Sports ground inspections	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mowing	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓
Top dressing	✓	As determined	As determined	X	N/A	✓	N/A

MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY	COMMUNITY 1	COMMUNITY 2	COMMUNITY 3	RESERVE	COURT	ATHLETICS TRACKS	BMX TRACKS
Turf Replacement (in high use areas)	✓ (warm season playing fields)	✓ (warm season playing fields)	X	X	N/A	✓	N/A
Weed removal	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓
Pressure washing/cleaning	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	N/A
Crack repair	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓
Acrylic coating/surface	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	N/A
Line marking	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	N/A
Fencing repairs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provision of sport specific material (e.g. sand)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓

6.6 APPENDIX F: FEES AND CHARGES CALCULATION - SEASONAL



6.7 APPENDIX G: FEES AND CHARGES CALCULATION - CASUAL



6.8 APPENDIX H: 2026/27 FEES & CHARGES – PLAYING FIELDS (SEASONAL)

Note: An annual increase of 3% will apply to fees & charges over the life of the Policy. Year-round use of playing fields will attract a fee equivalent to twice the seasonal fee (plus any annual adjustments).

FEES AND CHARGES – SEASONAL USE (INCL. GST IF APPLICABLE)			
PLAYING FIELD CLASSIFICATION	**PER OVAL**	**PER PITCH**	**COMMENT**
Community 1	$5,625.00	$3,244.00	Charge is per season
Community 2	$3,679.00	$1,839.00	Charge is per season
Community 3	$1,839.00	$1,137.00	Charge is per season
Reserve	$778.00		Charge is per season
Court	$263.00		Charge is per season
SPORT SPECIFIC FACILITIES			
Criterium Track	$555.00		Charge is per season
Velodrome	$164.00		Charge is per season
BMX	$778.00		Charge is per season
Athletics (Goldsworthy Reserve)	$1,839.00		Charge is per season

6.9 APPENDIX I: 2026/27 FEES & CHARGES – REGIONAL FACILITIES (SEASONAL)

Note: An annual increase of 3% will apply to fees & charges over the life of the Policy. Year-round use of playing fields will attract a fee equivalent to twice the seasonal fee (plus any annual adjustments).

FEES AND CHARGES – SEASONAL USE (INCL. GST IF APPLICABLE) REGIONAL FACILITIES			
FACILITY NAME	**PLAYING FIELD**	**PAVILION**	**COMMENT**
John Landy Field	$4,645.50	$1,678.00*	Charge based on Athletics Track (regional) + Extra Large Pavilion + 1 set of change rooms. Charge is per **season.**
Kardinia Park Netball Complex	$2,367.00 ($263.00 x 9 courts)	$992.00	Charged based on 9 x Courts + Medium Pavilion + 1 set of change rooms. Charge is per **season**.
Geelong Baseball Centre	$3,244.00 per pitch/diamond	$1,905.00	Charge is based on 4 x Community 1 (pitches), 1 x Medium Pavilion + 1 set of change rooms (Diamond 1) & 1 x Large Pavilion (Diamond 4). Charge is per **season**.
Geelong Cricket Ground	$5,625.00	$1,278.00	Charge is based on Community 1 (Oval) + 1 Large Pavilion (Umpires) + 1 set of change rooms. Charge is per **season**.
Stead Park Regional Hockey	N/A - Lease	$2,043.00	Charge is based on Extra Large Pavilion + 2 sets of change rooms. Playing field is Leased. Charge is per **season**.

*Following completion of new pavilion construction

6.10 APPENDIX J: 2026/27 FEES & CHARGES – SPORTS LIGHTING (ANNUAL)

Note: An annual increase of 3% will apply to fees & charges over the life of the Policy. Year-round use of playing fields will attract a fee equivalent to twice the seasonal fee (plus any annual adjustments).

FEES AND CHARGES – SEASONAL USE (INCL. GST IF APPLICABLE) SPORTS LIGHTING		
PLAYING FIELD TYPE	**PER PLAYING FIELD**	**COMMENT**
Oval/Pitch	$408.00	Charge is an annual fee, per oval/pitch
Court	$125.00	Charge is an annual fee, per court

6.11 APPENDIX K: 2026/27 FEES & CHARGES – PAVILIONS (SEASONAL)

Note: An annual increase of 3% will apply to fees & charges over the life of the Policy. Year-round use of playing fields will attract a fee equivalent to twice the seasonal fee (plus any annual adjustments).

FEES AND CHARGES – SEASONAL USE (INCL. GST IF APPLICABLE) PAVILIONS		
CLASSIFICATION	**PER PAVILION**	**COMMENT**
Extra Large	$1,444.00	Charge is per season
Large	$1,004.00	Charge is per season
Medium	$689.00	Charge is per season
Standard	$500.50	Charge is per season
Basic	$308.00	Charge is per season
Change Rooms (per set of 2	$401.50	Change room fee is in addition to above, per season

6.12 APPENDIX L: 2026/27 FEES & CHARGES – PLAYING FIELDS (CASUAL COMMUNITY USE)

Note: An annual increase of 3% will apply to fees & charges over the life of the Policy. Year-round use of playing fields will attract a fee equivalent to twice the seasonal fee (plus any annual adjustments).

FEES AND CHARGES – CASUAL COMMUNITY USE (INCL. GST IF APPLICABLE) OVALS, PITCHES, COURTS, RESERVES, SPORT SPECIFIC FACILITIES			
CLASSIFICATION	**PER DAY**	**PER HALF DAY**	**HOURLY**
Community 1 - Oval	$376.00	$188.00	$47.00
Community 1 – Pitch	$217.00	$108.00	$27.00
Community 2 - Oval	$247.00	$123.50	$31.00
Community 2 - Pitch	$123.00	$61.50	$15.00
Community 3 - Oval	$123.00	$61.50	$15.00
Community 3 – Pitch	$76.00	$38.00	$9.50
Reserve	$51.00	$25.50	$6.00
Court	$25.00	$15.00	$5.00
SPORT SPECIFIC FACILITIES			
Criterium Track	$38.00	$19.00	$5.00
Velodrome	$30.00	$15.00	$5.00
BMX	$51.00	$25.50	$6.00
Athletics – Goldsworthy Reserve	$215.00	$107.50	$27.00
Athletics – John Landy Field	$527.00	$263.50	$66.00
OPTIONAL			
Public Liability Insurance	$25 (daily fee)	Applies to bookings where infrastructure such as marquees, arbours etc. are requested to be erected by the casual user.	

6.13 APPENDIX M: 2026/27 FEES & CHARGES – PLAYING FIELDS (CASUAL COMMERCIAL USE)

Note: An annual increase of 3% will apply to fees & charges over the life of the Policy. Year-round use of playing fields will attract a fee equivalent to twice the seasonal fee (plus any annual adjustments).

FEES AND CHARGES – CASUAL COMMERCIAL USE (INCL. GST IF APPLICABLE) OVALS, PITCHES, COURTS, RESERVES, SPORT SPECIFIC FACILITIES			
CLASSIFICATION	**PER DAY**	**PER HALF DAY**	**HOURLY**
Community 1 - Oval	$1,129.00	$564.00	$141.00
Community 1 – Pitch	$650.00	$325.00	$81.00
Community 2 - Oval	$741.00	$370.50	$93.00
Community 2 - Pitch	$371.00	$185.50	$46.00
Community 3 - Oval	$371.00	$185.50	$46.00
Community 3 – Pitch	$228.50	$114.00	$28.50
Reserve	$157.00	$78.50	$20.00
Court	$53.00	$26.50	$7.00
SPORT SPECIFIC FACILITIES			
Criterium Track	$113.00	$56.50	$14.00
Velodrome	$100.00	$50.00	$12.50
BMX	$148.00	$74.00	$18.50
Athletics – Goldsworthy Reserve	$435.00	$218.00	$54.00
Athletics – John Landy Field	$630.00	$316.00	$79.00
OPTIONAL			
Public Liability Insurance	$25 (daily fee)	Applies to bookings where infrastructure such as marquees, arbours etc. are requested to be erected by the casual user.	

6.14 APPENDIX N: PLAYING FIELDS BY CLASSIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION	NAME/DESCRIPTION	PLAYING FIELD TYPE	SPORTS LIGHTING Y/N
REGIONAL			
Regional	Geelong Cricket Ground	Oval	YES
Regional	Geelong Baseball Centre	Pitch (multiple)	YES
Regional	John Landy Field	Athletics	YES
Regional	Kardinia Park Netball	Court (multiple)	YES
Regional	Stead Park Hockey	Pitch (multiple)	YES
COMMUNITY 1			
Community 1	Anakie Reserve	Oval	YES
Community 1	Barwon Heads Village Park No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Barwon Heads Village Park No. 2	Oval/Pitch	YES
Community 1	Bell Park Sports Club – Soccer No. 1	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Burdoo Reserve	Oval	YES
Community 1	Central Boulevard Reserve No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Central Boulevard Reserve No. 2	Oval	YES
Community 1	Collendina Recreation Reserve	Oval	YES
Community 1	Drysdale Recreation Reserve	Oval	YES
Community 1	Drysdale Sporting Precinct No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Drysdale Sporting Precinct – Soccer No 1	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Drysdale Sporting Precinct – Soccer No 2	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Estuary Reserve – Soccer No 1	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Evans Reserve	Oval	YES
Community 1	Frier Reserve	Oval	NO
Community 1	Geelong West Oval	Oval	YES
Community 1	Grinter Reserve No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Grovedale Recreation Reserve – Soccer No 1	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Grovedale Recreation Reserve – Soccer No 2	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Hamlyn Park	Oval	YES
Community 1	Harold Hurst Reserve No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Hendy St Reserve (Flinders Peak) No. 1	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Hendy St Reserve (Flinders Peak) No. 2	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Herne Hill Reserve No. 1 - Walker	Oval	YES
Community 1	Herne Hill Reserve No. 2 - Drew	Oval	YES
Community 1	Highton Reserve	Oval	YES
Community 1	Howard Glover Reserve	Pitch	YES

CLASSIFICATION	NAME/DESCRIPTION	PLAYING FIELD TYPE	SPORTS LIGHTING Y/N
Community 1	Hume Reserve No. 1	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Hume Reserve No. 2	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Kardinia Park West	Oval	YES
Community 1	King Lloyd Reserve No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Lara Recreation Reserve No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Lara Recreation Reserve Baseball	Pitch	NO
Community 1	Lara Recreation Reserve Soccer – No. 1	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Lara Recreation Reserve Soccer – No. 2	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Leopold Memorial Reserve No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	McDonald Reserve No.1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Myers Reserve No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Myers Reserve – Soccer No. 1	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Myers Reserve – Soccer No. 2	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Myers Reserve – Soccer No. 3	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Oakdene Oval	Oval	NO
Community 1	Osborne Park No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Portarlington Recreation Reserve No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Queens Park No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Richmond Oval	Oval	YES
Community 1	Shell Reserve	Oval	YES
Community 1	Shell Road Reserve	Oval	YES
Community 1	Shell Road Reserve - Soccer No. 1	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Shell Road Reserve - Soccer No. 2	Pitch	YES
Community 1	South Barwon Reserve No. 1	Oval	NO
Community 1	South Barwon Reserve No. 2	Oval	NO
Community 1	Sovereign Drive Oval	Oval	YES
Community 1	St Albans Reserve	Oval	YES
Community 1	St Leonards Lake Reserve	Oval/Pitch	YES
Community 1	Stead Park – Soccer No. 1	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Stead Park – Soccer No. 2	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Stead Park – Softball No. 1	Pitch	YES
Community 1	Thomson Recreation Reserve No. 1	Oval	YES
Community 1	Vines Road Reserve (Western Heights)	Oval	YES
Community 1	Wallington Reserve	Oval	NO
Community 1	Windsor Park No. 1	Oval	YES

CLASSIFICATION	NAME/DESCRIPTION	PLAYING FIELD TYPE	SPORTS LIGHTING Y/N
Community 1	Winter Reserve No. 1	Oval	YES
COMMUNITY 2			
Community 2	Bakers Oval	Oval	YES
Community 2	Bell Park Sports Club – Soccer No 2	Pitch	NO
Community 2	Bellarine Secondary College – Shell Rd Campus	Oval	NO
Community 2	Breakwater Reserve	Oval	NO
Community 2	Corio Community Reserve	Pitch	NO
Community 2	Eastern Park No. 1	Oval	NO
Community 2	Estuary Reserve	Oval	NO
Community 2	Ervin Reserve No. 1	Oval	NO
Community 2	Grinter Reserve No. 2	Oval	YES
Community 2	Grovedale Recreation Reserve – Synthetic Soccer	Pitch	YES
Community 2	Grovedale Secondary College	Oval	YES
Community 2	Harold Hurst Reserve No. 2	Oval	NO
Community 2	Hume Reserve No. 3	Pitch	YES
Community 2	Lara Recreation Reserve No. 2	Oval	YES
Community 2	Lara Recreation Reserve No. 3	Oval	YES
Community 2	Lara Recreation Reserve No. 4	Oval	NO
Community 2	Leopold Memorial Reserve No. 2	Oval	YES
Community 2	McDonald Reserve No. 2	Oval	YES
Community 2	Myers Reserve No. 2	Oval	NO
Community 2	Ocean Grove Memorial Reserve	Oval	YES
Community 2	Osborne Park No. 2	Oval	NO
Community 2	Peter Lowe Reserve	Oval	NO
Community 2	Portarlington Recreation Reserve No. 2	Oval	NO
Community 2	Queens Park No. 2	Oval	YES
Community 2	South Barwon Reserve No. 3	Oval	NO
Community 2	South Barwon Reserve No. 4	Oval	NO
Community 2	South Barwon Reserve No. 5	Oval	NO
Community 2	Stead Park - Baseball	Pitch	NO
Community 2	Stead Park - Softball No. 2	Pitch	NO
Community 2	Stead Park – Soccer No. 3	Pitch	YES
Community 2	Stead Park – Soccer No. 4	Pitch	YES
Community 2	Tim Hill Reserve	Oval	NO
Community 2	Thomson Recreation Reserve No. 2	Oval	YES

CLASSIFICATION	NAME/DESCRIPTION	PLAYING FIELD TYPE	SPORTS LIGHTING Y/N
Community 2	Windsor Park No. 2	Oval	NO
Community 2	Winter Reserve No. 2	Oval	YES
COMMUNITY 3			
Community 3	Belmont Common No. 1	Oval	NO
Community 3	Belmont Common No. 2	Oval	YES
Community 3	Belmont Common No. 3	Oval	NO
Community 3	Ceres Recreation Reserve	Oval	NO
Community 3	Eastern Park No. 2	Oval	NO
Community 3	Eastern Park No. 3	Oval	NO
Community 3	Eastern Park No. 5	Oval	NO
Community 3	Ervin Reserve No. 2	Oval	NO
Community 3	King Lloyd Reserve No. 2	Oval	NO
Community 3	Mt Duneed Recreation Reserve	Oval	NO
Community 3	Rees Reserve	Oval	NO
Community 3	South Barwon Reserve No. 6	Oval	NO
Community 3	St Leonards Charles McCarthy	Oval	NO
Community 3	Stead Park Softball 3 & 4	Pitch	NO
Community 3	Windmill Reserve	Oval	NO
RESERVE			
Reserve	Abe Wood Reserve	Reserve	NO
Reserve	Belmont Common Canine	Reserve	NO
Reserve	Drysdale Market area	Reserve	NO
Reserve	Elcho Park Canine	Reserve	NO
Reserve	South Barwon Reserve No. 7	Reserve	NO
SPORT SPECIFIC			
Sport Specific	Geelong Criterium Circuit	Cycling	NO
Sport Specific	Geelong Velodrome	Cycling	NO
Sport Specific	Goldsworthy Reserve	Athletics	NO
Sport Specific	Grinter Reserve BMX	BMX	YES

6.1 APPENDIX O: COURT LISTING (ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

CLASSIFICATION	NAME/DESCRIPTION	COURT TYPE	NO. OF COURTS	SPORTS LIGHTING Y/N
Court	Anakie Reserve	Tennis	4	NO
Court	Anakie Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Arthur Powell Reserve	Tennis	7	YES x 5
Court	Barwon Heads Village Park	Tennis	6	YES x 4
Court	Breakwater Reserve	Tennis	4	NO
Court	Burdoo Reserve	Tennis	8	YES x 8
Court	Burdoo Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Central Boulevard Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Doris Smith Reserve	Tennis	3	NO
Court	Drysdale Recreation Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Drysdale Recreation Reserve	Tennis	2	NO
Court	Elderslie Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Ervin Reserve	Tennis	7	NO
Court	Francis St Reserve	Tennis	6	NO
Court	Frank Mann Reserve	Tennis	2	NO
Court	Pioneer Park	Tennis	6	YES x 3
Court	Geelong West Oval	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Grinter Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Hamlyn Park	Tennis	5	YES x 3
Court	Hamlyn Park	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Harold Hurst Reserve	Netball	2	NO
Court	Harvey Park	Tennis	2	NO
Court	Herne Hill Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Highton Reserve	Tennis	6	YES x 6
Court	Howard Glover Reserve	Tennis	4	NO
Court	Jetty Rd Reserve	Tennis	8	YES x 4
Court	Kenwith Park	Tennis	2	NO
Court	Lara Recreation Reserve	Tennis	8	YES x 8
Court	Lara Recreation Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Leopold Memorial Reserve	Tennis	9	YES x 4
Court	Leopold Memorial Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Lunan Park	Tennis	2	NO
Court	Marcus Hill Reserve	Tennis	2	NO
Court	McDonald Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2

CLASSIFICATION	NAME/DESCRIPTION	COURT TYPE	NO. OF COURTS	SPORTS LIGHTING Y/N
Court	Moolap Reserve	Tennis	6	YES x 4
Court	Myers Reserve	Tennis	4	NO
Court	Myers Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Osborne Park	Netball	1	YES x 1
Court	Portarlington Recreation Reserve	Tennis	5	YES x 3
Court	Portarlington Recreation Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Queens Park	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Richmond Oval	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Shell Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Shell Road Reserve	Tennis	5	YES x 2
Court	Shell Road Reserve	Netball	4	YES x 4
Court	Sovereign Drive Oval	Netball	2	NO
Court	St Albans Reserve	Tennis	5	YES x 2
Court	St Albans Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	St Leonards Lake Reserve	Tennis	2	NO
Court	Thomson Recreation Reserve	Tennis	4	YES x 2
Court	Thomson Recreation Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Tim Hill Reserve	Tennis	6	YES x 6
Court	Wathaurung Reserve	Tennis	6	YES x 6
Court	Waurn Ponds Reserve	Tennis	6	YES x 3
Court	Windsor Park	Netball	2	YES x 2
Court	Winter Reserve	Netball	2	YES x 2

6.2 APPENDIX P: PAVILION CLASSIFICATION LISTING (ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

LOCATION	NAME/DESCRIPTION	CLASSIFICATION	CHANGE ROOMS
Anakie Reserve	Main Pavilion	Large	2
Arthur Powell Reserve	Main Pavilion	Standard	0
Bakers Oval	Main Pavilion	Standard	1
Barwon Heads Village Park	Main Pavilion	Standard	1
Barwon Heads Village Park	Tennis Pavilion	Standard	0
Belmont Common	Main Pavilion	Basic	0
Belmont Criterium Track	Main Pavilion	Medium	1
Bell Park Sports Club	Main Pavilion	Extra Large	2
Breakwater Reserve	Main Pavilion	Basic	0
Burdoo Reserve	Main Pavilion	Extra Large	2
Burdoo Reserve	Tennis Pavilion	Standard	0
Central Boulevard Reserve	Main Pavilion	Large	3
Ceres Reserve	Main Pavilion	Medium	1
Collendina Reserve	Main Pavilion	Standard	1
Doris Smith Reserve	Main Pavilion	Basic	0
Drysdale Recreation Reserve	Football Pavilion	Medium	1
Drysdale Recreation Reserve	Cricket Pavilion	Standard	0
Drysdale Recreation Reserve	Netball Pavilion	Basic	1
Drysdale Sports Precinct	Main Pavilion	Medium	2
Elderslie Reserve	Main Pavilion	Extra Large	1
Elderslie Reserve	Netball Pavilion	Standard	1
Ervin Reserve	Main Pavilion	Standard	1
Ervin Reserve	Tennis Pavilion	Standard	0
Estuary Boulevard Reserve	Main Pavilion	Large	2
Evans Reserve	Main Pavilion	Standard	1
Flinders Peak Reserve	Main Pavilion	Large	1
Francis St Reserve	Main Pavilion	Standard	0
Frank Mann Reserve	Main Pavilion	Basic	0
Frier Reserve	Main Pavilion	Standard	1
Geelong West Oval	Main Pavilion	Extra Large	2
Geelong West Oval	Netball Change Rooms	Change only	1
Goldsworthy Reserve	Main Pavilion	Standard	1
Grinter Reserve	Main Pavilion	Extra Large	1
Grinter Reserve	Netball Pavilion	Basic	1
Grinter Reserve	BMX Pavilion	Basic	0
Grovedale Reserve	Main Pavilion	Large	2

LOCATION	NAME/DESCRIPTION	CLASSIFICATION	CHANGE ROOMS
Hamlyn Park	Commercial Pavilion	Commercial – excluded from Fair Play	N/A
Hamlyn Park	Main Pavilion	Large	1
Hamlyn Park	Tennis Pavilion	Standard	0
Harold Hurst Reserve	Main Pavilion	Standard	1
Harold Hurst Reserve	Netball	Basic	1
Harvey Park	Main Pavilion	Basic	0
Herne Hill Reserve	Main Pavilion	Large	3
Highton Reserve	Main Pavilion (AFL Barwon)	Commercial – excluded from Fair Play	N/A
Highton Reserve	Main Pavilion (Geelong Falcons)	Commercial – excluded from Fair Play	N/A
Highton Reserve	Main Pavilion (ATCC)	Medium	1
Highton Reserve	Tennis Pavilion	Standard	0
Howard Glover Reserve	Main Pavilion	Medium	1
Howard Glover Reserve	Tennis Pavilion	Basic	0
Hume Reserve	Main Pavilion	Large	2
Jetty Rd Reserve	Main Pavilion	Standard	0
Kardinia Park	West Pavilion (Football)	Extra Large	1
Kardinia Park	Netball Pavilion	Medium	1
Kardinia Park	Umpires Pavilion	Large	1
Kenwith Park	Main Pavilion	Basic	0
King Lloyd Reserve	Main Pavilion	Large	2
Lara Recreation Reserve	Commercial Pavilion	Commercial – excluded from Fair Play	N/A
Lara Recreation Reserve	Change Rooms (Oval 1)	Change rooms only	2
Lara Recreation Reserve	Tennis/Netball Pavilion	Large	2
Lara Recreation Reserve	Soccer Pavilion	Large	2
Lara Recreation Reserve	Multi-Sport Pavilion	Large	2
Leopold Memorial Reserve	Main Pavilion	Extra Large	2
Leopold Memorial Reserve	Change Rooms (Oval 2)	Change rooms only	1
Leopold Memorial Reserve	Tennis Pavilion	Standard	0
Lunan Park	Main Pavilion	Basic	0
McDonald Reserve	Main Pavilion	Extra Large	2
Moolap Reserve	Main Pavilion	Standard	0
Myers Reserve	Main Pavilion	Extra Large	2
Myers Reserve	Soccer Pavilion Social	Medium	0
Myers Reserve	Change Rooms (Soccer)	Change rooms only	2
Ocean Grove Memorial Reserve	Main Pavilion	Medium	1

LOCATION	NAME/DESCRIPTION	CLASSIFICATION	CHANGE ROOMS
Osborne Park	Main Pavilion	Large	1
Portarlington Recreation Reserve	Main Pavilion	Extra Large	1
Portarlington Recreation Reserve	Netball Pavilion	Standard	0
Portarlington Recreation Reserve	Tennis Pavilion	Basic	0
Queens Park	Main Pavilion	Large	1
Queens Park	Pavilion (Oval 2)	Change rooms only	2
Queens Park	Netball Change Rooms	Change rooms only	1
Rees Reserve	Main Pavilion	Basic	0
Richmond Oval	Main Pavilion	Large	2
Shell Reserve	Main Pavilion	Extra Large	2
Shell Road Reserve	Social Rooms	Lease – excluded from Fair Play	N/A
Shell Road Reserve	Change Rooms	Change rooms only	3
Shell Road Reserve	Tennis Pavilion	Standard	0
South Barwon Reserve	Main Pavilion (SBCC)	Large	1
South Barwon Reserve	Main Pavilion (MCC)	Medium	1
South Barwon Reserve	Pavilion (Oval 3)	Basic	0
St Albans Reserve	Main Pavilion	Extra Large	0
St Albans Reserve	Change Rooms	Change rooms only	1
St Albans Reserve	Netball Pavilion	Basic	1
St Albans Reserve	Tennis Pavilion	Standard	0
St Leonards Lake Reserve	Main Pavilion	Medium	1
Stead Park	Soccer Change Rooms	Change rooms only	1
Stead Park	Softball/Baseball Pavilion	Large	1
Thomson Recreation Reserve	Main Pavilion	Large	0
Thomson Recreation Reserve	Change Rooms	Change rooms only	3
Tim Hill Reserve	Main Pavilion	Medium	0
Wallington Reserve	Main Pavilion	Large	1
Wathaurong Reserve	Main Pavilion	Standard	0
Waurn Ponds Tennis	Main Pavilion	Basic	0
Windsor Park	Main Pavilion	Large	1
Windsor Park	Pavilion (Oval 2)	Basic	0
Windsor Park	Netball Pavilion	Basic	0
Winter Reserve	Main Pavilion	Large	2

Implementation of this Policy

MONITORING AND REPORTING

The Community Participation department will be responsible for monitoring the application of this Policy.

The effectiveness of this Policy will be evaluated annually through facility usage and participation data, feedback from user groups, and outcomes of Fair Access Policy (2024) assessments.

This Policy will be formally reviewed every four years, or earlier if monitoring data indicates the need for revision.

ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE

The Responsible Officer for this policy manages the provision of advice to the organisation regarding this policy.

A person who is uncertain how to comply with this policy should seek advice from this person or from their Manager.

RECORDS

The City must retain records associated with this Policy and its implementation in accordance with its Records Information Management Policy

REVIEW

The City should review and, if necessary, amend this Policy within 4 years of the Approval Date if required.

References

Fair Play Strategy (2017)

Fair Play Management Guidelines (2026)

City of Greater Geelong Fair Access Policy (2024)

City of Greater Geelong Child Safe Standards Management Policy (2022-2026)

Preferred Sporting Facility Guidelines (as applicable, see Definitions)

Legislation

Child Wellbeing and Safety (Child Safe Standards Compliance and Enforcement) Amendment Act 2021 (Vic)

Other Documents

Records Information Management Policy

City of Greater Geelong outdoor recreation facility Master Plans and Facility Development Plans

Asset management, operational guidelines and financial plans

G21 Regional Sporting Strategies

Child Safe Standards

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

DRAFT FAIR PLAY POLICY

ENGAGEMENT REPORT

OCTOBER 2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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Executive Summary

The City of Greater Geelong is committed to fair, transparent, and sustainable management of community sporting facilities. The draft Fair Play Policy (2026–2029) provides a consistent framework for equitable facility access, fees, and strategic investment to support community sport participation.

A 30-day consultation on the draft Policy was undertaken from July 23 to August 22, 2025 targeted sporting clubs, peak bodies, schools, and community members. Engagement included the Have Your Say online portal (2,679 visits), information and drop-in sessions (5 sessions), one-to-one meetings with 15 clubs, online submissions (25 received), a Project Working Group consisting of representatives from and targeted social media communications reaching over 36,000 people.

Key feedback themes received:

- **Fees and Affordability** - Clubs supported manageable fees with the introduction of proportionate fees generating lots of interest.
- **Facility Maintenance** - Respondents emphasised the value of safe, well-maintained facilities and sought transparency about service levels and maintenance schedules.
- **Equity and Inclusion -** Support for inclusive practices, with participants encouraging the City to consider how clubs can help achieve more gender equitable outcomes.
- **Booking and Shared Use** - Greater flexibility and a new centralised booking system to improve booking processes and support greater opportunities for shared use.
- **Sports Lighting as Standard Provision** - Strong support for Council to manage sports lighting with a transparent maintenance and capital upgrade program.

The feedback from the community affirmed the Policy's focus and provided guidance to refine implementation. Insights from the consultation has directly informed the final Fair Play Policy to ensure it balances sustainability with community need.

Engagement highlights



Introduction

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The City of Greater Geelong has developed the draft Fair Play Policy (2026-2029), which provides a consistent framework for the fees associated with the use and management of community sporting facilities.

The draft Policy aims to ensure that all clubs and user groups have equitable access to facilities, that fees and charges are applied fairly, and that decision-making is guided by clear principles. It also seeks to support the growth of participation in community sport and recreation while balancing the City's responsibility to maintain and invest in its facility network.

The purpose of the draft Policy engagement was to:

- Inform community sporting clubs, peak bodies, and user groups about the Policy.
- Seek feedback on its proposed principles, fee structures, and management approaches.
- Understand impacts of the Policy on a wide range of stakeholders within the community, including seasonal tenants, casual users, and schools.
- Ensure transparency in how the Policy was developed and applied.
- Refine the Policy based on practical insights and feedback before final adoption by Council.

Engagement activities were designed to capture a broad cross-section of views, build shared understanding of the City's responsibilities, and strengthen partnerships with community sport organisations.

ENGAGEMENT PURPOSE

The City carried out engagement on the draft Policy to inform, consult, and collaborate with the community and key stakeholders. The primary purposes were to:

- Inform stakeholders: Ensure sporting clubs, peak bodies, schools, casual users, and the wider community understood the Policy's principles, fee structures, and management approaches.
- Support decision-making: Provide the City with evidence-based insights from clubs and community members based on their feedback and to assist them in creating a deeper understanding of the Policy's proposed positions.
- Build awareness: Strengthen awareness of the City's responsibilities, the Policy framework, and operational processes among sporting clubs and community users.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report summarises the engagement findings on the draft Policy, highlighting community and stakeholder feedback. It is intended to inform the next steps, including shaping the final Policy, and provide transparency about how the engagement was planned, delivered, and the outcomes achieved.

How we engaged

SNAPSHOT



MORE DETAIL

The engagement methods were chosen to address the needs and barriers of different groups. The Have Your Say portal provided convenient online access, whilst after-hours information and drop-in sessions allowed volunteer club representatives to participate, one-to-one meetings offered tailored guidance, and targeted emails and social media raised awareness and encouraged participation. This approach ensured meaningful consultation, maximised input from sporting clubs, and provided opportunities for the broader community to contribute.

Who we engaged

WHO WE PLANNED TO ENGAGE

The engagement was primarily targeted at sporting clubs, as they are the main users of outdoor recreation facilities and would be directly affected by the draft Fair Play Policy. Other key stakeholders included peak sporting bodies, schools, casual users, and the wider community, who may have an interest in utilising our recreation facilities. Engagement was city-wide but focused on clubs to ensure input from those most directly impacted and able to demonstrate how the Policy would be applied in practice.

PARTICIPATION

During the 30 days of engagement more than 110 people directly engaged with the City. Of these 88% engaged online through providing submissions on the Have Your Say page and 12% engaged in person through meetings and our face-to-face events. The below graphs indicate the type of user that engaged with us via the Have Your Say page and the sentiment of their feedback.

Chart 1

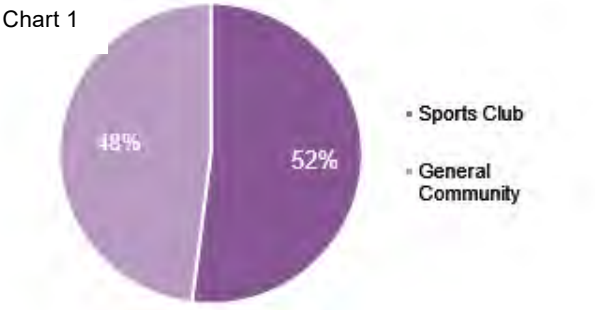


Chart 2

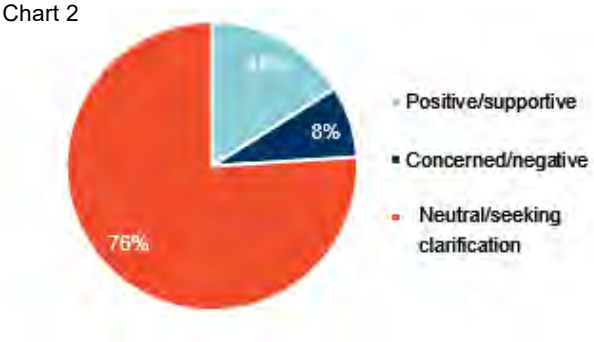


Chart 2 indicates that the majority of respondents had feedback that was neutral and/or they were seeking clarification on the Policy positions. Most were seeking clarity around whether their sporting club would be eligible for proportionate fees, how the sports lighting maintenance program will roll out, and more detail regarding the levels of service and infrastructure renewal programs. Each respondent who provided a written submission was responded to directly either via email, phone or in-person.

WHO ACTIVELY ENGAGED

The engagement successfully reached the primary target audience. Participation largely went as planned, with over 110 people engaging through online submissions, information sessions, drop-in sessions, and one-to-one meetings. While the engagement was open to the broader community, fewer casual users and schools participated, despite targeted emails being sent to all existing school user groups. Methods that were particularly effective in encouraging participation included targeted emails to clubs, after-hours club-focused information sessions, and the Have Your Say online portal.

What we heard

FEES AND AFFORDABILITY

Many clubs noted the importance of keeping hire fees manageable for volunteer-run, not-for-profit organisations. While there was broad understanding of the need for sustainable funding, some groups felt fee increases may be challenging. The proportionate fee structure option received positive feedback with clubs eager to utilise this where possible.

Our response: We acknowledge the vital role volunteers play in activating facilities and delivering sport across our community. In response to concerns raised, the City confirms that fees will largely remain unchanged, aside from standard CPI/nominal adjustments. Fee increases will only occur where a re-classification has taken place (e.g. following capital upgrade). In such cases, affected clubs were contacted directly to discuss the proposed changes and provide feedback. For clubs experiencing financial hardship, support is available through the City's Financial Hardship Policy to assist with fee payments.

PAVILION CLASSIFICATION QUERY

Some sporting clubs queried their pavilion classification change from Large to Extra Large under the new Policy.

Our response: The new Extra Large classification affects approximately 12 pavilions with footprints in excess of 600m2. The larger pavilion sizes require additional maintenance by the City, which results in increased costs. As a result, an additional fee of $400 per season will apply for seasonal hire. This is in line with applying the proposed calculation within the Policy of 0.15% of the total asset replacement value. Support for clubs can be provided in line with the City's Financial Hardship Policy should they be unable to meet their financial commitments under this new classification.

FACILITY MAINTENANCE AND RENEWAL

Respondents emphasised the value of safe, well-maintained facilities and sought transparency about service levels and maintenance schedules. Feedback highlighted renewal/upgrade programs.

Our response: The City recognises the importance of maintaining safe and consistent facilities. Through the Policy's hierarchy and service levels, each facility is classified to ensure comparable infrastructure across similar classifications—reflecting the diversity of the City's facility stock. These service levels are indicative rather than prescriptive, as maintenance needs vary depending on factors such as surface type, usage, and irrigation requirements. At each hierarchy level, the City aims to deliver infrastructure and services aligned with the Policy and relevant sporting facility guidelines. In regard to renewal or upgrade programs, this information sits adjacent to the Fair Play Policy but work by officers is currently being undertaken to enable greater understanding and clarity of how renewal programs are allocated and prioritised.

EQUITY, ACCESS, AND INCLUSION

There was recognition by respondents of the Policy's equity focus, with participants encouraging the City to consider additional measures such as incentives for clubs that demonstrate inclusive practices.

Our response: The City's Fair Access Policy is referenced throughout the Fair Play Policy which ensures that clubs are following inclusive practices in the use and program of recreation facilities. The Fair Access Policy will be relied on to support gender equity outcomes, and the preparation of the Fair Play Policy has included the development of a Gender Impact Assessment.

BOOKING PROCESSES AND SHARED USE

Stakeholders welcomed the Policy's intent to encourage shared use of facilities. Some sought greater flexibility in seasonal bookings, particularly where full-day allocations are not always required, and suggested more transparent systems to support casual users. A centralised booking platform with public availability was seen as an important step to support greater usage.

Our response: The proportionate fee structure within the draft Fair Play Policy will enable greater flexibility where exclusive access of

playing fields is not required. Extensive examples of the proportionate fee structure were demonstrated to those who attended the club information nights. A new booking system that has greater capabilities to encourage shared usage and multi-use/greater-use of facilities is currently in progress. The new booking system will be integral in supporting the efficient roll out of the policy.

SPORTS LIGHTING

Council's commitment to taking on responsibility for sports lighting was strongly supported, with many acknowledging the financial relief this provides to clubs. Feedback suggested a clear, transparent process for prioritising upgrades and maintenance in a fair way.

Our response: Managing the sports lighting maintenance program is an operational consideration that will be ascertained following the final Policy's endorsement. This process will be communicated with clubs prior to implementation.

OVERALL SUPPORT

Many community members expressed general support for the direction of the draft Fair Play Policy, particularly its focus on transparency, and improved management of lighting and maintenance. The feedback received provides valuable insights that has helped to refine the final Policy.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUCCESSES

Several engagement methods were particularly effective in reaching stakeholders and encouraging participation:

- **Have Your Say online portal**: Provided an accessible way for clubs and community members to learn about the Policy and submit feedback; it received 2,679 visits over the 30-day period.
- **Information sessions**: After-hours sessions for clubs allowed volunteers to attend and ask questions directly, with ~70 club representatives participating.
- **One-to-one meetings**: Over 15 tailored sessions enabled detailed discussion and clarification of Policy elements, which stakeholders found highly valuable.
- **Community drop-in sessions**: Offered additional opportunities for those unable to attend information sessions, supporting broader inclusion. These weren't as well subscribed, however due to extensive sporting club information sessions, the lack of uptake in the broader community drop-in sessions is not of a concern to the project team.
- **Targeted communications**: Emails, social media posts, and fact sheets successfully raised awareness and directed stakeholders to engagement opportunities; ads reached 36,312 people with 2,747 click-throughs to the portal.

Next Steps

NEXT STEPS

The insights gathered during the consultation phase will be used to refine the final Fair Play Policy, which is scheduled to be presented to Council for final consideration at the November 2025 meeting. Attached to the Council Report will be this document, which will then later be uploaded to the Have Your Say portal. This will round out the engagement and loop back to our stakeholders, and finalise the policy ready for implementation from 2026.

2.6. Draft Community Engagement Policy

Source: **City Life**
Executive Director: **Anthony Basford**

Purpose

1. To seek endorsement to proceed to community and stakeholder engagement on the Draft Community Engagement Policy.

Background

2. This Draft Community Engagement Policy (the draft Policy) builds on the Policy adopted in 2021 and takes a step further in becoming a clearer, more accessible, and more community-facing document (Attachment 1).

3. The required four-yearly review of the draft Policy was conducted over a seven-week community engagement period. It involved employee consultation and targeted engagement with stakeholders, including Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, the Youth Council and Cultura. The findings are included in the Engagement Summary Report (Attachment 2).

4. A Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) was undertaken as part of the review process. The GIA includes a series of recommendations for inclusion in the draft Policy, such as incorporating diverse population imagery, using gender-inclusive language, providing childcare and other supports to remove barriers, and tailoring engagements to specific community needs. The findings are included in the Engagement Policy GIA (Attachment 3).

Key Matters

5. Council is required to have a Community Engagement Policy under Section 55 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, which must be adopted and maintained. The current Policy, issued in March 2021, was scheduled for review from March 2025, in line with the four-year review cycle.

6. Insights gathered during the comprehensive consultation process have been used to further shape the draft Policy. Amendments aim to strengthen Council's commitment to inclusive and transparent engagement and introduce clearer mechanisms for reporting and broadening participation opportunities.

7. In response to the consultation feedback, changes have been made to the draft Policy, with the most significant changes relating to:

    7.1. A reviewed Purpose to connect the Community Engagement Policy to the Council Plan 2025-29 and articulate more clearly our commitment to best-practice community engagement;

    7.2. Understanding our Community, is included as a new section to better highlight the diversity of our community;

7.3. Definitions – the use of ‘participatory engagement’ has been removed and instead ‘engagement’ and ‘deliberative engagement’ are referred to because the community asked us to use plain English;

7.4. How decisions are made - to articulate that community engagement is one of many factors to be considered when making decisions (as a new section);

7.5. How we will engage – International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Spectrum of Engagement has been added based on best practice, and Councillor and community feedback;

7.6. Community Engagement Principles – a minimum engagement period of four weeks has been common practice but now as a requirement; and

7.7. Responsibilities section – updated with greater detail.

8. The next stage of engagement will involve a check-in with community members, stakeholders and staff on the draft Policy and gathering any final input before returning to Council for adoption.

9. The final annual impact report for the current Community Engagement Policy will be included in the 2024-2025 Annual Report. Previous Impact Reports have been shared annually as stand-alone documents.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Endorses the Draft Community Engagement Policy for public consultation, for a period of eight (8) weeks over December 2025 and January 2026; and**

2. **Notes the final Community Engagement Policy will be presented to Council for adoption early in 2026.**

Financial Sustainability

10. To ensure the City delivers on Policy commitments and community expectations for meaningful and quality engagement, officers review engagement resources required annually through the budget process.

Community Engagement

11. Councillor, community, employee and stakeholder engagement took place over a seven-month period with the formal community engagement period from the 16 June to 3 August 2025.

12. The community engagement Policy Review Engagement Summary Report (Attachment 2) steps out the engagement undertaken.

Social Equity and Sustainability

13. The draft Policy recognises the importance of equity, access and inclusion as a key priority to best practice engagement. Reference was made to the City's Social Equity Framework and A Gender+ Impact Assessment was undertaken as part of the review process.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

14. The development of Council's Community Engagement Policy adheres to the legislated requirements set out in the *Local Government Act (Vic) 2020.*

15. The advice and guidance of the City's Legal department was sought and incorporated in the draft Policy.

16. Community engagement is an essential part of good governance. It supports the community to consider, respond and to participate in decision making. The draft Policy:

    16.1. Ensures people who live, work and do business across our region have the opportunity to engage with Council and the City about upcoming decisions;

    16.2. Promotes effective, authentic and accessible community engagement as a mechanism to driving greater trust, stronger relationships and better outcomes for Council and the communities it represents;

    16.3. Establishes transparent processes to show how community input is used to inform and influence decision making; and

    16.4. Guides Council to meet its legislated engagement obligations with the community, giving effect to the engagement principles under the Local Government Act (Vic) 2020.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

17. This report aligns with the Council Plan 2025-2029 strategic priority:
    Healthy and Caring Community

18. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.

    Community engagement is central to the development, implementation and evaluation of impact and effectiveness of the Council Plan. This policy supports our Council Plan 2025-29 goal to deliver better outcomes for the people of Greater Geelong. This includes a commitment to the highest levels of leadership, integrity, financial stewardship and meaningful community engagement.

Conflict of Interest

19. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

20. Community engagement is directly linked and impacts the City’s reputation and trust with the people who live, work and invest in Greater Geelong.

Environmental Sustainability

21. There are no environmental implications.

Attachments

1. Draft Community Engagement Policy Oct 2025 FINAL [**2.6.1** - 15 pages]
2. Community Engagement Policy Review Engagement Summary Report [**2.6.2** - 39 pages]
3. Community Engagement Policy GIA FINAL [**2.6.3** - 14 pages]
4. Current Community Engagement Policy [**2.6.4** - 10 pages]

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

VERSION: 2

TYPE OF POLICY: Council

APPROVAL DATE: XX 2026

REVIEW DATE: XX 2030

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: Director, Community Life

AUTHORISING OFFICER: Chief Executive Officer

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Greater Geelong acknowledges the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of this land. We also acknowledge all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who are part of the Greater Geelong community today.

We recognise the important civic leadership role that community engagement plays in fostering genuine reconciliation and achieving real outcomes. We are committed to deepening our understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories and acknowledging the experiences and needs of First Nations peoples living within the City of Greater Geelong region, so they feel listened to, respected, and valued. We support truth-telling, justice, and the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to self-determination, and we actively support the process towards Treaty in Victoria.

Introduction

THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY, COUNCILLORS AND CITY EMPLOYEES

Over several months we (the City of Greater Geelong) invited community, Councillors and City employees to be part of conversations online, in person, and in community settings about what meaningful engagement looks like and how it can work better for everyone. Your input has directly influenced this updated version of the policy. You told us you'd like us to focus more on face-to-face engagement, clearer communication, transparency in decision-making, timely follow-up, and better support to get involved.

This policy builds on the community's feedback in *2020–2021* and takes a step further in becoming a clearer, more community-facing document. It reflects what we heard and our commitment to making engagement more inclusive, transparent and meaningful.

We appreciate your time, insights and interest and we look forward to continuing to grow a stronger culture of collaboration and good decision making, together. To learn more about the consultation process behind this policy, visit the *Community Engagement Policy Have Your Say page*.

PURPOSE

A collaborative partnership between Council and the community can be a powerful way to deliver positive changes across our region. We value the knowledge, ideas and life experiences of our diverse community. Good community engagement helps us listen, learn and make better decisions. For now, and for the future.

This policy supports our *Council Plan 2025-29* goal to deliver better outcomes for the people of Greater Geelong. This includes a commitment to the highest levels of *leadership, integrity, financial stewardship and meaningful community engagement*.

This policy details our commitment to best-practice community engagement in order to:

1. Enhance community participation: Encourage and facilitate active participation from all community members, ensuring their voices are heard and considered in decision-making processes.
2. Build trust and transparency: Foster trust and transparency between the City and our community by providing clear, accessible, and timely information.
3. Promote inclusivity and diversity: Ensure that engagement activities are inclusive and reflect the diverse needs and aspirations of the community.
4. Support informed decision-making: Provide decision-makers with comprehensive and diverse community input to inform policies, plans, and projects.
5. Strengthen relationships: Build and maintain strong, respectful, and collaborative relationships with community members, stakeholders, and partners.

This policy helps the City and our Council not only meet its engagement obligations as described under sections 55 and 56 of the Local Government Act 2020 (Vic) but truly harness the expertise and advice of the community it serves.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?

Community engagement allows Council to gain a deeper understanding of diverse points of view, values, concerns, and priorities when shaping decisions, plans, and services that affect people's lives. It's a two-way process: we listen to the ideas, concerns, and experiences of our community, and we share information about what's being planned or decided.

We use a range of engagement approaches, such as surveys, workshops, phone calls, pop-up sessions at locations our community visit, and panels, to make engagement accessible, inclusive and flexible to suit different lifestyles and abilities.

Effective community engagement means asking the right questions, of the right people, at the right time, and in the right way, ensuring that community voices meaningfully inform the decision we make.

WHY IS ENGAGEMENT IMPORTANT?

Engagement gives our community the opportunity to inform the decisions Council makes and the strategies we develop, ensuring they reflect community views and values. Engagement empowers people to contribute to the future of the places where they live, work, do business, study, and play, and helps build trust and confidence in local democracy.

By bringing together people from different backgrounds and perspectives, engagement increases understanding of the issues, challenges, and opportunities related to a project or policy. This shared understanding helps the community make more informed contributions and leads to more transparent, sustainable, and widely supported decisions. Even when views differ, effective engagement shows that decisions are made with a clear understanding of our community's needs, aspirations, and challenges.

SCOPE

This policy guides everyone who plans or carries out community engagement for us, including staff, councillors, contractors, external providers and volunteers.
This policy does not cover the following engagements:

- those related to planning permit applications and planning scheme amendments governed by the *Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Vic)*
- legislated engagements governed under other Acts.

UNDERSTANDING OUR COMMUNITY

Greater Geelong has approximately 289,565 residents (2024). Whilst parents and homebuilders aged between 35 and 49 are currently the largest age group, most of the population growth over the next 20 years will be in people aged 85 years and over.

The City strives towards an equitable approach to community engagement, which means we will look for ways to offer support and remove barriers to encourage hearing from priority populations:

- First Nations peoples: 1.3% of the population (ABS, 2021)
- Multicultural communities: 17.7% of residents were born overseas (G21, 2023), and 11.7% of residents speak a language other than English at home (Profile id, 2022)
- Children and families: 37.9% of households in Greater Geelong have children (Profile id, 2022)
- Young people: 17.8% of residents are aged between 10 and 24 years (Profile id, 2022)
- Older people: 31.5% are aged 55 years and over (Profile id, 2022)
- People with disabilities: 22% identify as having a disability; 6.5% of residents have a severe or profound disability and need assistance with day to day living (ABS, 2018)
- LGBTQIA+ communities: 9.6% of residents identify as LGBTQIA+ (VPHS, 2023)
- Socio-economic disadvantaged: particularly health care card holders, single parent families and those with lower levels of education (ABS, 2021).

From our *Community Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2025-29*.

Definitions

Term	Definition
Act	*Local Government Act (Vic) 2020.*
City	The City of Greater Geelong organisation, led by the CEO.
City Officers	Includes employees, volunteers and contractors.
Committee	A delegated committee, joint delegated committee or community asset committee under sections 63, 64 and 65 of the Act, respectively.
Council	The City of Greater Geelong Council comprised of elected councillors and led by the Mayor.
Country	Refers to the land, waters, and natural resources that are traditionally owned and cared for by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It encompasses cultural, spiritual, and economic connections to the land.
Deliberative engagement	Deliberative engagement is a way of working closely with our community on complex, long-term or high-impact issues—especially where perspectives may differ. It involves deep, thoughtful conversations over weeks or months, bringing people closer to decision makers. Participants are given a clear task, the information they need, and enough time and space to explore different views, work together, and shape well-informed advice that can influence decisions. In this approach, participants are provided with: • a clear task or question • the information and resources they need • enough time and space to discuss ideas and consider different perspectives to reach their consensus (or decision).
ELT	The Executive Leadership Team of the City, as constituted from time to time.
Engagement	Community engagement is how we work together with our community in a thoughtful and planned way. It means sharing information, listening to people's ideas and concerns, and involving them in decisions that affect them. This can include things like surveys, polls or drop-in sessions where people can give feedback or suggest ideas. It helps us make informed decisions by understanding what matters to the community, while still making sure we meet our responsibilities as decision makers.
Stakeholders	An individual or group with an interest in the decisions of the City and Council, that is directly or indirectly impacted by the decisions made and the final outcomes.
Us	The City of Greater Geelong organisation led by the Chief Executive Officer.
We	The City of Greater Geelong organisation led by the Chief Executive Officer.

Policy

WHO WE ENGAGE WITH

We will engage with people who are likely to be affected by, or interested in, council planning and decision-making. This includes individuals, community groups, advisory committees, businesses, organisations, peak bodies, and other levels of government.

At the start of each engagement, we will identify who we need to hear from and include them as stakeholders in the engagement plan. We know that some people and groups face barriers to participating in engagement. These barriers may include disability, language or cultural differences, caring or work responsibilities, limited access to technology or transport, or age.

To hear a wide range of views and make sure our decisions reflect community needs, we will tailor our engagement activities so as many people as possible can take part. Where barriers are significant or certain groups are under-represented, we will reach out directly and provide support to help them get involved.

By engaging broadly and inclusively, we make informed decisions that meet the needs of our community.

We will not engage with people once it becomes apparent that their feedback or submissions are obscene, offensive, or racist.

Anonymity

Our current practice is to wherever practicable and permitted by legislation, to allow respondents to provide feedback anonymously. However, we often invite participants to voluntarily share relevant demographic information—such as age, suburb of residence, and occasionally gender—to help us understand who we are hearing from, and who may be missing from the conversation. Any demographic data collected is always optional and managed in accordance with the City's *Privacy and Health Records Council Policy*.

WHEN WE WILL ENGAGE

We engage with the community as early as possible when decisions or plans might affect people. Sometimes we will engage at several stages in the lead up to final plans or decisions.

When we will engage will include situations where we are:

- making plans – for example, developing strategic plans or policies, or planning for emergencies
- changing or evaluating something – for example a review of a program or changes to a service where those changes may have an impact on the community or Country
- making a decision that is likely to impact people and the places they live, work, invest or play – for example, introducing a new project, initiative or service
- seeking feedback on alternative draft designs or plans or gauging support for a proposal
- asking the community for local knowledge
- required by law to do so
- seeking to address an issue affecting the community that has been raised and requires a decision.

These situations encompass a wide range of projects, plans, and initiatives, including but not limited to:

1. Strategic planning: Development and review of strategic plans, policies, and frameworks that guide the City's long-term vision and priorities.
2. Capital works projects: Planning, design, and implementation of infrastructure projects, including roads, parks, community facilities, and public spaces.
3. Service delivery: Evaluation and improvement of services provided by the City, such as waste management, community services, and recreational programs.
4. Policy development: Formulation and review of policies that impact the community, including environmental, social, and economic policies.

5. Community development: Initiatives aimed at building community capacity, fostering social inclusion, and enhancing the wellbeing of residents.
6. Partnerships and collaborations: Engagement with external stakeholders, including government agencies, non-profit organisations, businesses, and community groups.

We may also engage in cases where we:

- see that the broader community has raised, or expressed an interest in, a policy, initiative or service
- require assistance to identify community needs or aspirations
- desire to build capacity, provide information to increase knowledge and change behaviour
- seek new, or wish to strengthen, existing relationships with the community.

Situations where we may not engage

There are times when we may decide it is not appropriate to engage with the community. This would include situations where:

- decisions must be made immediately – for example, during a live emergency, or for occupational health and safety reasons
- the community has been recently engaged on the same issue and their views of community are well understood
- demonstrated evidence and data already exist to inform the decision
- decisions relate to the City's day-to-day organisation operations
- legal or commercial restrictions prevent it
- we do not have the decision-making power.

HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE

We consider lots of things – including community feedback, internal and expert advice, data and research, and cost – when making decisions. When we make our commitment to community at the start of an engagement, we will also identify other factors that may influence the final decision.

While community engagement informs decision-making, it does not replace the responsibilities of elected representatives and City officers. Instead, it enhances decisions made in the best interests of the many Greater Geelong communities by helping to understand community needs, priorities, and the potential impacts of decisions.

Together, these inputs and considerations ensure our decisions are well-informed, balanced, and aligned with the long-term wellbeing of the Greater Geelong community.

These will include:

Inputs into Decision-Making	Description
Community Engagement	Community needs, insights, knowledge and aspirations are considered when making decisions.
Customer Requests and Feedback	Customer feedback and complaints.
Legislation and Governance Considerations	Decisions are guided by the Local Government Act, other relevant legislation, policies and plans, best practice approaches and other political and stakeholder interests.
Risk and Safety	Public safety, health and wellbeing.
Expert Advice	City officers and external experts provide subject matter knowledge, data and research to inform advice and recommendations.
Councillor Experience and Expertise	Councillors apply their discretion, community understanding, and personal experience.

Inputs into Decision-Making	Description
Strategic Planning and Long-Term Vision	Strategic goals, infrastructure planning, and time-sensitive priorities.
Budget and Resources	Financial, human and physical resources are assessed to ensure decisions are practical and sustainable.

HOW WE WILL ENGAGE

We will use the *International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Spectrum of Engagement* to guide our planning for every engagement. It is a widely recognised tool that identifies five levels of participation and the promise being made to the public about their level of influence at each participation level. This spectrum matches the roles of the community with the level of influence they can expect.

The greater the impact on the community, the more interactive the engagement will be. Our engagement opportunities will always be available online on our *Have Your Say online engagement platform.* We will also look for face-to-face opportunities whenever possible, including pop-up stalls, community drop-in sessions, workshops and forums and one-on-one phone conversations. When we're out in the community, we'll set up in a variety of locations across the municipality, places where people naturally spend time in their day-to-day lives, like shopping centres, parks, libraries, neighbourhood houses and local events.

The table below identifies the IAP2 Spectrum of Engagement's five levels of engagement, the goal, promise and role of community for each one, along with the types of engagement methods and examples of projects we may use for each one.

Level of Influence	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower
Goal	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
Our promise to the community	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice into decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.
The role of community in decision-making	Listen	Contribute	Participate	Partner	Partner or lead

Level of Influence	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower
Examples of methods we will use to do this	Fact sheets, brochures, flyers, newsletters, media advertising media releases, displays at City facilities, website updates, social media.	Briefings, surveys, meetings, workshops, Advisory Committees, pop-up events, interviews, information sessions and Town Hall meetings.	Workshops, surveys, focus groups, interviews, tours of project site Advisory Committee workshops, roundtables, world cafes.	Deliberative engagement processes including citizens juries, community panels and ballots, co-design workshops, steering groups, interviews, roundtables.	Ballot or voting, deliberative engagement processes including citizens juries, community panels and ballots (subject to the remit).
Examples of projects or decisions typical of this level of engagement	Projects with no opportunity to influence decision-making, such as maintenance upgrades, roadworks and closures, rate changes, projects where the City is not the lead agency.	Draft strategic plans or policies, Statutory projects such as land-use planning and hearing of submissions, low to medium impact interest projects, including single tree installations, small scale traffic projects, community-facing policies.	Medium to high impact interest projects, such as major capital works, master plans, annual council budget, key strategies and plans, making of local laws	High impact interest projects key strategic documents including the Community Vision, 4-year Council Plan, Asset Plan and Financial Plan.	Council elections.

Community Engagement Principles

To ensure our engagement practices are proactive, inclusive, and meaningful - and to meet our obligations under sections 55 and 56 of the *Local Government Act 2020* - we commit to the following:

1. Plan proactively

- Identify stakeholders, including those directly affected and those with an interest in the issue.
- Start engagement early and continue it throughout the project to allow genuine input.
- Make sure engagement is timely, open, and easy to understand.

2. Be inclusive and accessible and support participation

- Communicate clearly using plain language, accessible formats, and a respectful tone.
- Design engagement activities that are inclusive and accessible so people can contribute meaningfully. This includes:
    - Physical accessibility – venues, transport, and facilities.
    - Digital accessibility – screen readers, alt text, captions.
    - Language support – translations and interpreters.
    - Cultural sensitivity – approaches that are respectful and appropriate.
- Actively seek diverse perspectives, especially from underrepresented groups.

3. Be transparent about influence

- Be clear about what aspects of the decision can be influenced (as well as what can't be influenced and why), utilising the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation (refer to table on page 8 & 9).
- Define the community's role in each engagement process.
- Identify what other factors, in addition to community engagement, will influence decision making (refer to the How decisions are made section on page 7)

4. Choose the right engagement methods

- Use tools and approaches that suit the audience and the project, such as:
    - Face-to-face conversations
    - Workshops
    - Surveys
    - Online forums
    - Pop-up events or community gatherings
- Allow enough time for the community to participate
    - Engagement activities will be open for at least four weeks (with extensions encouraged if over school holidays or religious holiday periods) unless:
    - A City Director approves a shorter timeframe, or
    - Legislation requires a shorter period.

6. Provide feedback and keep improving

- Let the community know how their input has influenced decisions.
- Provide updates at key milestones throughout the project.
- Be flexible and willing to adjust our approach as needed.
- Learn from each engagement to improve future practices.

A submission review panel will be convened only where there is a statutory requirement under legislation that refers to section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. In such instances, Council will conduct the process in accordance with the provisions of section 223 and in alignment with the engagement principles outlined in this policy.

Deliberative engagement

Deliberative engagement is a way of working with our community that brings people closer to the decision makers. It focuses on deep, thoughtful conversation, often over several weeks or months and this process is usually used for more complex, long term and high impact issues, where perspectives are likely to differ and/or where the issue is high impact on sections of the community. Participants learn from different perspectives, work together, and shape well-informed advice that may influence decisions.

In this approach, participants are provided with:

- a clear task or question
- the information and resources they need
- enough time and space to discuss ideas and consider different perspectives to reach their consensus (or decision).
- A promise of collaborate or empower on the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation

Deliberative engagement methods include advisory committees, workshops, community panels, focus groups, citizen juries and ballots.

Not all our engagements can be deliberative however, at a minimum, we will engage deliberatively when developing the following long-term strategic documents in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020:

- the Community Vision
- Council Plan
- Asset Plan
- Financial Plan
- other projects or initiatives as considered appropriate.

We will consider using deliberative engagement for other projects on a case-by-case basis. This means we'll look at whether the issue is complex, whether involving the community at a more in-depth level would improve the outcome, and whether it could help build trust in decision-making. Where full deliberation isn't practical, we may use a scaled-down approach that still values people's time, supports meaningful input, and works within available resources.

Managing feedback outside of formal community engagement channels

To ensure feedback is properly considered, we strongly encourage community members to use the designated engagement channels and submit input during the official engagement period. These formal channels are designed to support fair, accessible, and meaningful participation.

We recognise that people may also share feedback informally, such as through social media, emails, or in conversations with staff. While this type of input may be less structured and harder to verify, it can still provide useful insights into community sentiment and will be reviewed where possible.

However, feedback received informally or outside the engagement period may not always be included in formal reporting. When it is considered, it will be reviewed separately from formal input and will not be integrated into quantitative results.

Petitions will be managed under the City's *Governance Rules*.

HOW WE WILL REPORT ON ENGAGEMENT

We will report back to the community:

1. At key milestones. This could include when an engagement opens, when an engagement summary is available, before a decision goes to a Council meeting, when the engagement closes and moved to another stage in the process.
2. What we learnt during the engagement process – that is, the data and information collected as part of the process, including the key themes and insights heard from respondents and who we heard from.
3. How this has influenced the decisions, plans and activities.
4. What the next steps are.

In determining the best ways to report this information back, we will consider the people and groups involved, barriers to engagement, and the level of interest to the wider community.

Where it is valuable to do so, we will report back during the engagement process, so that the methods of exploring an issue with the community might be altered based on what we are learning and that newly identified stakeholders might engage as necessary throughout the process.

We will report back using methods such as:

- updates on Geelong Australia website
- updates on the project Have Your Say page, including emails to 'followers' of individual pages
- posts on social media
- public notices and newspaper advertisements
- printed materials in community facilities
- Council meeting agendas and minutes
- direct communication, such as letters, phone calls and meetings, with the involved people and groups.

Implementing this Policy

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Greater Geelong community, our elected officials and all employees of the City of Greater Geelong play a role in ensuring the promises made in this policy are upheld.

Group	Responsibilities
Community	• Stay informed and get involved in relevant engagement opportunities. • Be open to new ideas and respectful of others' perspectives. • Follow the process and respect timelines. • Accept that final outcomes may not always align with personal preferences but aim to serve broader community needs.
Elected Members	• Adopt the Community Engagement Policy, oversee its implementation. • Champion the commitment and principles for community engagement through leadership and decision-making. • Promote community engagement opportunities to constituents. • Review outcomes of community engagement activities for decision-making. • Consider engagement results when forming opinions and making decisions.
Executive Leadership Team	• Demonstrate behaviours that foster good engagement practice and drive the community engagement principles through policy, process and leadership. • Implement and ensure compliance with this policy and hold staff accountable for its use and improvement. • Provide final approval before engagements go live.
City Officers	• Uphold the Community Engagement Policy. • Consult and partner with the Community Engagement Unit before initiating projects. • Attend community engagement training. • Act with integrity and avoid bias. • Conduct transparent and inclusive engagements. • Communicate clearly about decision-making steps. • Engage in a timely and informative manner to encourage participation. • Provide feedback and guide participants on staying engaged. • Commit to understanding all viewpoints and fully consider findings in recommendations.
Community Engagement team	• Monitor the implementation of this policy and conduct periodic reviews to drive continuous improvement. • Support staff to plan and deliver best-practice engagement processes. • Provide training to staff.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

The City commits to monitoring processes, information sharing and decision making to understand the overall level of success in the policy's implementation. At a minimum, key evaluation measures of success over each 12 month period will be reported in the Annual Report and will include:

- community satisfaction with community consultation and engagement (annual survey)
- number of engagements
- number of participants
- adequacy of representation of priority populations
- percentage of deliberative and other engagements
- timeliness and regularity of reporting back to the community

and may also include measures such as:

- diversity of engagement methods
- information delivery modes
- effectiveness of participant identification process across target groups

ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE

The *Responsible Officer: Manager Community Strengthening*, is responsible for advising the organisation and community about this policy, monitoring its implementation, and assisting with questions about the policy.

RECORDS

The City must retain records associated with this policy and its implementation for at least the period shown below.

Record	Retention / Disposal Authority	Retention Period	Location
This policy	Manager, Community Strengthening	Four years	Geelong Australia
Feedback archives	Manager, Community Strengthening	Four years	CityWeb location

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed every four years (March 2030) or earlier if required due to legislative or strategic changes.

Related legislation and resources

Internal references

- Child Safe Standards
- Council Plan 2025-29
- Community Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2025-29
- Gender+ Impact Assessment
- Governance Rules
- Privacy and Health Records Council Policy

Relevant Legislation

- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2006
- Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006
- Child Safety Act 2015
- Disability Act 2006
- Disability Discrimination Act (Com)1992
- Equal Opportunity Act 2010
- Gender Equality Act 2020
- Local Government Act 1989
- Local Government Act 2020
- Multicultural Victoria Act 2011
- Planning and Environment Act 1987
- Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014
- Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2001
- Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

- **External references**

- *Victorian Local Government Act 2020 (Vic)*
- *International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Spectrum of Engagement*
- *Waduwurrung Country Plan: Paleert Tjaara Dja, Let's make Country good together 2020-2030*
- *Public Participation in Government Decision-making Better Practice Guide – Victorian Auditor-General's Office 2015*
- *Public Participation and Community Engagement: Local Government Sector – Victorian Auditor-General's Report 2017*
- *Public Participation in Government Decision-Making – Victorian Auditor-General's Report 2017*
- *Victorian Government Draft Public Participation Framework (2020)*
- *Local Government Act 2020 – Principles Community Engagement (DELWP)*

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY REVIEW

ENGAGEMENT REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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Executive Summary

The City undertook a hybrid engagement approach to capture the experiences and views of the Greater Geelong community in relation to the City's Community Engagement Policy that was under review. Participants were able to provide feedback through online surveys, direct outreach through email and written correspondence, as well as some face-to-face and physical interactions.

Feedback on the City's Community Engagement Policy highlighted both strengths and areas for improvement. The strongest call for improvement was for greater transparency, stronger feedback loops, and clearer reporting to build trust and show how input influences decisions. Concerns were raised about some engagement methods being perceived as tokenistic or predetermined, and a perceived reliance on digital platforms seen as a limiting participation. Respondents recommended an expansion of inclusive and deliberative approaches, such as co-design and broader use of face-to-face engagement to compliment digital channels of engagement.

Participants also emphasised the need for improved communication, accessibility, and inclusion to help increase reach and awareness of engagement opportunities. Suggestions included multi-channel outreach beyond social media, the use of simple and accessible language, and tailored strategies for underrepresented groups, including multilingual resources and disability-accessible formats. Some respondents also raised concerns about locality bias, while others recognised the City's strengths in consultation frequency, youth engagement, and efforts to include the community into its decision making.

Introduction

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Over several months in 2025 from January – August (including a formal community engagement period between 16 June – 3 August) we invited community, City employees, councillors and key stakeholders, to be part of conversations online, in person, and in community settings about what meaningful engagement looks like and how it can work better for everyone.

ENGAGEMENT PURPOSE

The purpose of this engagement was to invite the community to contribute to a review and update of the City's Community Engagement Policy. This policy outlines how and when input is sought from the community, and how that input informs decision-making processes. It demonstrates the City's commitment to inclusive and transparent engagement, in alignment with the principles of the **Local Government Act 2020**.

The existing policy, developed in 2021, is approaching its expiry in 2025. This presented a timely opportunity to refresh the policy to better reflect the evolving needs, expectations, and values of our community.

The engagement aimed to ensure the revised policy is clear, practical, and accessible - empowering all community members to understand and use it confidently. Most importantly, we want the policy to support the development of meaningful and respectful conversations between the City and its community, fostering trust and collaboration.

Through this process, we gathered insights, experiences, and feedback from diverse voices. We hope that by doing this, we will be able to shape a policy that truly represents our community and strengthen our shared commitment to community engagement to support decision making.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report presents the findings from the community engagement process undertaken to inform the update of the City's Community Engagement Policy. It is intended to support decision-making by councillors and the Executive Leadership Team (ELT), and to demonstrate to the community how their input was captured, considered, and used to shape the revised policy.

The report outlines the planning and delivery of the engagement, summarises the feedback received, and highlights key outcomes. It also serves to demonstrate transparency and accountability in how community input has shaped the development of the revised policy.

How we engaged

SNAPSHOT

The primary method of engagement was via the City's online Have Your Say (HYS) platform for a six-week period and was supported by employee engagement and workshops with Council, Youth Council, Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, Barwon Network of Neighbourhood Houses and written feedback from Cultura.

In-person engagement occurred at four events across the municipality:

- Tastes of Geelong
- Nature Festival
- Cultura Refugee Week Expo
- Korayn Birralee engagement blitz

The formal community engagement period was between 16 June and 3 August for a total of 48 days.

Have Your Say online platform

An online HYS project page was designed to provide multiple options for community to submit feedback which included:

- Full Survey (35 non mandatory questions including 11 open text questions)
- Short Survey (10 non mandatory questions, no open text)
- Quick poll (single question survey)

Survey

The community was able to complete one of two surveys that asked questions relating to:

- What is their current experience engaging with the City like?
- What are the main challenges when engaging with the City?
- What would encourage them to engage more with the City?

The full survey provided a combination of both qualitative (open text) and categorical (multiple choice, drop down scale-type questions) inputs, while the short only provided categorical inputs. There was a total of 107 responses across both surveys.

In-person engagement

The Community Engagement team had conversations with community members from across the municipality at four community events. Two 'sticky dot' activities were undertaken at each event, asking the following two questions:

- What makes it hard for you to share feedback on City projects?
- How do you prefer to share your feedback?

The events attended were:

- Cultura Refugee Week Expo, Norlane – 19 June
- Tastes Winter Festival, Johnstone Park – 20 June
- Geelong Nature Festival Family Fun Day, Fyansford – 12 July
- Korayn Birralee Family Centre Engagement Blitz, Corio – 1 August

Community members at the events were also encouraged to complete the online survey.

Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder engagement took place over a six-month period and included:

- Councillor Workshop – 18 February
- Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation Cultural Consultation – 12 March
- Barwon Network of Neighbourhood Houses meeting - 24 June
- Youth Council Workshop – 28 July

Employee survey

All City employees were invited to complete a short survey (8 non mandatory questions, including 4 open text questions) with a direct call out to officers and teams involved in community engagement, specifically the City's Engagement Champions.

Who we engaged

WHO WE PLANNED TO ENGAGE

We aimed to involve a wide and diverse group across the community, including individuals, City employees, and key stakeholders, by attending local events, partnering with community organisations, and offering multiple ways for people to participate.

Engagement with First Nations voices

As part of the review of the Community Engagement Policy, the City sought to actively hear from our Greater Geelong First Nations community. This was more than a policy update – it was intended as an opportunity to deepen our commitment to ensuring First Nations peoples have a genuine voice in shaping how the City engages with community.

To support this, we invited internal stakeholders to help us connect with First Nations individuals, organisations, and networks by promoting the engagement process and sharing access to our suite of collateral (hard copy surveys, flyers, drop boxes, and an online survey). We also approached Wathaurong Co-op representatives directly. Despite these efforts, we received limited First Nations participation in this round of engagement. We acknowledge this as a significant gap and an area where we must do better.

The Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (TOAC) provided formal feedback on the current policy, which will be incorporated into the draft.

We remain committed to strengthening this important relationship while also building stronger, ongoing connections with the broader First Nations community across Greater Geelong.

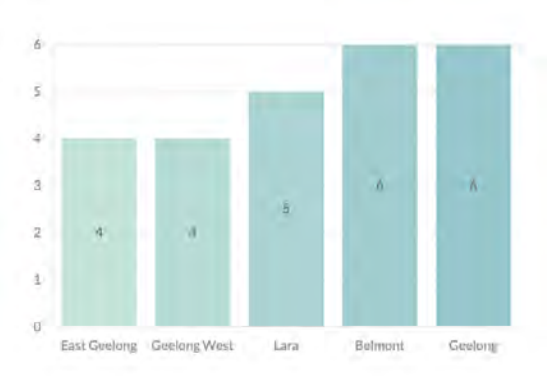
PARTICIPATION

Most of the feedback was provided through the two surveys hosted through the Have Your Say website. There were 56 responses to the short survey and 51 responses to the full survey. Feedback was also collected through an in-person ‘sticky dot’ activity with over 100 people interacting. Data was also collected from City employees and at stakeholder workshops and meeting with councillors, the Youth Council, Wadawurrung Traditional Aboriginal Owners Corporation, Neighbourhood Houses and Cultura.

DEMOGRAPHICS

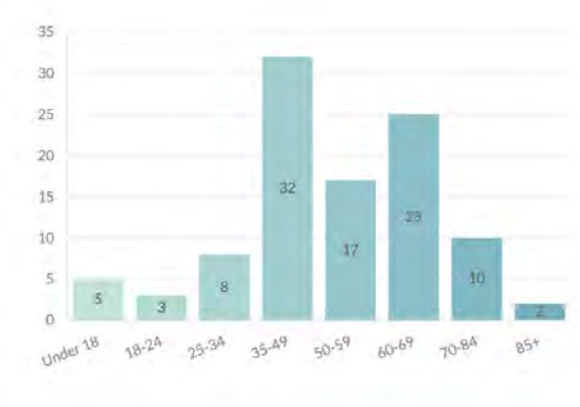
The highest levels of response from the combined surveys were from people who lived in the following suburbs:

- Geelong (5.6%)
- Belmont (5.6%)
- Lara (4.6%)
- Geelong West (3.7%)
- East Geelong (3.7%)

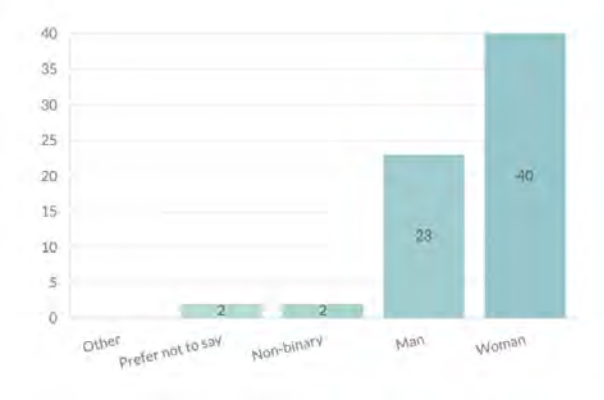


Most combined survey responses were from those aged between 35 and 69, with the following breakdown:

- 35-49yo (29.9%)
- 50-59yo (15.8%)
- 60-69yo (23.3%)



From those who self-reported their gender in the surveys, women were the predominant gender amongst respondents, with roughly a 2:1 ratio of women to men:



What we asked and what we heard

SUMMARY OVERVIEW OF KEY FINDINGS

Community feedback on the City's Community Engagement Policy highlighted both areas of strength and opportunities for improvement.

Across the consultation, the strongest message was the need for **greater transparency and stronger feedback loops**. Survey respondents expressed mixed levels of trust in the City's commitment to community feedback. When asked whether they agree with the statement, "I trust that the City of Greater Geelong takes community feedback seriously," 36% agreed or strongly agreed, 32% were neutral, and 33% disagreed or strongly disagreed.

Many participants felt unsure whether their contributions had been considered, or how feedback influenced final decisions. The perceived lack of visibility created a sense of disengagement and mistrust, particularly when decisions appeared to contradict consultation outcomes or when certain groups were seen to hold disproportionate influence. Respondents recommended clearer reporting, ongoing updates throughout project lifecycles, and explicit explanations of what can and cannot be influenced to strengthen confidence in the process.

Concerns were also raised about **engagement methodology**, with some community members perceiving current processes as tokenistic or predetermined. Survey design was described as narrow or leading at times, with limited scope for nuanced responses. Short consultation periods and reliance on digital platforms were also seen as barriers for participation. In response, participants advocated for more inclusive and deliberative approaches, including co-design methods, broader use of face-to-face engagement, and more consistent application of ethical and transparent practices.

Awareness and communication emerged as another key theme, with participants emphasising that current approaches do not always reach the full breadth of the community. Reliance on social media was seen as excluding older residents, marginalised groups, or those less digitally engaged. Respondents called for multi-channel communication strategies that combine digital tools with more traditional methods such as radio, printed materials, letterbox drops, and local meetings. They also stressed the importance of clear, simple language and user-friendly tools, noting that accessible and easy-to-read information would better support busy residents and those with different levels of literacy.

The theme of **accessibility and inclusion** was strongly reinforced. Many participants felt that the voices of vulnerable, disadvantaged, or underrepresented groups were often overlooked, while smaller but louder groups sometimes had more influence. Respondents suggested strategies such as multilingual resources, outreach through local organisations, tailored events for diverse cultural groups, and accessible formats for people with disabilities. More broadly, there was a call to ensure engagement processes reflect the city's diversity, making them more representative and equitable.

Finally, feedback highlighted perceptions of **locality bias**, with some community members feeling their suburbs or neighbourhoods were less valued or consulted compared to central areas. At the same time, several respondents expressed appreciation for the City's consistent efforts to engage the community, noting strengths in the frequency of consultation, the clarity of materials provided, and the overall transparency of the policy document. The City's efforts to engage young people and alignment with best practice were also acknowledged as positive steps to build on.

BREAKDOWN OF KEY FINDINGS

Below are the key themes that emerged from the data after performing thematic analysis from the qualitative data and categorical data.

Feedback loops and transparency

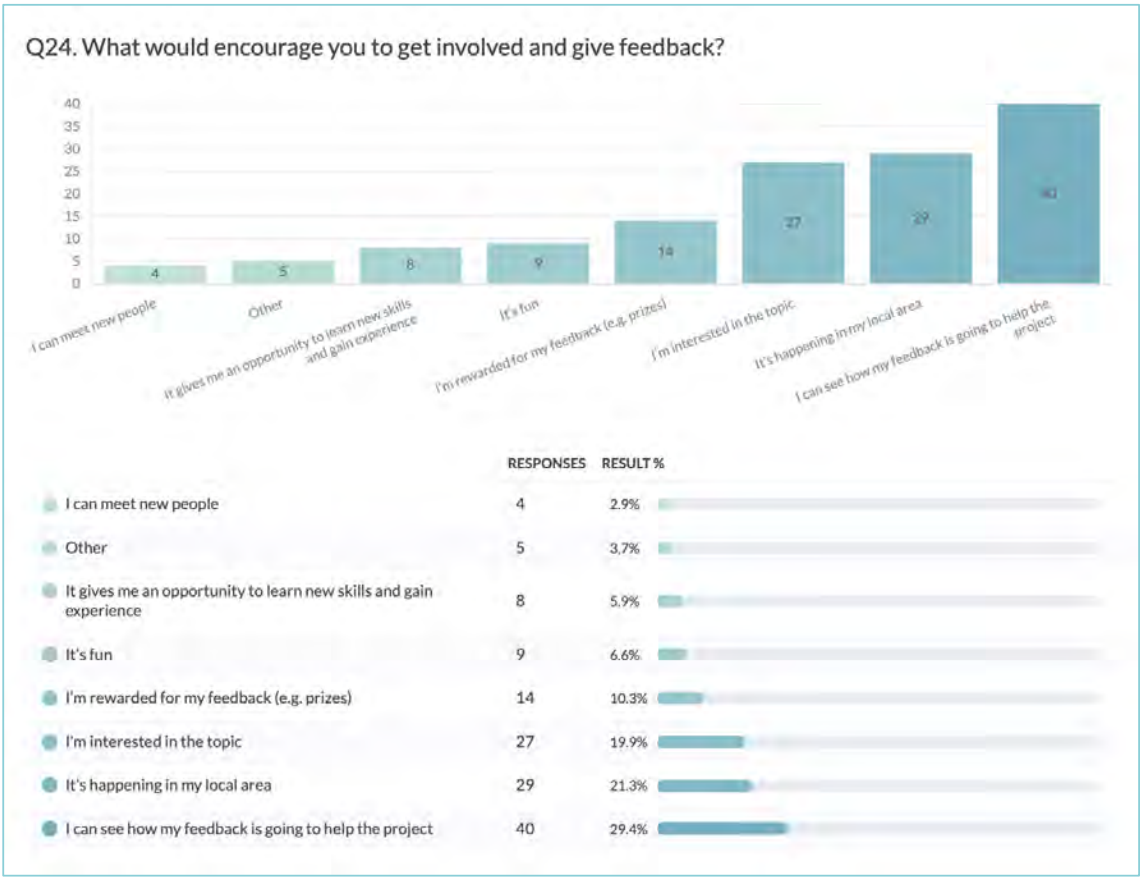
Feedback loops and transparency emerged as the strongest theme across community responses, and this was also reflected in Q24 of the full survey where the option "I can see how my feedback is going to help the project" being the top response for people when asked how they would be encouraged to provide feedback to the council:

Many participants expressed concern that their contributions were not meaningfully acknowledged or reflected in council decisions. A recurring issue was the absence of clear communication about how feedback was considered **"The outcomes to some my feedback have been successful but it's unclear if council changed in response to feedback received or other circumstances"** leading to uncertainty about whether community input had influenced outcomes at all. This lack of visibility created a perception of disengagement and mistrust, where residents felt ignored, selectively represented, or sidelined during decision-making processes.

Participants also highlighted the opacity of decision-making structures, noting that it was often unclear how responses were weighted or balanced against other factors **"I think COGG has mechanisms for listening to public opinion but (they are) not acting upon what appears to be what people want or popular opinion."**

Several respondents raised concerns about the influence of special interest groups and private lobbying, suggesting these voices sometimes held disproportionate sway over council decisions compared to broader community feedback. The absence of transparent explanations of council processes, including how budgets and priorities are determined, added to a sense that decision-making was misaligned with community expectations.

To address these concerns, respondents recommended more robust and ongoing feedback loops, rather than one-off consultations before or after a process **"Email updates as the project progresses. You are required to sign up to follow a project then you don't hear anything often until it's all done and dusted".** Suggestions included providing regular updates during project lifecycles, publishing clear consultation reports that detail how feedback was considered, and setting clearer expectations about the purpose, scope, and budget of each engagement. By improving transparency and accountability, the City was urged to foster greater trust and demonstrate that community voices are not only heard but actively shape outcomes.



	RESPONSES	RESULT %
I can meet new people	4	2.9%
Other	5	3.7%
It gives me an opportunity to learn new skills and gain experience	8	5.9%
It's fun	9	6.6%
I'm rewarded for my feedback (e.g. prizes)	14	10.3%
I'm interested in the topic	27	19.9%
It's happening in my local area	29	21.3%
I can see how my feedback is going to help the project	40	29.4%

Engagement methodology

Engagement Methodology was a focus for respondents, with many respondents questioning whether current consultation processes are genuine or tokenistic **"…feel the outcomes are often pre-determined and the way feedback is presented is shaped to match the outcomes."**. A recurring perception was that outcomes were predetermined, with surveys and feedback mechanisms designed to align with decisions already made. This led to frustration among participants, who felt their input carried little influence and that opportunities to shape outcomes were limited. The sense that engagement served more as a "box-ticking" exercise than a meaningful dialogue undermined confidence in the process.

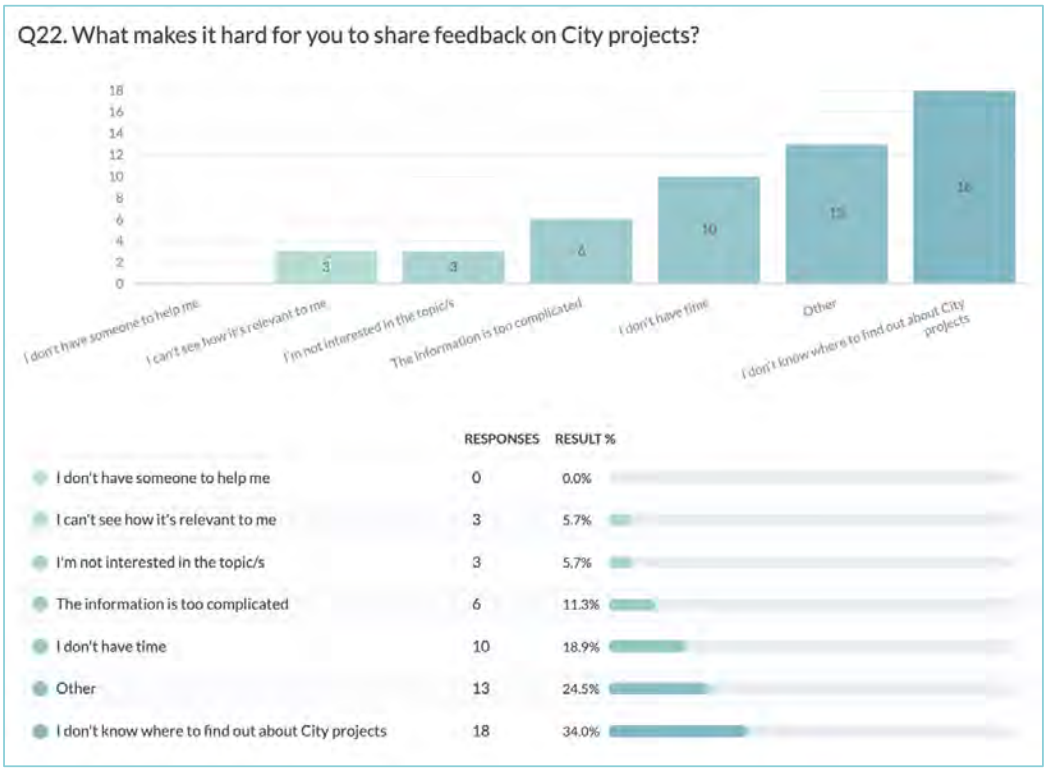
Survey design and methodology were criticised for restricting genuine input **"Questions on surveys seemed worded to deliver desired outcomes rather than explore options. Some surveys seem to avoid obvious questions."** Respondents noted that questions were often limited in scope or prevented nuanced responses, making it difficult for the community to provide comprehensive feedback. Short consultation periods, reliance on online platforms, and methods that excluded those with limited time or resources further compounded accessibility issues. Participants called for more inclusive approaches that catered to different preferences and circumstances, including randomised sampling, non-council-led forums, and opportunities for face-to-face engagement.

In addition to structural concerns, participants highlighted the need for greater transparency, ethical practices, and deliberative engagement They advocated for clearer communication about how stakeholders are identified and included. Calls for co-design and deeper deliberative methods reflected a desire for collaboration rather than just consultation **"It would be good to see investment in more meaningful conversations, including proper deliberative engagement, rather branding normal workshops as being deliberative processes".** Suggestions also included a more consistent approach to communication, and greater use of multi-channel engagement. Overall, the feedback emphasised that genuine, transparent, and inclusive engagement methods are essential to rebuilding community trust.

Awareness and communication

Awareness and Communication was identified as a challenge in the City's current engagement approach. In Question 22 of the long version online survey, the most common reason people found it hard to share feedback was because they **"don't know where to find out about City projects".**

Many participants felt that communication strategies were not reaching the full breadth of the community, with some community members citing a reliance on social media seen as excluding older residents, marginalised groups, and those less digitally engaged **"You need to make sure there are diverse ways of responding plus..."** and **"Advertise in multiple different formats. Social media and radio do not reach everyone"**. Respondents called for the use of diverse and accessible channels, including



letterbox drops, local radio, community meetings, and translated materials, to ensure broader and more inclusive participation. The need for plain English, clear visuals, and simplified language was also strongly emphasised to make complex information easier to understand **"Plain English versions, use of visuals and clear headings and subheadings to make content easy to scan. Dot points for key messages, and even consider the use of video as a tool to present information".**

Concerns were also raised about the clarity, timeliness, and accessibility of engagement opportunities. Participants noted that awareness of consultations was often limited, with people only discovering opportunities late or after decisions had already been made. There were repeated calls for proactive awareness campaigns, clearer timelines, and more consistent updates so that community members could meaningfully contribute before policies or projects were finalised. Online tools such as the Have Your Say website could be improved, with some community members finding it confusing and difficult to navigate, reinforcing the need for more user-friendly digital platforms.

Improving the City's presence and visibility was seen as critical to building trust and engagement "Better community communication- having a approachable council, not hidden away.". Suggestions included greater face-to-face interaction, more geographically distributed meetings across all neighbourhoods, and stronger follow-up after consultations to show how input was considered. Participants also wanted clearer lines of communication with decision-makers, quicker and more responsive feedback loops, and a more approachable council presence overall. By adopting a multi-channel, inclusive, and transparent communication strategy, council was encouraged to create greater awareness of engagement processes and ensure that all voices in the community have the opportunity to be heard.

Accessibility and inclusion

Accessibility and Inclusion emerged as a central concern with community members, with some respondents feeling that current engagement methods are not representative of different cohorts. Feedback suggested that the voices of vulnerable, disadvantaged, and underrepresented groups are often overlooked, while small but vocal interest groups appear to have disproportionate influence **"Listen to the community instead of giving in to developers".** This imbalance contributed to a perception that the City is out of step with broader community sentiment, leading to frustration and reduced confidence in the engagement process.

Participants highlighted the need for more inclusive and accessible practices, including the use of multilingual resources, plain language, and formats suitable for people with disabilities. Concerns were also raised about barriers created by online-only consultations, with many noting that the *Have Your Say* platform often favours those with the time, literacy, and resources to participate **"However it took me 2 or 3 goes of reading the letter in detail to fully understand what it was about… Being busy, I decided at that point not to participate".** Respondents advocated for targeted outreach strategies, such as community events, partnerships with local organisations, and tailored approaches for different age groups and cultural communities, to ensure all voices can contribute meaningfully.

Suggestions also emphasised the importance of improving transparency and communication channels. Community members called for clearer dialogue with decision-makers, regular updates, and more opportunities for face-to-face interaction **"Do it before you have made decisions or spent money.."**, alongside more diverse and accessible communication materials in public spaces such as libraries. There was strong support for expanding inclusive events and activities, particularly those for multicultural groups and people with disabilities. By broadening participation and designing engagement processes that reflect the city's diversity, the City was urged to ensure its decisions are more representative, equitable, and trusted.

Locality bias

Locality bias was raised by some respondents as a concern, with some community members feeling that City engagement, investment, and responsiveness are unevenly distributed across Greater Geelong. There was a perception for some that they were being overlooked in favour of central areas **"Maybe involve all greater geelong council areas and the residents as well".** They cited poor communication, a lack of local meetings, and limited opportunities to contribute to decision-making as evidence of this imbalance. Local knowledge offered by residents was also seen as undervalued, with participants reporting that their input was frequently dismissed or ignored.

WHAT WE ASKED

The following summaries are a further breakdown of the key themes, analysed from responses to the qualitative (open text) questions asked in the full survey in the HYS online platform. The categorical question responses can be found in the appendix.

Q4: Why didn't it meet your expectations?

- This question was only posed to respondents if they responded to the previous question "How was your experience providing feedback?" with the response option "didn't meet my expectations".

Community members expressed frustration with both the design of surveys and the broader engagement approach. Some respondents felt that survey questions were **leading, constrained, or inconsistent**, limiting the ability to provide genuine feedback. For example, one person noted that **"questions are limited and leading, often covering several factors that don't match to a single response option."**

A recurring theme was the **lack of feedback loops and transparency**. Several people reported submitting input but not receiving acknowledgment or updates on how their contributions were used. One respondent described it as feeling like **"…a black hole – I provided feedback but I received no responses."** Others noted disappointment that they did not see changes resulting from their engagement, reinforcing a perception that input was not always fully considered.

Some participants also raised concerns about **limited opportunities for meaningful engagement**, with a sense that activities relied too heavily on surveys rather than providing space for genuine deliberation. A few felt that engagement was promoted mainly through social media, which excluded parts of the community. Others pointed out that **local issues were overlooked or dismissed.**

Overall, the responses reflect an interest in more transparent, inclusive, and responsive engagement processes—where questions allow for nuance, community voices are acknowledged, and outcomes are clearly communicated.

Q7: How well do you think the City listens to and involves the community in decisions?

Responses to this question reflected a wide spectrum of views, from frustration with consultation processes to acknowledgement of positive steps being taken. A number of participants felt that while the City claims to listen, opportunities to influence decisions are limited and often shaped through surveys with pre-determined questions. One respondent commented that **"surveys with poorly thought out questions are not going to feel engaging or meaningful to participants."**

A recurring theme was the lack of **feedback loops and transparency**. Several participants said it was not always clear how responses were weighted or how community input influenced the final decision. For example, one noted that they were **"very disappointed that you asked for feedback… then took no notice of the responses you received,"**.

Some community members also raised concerns about **accessibility and inclusion**, suggesting that disadvantaged or less represented groups were not adequately heard, while those with more time or resources were overrepresented. One participant observed that **"the Have-Your-Say process heavily favours those who have time, literacy and resources to participate."** Suggestions included greater outreach to multicultural groups, younger residents, and those less engaged online to ensure policies meet diverse community needs.

While much of the feedback was critical, there were also positive reflections. A few respondents praised initiatives such as open council meetings and Friday internet updates, and another commented that **"Council's communication about engagements I have seen so far are really clear and concise, help people understand what they can influence and what is fixed already."** Some also acknowledged that councillors and officers were motivated by the broader interests of the City.

Overall, the responses indicate a need for more transparent decision-making, clearer communication of how feedback is used, and more inclusive engagement methods that allow for meaningful participation across a broader cross-section of the community.

Q14: How can we better provide clear and easy-to-understand information?

Community members highlighted the importance of clear, accessible, and relevant communication to support engagement. A recurring theme was the need for **plain English and simplified explanations**, with participants noting that technical or policy terms can act as barriers. One respondent explained that **"the policy should be written in plain English… a regular person wouldn't understand what participatory and deliberative forms of engagement means."** Another emphasised that **"more simple language and clear explanations"** would help ensure information is accessible to all.

Participants also expressed a preference for **information that is concise and easy to scan**, recognising that some people in the community are time-poor. One participant shared that after receiving a detailed consultation letter, **"it took me 2 or 3 goes of reading… I decided at that point not to participate… I value succinct messages and… communications that are short, clear and easy to skim and scan."** Suggestions included dot points for key messages, use of visuals, clear headings, and even video as a tool to support understanding.

There was also strong support for **multi-channel communication**, with respondents recommending face-to-face meetings in different neighbourhoods, links between engagement information and council minutes, and the use of both digital and traditional channels such as radio, newspapers, and mail. One person suggested including "buttons" or links alongside questions in surveys

to provide additional background context for those who need it.

Overall, respondents encouraged the City to adopt a **flexible, multi-format approach** to communication that combines simple, plain language with visuals and accessible formats, while also linking engagement information more clearly to Council's decision-making processes.

Q15: How can we ensure we are seeking feedback at the right time in the process?

Participants emphasised the importance of **seeking input early**, before key decisions are made or resources are committed. Several felt that engagement often comes too late, leaving little opportunity for meaningful influence. As one respondent put it, **"do it before you have made decisions or spent money…"** Another noted that engagement should occur **"before the draft documents so as to influence their development,"** rather than after extensive work has already been completed.

Respondents also highlighted the value of **ongoing and transparent engagement throughout project stages**. Suggestions included setting out clear timelines, showing what aspects are open for input, and keeping the community updated as decisions progress. One person explained that **"if you always know where you're at, recognise when you need to engage, and do that at each stage you will get the feedback you need and the community will feel heard."**

Several comments pointed to the need for **stronger relationships with community organisations and leaders**, particularly where proposals could impact vulnerable groups. As one respondent suggested, **"by developing relationships with community organisations… you can quickly learn whether a proposal impacts unfairly on vulnerable people."**

There were also practical suggestions for **broadening awareness and accessibility**, such as using community meetings, shopping centre drop-ins, and online platforms to increase visibility. One respondent felt it should be made clearer when decisions are still open, noting that **"it often appears that decisions have already been made, and the 'engagement' is just a governance box ticking exercise."**

Overall, the responses point to a desire for engagement that is **earlier, more transparent, and continuous**, with clearly defined opportunities for community influence at each stage of decision-making.

Q16: How can we ensure we are reaching a diverse mix of people in our community?

Participants emphasised that ensuring diversity in engagement requires both **broader outreach methods** and **tailored approaches** for specific groups. Many noted the importance of using multiple channels to share information, pointing out that reliance on digital tools alone risks excluding parts of the community. One respondent suggested that **"pamphlet drops reach most… posters in libraries, community hubs, and shopping centres"** and remain essential, particularly for older residents. Another emphasised that **"advertise in multiple different formats. Social media and radio do not reach everyone."**

Some respondents encouraged the City to **meet people where they are**, engaging through existing community events, forums, and organisations, rather than relying solely on council-led sessions. As one participant put it, **"by meeting community where we are at on key issues we care about… rather than expecting us to come to Council-led sessions."** This included suggestions to strengthen connections with faith-based groups, multicultural groups, and people living with disability, with targeted events and outreach seen as key to inclusion.

Others pointed to the importance of **representative and unbiased participation**. This included calls for better demographic data collection and the use of stakeholder mapping to ensure that all affected groups are identified and invited. One participant recommended that **"ensure you have a thorough stakeholder matrix for each engagement and consider who is interested, impacted or affected… and that each group has suitable engagement methods to reach them."** Concerns were also raised about panels or formats that might inadvertently exclude certain groups, such as working parents or those with limited availability during the day.

A smaller number of responses highlighted tensions around whose voices should be prioritised, with some suggesting limits on who should be consulted, while others argued for more inclusive practices such as multicultural events that reflect the City's growing diversity.

Overall, the feedback underscores a desire for **multi-channel communication, inclusive engagement design, and stronger outreach to underrepresented groups**, to ensure that engagement reflects the diversity of the community.

Q17: How can we be clearer about how much community input can influence decisions?

Participants emphasised that clarity and transparency are key to building trust in the engagement process. Many called for **clearer framing at the outset** of what can and cannot be influenced, along with explanations for why

certain elements are fixed. One respondent suggested that the City should **"better frame the objectives and options under consideration – as well as any parameters… which will not be considered and why."** Another echoed this by noting that while the City does state what is open to change, **"you explain which bits the community can change and which they can't but not why."**

Several participants shared experiences where they felt their input had little effect, highlighting the importance of showing how feedback is incorporated. One person said, **"be specific and publicly announce what information given by the public was instrumental and what changed directly as a result,"** while another described **"we listened and acted" as too vague and therefore not readily believable."**

There was reflection on past engagement processes where methods may have unintentionally polarised the community. One participant, referencing social housing engagement, felt that providing a simple yes/no choice limited opportunities for compromise and collaboration. They explained that **"the process Council created polarisation as it was simply given a yes/no question to respond to… there was no opportunity to bring sides together to hear the needs and address these."**

While many responses emphasised areas for improvement, there were also positive reflections. Some participants acknowledged that the City is already making efforts to be clear about the scope of influence. As one respondent put it, **"I think you do a great job by making sure you state 'what can be influenced' for each engagement and then what can't be."**

Overall, participants called for **greater upfront transparency, clearer explanations of why some matters are fixed, and stronger communication of how feedback has shaped decisions**, to help reduce scepticism and build confidence in the process.

Q19: How can we improve on reporting back on how your feedback shaped the decision?

A strong theme from participants was the need for **greater transparency and clarity** in reporting back. Many wanted the City to explicitly show how community input influenced decisions, with one respondent suggesting reports should say, **"we were going to do x but feedback guided towards y."** Participants emphasised that clearly explaining what feedback was adopted, what was not, and why, would help build trust.

Respondents also called for **more consistent and ongoing feedback loops**, rather than updates only at the conclusion of a process. Suggestions included project email updates, regular communication as drafts are refined, and individual responses where contact details are provided. One person explained that **"you are required to sign up to follow a project then you don't hear anything often until it's all done and dusted."**

Several participants highlighted the importance of **using multiple communication channels** to reach a wider audience. Alongside digital updates, suggestions included public meetings, radio, printed newspapers, and face-to-face interactions. A younger respondent reflected on the challenge of reaching their demographic, noting that **"most people my age don't use Facebook, we mostly use TikTok or Instagram… even though you are doing all the reporting and making it available, it's just not coming through to my demographic."**

There were also calls for the City to be **more visible and approachable** in its communication, with one participant stating simply, **"be visible to show you care."** Others suggested more formalised approaches, such as producing a Community Engagement Consultation Report after every activity, or publishing decisions and reasoning directly on the City's website.

Overall, participants encouraged the City to provide **clearer, more specific, and more visible reporting** across multiple channels, ensuring that community members can see both how their input shaped outcomes and why some ideas could not be adopted.

Q20: Is there anything else you'd like to share about how we can improve the Community Engagement Policy?

Responses to this question reflected a wide range of perspectives, from concerns about tokenism and unclear processes to appreciation for the policy's transparency. A recurring theme was the need for **greater clarity on how community engagement principles are put into practice**, with some participants observing that **"the high-level principles are just principles and do not commit the City to ensure meaningful and accessible interaction."** Others felt that current engagement sometimes appeared to be **"a tick-the-box experience rather than a genuine consultation."**

Several respondents called for **more opportunities for meaningful and deliberative engagement**, including co-design processes that go beyond surveys and consultation. One participant cautioned, **"don't say you're doing deliberative engagement or conducting representative processes unless you really are – this should be real actions, not just a label you use."** Another reflected that **"the ladder of engagement seems to indicate that most of Council's decision-making is at the Inform and Consult stage and rarely reaches beyond that level."**

Feedback also highlighted the importance of **better communication and reporting**, with participants seeking

clearer follow-up on how input has shaped decisions. Some asked for longer consultation periods to allow more time for participation, while others raised issues with survey design, accessibility, or the requirement to provide personal details when anonymity should be an option.

In addition, respondents emphasised the need for **greater inclusivity and outreach**. This included tailoring approaches to the City's diverse community, providing events for people with disabilities, and using a wider range of communication channels beyond social media and email. One participant noted, **"letter drops are still an effective way to reach greater numbers and are often read by more people."** Others suggested more face-to-face opportunities such as town hall meetings, as well as creative tools like visuals, case studies, or short videos to make the policy more accessible.

While many comments raised areas for improvement, there were also positive reflections. The policy was described as **"a transparent document… that makes it really clear and easy to see that people's voices matter,"** from one respondent, and another commented that **"the policy was a joy to read. It clearly conveys respect for the community's input into decisions."**

Overall, participants expressed a desire for the Community Engagement Policy to move beyond principles and ensure **practical, inclusive, and transparent practices** that make community influence clearer, broaden participation, and strengthen trust in decision-making.

Q23: What would make it easier for you to have your say?

Many participants highlighted the importance of **accessible and flexible ways to engage**, ensuring that opportunities to provide input suit people's different needs, schedules, and preferences. Several respondents emphasised the value of having more options beyond online channels, with suggestions such as postal surveys, hard copies in libraries, and face-to-face meetings. As one participant noted, **"accessibility should be enabled for all residents… information and surveys should be available at all libraries… in hard copy as well as via a tablet/computer."** Another added, **"do postal surveys so you can get feedback from the greater population."**

There was a strong call for **better communication and timely updates** to help people stay informed and engaged. Many wanted direct and proactive notifications, rather than relying on individuals to check the Have Your Say page. One respondent explained, **"if you sign up to follow a project, provide email updates and provide email reminders… people shouldn't have to search other places to get updates."** Another described receiving reminders from another council, saying, **"some councils even alert you before a project you are following is going before Council – that's great."**

Participants also stressed the need for **clearer and more user-friendly information**, with requests for plain English, shorter summaries, and easier website navigation. One person commented that **"consultation communications [should be] succinct, in plain English and easy to skim and scan,"** while another felt that **"the Your Say website is confusing… there should be a clear section for 'Engagement Open.'"**

Other suggestions included more opportunities for **direct interaction with decision-makers**, longer consultation timeframes, and technology improvements such as a more user-friendly Council app and accessibility tools for people with vision impairments. A few respondents also raised concerns about tokenism, with one noting that **"years of acute frustration… makes one reluctant to invest in any more time in a policy that is not genuine but rather tokenism."**

Overall, the responses indicate that making it easier for people to "have their say" requires a **multi-channel, transparent, and inclusive approach**, combining direct communication, accessible formats, and clearer pathways for participation.

ADDITIONAL DATA COLLECTED

Feedback provided by City employees and other key stakeholders have been taken into consideration alongside the findings of this report and when drafting the revised Community Engagement Policy and supporting tools, resources and procedures. Stakeholder feedback broadly aligns with what was heard through the community engagement process.

A short synopsis of the stakeholder feedback can be found below.

Councillor Workshop

The councillors were presented with the current engagement policy and asked for feedback on how it could be improved. The key themes discussed were:

- **Who will we engage with?**
  Engagement should include both those directly and indirectly affected by council decisions, with approaches tailored to the scale and impact of the issue, and efforts made to reach hard-to-engage groups. Many constituents unaware of the opportunities to have their say.
- **When will we engage?**
  Engagement should occur when changes to services, spending public money, or altering people's rights are involved, but consider carefully if engagement is required for minor issues. Be clear with the community

that other sources in addition to community feedback will be considered when making decisions.

- **How will we engage?**
  Effective engagement requires varied methods beyond online channels, support for advisory committees, and clear distinction between qualitative engagement and polling data, ensuring all voices are heard. Inclusion of the IAP2 engagement spectrum in the policy to articulate level of input possible from the community was encouraged.
- **How will we report on engagement?**
  Reporting should use plain English, clearly explain outcomes, and proactively address high-profile issues, with processes in place to ensure safety and informed consent for vulnerable cohorts.

Youth Council Workshop

The Youth Council was engaged through a workshop to share their ideas on the City's engagement policy, with their contributions lining up with the broader survey responses. Themes of transparency and feedback, "Focus on transparency – people want to see the "fruits" of their labour, don't want to feel like they're talking into a void" , improving awareness of engagements through multi-channel communications "QR codes in high-traffic areas for young people and in locations where people may have complaints" and "Attend music festivals" as well as making it simple and clear when communicating "Explain and highlight the benefits - What's in it for "you".

Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) Cultural Consultation

Feedback from WTOAC focused on language, definitions and references in the current policy. All recommendations will be considered when drafting the revised policy.

Barwon Network of Neighbourhood Houses meeting

The meeting focused on strengthening relationships between the City and neighbourhood houses, and recognising the vital role neighbourhood houses play within their communities. They want to be acknowledged as valuable conduits between the City and its residents, including as accessible venues for community engagement activities and events.

Cultura written feedback

Written feedback from Cultura focused on what's working well with the current policy, and what could be improved:

- The policy demonstrates a strong commitment to equitable engagement by acknowledging barriers such as language, culture, and accessibility, and by offering inclusive methods and principles that align with best practice.
- The policy lacks targeted strategies for multicultural, migrant, and refugee communities, and relies too heavily on digital channels, which may exclude residents with limited access or literacy.

Employee Feedback

Employees were engaged through an online survey and asked to provide feedback on the Community Engagement Policy. Feedback emphasised the need for greater accessibility, particularly for people with disabilities, through inclusive practices **"People may have a range of disabilities and having some prompts to make us think across the spectrum of disabilities and hints on how to meet the needs would be great."**. They also called for more detailed practitioner support and for integration of engagement plans into broader project planning **"A cheat sheet of the steps involved in various types of engagement would be great…"** Respondents recognised engagement as essential to effective service delivery, but stressed the complex nature of the engagement process, requiring more robust resources and clearer documentation to ensure both accessibility and efficiency **"I think we view engagement as one step in a larger project, but in reality, it is a project in itself with many steps, which all need to be done well."**. Overall, the policy is viewed positively but would benefit from improvements to better support practitioners and strengthen inclusive engagement practices.

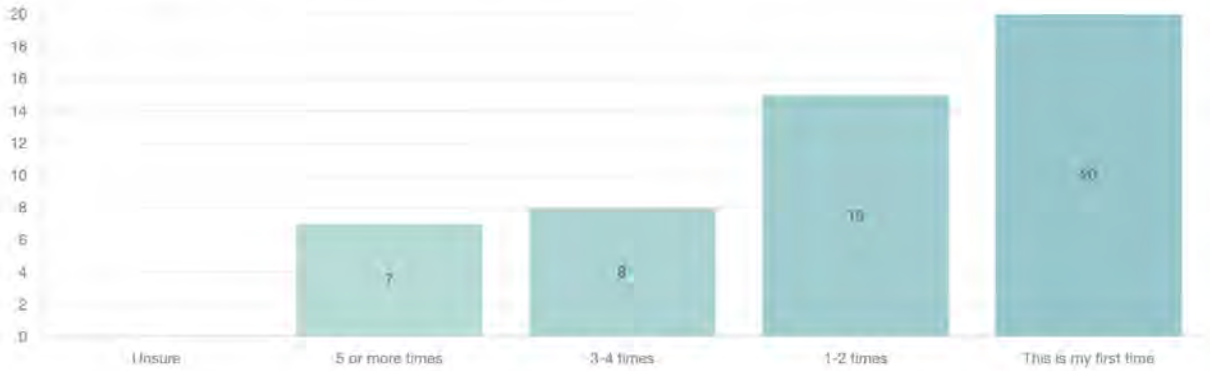
Next steps

This engagement summary report will be presented to Council alongside the draft Community Engagement Policy on the 28 October 2025 seeking endorsement to proceed with a second stage of community engagement on the draft policy.

The next stage of engagement will involve a check-in with community members, stakeholders, and employees to confirm the draft policy's direction and gather final input before Council adoption in early 2026.

Appendix A – Community Engagement Policy Review Full Survey Quantitative Questions

Q2. In the past 12 months, how many times have you provided feedback on a City of Greater Geelong community engagement?



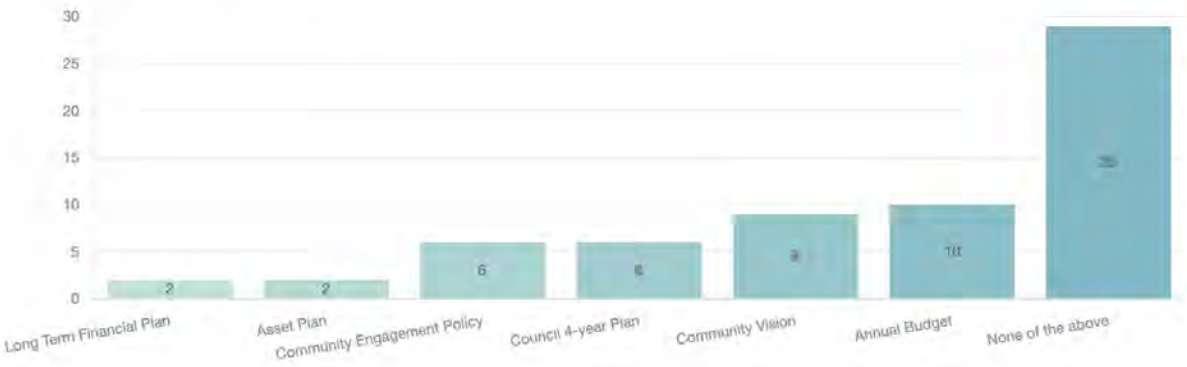
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Unsure	0	0.0%
5 or more times	7	14.0%
3-4 times	8	16.0%
1-2 times	15	30.0%
This is my first time	20	40.0%

Q3. How was your experience providing feedback?



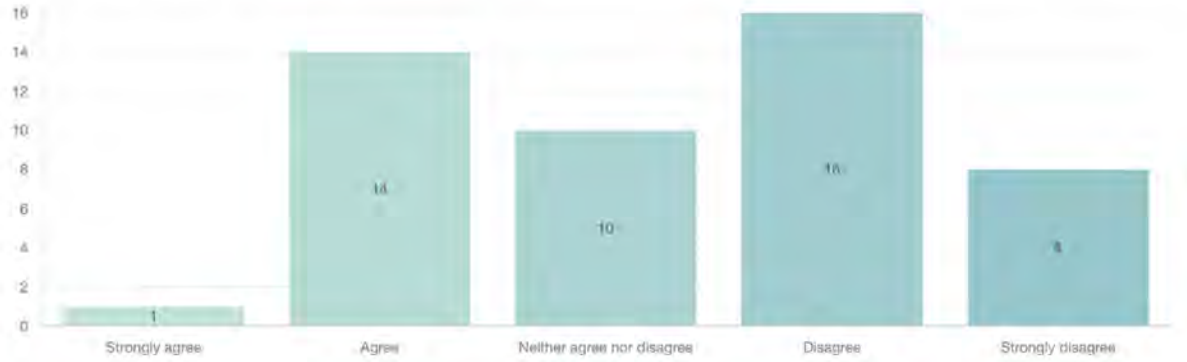
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Exceeded my expectations	3	10.3%
Met my expectations	12	41.4%
Did not meet my expectations	14	48.3%

Q5. Over the past four years, have you given feedback on any of the following key plans or strategies that guide what we do at the City?



	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Long Term Financial Plan	2	3.1%
Asset Plan	2	3.1%
Community Engagement Policy	6	9.4%
Council 4-year Plan	6	9.4%
Community Vision	9	14.1%
Annual Budget	10	15.6%
None of the above	29	45.3%

Q8. How much do you agree with the following statement: I trust that the City of Greater Geelong takes community feedback seriously



	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Strongly agree	1	2.0%
Agree	14	28.6%
Neither agree nor disagree	10	20.4%
Disagree	16	32.7%
Strongly disagree	8	16.3%

Q9. Have you read the City's current Community Engagement Policy?



	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Unsure	3	6.1%
No	9	18.4%
Yes	37	75.5%

Q10. How easy was the policy to read and understand?



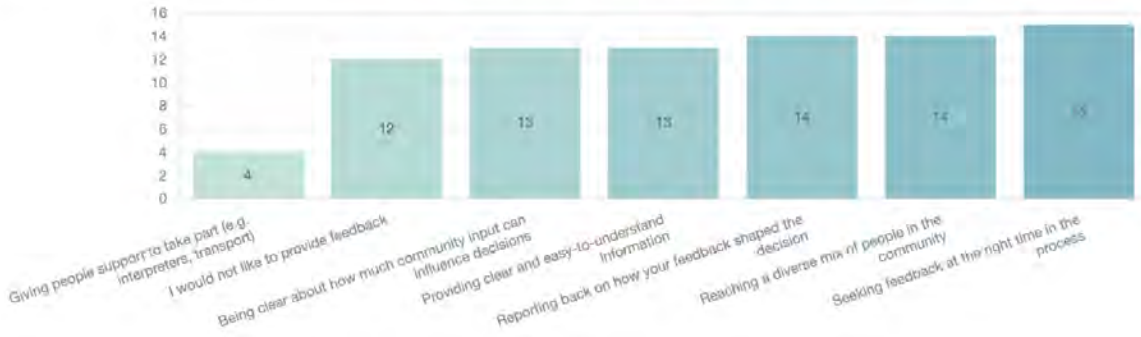
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Very easy to read and understand	10	27.0%
Mostly easy to read and understand	25	67.6%
Difficult to read and understand	2	5.4%

Q12. Please rate how well you think we have delivered on these community engagement promises in the past 12 months:



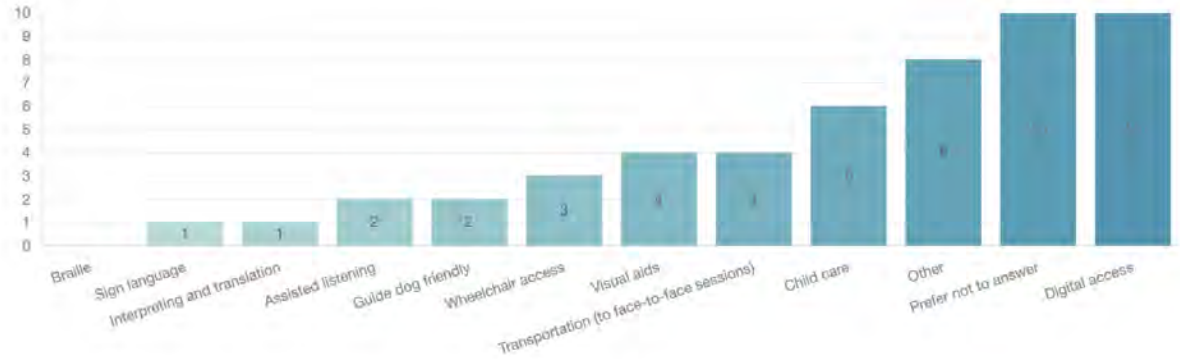
	EXCELLEI	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNACCEI	UNSURE
Providing clear and easy-to-understand information	4 8.0%	18 36.0%	14 28.0%	8 16.0%	3 6.0%	3 6.0%
Seeking feedback at the right time in the process	5 10.2%	18 36.7%	8 16.3%	12 24.5%	3 6.1%	3 6.1%
Reaching a diverse mix of people in our community	4 8.2%	14 28.6%	9 18.4%	13 26.5%	5 10.2%	4 8.2%
Being clear about how much community input can influence decisions	5 10.2%	12 24.5%	10 20.4%	13 26.5%	7 14.3%	2 4.1%
Giving people support to take part (e.g. interpreters, transport)	4 8.3%	14 29.2%	9 18.8%	8 16.7%	4 8.3%	9 18.8%
Reporting back on how your feedback shaped the decision	2 4.2%	12 25.0%	8 16.7%	15 31.3%	8 16.7%	3 6.3%

Q13. Would you like to provide feedback on how we can better deliver on any of these promises?



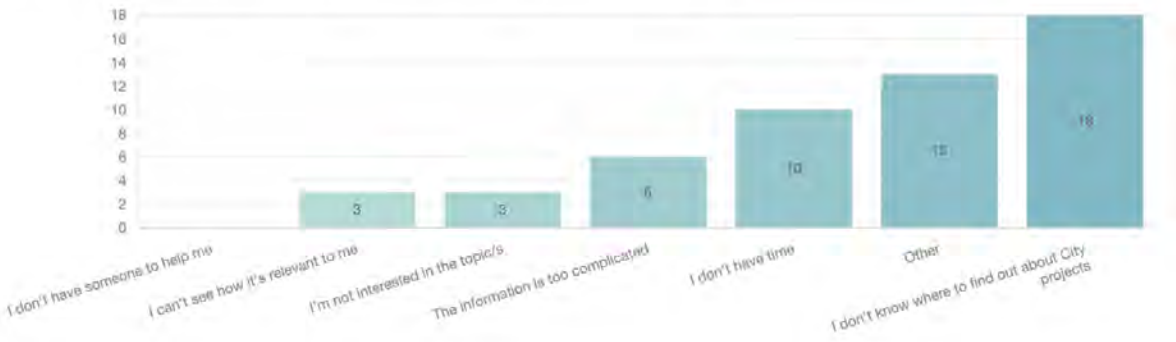
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Giving people support to take part (e.g. interpreters, transport)	4	4.7%
I would not like to provide feedback	12	14.1%
Being clear about how much community input can influence decisions	13	15.3%
Providing clear and easy-to-understand information	13	15.3%
Reporting back on how your feedback shaped the decision	14	16.5%
Reaching a diverse mix of people in the community	14	16.5%
Seeking feedback at the right time in the process	15	17.6%

Q21. Would access to any of the following supports make it easier for you to take part in future engagement activities?



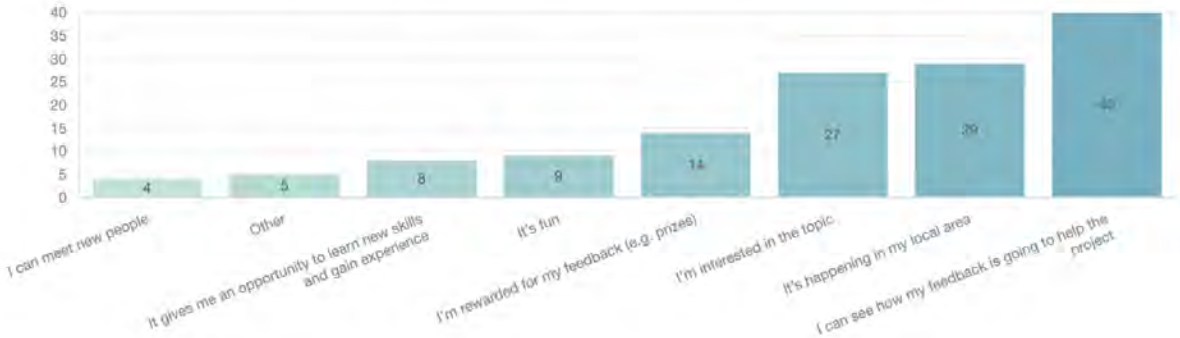
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Braille	0	0.0%
Sign language	1	2.0%
Interpreting and translation	1	2.0%
Assisted listening	2	3.9%
Guide dog friendly	2	3.9%
Wheelchair access	3	5.9%
Visual aids	4	7.8%
Transportation (to face-to-face sessions)	4	7.8%
Child care	6	11.8%
Other	8	15.7%
Prefer not to answer	10	19.6%
Digital access	10	19.6%

Q22. What makes it hard for you to share feedback on City projects?



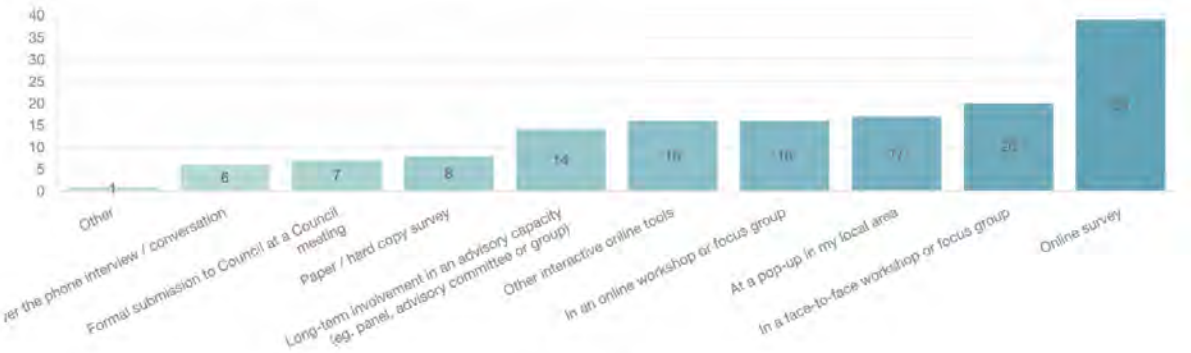
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
I don't have someone to help me	0	0.0%
I can't see how it's relevant to me	3	5.7%
I'm not interested in the topic/s	3	5.7%
The information is too complicated	6	11.3%
I don't have time	10	18.9%
Other	13	24.5%
I don't know where to find out about City projects	18	34.0%

Q24. What would encourage you to get involved and give feedback?



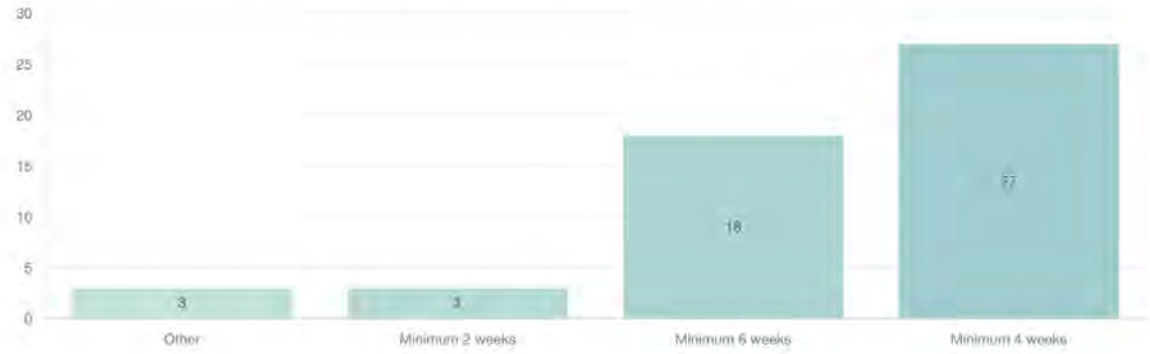
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
I can meet new people	4	2.9%
Other	5	3.7%
It gives me an opportunity to learn new skills and gain experience	8	5.9%
It's fun	9	6.6%
I'm rewarded for my feedback (e.g. prizes)	14	10.3%
I'm interested in the topic	27	19.9%
It's happening in my local area	29	21.3%
I can see how my feedback is going to help the project	40	29.4%

Q25. How do you prefer to share your feedback?



	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Other	1	0.7%
Over the phone interview / conversation	6	4.2%
Formal submission to Council at a Council meeting	7	4.9%
Paper / hard copy survey	8	5.6%
Long-term involvement in an advisory capacity (eg. panel, advisory committee or group)	14	9.7%
Other interactive online tools	16	11.1%
In an online workshop or focus group	16	11.1%
At a pop-up in my local area	17	11.8%
In a face-to-face workshop or focus group	20	13.9%
Online survey	39	27.1%

Q26. How long should an engagement project be open for community feedback?



	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Other	3	5.9%
Minimum 2 weeks	3	5.9%
Minimum 6 weeks	18	35.3%
Minimum 4 weeks	27	52.9%

Q27. How do you usually hear about opportunities to have your say?



	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Through a City program or service I attend	0	0.0%
Information in a customer service centre	1	0.8%
Community events	2	1.7%
Posters or signage	2	1.7%
Information at a local library	2	1.7%
Information from a local community group or leader	3	2.5%
A City pop-up stall in my local area	3	2.5%
Newspaper advertisement	5	4.2%
Hard copy information in my letterbox from the City	5	4.2%
Other	6	5.0%
Other social media (not City managed)	6	5.0%
Email from the City	9	7.6%
City's Have Your Say website	9	7.6%
City's website (Geelong Australia)	9	7.6%
Word of mouth	10	8.4%
City e-newsletter	12	10.1%
City's social media	13	10.9%
By being a member on the City's Have your say page	22	18.5%

Q28. At what stages of a community engagement would you like to be updated?



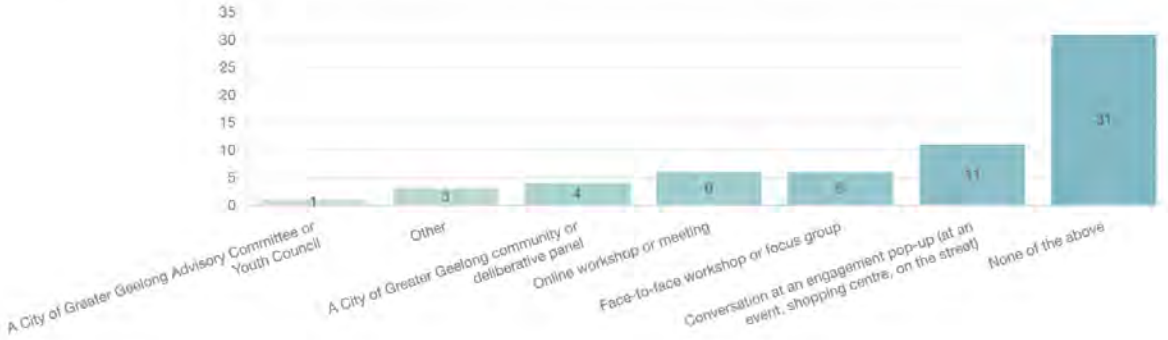
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Other	2	1.8%
When the engagement closes and moves to another stage in the process, eg. design, construction, awaiting funding	11	10.0%
Before it goes to a Council meeting (if applicable)	18	16.4%
When an engagement report is available	19	17.3%
When it opens for feedback	29	26.4%
All of the above	31	28.2%

Q29. Do you support the idea of a community panel to represent City of Greater Geelong residents? This panel would be representative of residents in Greater Geelong and would meet regularly to discuss and provide feedback on key issues.



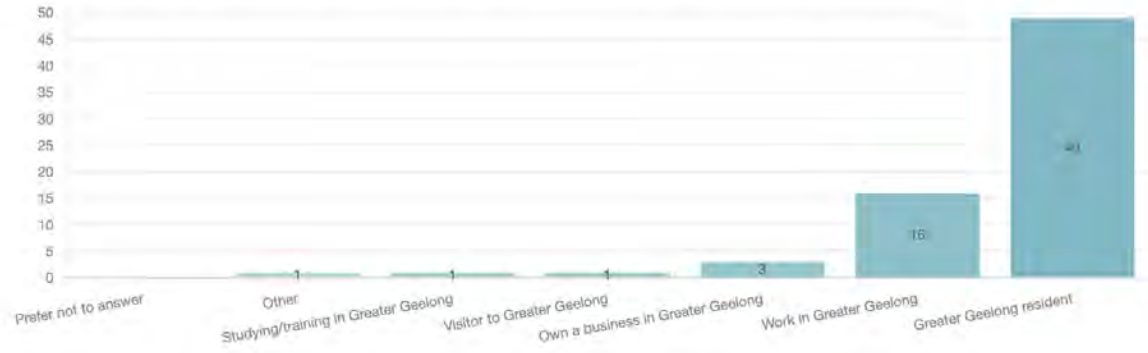
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Unsure	9	18.0%
No	10	20.0%
Yes	31	62.0%

Q30. Have you taken part in any of the following community engagement opportunities in the past four years?



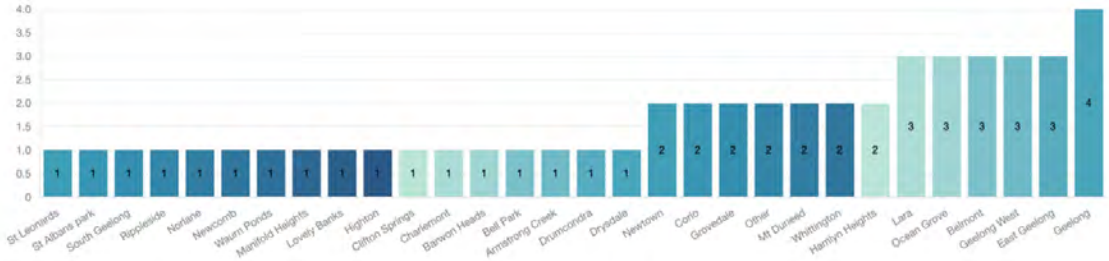
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
A City of Greater Geelong Advisory Committee or Youth Council	1	1.6%
Other	3	4.8%
A City of Greater Geelong community or deliberative panel	4	6.5%
Online workshop or meeting	6	9.7%
Face-to-face workshop or focus group	6	9.7%
Conversation at an engagement pop-up (at an event, shopping centre, on the street)	11	17.7%
None of the above	31	50.0%

Q31. Which of the following best describes your connection to the Greater Geelong?



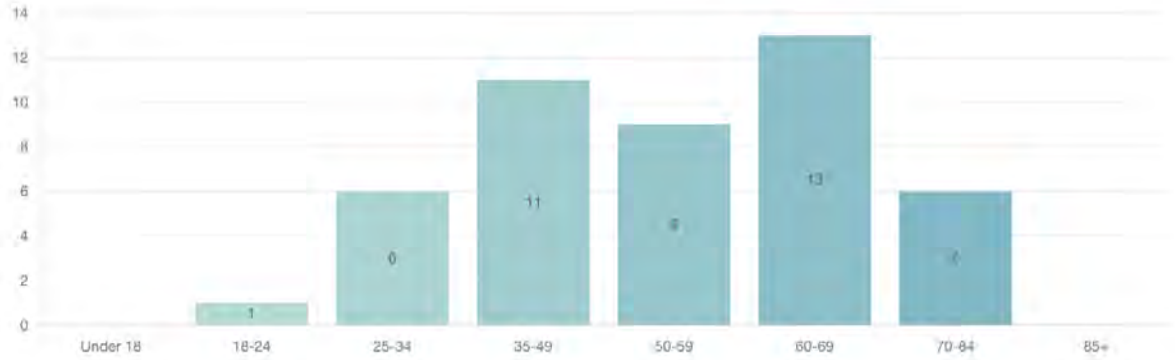
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0%
Other	1	1.4%
Studying/training in Greater Geelong	1	1.4%
Visitor to Greater Geelong	1	1.4%
Own a business in Greater Geelong	3	4.2%
Work in Greater Geelong	16	22.5%
Greater Geelong resident	49	69.0%

Q32. Town or Suburb



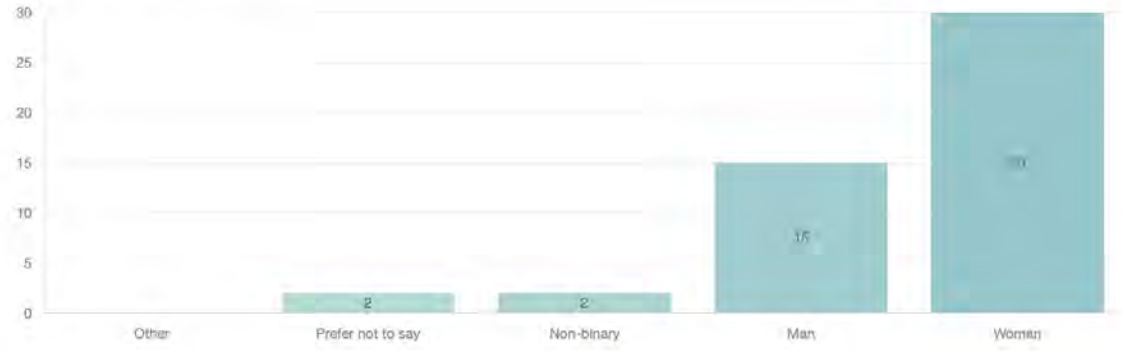
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
St Leonards	1	2.0%
St Albans park	1	2.0%
South Geelong	1	2.0%
Rippleside	1	2.0%
Norlane	1	2.0%
Newcomb	1	2.0%
Waurn Ponds	1	2.0%
Manifold Heights	1	2.0%
Lovely Banks	1	2.0%
Highton	1	2.0%
Clifton Springs	1	2.0%
Charlemont	1	2.0%
Barwon Heads	1	2.0%
Bell Park	1	2.0%
Armstrong Creek	1	2.0%
Drumcondra	1	2.0%
Drysdale	1	2.0%
Newtown	2	4.0%
Corio	2	4.0%
Grovedale	2	4.0%
Other	2	4.0%
Mt Duneed	2	4.0%
Whittington	2	4.0%
Hamlyn Heights	2	4.0%
Lara	3	6.0%
Ocean Grove	3	6.0%
Belmont	3	6.0%
Geelong West	3	6.0%
East Geelong	3	6.0%
Geelong	4	8.0%

Q33. Age Group



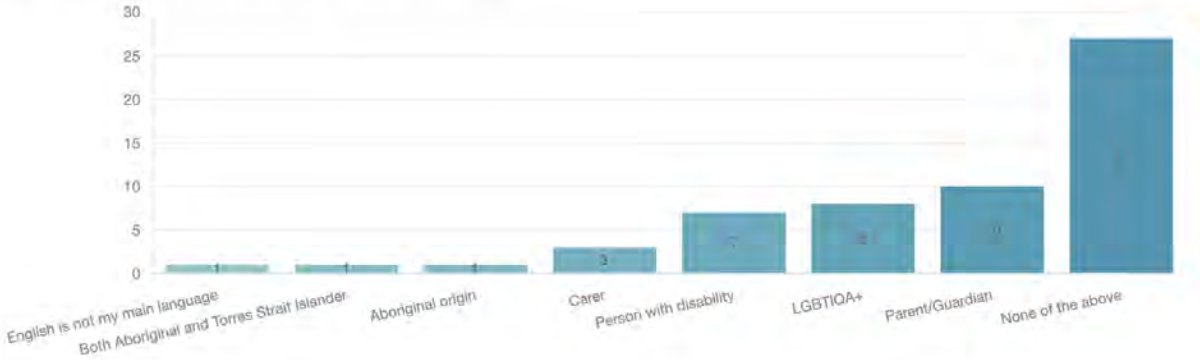
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Under 18	0	0.0%
18-24	1	2.2%
25-34	6	13.0%
35-49	11	23.9%
50-59	9	19.6%
60-69	13	28.3%
70-84	6	13.0%
85+	0	0.0%

Q34. What is your gender?



	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Other	0	0.0%
Prefer not to say	2	4.1%
Non-binary	2	4.1%
Man	15	30.6%
Woman	30	61.2%

Q35. Do you identify as any of the following?



	RESPONSES	RESULT %
English is not my main language	1	1.7%
Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	1	1.7%
Aboriginal origin	1	1.7%
Carer	3	5.2%
Person with disability	7	12.1%
LGBTIQA+	8	13.8%
Parent/Guardian	10	17.2%
None of the above	27	46.6%

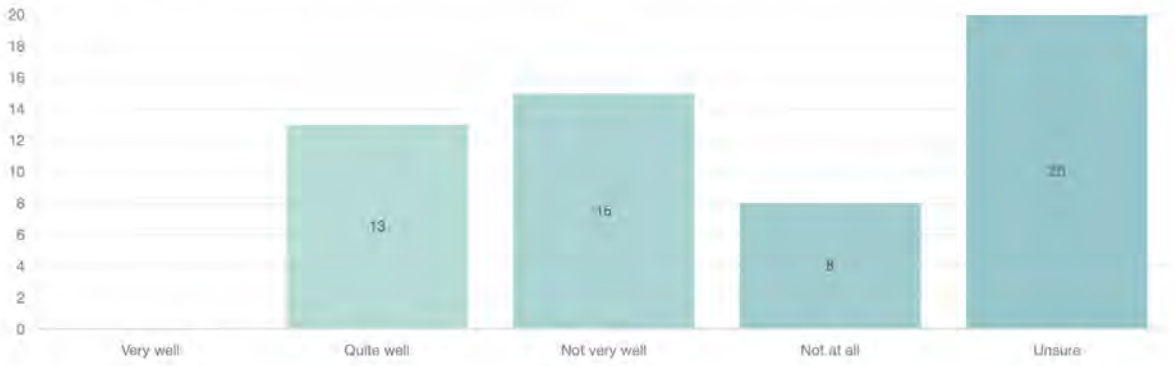
Appendix B – Community Engagement Policy Review Short Survey Quantitative Questions

Q2. In the past 12 months, have you given feedback on a City of Greater Geelong community engagement?



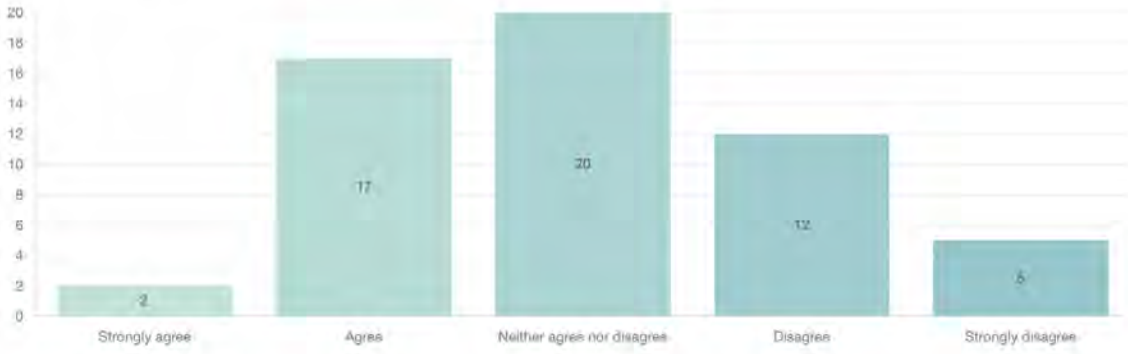
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Unsure	7	12.5%
Yes	15	26.8%
No	34	60.7%

Q3. How well do you think the City listens to and involves the community in decisions?



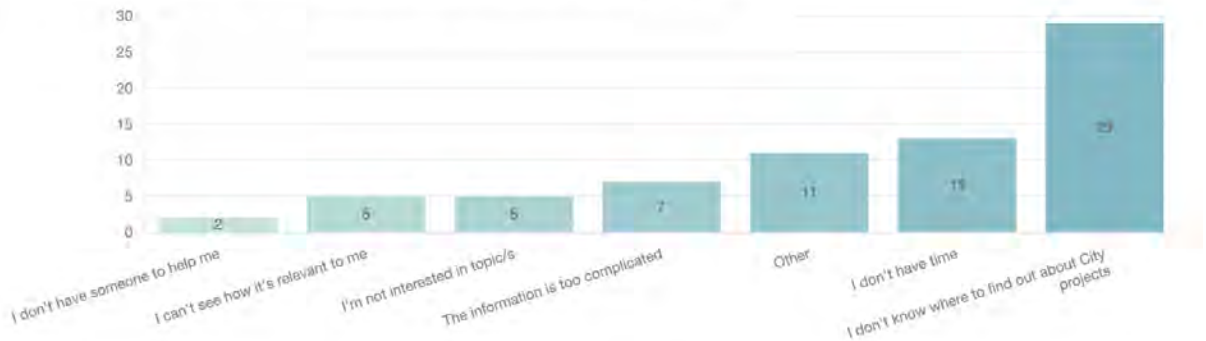
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Very well	0	0.0%
Quite well	13	23.2%
Not very well	15	26.8%
Not at all	8	14.3%
Unsure	20	35.7%

Q4. How much do you agree with the following statement: I trust that the City of Greater Geelong takes community feedback seriously.



	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Strongly agree	2	3.6%
Agree	17	30.4%
Neither agree nor disagree	20	35.7%
Disagree	12	21.4%
Strongly disagree	5	8.9%

Q5. What makes it hard for you to share feedback on City projects?



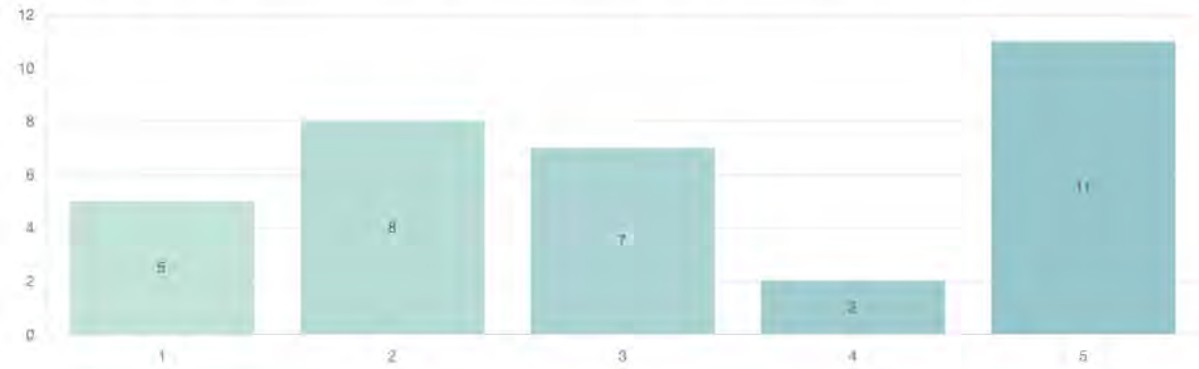
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
I don't have someone to help me	2	2.8%
I can't see how it's relevant to me	5	6.9%
I'm not interested in topic/s	5	6.9%
The information is too complicated	7	9.7%
Other	11	15.3%
I don't have time	13	18.1%
I don't know where to find out about City projects	29	40.3%

Q6. What would encourage you to get involved and give feedback?



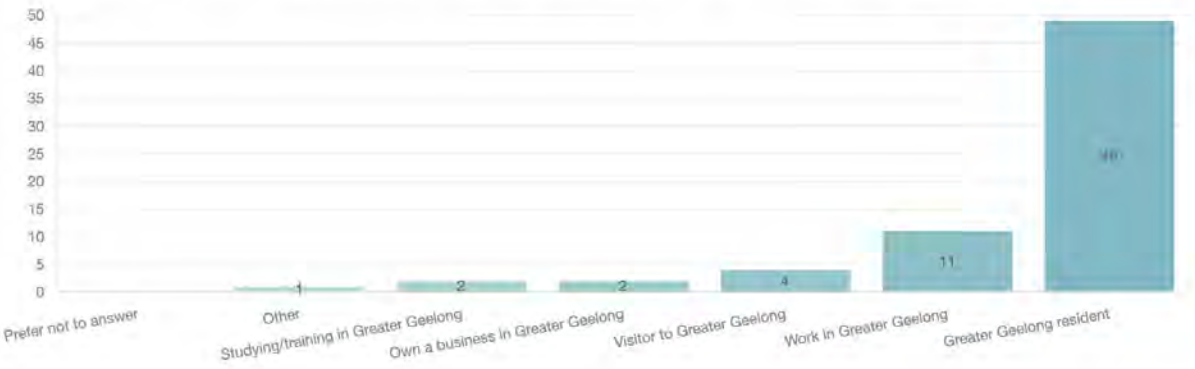
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Other	3	2.8%
I can meet new people	3	2.8%
It gives me an opportunity to learn new skills and gain experience	4	3.7%
It's fun	6	5.5%
I'm rewarded for my feedback (e.g. prizes)	11	10.1%
It's happening in my local area	26	23.9%
I'm interested in the topic	26	23.9%
I can see how my feedback is going to help the project	30	27.5%

Q7. Overall, how would you rate the City's community engagement efforts?



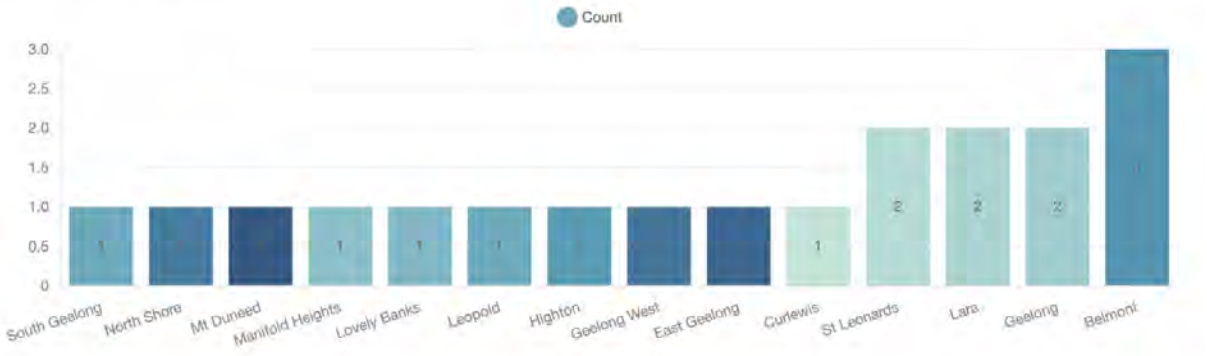
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
1	5	15.2%
2	8	24.2%
3	7	21.2%
4	2	6.1%
5	11	33.3%

Q8. Which of the following best describes your connection to the Greater Geelong?



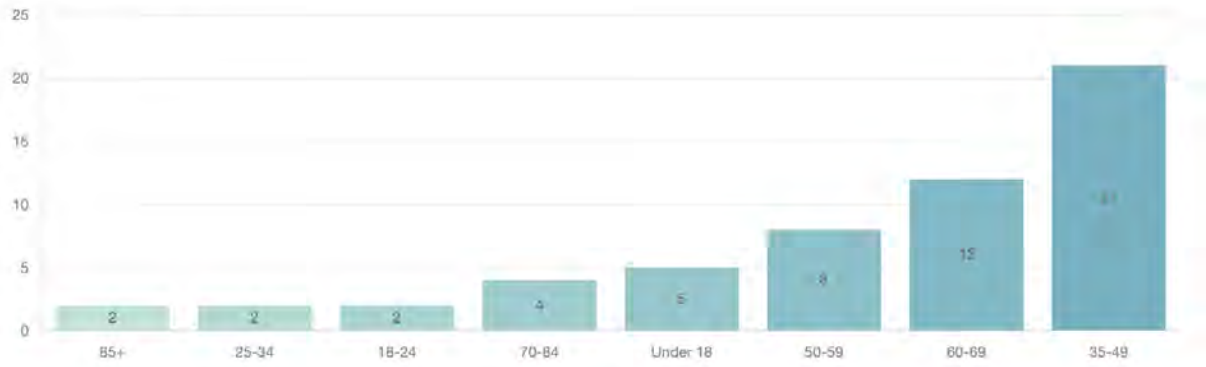
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0%
Other	1	1.4%
Studying/training in Greater Geelong	2	2.9%
Own a business in Greater Geelong	2	2.9%
Visitor to Greater Geelong	4	5.8%
Work in Greater Geelong	11	15.9%
Greater Geelong resident	49	71.0%

Q9. Town or Suburb



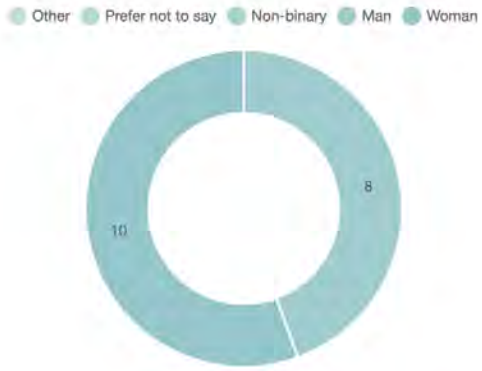
	RESPONSES	RESULT %
South Geelong	1	5.3%
North Shore	1	5.3%
Mt Duneed	1	5.3%
Manifold Heights	1	5.3%
Lovely Banks	1	5.3%
Leopold	1	5.3%
Highton	1	5.3%
Geelong West	1	5.3%
East Geelong	1	5.3%
Curlewis	1	5.3%
St Leonards	2	10.5%
Lara	2	10.5%
Geelong	2	10.5%
Belmont	3	15.8%

Q10. Age Group



	RESPONSES	RESULT %
85+	2	3.6%
25-34	2	3.6%
18-24	2	3.6%
70-84	4	7.1%
Under 18	5	8.9%
50-59	8	14.3%
60-69	12	21.4%
35-49	21	37.5%

Q11. What is your gender?



	RESPONSES	RESULT %
Other	0	0.0%
Prefer not to say	0	0.0%
Non-binary	0	0.0%
Man	8	44.4%
Woman	10	55.6%

Appendix C – Conversation Wall Contributions





TEMPLATE 1

DEFINE THE ISSUES AND CHALLENGE ASSUMPTIONS

A. What is the issue the policy, program or service is aiming to address?

The City is reviewing and updating its current Community Engagement Policy to ensure it reflects the evolving needs, expectations and aspirations of our community. This policy defines how, why, when, and who we engage with, and demonstrates our commitment to best-practice principles of community collaboration, as guided by the Local Government Act 2020. Our current Community Engagement Policy was adopted by Council four years ago and is due to expire in 2025.
Principles 2 and 3 of our current community engagement policy focus specifically on the 'who' we will target and also how we will provide them with support to meaningfully participate:

1. Participants taking part in community engagement must be representative of the persons and groups affected by the matter that is the subject of community engagement.
2. Participants taking part in community engagement are entitled to reasonable support to enable meaningful and informed engagement.

Who we will engage with

We will engage with people likely to be affected by, or interested in, planning and decision-making by Council, including individuals, community groups, advisory committees, businesses and organisations, peak bodies and other levels of government.

However, we recognise that there are barriers to participation for some of these people and groups. Barriers could include abilities, language and cultural differences, carer and work responsibilities, technology, age and lack of access to transport.

To hear a full range of perspectives and make sure our decisions are meeting the needs of the community, we will tailor and plan our engagement processes to ensure the greatest number of people and groups can contribute. We will identify, reach out and engage directly with relevant people and groups where barriers are particularly significant, or certain people are under-represented. We will work to break down the barriers that see some people under-involved in decisions which affect their community.

Engaging with the community more broadly in this way will give us the best chance to make decisions that are informed and meet the needs of the community.

B. Key questions

1. Are the people who are targeted and impacted by the policy, program or service included in the decision-making?

Planning the community engagement we have considered a number of factors to ensure we are reaching the community, internal and external stakeholders we need to hear from to ensure all perspectives are heard.

We have provided multiple ways for people to provide feedback and access information, including:

- a short and longer version of the online survey
- Hard copy surveys
- First Nations online and hard copy survey
- Face-to-face opportunities to provide feedback, including attendance at community events such as Refugee Week, Tastes of Central Geelong, Geelong Nature Festival and other targeted community events.
- Easy Read – what is community engagement document, including translated into 15 languages

We are also working internally with our 80+ Engagement Champions and other key stakeholders including the Community Strengthening Department to ensure a thorough review of the policy is undertaken as well as to encourage these internal teams to share with their networks.

2. Do you think that people of different genders access this policy, program, or service at the same rate?

There are different groups who may not be represented as readily in consultation when compared with other groups. Some people/groups experience different barriers to contributing to community consultation settings including;

- Safety
- Confidence
- Transport
- Caring responsibilities
- Socio-economic constraints
- Digital literacy (for online survey)
- English proficiency
- Accessibility of locations

3. Do you think that everyone who accesses this policy, program or service has the same needs from it?

We recognise that different members of our community require additional support to participate meaningfully in conversations with the City, particularly via formal community engagement channels. To understand better the supports that may be required we have asked the following questions in our surveys:

14. How do you prefer to share your feedback?

Please select all that apply.

- [ ] In an online workshop or focus group
- [ ] In a face-to-face workshop or focus group
- [ ] Long-term involvement in an advisory capacity (eg. panel, advisory committee or group)
- [ ] Online survey
- [ ] Other interactive online tools
- [ ] Over the phone interview / conversation
- [ ] At a pop-up in my local area
- [ ] Formal submission to Council at a Council meeting
- [ ] Paper / hard copy survey
- [ ] Other (please specify)

We have also asked ‘what is your gender?’ so that we can undertake a needs analysis based on gender.

The gender options provided in the survey include;

- Man
- Woman
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to say
- Self-described (please specify)

We also ask a question about identity:

25. Do you identify as any of the following?

Please select all that apply

- [ ] Aboriginal origin
- [ ] Torres Strait Islander origin
- [ ] Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- [ ] Migrant
- [ ] Refugee
- [ ] Asylum Seeker
- [ ] LGBTIQA+
- [ ] Carer
- [ ] Parent/Guardian
- [ ] Person with disability
- [ ] English is not my main language
- [ ] None of the above

We have worked with our First Nations Officer to develop a First Nations specific survey that has a focus on First Nations voice, what makes them feel safe and who/where they trust to receive information





We welcome your opinion.

This short survey is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members who have a connection to Greater Geelong on Wadawurrung Country. It's anonymous and your voice helps shape better community conversations and decisions.

1. In the past year, have you shared your thoughts with the City of Greater Geelong?
This may have been through a yarn, online, at an event, or by phone or email.
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

2. Do you feel the City listens to and respects First Nations community voices?
☐ Yes ☐ Sometimes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

3. What might stop you from sharing your voice?
Tick any that feel true for you.
☐ Don't hear about projects
☐ Don't feel safe
☐ Don't have support to take part
☐ Not interested
☐ Other (please specify)

4. What would help you feel comfortable sharing your voice?
Please select all that apply.
☐ If it's a safe and welcoming
☐ If I'm thanked or rewarded
☐ If it's something I care about
☐ If I can see how my voice makes a difference
☐ Other (please specify)

5. Where do you get information you trust from?
Select all that apply
☐ Elders or community leaders
☐ Friends and family
☐ Aboriginal health organisations
☐ Aboriginal community organisations
☐ Social media
☐ Local events or gatherings
☐ Council website or emails
☐ Other (please specify)

6. How would you describe your connection to Greater Geelong on Wadawurrung Country?
Please select all that apply.
☐ I live here
☐ I work here
☐ I have family / mob here
☐ I study here
☐ I visit often
☐ Prefer not to say
☐ Other (please specify)

7. Town or Suburb where you live.

8. Age Group
☐ Under 18 ☐ 18-24 ☐ 25-34 ☐ 35-49
☐ 50-59 ☐ 60-69 ☐ 70-84 ☐ 85+

Scan the QR code to continue the conversation.

Please return the completed survey to the collection box where you picked up the survey, or a City of Greater Geelong Customer Service centre, or call 5272 5272 for other options.

We also asked about supports and preferences for community engagement processes;



Support and preferences

10. Would access to any of the following supports make it easier you to take part in future engagement activities?

- Interpreting and translation
- Transportation (to face-to-face sessions)
- Wheelchair access
- Digital access
- Sign language
- Visual aids
- Braille
- Assisted listening
- Guide dog friendly
- Child care
- Prefer not to answer
- Did we miss anything?

11. What makes it hard for you to share feedback on City projects?

- I don't have time
- I'm not interested in the topic/s
- I don't know where to find out about City projects
- The information is too complicated
- I can't see how it's relevant to me
- I don't have someone to help me
- Other (please specify)

Accessibility Menu

4. **Do the different social roles and responsibilities that people take on affect the way people access and use this policy, program or service?**

Needs and preferences
Women, men and gender diverse people have different lived experiences, needs, and preferences. Through the revision of the community engagement policy, these differences should be acknowledged and considered.

Power and privilege
Power and privilege should be considered when engaging participants in focus groups, workshops, and/or establishing a deliberative engagement panel. This may also come into play when engaging internally within the workforce.

Caring responsibilities
Women are more likely to be lone parents and to be primary caregivers of children, including holding the responsibility of school transport for children. These responsibilities impact their availability and the times that may/may not suit them to participate in consultations.
Women are more likely to be unpaid carers of people with disabilities and ageing parents.

Working hours
Men are more likely to work full-time and therefore may be less available to participate in face-to-face consultation during working hours.

5. **What additional needs might there be for people with disabilities, or from different cultural identities, ages, gender identities, sexual orientations or religions?** *In the case of a rider living with a disability, perhaps consider if the lane/s will suit adaptive bikes, and how 'cycling-friendly' the City is, for example.*

Priority Groups

- People with disabilities may have specific needs and/or accessibility requirements that will support them to fully participate in consultations. This may be anything from physical requirements on site, surveys that can be completed with the aid of screen readers, consideration of low literacy and the use of simple language, and providing the opportunity for engagement via focus groups or community pop ups so feedback can be provided verbally. The use of more imagery (instead of words) and colors that make it easier for people with dyslexia and who are neurodiverse, ensure tags on images.
- Neurodivergent people may have needs around the sensory environment or may benefit from time to reflect on questions before providing responses. Wording of questions should be clear.
- Cultural safety and inclusion should be considered when seeking input from First Nations and culturally diverse community members.
- There may be specific protocols and preferences existing locally in order to engage with the First Nations community and Elders.
- Languages other than English may be required to consult with new migrants or people for whom English is a second language.
- People of different age groups may have differing preferences in consultation style and find out about engagement opportunities through different avenues.
- Consideration of multiple engagement methods to engage those with low literacy skills.
- Consideration of group and power dynamics in face to face and group consultation settings
- Engaging people with lived experience of mental health concerns or chronic health conditions may be valuable. These people may be less mobile or less likely to volunteer their time to provide feedback to the City however capturing their voices is important.

- LGBTQIA+ community safety should be considered and factors such respectful group interaction guidelines, use of pronouns, rainbow flags should be considered to indicate it's a safe space.

6. What will you focus on in your assessment so that you consider how gender shapes the issue?

For this assessment, we will focus on how gender and intersecting factors (such as age, culture, disability, income and caring responsibilities) shape access to, and experiences of, community engagement. We recognise that gender influences how people engage with local government, including whether they feel safe, heard, welcomed, and able to participate meaningfully.

We will consider the diversity of our community and explore how current engagement practices may advantage or exclude people of different genders, particularly women, gender-diverse people, and those from marginalised or underrepresented groups. This includes reviewing the timing, location, format and promotion of engagement activities to ensure they are inclusive and accessible to people with different needs and circumstances.

A key focus will be on committing to (within the policy) designing engagement processes that are flexible and responsive: offering a range of ways for people to participate (e.g. online, face-to-face, anonymous, family-friendly settings), so that no single format becomes a barrier. We will also look at how feedback is collected and reported, ensuring voices from across the gender spectrum are reflected in decision-making and outcomes.

Through this lens, we aim to embed gender equity principles into our engagement policy and practices, not just in who we reach, but in how we value and respond to what's shared. This approach will help build trust, increase participation, and improve the relevance and fairness of council's decisions.

TEMPLATE 2

UNDERSTAND THE POLICY CONTEXT

1. What information is available to understand who is likely to be affected by the policy, program or service?

Checklist	
1. Do you already have this information?	☒Yes If yes, list resources: ABS census data Profile ID Data Community Engagement Policy community engagement summary report Customer Satisfaction Survey (CSS) annual survey data Community Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2025-29 ☐No
2. How will you find the further information you need?	☐Internal Data ☐Desktop Research ☐Stakeholder consultations ☐Other List useful sources:

1.1 What did the research and evidence tell you?

The City of Greater Geelong's estimated resident population for 2021 was 271,057 people with more women, 139,203 (51.4%), than men, 131,854 (48.6%). About the profile areas | City of Greater Geelong | Community profile

As with other local government areas, gender inequality exists within Greater Geelong, some examples of this are;

- In 2021, of lone parent households in the Greater Geelong region, 81.4% are female-headed and 18.6% are male-headed. This is in line with the Victorian state estimate. reports/factsheets/Populations/Greater Geelong/VWHAtlas Fact Sheet Populations Greater Geelong.pdf
- In 2021, of people over the age of 75 years 3.6% of women and 1.4% of men are living alone. The gradually ageing population, combined with women's higher life expectancy, means the number of women aged 75+ and living alone will continue to grow.
- In 2021, 25.5% of women and 9.9% of men did 15+ hours of unpaid domestic work per week. This has shifted by less than 1% since 2016. Unpaid domestic and care work is associated with greater mental health burden and negative effects on quality of life. Victorian Women's Health Atlas
- In 2021, 46.4% of women and 32.6% of men earn below the weekly minimum wage. This is in line with the state average. Victorian Women's Health Atlas
- Employment status by gender in 2021;
  - Full time – 38.9% women, 66.9% men

  - Part time – 49% women, 22.7% men
  - Unemployed – 4% women, 4.8% men Victorian Women's Health Atlas
- In 2022 the homelessness rates per 10,000 people were 95.22 for women and 86.88 for men – both above the state average of 91.6 for women and 63.2 for men. Of the female clients statewide, 41.1%, were a lone parent with child/ren. Victorian Women's Health Atlas
- More men in Greater Geelong (39%) feel very safe in the area where they live, compared to women (29%) (Geelong Preventative Health Survey, 2024)

Community Engagement data:

- On average, more females than males participate in our online community engagements. Although we are lacking gender data for in-person events, anecdotally participation is more balanced leaning towards higher male representation.
- Membership for the Have Your Say platform is voluntary. Of the 8,488 subscribers (as of September 2025), 47% are female, 36% male, 0.69% self-described, 3.6% preferred not to say. The remaining 12.7% subscribed before the gender question was included. Female participation is slightly below Greater Geelong's female population of 51.4%.

1.2 Have you consulted with affected stakeholders on this aspect?

This could be formal or informal consultation.

Yes ☒

No ☐

We have engaged with the Greater Geelong community via the Community Engagement Policy review community engagement between the 16 June – 3 August 2025. We received 114 online contributions from the community. In addition to this, we spoke with dozens of community members at four pop-ups at community events during the same period.

2. What information is available to understand the lived experiences of the diverse groups who will be affected?

Checklist	
1. Do you already have this information?	☒Yes If yes, list resources: ABS census data Profile ID Data Community Engagement Policy community engagement summary report Customer Satisfaction Survey (CSS) annual survey data Community Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2025-29 ☐No
2. How will you find the further information you need?	☐Internal Data ☐Desktop Research ☐Stakeholder consultations ☐Other List useful sources:

2.1 What did the research and evidence tell you?

The Wadawurrung people of the Kulin Nation are the Traditional Custodians of the land that encompasses the City of Greater Geelong and who have cared and nurtured the area for tens of thousands of years. In 2021 there were 3,562 people (1.3%) who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander living in the City of Greater Geelong which is slightly higher than the Victorian average of 1%. reports/factsheets/Populations/Greater Geelong/VWHAtlas Fact Sheet Populations Greater Geelong.pdf

In 2023 the rate of family violence for First Nations people in City of Grater Geelong 84% of affected family members were women. reports/factsheets/Violence Against Women/Greater Geelong/VWHAtlas Fact Sheet Violence Against Women Greater Geelong.pdf

In 2021 17.7% of Geelong residents were born overseas compared with the Victorian average of 30%. The top 5 countries of Geelong residents born overseas were; United Kingdom, India, New Zealand, Philippines and China. About the profile areas | City of Greater Geelong | Community profile

In Geelong 11.7% of residents identified that they spoke a language other than English at home compared to the 26.7% of Victorians. The top languages spoken at home were; Mandarin, Punjabi, Italian, Croatian, Filipino/Tagalog. About the profile areas | City of Greater Geelong | Community profile

In Geelong in 2021, 17,726 people (6.5% of the population – 6.9% women and 6.2% men) reported needing help in their day-to-day lives due to disability. This is higher than 5.9% of the Victorian population. reports/factsheets/Populations/Greater Geelong/VWHAtlas Fact Sheet Populations Greater Geelong.pdf

35.9% of the Greater Geelong population identified as having at least one long-term health condition, this is higher than the Victorian population (31.4%). The most common long-term health condition was mental health condition with 11.1% population compared to 8.8% of the Victorian population. About the profile areas | City of Greater Geelong | Community profile

2.2 Have you consulted with affected stakeholders on this aspect?

We heard clearly through the Community Engagement Policy Review engagement that our community value both online and in-person feedback opportunities and they want to see our engagement practices be more inclusive and accessible. They want us to ensure activities are designed to support participation from all community members, including females, gender diverse people, and other priority populations. This includes physical accessibility, digital accessibility (screen readers, alt text, captions), language support (translations, interpreters), and cultural sensitivity.

We know that our engagement activities should be tailored to remove barriers such as disability, language or cultural differences, caring or work responsibilities, limited access to technology or transport, or age. Offering face-to-face opportunities in different locations across the municipality, and on different days/times of the week, in locations where people naturally spend time in their day-to-day lives like shopping centres, parks, libraries, neighbourhood houses and local events will also help to make more accessible.

We asked in the survey, *would access to any of the following (11) supports make it easier for you to take part in future engagement activities?* The top five responses were:

Digital access (19.6%)
Childcare (11.8%)
Transportation (7.8%)
Visual aids (7.8%)
Wheelchair access (7.8%)

When looking at responses from women and non-binary responses only for this question, the priority for childcare as a support was obvious with 21.05% identifying this would help them participate in future engagements.

TEMPLATE 3

OPTIONS ANALYSIS

A. Proposed option 1

Continue with normal processes for consultation and deliberative engagement as outlined in previous policy without consideration of inclusion of a gender and intersectional lens.

B. Gendered costs and benefits

Benefits	Costs and Risks
Can continue with current processes for community engagement and deliberative engagement Easier to stick to time and budget constraints	The community engagement processes and therefore the outcomes of them may not be representative of the community and may exclude the views of specific groups within the community. Intersectionality is not considered Data is not recorded and/or interrogated to understand who we are hearing from and what they are telling us

C. Overall gender impact

This option will deliver a Community Engagement Policy and therefore future community engagement processes that continue with current practices.
This does not give consideration to gender and intersectional lens therefore runs the risk that future engagement processes are not reflective of the community and may not provide representative direction and priorities for the City.
The overall gender impact of this option is negative – it is providing the bare minimum required to meet legislated requirement for community engagement but not expanding further than that to develop the most inclusive Community Engagement Policy and process.

TEMPLATE 3

OPTIONS ANALYSIS

A. Proposed option 2

Enhance current Community Engagement Policy and processes to ensure a gender and intersectional lens is considered by including the following recommendations for planning future community engagements:

1. **Incorporate diverse and gender-inclusive imagery**

Ensure all City communications and engagement materials feature imagery that reflects the diversity of our community, including women, gender diverse people, and other priority groups. This visual representation helps foster a sense of belonging and signals that all voices are valued.

2. **Use gender-inclusive and accessible language**

Communicate using plain, respectful, and gender-inclusive language in all Council materials. Prioritise accessibility by providing information in multiple formats and languages, and ensure content is culturally sensitive and easy to understand for people of all backgrounds and abilities.

3. **Promote safe, inclusive, and respectful spaces**

Design engagement activities that actively encourage respectful dialogue and participation. Create environments - both physical and digital - where all community members feel safe, supported, and empowered to share their perspectives.

4. **Offer flexible engagement timing**

Schedule engagement sessions at varied times and days to accommodate people of all genders, work schedules, caring responsibilities, and lifestyles. This ensures equitable opportunities for participation, especially for those who may work full-time or have childcare commitments.

5. **Ensure venue accessibility**

Select venues for in-person engagement that are physically accessible, close to public transport, and welcoming to people with disabilities, older adults, parents with prams, and others who may face barriers to participation.

6. **Offer face-to-face opportunities in accessible locations**

Provide face-to-face engagement opportunities in a variety of locations across the municipality and at different times and days of the week. Prioritise venues where people naturally spend time in their day-to-day lives, such as shopping centres, parks, libraries, neighbourhood houses, and local events, to make participation more accessible and convenient for all.

7. **Provide childcare and other supports to remove barriers**

Where budget allows and the strategic nature of the engagement warrants it, offer childcare and other supports (such as transport assistance or accessibility aids) to remove barriers for people wishing to participate in face-to-face activities. This ensures that those with caring responsibilities or who require other supports can engage meaningfully in City engagements.

8. **Standardise collection of demographic data**

Introduce voluntary, privacy-protected collection of gender and other demographic data in City surveys and submission processes. This enables analysis of feedback by gender and other characteristics, helping to identify shared and unique perspectives and needs across different groups.

9. **Tailor engagement methods to community needs**

Use a mix of engagement approaches such as online platforms, face-to-face sessions, pop-up events, workshops, and phone conversations, to reach people in ways that suit their preferences and circumstances.

10. **Provide language and cultural support**

Offer translation and interpreting services, and make the Have Your Say engagement platform available in multiple languages to ensure people from multicultural backgrounds can participate meaningfully.

11. **Report back transparently**

Commit to reporting on who participated, what was learned, and how feedback from diverse groups including women, gender diverse people, and other priority groups, influenced council decisions.

12. Education

Community Engagement team members are educated on supporting teams across the business to develop and implement inclusive community engagement opportunities.

B. Gendered costs and benefits

Benefits	Costs and Risks
Community engagement outcomes are more representative of the entire community. A broader range of issues are likely to be raised and therefore included in consideration of future projects. Intersectionality is considered.	May take longer and cost more to ensure future community engagements are reflective of the community. May be more difficult to find consultant/s who are understanding of and able to manage power dynamics within a diverse group for future deliberative engagement panels. May require work to develop a stock of diverse images for use in engagements.

C. Overall gender impact

The overall gender impact of this option is positive. It takes into consideration the dynamics of gender and intersectionality and actively takes steps to ensure an accessible and safe environment for all members of the community to provide their input into future engagement opportunities.

This approach will help build trust, increase participation, and improve the relevance and fairness of council's decisions

TEMPLATE 4

MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations

1. **Incorporate diverse and gender-inclusive imagery**

Ensure all City communications and engagement materials feature imagery that reflects the diversity of our community, including women, gender diverse people, and other priority groups. This visual representation helps foster a sense of belonging and signals that all voices are valued.

2. **Use gender-inclusive and accessible language**

Communicate using plain, respectful, and gender-inclusive language in all City materials. Prioritise accessibility by providing information in multiple formats and languages, and ensure content is culturally sensitive and easy to understand for people of all backgrounds and abilities.

3. **Promote safe, inclusive, and respectful spaces**

Design engagement activities that actively encourage respectful dialogue and participation. Create environments - both physical and digital - where all community members feel safe, supported, and empowered to share their perspectives.

4. **Offer flexible engagement timing**

Schedule engagement sessions at varied times and days to accommodate people of all genders, work schedules, caring responsibilities, and lifestyles. This ensures equitable opportunities for participation, especially for those who may work full-time or have childcare commitments.

5. **Ensure venue accessibility**

Select venues for in-person engagement that are physically accessible, close to public transport, and welcoming to people with disabilities, older adults, parents with prams, and others who may face barriers to participation.

6. **Offer face-to-face opportunities in accessible locations**

Provide face-to-face engagement opportunities in a variety of locations across the municipality and at different times and days of the week. Prioritise venues where people naturally spend time in their day-to-day lives, such as shopping centres, parks, libraries, neighbourhood houses, and local events, to make participation more accessible and convenient for all.

7. **Provide childcare and other supports to remove barriers**

Where budget allows and the strategic nature of the engagement warrants it, offer childcare and other supports (such as transport assistance or accessibility aids) to remove barriers for people wishing to participate in face-to-face activities. This ensures that those with caring responsibilities or who require other supports can engage meaningfully in City engagements.

8. **Standardise collection of demographic data**

Introduce voluntary, privacy-protected collection of gender and other demographic data in City surveys and submission processes. This enables analysis of feedback by gender and other characteristics, helping to identify shared and unique perspectives and needs across different groups.

9. **Tailor engagement methods to community needs**

Use a mix of engagement approaches such as online platforms, face-to-face sessions, pop-up events, workshops, and phone conversations, to reach people in ways that suit their preferences and circumstances.

10. **Provide language and cultural support**

Offer translation and interpreting services, and make the Have Your Say engagement platform is available in multiple languages to ensure people from multicultural backgrounds can participate meaningfully.

11. **Report back transparently**

Commit to reporting on who participated, what was learned, and how feedback from diverse groups including women, gender diverse people, and other priority groups, influenced council decisions.

11. Education

Community Engagement team members are educated on supporting teams across the business to develop and implement inclusive community engagement opportunities.

Description

1. **Incorporate diverse and gender-inclusive imagery**

This fosters a sense of belonging and signals that all voices are valued.

2. **Use gender-inclusive and accessible language**

Using plain, respectful, and gender-inclusive language in all Council materials ensures that communications do not exclude or marginalise anyone based on gender. Prioritising accessibility through multiple formats and languages, and ensuring cultural sensitivity, directly supports the Act's requirement to remove barriers and promote equal access for all.

3. **Promote safe, inclusive, and respectful spaces**

This addresses the Act's focus on eliminating discrimination and harassment. This is particularly important for women, gender diverse people, and other priority groups who may have experienced exclusion or unsafe environments in the past.

4. **Offer flexible engagement timing**

This recommendation recognises that women and gender diverse people are often disproportionately affected by inflexible scheduling due to caring roles and ensures equitable opportunities for participation.

5. **Ensure venue accessibility**

This supports the Act's requirement to remove barriers to participation for all genders and priority groups.

6. **Offer face-to-face opportunities in accessible locations**

This approach is inclusive of people who may not have access to digital platforms or who feel more comfortable engaging in familiar community settings.

7. **Provide childcare and other supports to remove barriers**

This recommendation directly addresses gender inequality by enabling meaningful engagement for those who might otherwise be excluded.

8. **Standardise collection of demographic data**

This helps identify shared and unique perspectives and needs, and. It supports evidence-based action to address gender inequality and promote gender equality.

9. **Tailor engagement methods to community needs**

This flexibility is crucial for reaching underrepresented groups and meeting the diverse needs of the community.

10. **Provide language and cultural support**

This ensures that people from multicultural backgrounds - including women and gender diverse people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities - can participate meaningfully.

11. **Report back transparently**

This ensures that the voices of women, gender diverse people, and other priority groups are not only heard but also acted upon in Council decision-making.

12. Education

This ensures that teams across the organisation are continually informed on the most up to date and inclusive community engagement opportunities and methods.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

VERSION: 1

Approval Date: 23 February 2021

Approved by: Council

Review Date: 1 March 2025

Responsible Officer: Director, Governance, Strategy and Performance

Authorising Officer: Chief Executive Officer

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Greater Geelong acknowledges the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of this land. We also acknowledge all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who are part of the Greater Geelong community today.

We recognise the important civic leadership role that community engagement can play in promoting and fostering genuine reconciliation leading to real outcomes. We want to understand Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories; and to acknowledge the experiences and needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living within the City of Greater Geelong region, so they feel listened to, respected and valued.

Introduction

PURPOSE

A collaborative partnership between Council and the community can be a powerful way to deliver positive changes across our region. Greater Geelong has a proud history of community-inspired leadership and our community is rich in lived experience and diverse in its expertise. The participation of everyone in our community is encouraged, welcomed, and valued because it helps us make better decisions and achieve better outcomes.

This policy is designed to ensure that Council not only meets its engagement obligations as described under sections 55 and section 56 of the Local Government Act 2020 (Vic), but truly harnesses the expertise and advice of the community it serves.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?

Community Engagement is a collaborative process used by Council to connect with the community.

The purpose of the engagement process is to seek feedback and insights about issues that might affect, impact or interest the community, such as planning, decisions or general council activities.

Council uses both participatory and deliberative forms of engagement, to ensure that the skills and experience of the community are used to help Council make better decisions.

WHY IS ENGAGEMENT IMPORTANT?

Engaging with the community ensures that Council listens and makes decisions based on community lived experience and in line with community views and values.

Being heard and engaged in decision making empowers members of our community to contribute to the future direction of the places where they live and work. Authentic community engagement promotes greater trust and confidence in local democracy, builds stronger relationships and leads to better outcomes for all of us. That's why it is critical that the decisions which shape the region's liveability and prosperity are informed and influenced by the people who live, work, visit or do business in the region.

Community engagement brings people from different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives together to share their views and shape the future. While the views of the community may not always align, best practice community engagement helps demonstrate to everyone in the community that any decisions made by Council are made knowing the views of the people living within the region.

SCOPE

This policy provides direction on all formal, legislative and informal community engagement planning and activities conducted by Council and anyone carrying out delegated duties or functions of Council. This includes:

- Councillors
- City officers
- external providers
- contractors and
- volunteers.

The following engagements are outside the scope of this policy:

- those related to planning permit applications and planning scheme amendments governed by the *Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Vic)*
- legislated engagements governed under other Acts

Definitions

ACT

Local Government Act (Vic) 2020.

THE CITY

The City of Greater Geelong organisation led by the Chief Executive Officer.

COMMITTEE

A delegated committee, joint delegated committee or community asset committee under sections 63, 64 and 65 of the Act, respectively.

COUNCIL

The Greater Geelong City Council comprising Councillors and its Delegated Committees.

DELIBERATIVE ENGAGEMENT

Deliberative engagement is a process of engagement that brings participants closer to the decision makers than other forms of engagement; where participants are provided with a clear task or question, have access to appropriate resources and information, and are given the time and space required to deliberate and reach their consensus.

ENGAGEMENT

A process for improved decision-making that invites the feedback from, and incorporates the insights, wisdom and concerns of, affected stakeholders and also meets the needs of the decision-making body.

PARTICIPATORY ENGAGEMENT

Participatory engagement involves one-way information exchange either from Council to community or community to Council. Participatory engagement typically occurs when feedback is invited on service satisfaction, ideas, alternatives or draft documents.

STAKEHOLDERS

An individual or group with an interest in the decisions of Council, that is directly or indirectly impacted by the decisions made and the final outcomes.

Policy

WHO WE WILL ENGAGE WITH

We will engage with people likely to be affected by, or interested in, planning and decision-making by Council, including individuals, community groups, advisory committees, businesses and organisations, peak bodies and other levels of government.

However, we recognise that there are barriers to participation for some of these people and groups. Barriers could include abilities, language and cultural differences, carer and work responsibilities, technology, age and lack of access to transport.

To hear a full range of perspectives and make sure our decisions are meeting the needs of the community, we will tailor and plan our engagement processes to ensure the greatest number of people and groups can contribute. We will identify, reach out and engage directly with relevant people and groups where barriers are particularly significant, or certain people are under-represented. We will work to break down the barriers that see some people under-involved in decisions which affect their community.

Engaging with the community more broadly in this way will give us the best chance to make decisions that are informed and meet the needs of the community.

WHEN WE WILL ENGAGE

We will engage when Council anticipates decisions or plans are likely to impact the community. This may include situations where we are:

- making plans – for example, developing strategic plans or policies, or planning for emergencies
- changing something – for example changes to a service where those changes may have an impact on the community
- making a decision that is likely to impact people and the places they live, work, invest or play – for example, introducing a new project, initiative or service
- required by law to do so
- seeking to address an issue affecting the community that has been raised and requires a decision.

We may also engage in cases where Council:

- sees that the broader community has raised, or expressed an interest in, a policy, initiative or service
- requires assistance to identify community needs or aspirations
- desires to build capacity, provide information to increase knowledge and change behaviour
- seeks new, or wishes to strengthen, existing relationships with the community.

Situations where we may not engage

There are times when we may decide it is not appropriate to engage with the community. This would include situations where:

- decisions must be made immediately – for example, during a live emergency, or for occupational health and safety reasons
- decisions relate to the City's day-to-day organisation operations
- legal or commercial restrictions prevent it
- Council does not have the decision-making power.

HOW WE WILL ENGAGE

Community engagement principles

We will give effect to the five engagement principles described below in the design, delivery and reporting of all engagement activities.

1. A community engagement process must have a clearly defined objective and scope.
2. Participants taking part in community engagement must have access to objective, relevant and timely information to inform their participation.
3. Participants taking part in community engagement must be representative of the persons and groups affected by the matter that is the subject of community engagement.
4. Participants taking part in community engagement are entitled to reasonable support to enable meaningful and informed engagement.
5. Participants taking part in community engagement are informed of the ways in which the community engagement process will influence Council decision making.

In observance of the community engagement principles, we will:

- plan Council engagements to be proactive, timely, open and easily understood
- make sure engagement activities are inclusive, accessible and seek a diverse range of perspectives
- be upfront about how much opportunity there is to influence a decision
- define the community's role in any community engagement process
- provide community members with reasonable support to help them participate
- provide accessible information to support meaningful community participation
- let the community know how their input has influenced our decision
- be flexible and adaptive as we engage, including being open to changing our approach, and
- learn from each experience to review and improve future engagement practices.

Choosing the form of engagement

We will match the appropriate tools and techniques for engagement to suit the purpose and scope of the engagement, and the community members being engaged. This will ensure that we use the appropriate variety of tools, activities and methods to produce the most meaningful feedback.

For matters where the form of community participation and engagement is by an invitation to make submissions and to be heard at panel hearings, Council will continue to proceed in a manner modelled on section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 and in line with the engagement principles above.

Factors that may influence the form of engagement chosen include:

- level of influence people and groups can have on the decision
- level of complexity and risk associated with a project
- specific project goals
- stages and timeframes of a project
- resources
- the legal and governance framework under which the Council operates.

Once the form of engagement for a given planning or decision-making process has been determined, the appropriate tools, activities and data-collection methods will then be identified. Broadly, the form of engagement can be described as either deliberative or participatory in nature.

Deliberative engagement

Deliberative engagement is a tailored process that brings participants closer to the decision makers than other forms of engagement. Deliberative practices, which may be co-designed, take place to allow for a representative group to deliberate on an issue in depth, over time, before coming to an informed consensus or decision.

Deliberative engagement methods include advisory committees, workshops, community panels, focus groups, citizen juries and ballots.

As part of the deliberative process, participants must:

- be provided with a clear task or question
- have access to appropriate resources and information and
- be given the time and space required to deliberate and reach the desired outcome, consensus or decision.

Deliberative engagement should be conducted when participants have a high level of influence over, or impact on the outcomes or decision to be made.

Council will engage deliberatively when developing things such as:

- the Community Vision
- Council Plan
- Asset Plan
- Financial Plan
- other projects or initiatives as considered appropriate.

Participatory engagement

Participatory engagement is an engagement process that enables participants to provide feedback that does not necessarily include a conversation or dialogue with us. Participatory engagement methods include informing people via fact sheets, websites and information sessions, or consulting with people through surveys, feedback forms, public meetings and drop-in sessions.

While participatory engagement may be a simpler process than deliberative engagement, it is valuable for hearing important and useful information from a broad range of people and groups.

Examples of situations where we may engage in participatory engagement include, but are not limited to:

- program development and evaluation
- determining satisfaction with services
- inviting community ideas or views
- seeking feedback on alternative draft documents, designs or plans
- gauging support for a proposal
- asking the community for local knowledge

HOW WE WILL REPORT ON ENGAGEMENT

We are accountable for reporting back to the community:

1. What we learnt during the engagement process – that is, the data and information collected as part of the process.
2. How this has influenced the decisions, plans and activities of Council.

In determining the best ways to report this information back, we will consider the people and groups involved, barriers to engagement, and the level of interest to the wider community.

Where it is valuable to do so, we will report back during the engagement process, so that the methods of exploring an issue with the community might be altered based on what we are learning and that newly identified stakeholders might engage as necessary throughout the process.

Methods for reporting back could include, but are not limited to:

- updates on Geelong Australia website
- updates on the project Have Your Say page
- posts on social media
- public notices and newspaper advertisements
- printed materials in community facilities
- direct communication, such as letters, phone calls and meetings, with the involved people and groups.

Implementing this Policy

RESPONSIBILITIES

Party/parties	Roles and responsibilities
Councillors	• Champion the commitment and principles for community engagement through leadership and decision-making. • Adopt the Community Engagement Policy, oversee its implementation.
Executive Leadership Team	• Demonstrate behaviours that foster good engagement practice and drive the community engagement principles through policy, process and leadership. • Implement and ensure compliance with this policy and hold staff accountable for its use and improvement.
Leadership Team	• Manage areas of responsibility to ensure community engagement is consistent with this policy.
All staff involved in community engagement planning and delivery	• Design and deliver best-practice community engagement that aligns with this policy, in consultation with managers and the Corporate Affairs team.
Corporate Affairs' Community Engagement team	• Monitor the implementation of this policy and conduct periodic reviews to drive continuous improvement. • Support Council to plan and deliver best-practice engagement processes.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

The City commits to monitoring processes, information sharing and decision making to understand the overall level of success in the policy's implementation. Key evaluation measures of success over each 12 month period will include:

- community satisfaction with community consultation and engagement (annual survey)
- number of engagements
- number of participants
- adequacy of representation of under-involved or hard-to-reach communities
- percentage of deliberative and participatory engagements
- timeliness and regularity of reporting back to the community

and may also include measures such as:

- diversity of engagement methods
- information delivery modes
- effectiveness of participant identification process across target groups

This evaluation will be presented to Council annually.

ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE

The *Responsible Officer: Manager Corporate Affairs*, is responsible for advising the organisation about this policy, monitoring its implementation, and assisting community members with questions about the policy.

RECORDS

The City must retain records associated with this policy and its implementation for at least the period shown below.

Record	Retention / Disposal Authority	Retention Period	Location
This policy	Manager, Corporate Affairs	Four years	Geelong Australia
Feedback archives	Manager, Corporate Affairs	Four years	CityWeb location

REVIEW

Council should review and, if necessary, amend this policy before 1 March 2025. A periodic review of this policy will also be undertaken to ensure necessary changes or updates are made in a timely manner.

References

External references

- *Victorian Local Government Act 2020 (Vic)*
- *Victorian Local Government Act 1989 (Vic)* (being progressively repealed)
- *Public Participation in Government Decision-making Better Practice Guide – Victorian Auditor-General's Office 2015*
- *Public Participation and Community Engagement: Local Government Sector – Victorian Auditor-General's Report 2017*
- *Public Participation in Government Decision-Making – Victorian Auditor-General's Report 2017*
- *Victorian Government Draft Public Participation Framework (2020)*
- *Local Government Act 2020 – Principles Community Engagement (DELWP)*

2.7. Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan

Source: **City Life**
Executive Director: **Anthony Basford**

Purpose

1. To seek Council adoption of the final Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan (Master Plan) following completion of a four-week community engagement period.

Background

2. The Master Plan has been developed to guide the delivery of a new active recreation reserve located at 530 Horseshoe Bend Road, Armstrong Creek.

3. The City is required to deliver this active open space reserve under its obligations in the Armstrong Creek East Precinct Structure Plan and Armstrong Creek East Development Contributions Plan to ensure that the community is provided with access to infrastructure and services to support a quality, affordable lifestyle.

4. The delivery of this new recreation reserve is required to meet local sport participation demands and support recreation opportunities for the growing Armstrong Creek population.

5. In July 2025 Council released the draft Master Plan for a four-week community engagement period. Minor updates to the plan were made following the closure of this period. The Community Engagement Report is attached for reference (Attachment 2).

6. The Master Plan's development has been supported by a Project Reference Group (PRG), consisting of representatives from key sporting associations and local sports club.

Key Matters

7. Community engagement on the draft Master Plan recorded over 2,500 views via the City's online Have Your Say platform. The engagement resulted in 292 total contributions and included a face-to-face drop-in session. Refer to Attachment 2 to view the Master Plan Engagement Report.

8. Feedback from the community engagement indicated strong overall support for the draft Master Plan.

9. Minor amendments have been made to address feedback received in the community engagement that now inform the Master Plan.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Adopts the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan as at Attachment 1;**

2. **Notes that additional grant funding may be required to fully implement the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan following detailed design and costing;**

3. **Notes the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan Engagement Report as at Attachment 2; and**

4. **Acknowledges the community for their contributions to the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan throughout the community engagement period.**

Financial Sustainability

10. The total estimated construction costs to deliver the Master Plan recommendations is $17,687,000 and is within future budget allocations.

11. Costs provided for recommendations within the Master Plan are high level, do not include any allowances for non-construction costs, contingencies or escalation and may change throughout detailed design and delivery.

12. If funding for delivery of all Master Plan recommendations is insufficient, implementation will be staged based on priorities identified within the Plan, and external grant opportunities will be sought.

Community Engagement

13. The draft Master Plan was released for community consultation for a period of four weeks between 23 July and 24 August 2025. The engagement included communications via the Have Your Say page, media release, letter box drops to surrounding residents, signage located at the reserve, direct email engagement to key stakeholders and a community on-site drop-in session.

14. A Project Reference Group (PRG) was established for the project and engaged on the draft Master Plan. The PRG includes representatives from Football Victoria, Cricket Victoria and Armstrong United FC.

15. These engagement activities resulted in 2,596 views on the Have Your Say page, 292 total contributions and 20 attendees to the onsite drop-in session.

16. 94 percent of survey respondents fully support or mostly support the draft Master Plan and 97 percent of respondents believe that the draft Master Plan meets the needs of the community.

17. Feedback on the draft Master Plan informed the Master Plan with minor changes incorporated into the plan to address identified key engagement themes.

18. Changes from the draft Master Plan include:

    18.1. Inclusion of proposed play space conceptual plan;

    18.2. Increased pavilion footprint to ensure futureproofing; and

    18.3. Highlighting of southern pedestrian connection to Horseshoe Bend Road.

Social Equity and Sustainability

19. The Master Plan responds to increased participation demands, female participation, and increased demand for passive open space. A focus of the Plan is to create an inclusive and accessible park for all and reduce barriers to participation and active living.

20. The Master Plan ensures all new facilities are universally designed for use by people of all ages, gender, abilities, and cultural backgrounds. Infrastructure projects identified within the plan will also require Gender Impact Assessments (GIA+) to be completed prior to commencement.

21. The proposed developments contained within the Master Plan align with adopted sporting association guidelines and standards to ensure any investments are in accordance with provisions and service levels are realistic and within resource constraints.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

22. The City is required to deliver this active open space reserve under its obligations in the Armstrong Creek East Precinct Structure Plan and Armstrong Creek East Development Contributions Plan to ensure that the community within the area is provided with access to infrastructure and services to support a quality, affordable lifestyle.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

23. This report aligns with the Council Plan 2025-29 strategic priorities:
Core and Critical Infrastructure
Healthy and Caring Community

24. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.

Conflict of Interest

25. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

26. The development of the Master Plan identifies sport and recreation infrastructure deliverables to ensure the City meets its provision requirements in line with population demand. Any delay in delivering the plan would prevent the Armstrong Creek community from having fair and timely access to essential open spaces and sporting facilities.

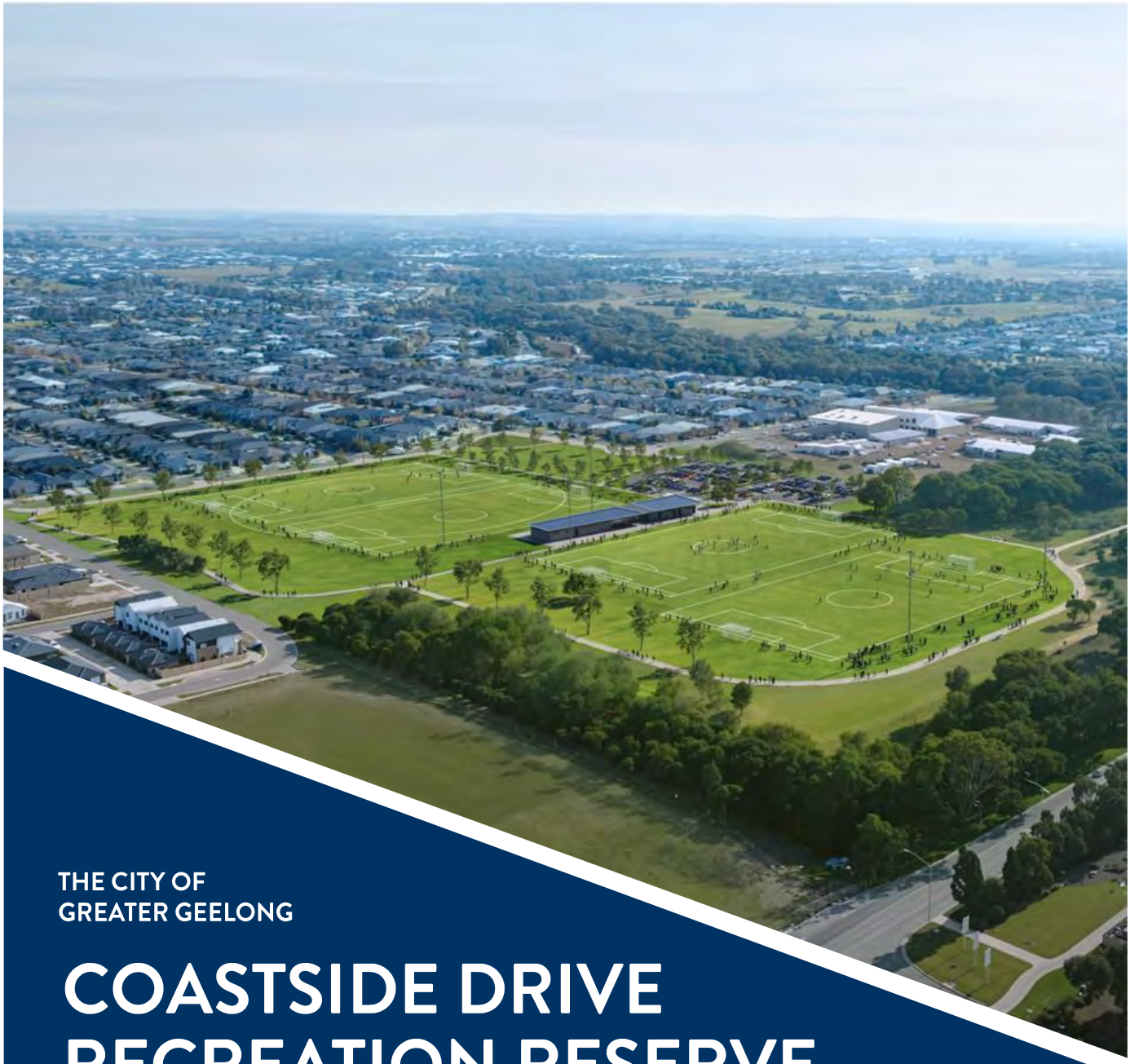
Environmental Sustainability

27. The Master Plan aligns with a key direction of the City’s Sustainability Policy to enhance, protect and restore our biodiversity and natural environments, including plants and animals that inhabit them.

28. All facility developments will consider environmentally sustainable design principles in line with Council’s Sustainable Building Policy.

Attachments

1. Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan - Final Report - November 2025 [**2.7.1** - 42 pages]
2. Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan - Final Engagement Report - October 2025 [**2.7.2** - 13 pages]

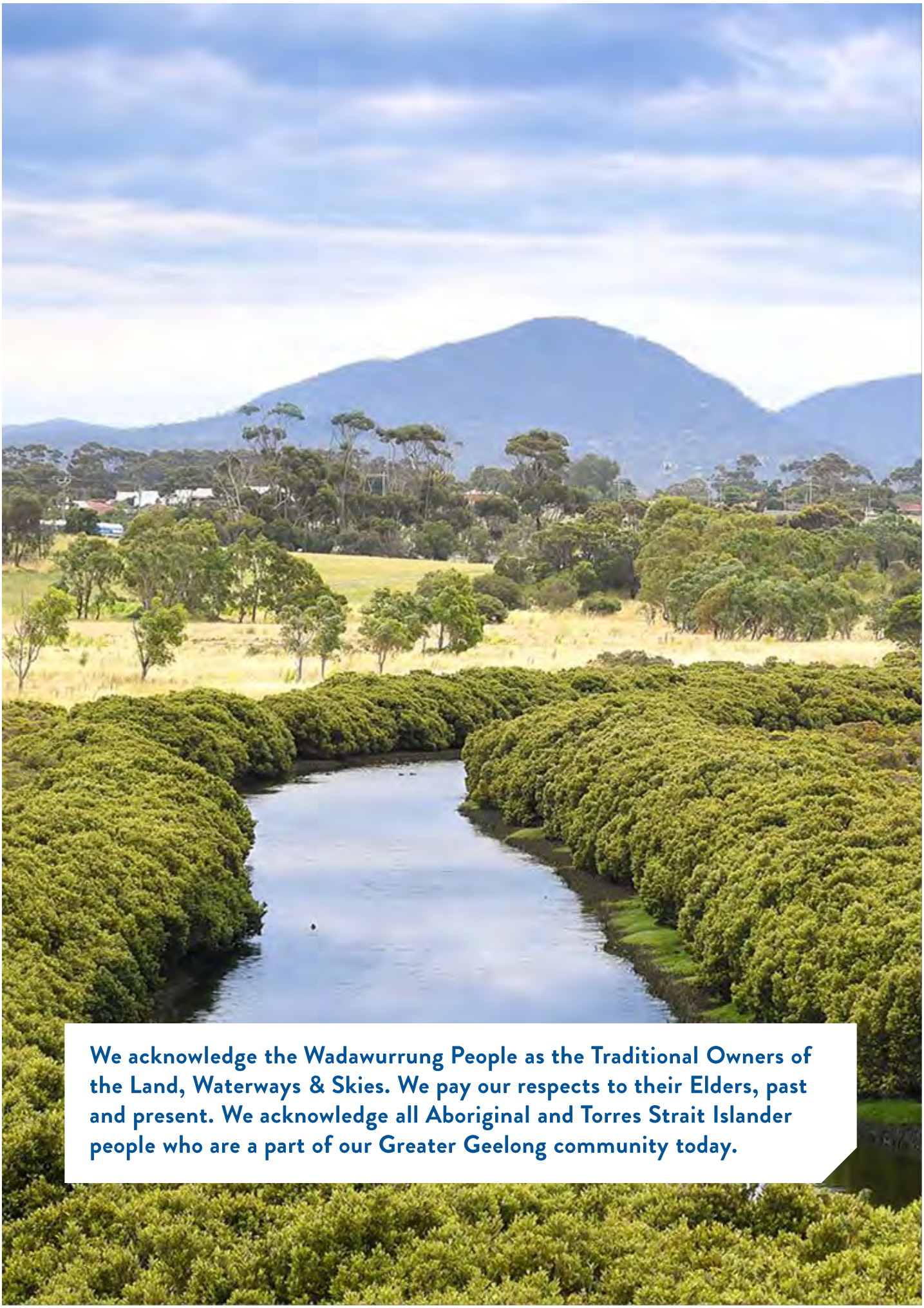


THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

COASTSIDE DRIVE RECREATION RESERVE MASTER PLAN

NOVEMBER 2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG



We acknowledge the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways & Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are a part of our Greater Geelong community today.





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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to extend our gratitude to Solucio and The OCD for helping us to prepare this master plan, as well as the many community members and stakeholders whose feedback helped shape this plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PROJECT CONTEXT

The City of Greater Geelong has engaged Solucio and The OCD to develop a master plan for the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve, a greenfield site in the Armstrong Creek Urban Growth Area (ACUGA). The aim of the master plan is to inform the delivery of this important community asset to ensure it meets the needs of sport and recreation users and of the local environment.

PLANNING CONTEXT

The ACUGA is an urban development of 2,600 hectares of farmland in Geelong's south. The region's growth in the future will provide the opportunity for creating an economically and environmentally sustainable community. The Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve is specifically located in the Armstrong Creek East Precinct.

The development of the precinct is guided by the *Armstrong Creek East Precinct Structure Plan* (ACEPSP). The precinct structure plan identifies the delivery of two football/cricket ovals, two netball courts, two bowling greens and a pavilion. The *Development Contributions Plan* (DCP) was developed to support the funding of infrastructure in the area and identifies a play space and shared path network connection to be delivered at this site.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

The following considerations were identified for the site to be addressed in the master plan.

- A constrained budget environment with increasing facility standards, specifications and costs.
- Relatively flat site topography and accessible existing site utilities.
- Significant protected native vegetation extending the eastern and parts of the southern boundary as well as impacting the open space.
- Anticipation of high volumes of vehicular traffic.
- Local pedestrian network integration opportunities.
- A desire for a flexible pavilion and fields of play to maximise long-term utilisation options.
- A review of the current sporting demand and facility requirements for Armstrong Creek against the ACEPSP proposal.
- The site has been identified as a preferred location for a district level play space.
- Consideration of the development of the primary school and surrounding developments.

MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations for the master plan are outlined below.

- Deliver a district level play space for children of all ages – teens, infants and toddlers, and a sheltered barbeque and picnic area.
- Include a car park of approximately 150 spaces.
- Construct two senior soccer fields overlaid with a cricket oval, on the western side of the reserve.
- Construct two senior soccer fields to the east of the pavilion.
- Plan for potential future development of a cricket oval to be overlaid across two proposed senior soccer fields on the east of the pavilion should demand necessitate.
- Build a new multi-purpose community sports pavilion.
- Designate a space for potential installation of future cricket nets.
- Integrate a shared pathway running through the entire reserve.
- Investigate the opportunity to incorporate a nature trail that winds through the existing native tree areas.
- Investigate opportunities for revegetation and ecological remediation.

INTRODUCTION

The City of Greater Geelong have engaged Solucio and The OCD to develop a master plan for a new recreation reserve to guide the planning and developments on the site, ensuring it can sustainably meet the needs of the community.

The master plan will be guided by the *Precinct Structure Plan* (PSP) and *Developer Contributions Plan* (DCP), whilst comprehensively testing delivery proposals against current demand assessments, strategic analysis and financial constraints.

WHAT IS A MASTER PLAN?

A master plan is a strategic document that reflects the aspirations, needs, and priorities of local residents and key stakeholders. It establishes a framework to guide the long-term planning, development, and investment in a reserve.

By articulating a vision and set of guiding principles, a master plan supports the coordinated and sustainable approach of a site over time. In the context of recreation reserves, this involves identifying opportunities to enhance accessibility, inclusivity, and environmental sustainability.

PROJECT DELIVERABLES

As part of the master plan process, the following deliverables were met:

- An issues and opportunities report – including relevant site assessments.
- An analysis of the existing conditions and landscape.
- A landscape master plan.
- Concept plans for a pavilion and fields of play.
- A community engagement report.
- Final master plan report and landscape plans.

PROJECT METHODOLOGY

The Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan has been created with the following methodology:

Project Scoping

- Project team scoping workshop.
- Site inspections and assessments.
- Development of a project plan.
- Introductory workshops with the PWG and PRG.

Site Conditions Assessment

- Detailed research and data collection process.
- Site conditions and overall site base plan.
- Identification of suitable locations for facility development.
- Background report and draft infrastructure design brief.

Design Process, Draft Master Plan and Public Exhibition

- Illustrative landscape plan.
- Development of a draft master plan.
- Public consultation program and consolidation of feedback.
- Preliminary cost estimates.

Final Master Plan

- An updated master plan incorporating community feedback with designs, costs, implementation schedule and funding strategy.

STUDY AREA

The Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve is located on Wadawurrung country, situated at 530 Horseshoe Bend Road, Armstrong Creek.

It is a greenfield site with a total area of approximately 13.5 hectares. The site is owned by the City of Greater Geelong and is zoned as an Urban Growth Zone with the primary function being for active recreation as determined in the Armstrong Creek East Precinct Structure Plan.

The site has a relatively flat open space area with large areas of vegetation surrounding the boundaries in the northern and eastern sections of the reserve. The areas of sensitive vegetation surrounding the boundaries are protected by fencing and cannot be developed or impeded on.

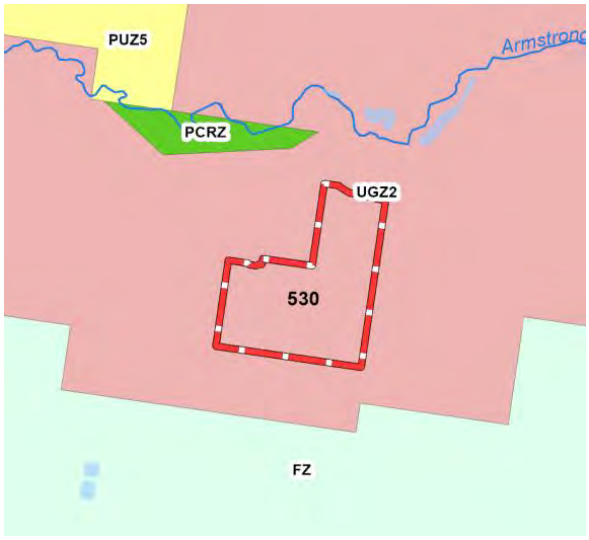


Figure 1. VICPLAN Planning Report – 530 Horseshoe Bend Road, Armstrong Creek.



Figure 2. Map of Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve

MASTER PLAN VISION AND DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES

Master plan vision

Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve is the local community's hub for active recreation, sporting activity and play, blending high-quality facilities with the natural environment.

Master plan principles

As outlined in the indicative Armstrong Creek East LAC Urban Design Principles, these principles align with the broader urban design framework of the ACEPSP and help guide the planning of this reserve.

Sense of place and community

Foster a strong community identity with shared public facilities and integrated well-designed infrastructure, parking and open space that encourages social interaction.

Accessibility and active transport

Improve permeability by prioritising walkable routes through the site and integrate pedestrian connectivity with the surrounding network.

Climate change and environmental sustainability

Minimise impacts of development and its operation on the significant native vegetation present on the site and surrounds. Create opportunities for revegetation and protection of native flora.

Opportunity to integrate community participation to protect native vegetation through interpretative signage.

Accessible, integrated and adaptable community facilities

Facilities to create an anchor-built form that provides character and identity to the site, with connectivity to the school, kindergarten, child care and mixed use zone.



Note: These images were outlined in the indicative Armstrong Creek East LAC Urban Design Principles provided by City of Greater Geelong.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT



Figure 3. Strategic documents reviewed throughout the master planning process.

LITERATURE REVIEW

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Several documents have been critically reviewed to identify and understand implications and opportunities for this master plan. The following are the key considerations from the literature review to be addressed within this master plan.

- It will assess the site's capacity to accommodate the PSP proposed sporting facilities and alignment to the broader PSP growth area principles.
- It will align with carbon neutrality goals and incorporate environmentally sustainable design principles.
- Proposed facilities must be balanced with site capacity and the protection of existing native vegetation.
- Improved pedestrian connections will reduce car dependence and link the reserve to nearby community assets.
- Infrastructure will prioritise flexibility, safety, inclusiveness, and suitability for both formal and informal use.
- Fair access and equitable facility provision will guide decisions around operational models.
- Implementation planning must account for realistic budgets, phasing, and long-term maintenance needs.
- Engagement with the wider community will ensure the plan reflects community needs and broader strategic goals.
- Passive recreation opportunities will complement active uses to support diverse community participation.
- The plan will contribute to increasing tree canopy coverage, helping to meet city-wide urban greening targets.

DEMOGRAPHIC REVIEW

COMMUNITY PROFILE

The City of Greater Geelong is in the south-west of Victoria, spanning an area of 1,252 square kilometres. It is the second-largest city in Victoria and the LGA is on the boundary of the Moorabool Shire Council, Wyndham City Council, Borough of Queenscliff, Surf Coast Shire Council and Golden Plains Shire Council areas.

The City is divided into eleven electoral wards – the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve is in the Charlemont ward.

LOCAL DEMOGRAPHIC REVIEW

The proportion of younger residents within the ACUGA is significantly higher than the equivalent proportion of the Victorian population.

- In 2021, the proportion of 0 to 4 year-olds within the ACUGA population was 11 per cent of males and 10 per cent of females, compared with 6 per cent of males and females of the Victorian population.

The number of residents will consistently grow in the region for the next 25 years and at a considerably higher rate over the next 10 years.

- From 2021 to 2046, the population of the ACUGA is expected to increase by 39,298 people equal to 179 per cent growth.

Key Demographic Considerations

With a significantly high proportion of residents aged between 0 to 4 years old, the sporting reserves in the ACUGA will need to provide a sufficient number of facilities that support future children's and young adults' participation in sports and recreation activities, fostering long-term community health and well-being.

It is essential that all sporting infrastructure prioritises sustainable, flexible, multi-use and inclusive infrastructure that can accommodate both the rapid growth period and the significantly larger future population to meet both current and long-term community needs.



Figure 4. The eleven electoral wards of The City.

FAST FACTS – CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

- 1,252 square km total area
- 282,809 people
- 125,047 jobs
- 6,299 jobs supported by tourism
- 28% single person households
- 39 years median age
- 26% of residents are 60+ years
- $2.2 billion in total building approvals
- 103,508 private dwellings
- $1,592 median weekly household income
- $76,102 Gross Regional Product per Capita
- $44.27 billion in economic output

ANALYSIS AND PLANNING

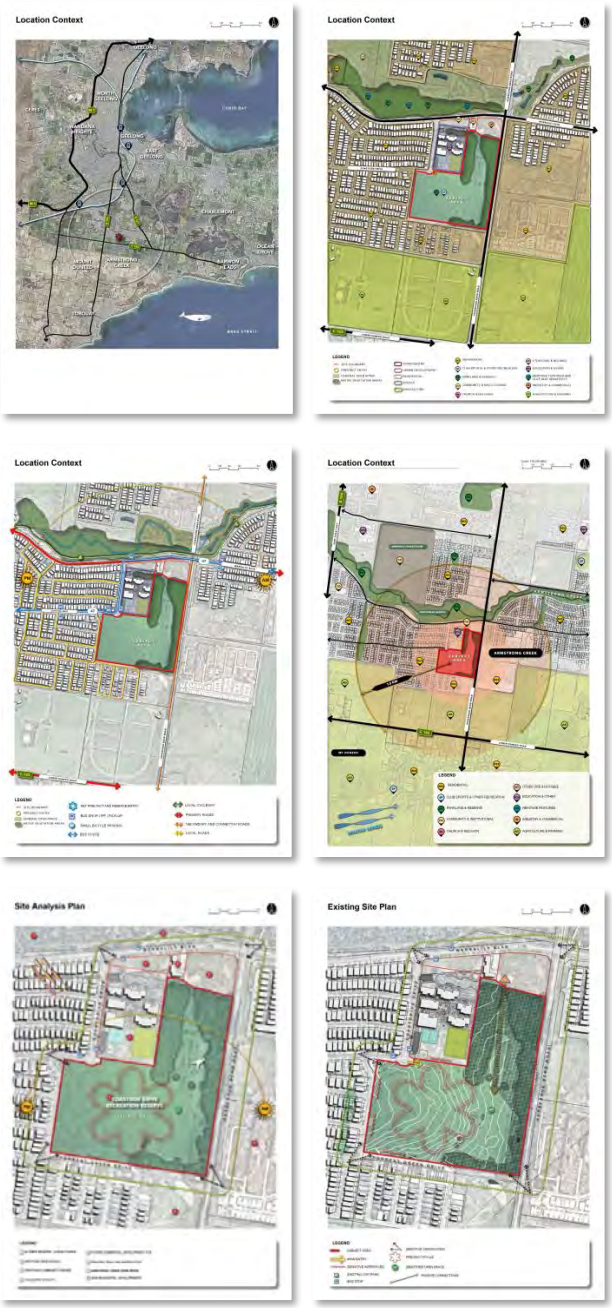


Figure 5. Site analysis and context images.

SITE CONTEXT

LOCATION AND ACCESS

The Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve is located on Wadawurrung country, situated at 530 Horseshoe Bend Road in the growth area of Armstrong Creek in Greater Geelong. The area has been previously known as Bloinks Paddock after the family who owned the farming land that the site is built on.

The reserve is within a three-minute drive (2km) of the Surf Coast Highway (B100) and a ten-minute drive (11km) of the Princes Freeway/Geelong Ring Road (M1). The reserve is almost 12 kilometres by road south of Geelong's central business district.

URBAN CONTEXT

Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve is a greenfield site with a total area of approximately 13.5 hectares. The site is owned by the City of Greater Geelong and is zoned as an Urban Growth Zone with the primary function being for active recreation as determined in the ACEPSP.

Within a one-kilometre radius of the reserve, there are several residential areas indicating a high percentage of residents within walking distance, highlighting the importance of pathways and pedestrian access.

EXISTING SITE

The land title that includes Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve (surrounded by Warralily Boulevard, Horseshoe Bend Road, Forrest Green Drive, Iris Loop and Coastside Drive) is predominately undeveloped (at the time of developing this report).

The only development that has been completed is the childcare and kindergarten centre to the north of the reserve. A new primary school, with the working title of Warralily Park Primary School and the Bloinks Community Hub are set to open for the 2026 school year.

More detailed site contextual analysis is provided in the appendices.

CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS

The site is a relatively flat open space with large areas of vegetation in the northern and eastern sections of the reserve. The areas of sensitive vegetation surrounding the boundaries are protected by fencing and cannot be developed or impeded on.

The large area in the centre of the site is suitable for sports fields and will provide adequate space to incorporate sufficient car parking, pedestrian walkways and additional landscaping. The roundabout and entry location (picture 4) has already been developed to provide the only vehicular access point.

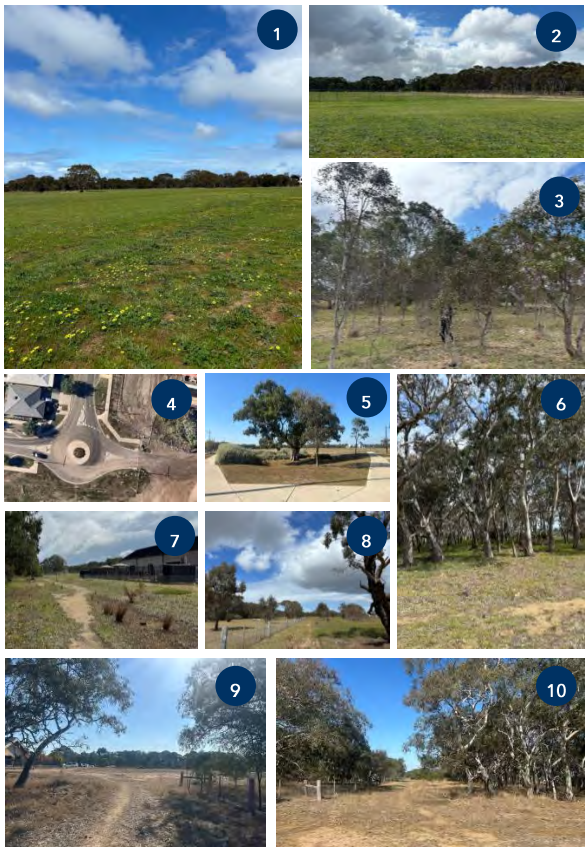
The trail and pathway running from north to south (pictures 8 and 10) will provide a logical connection point from the existing Warralily Boulevard pedestrian pathway through to the fields of play.

The space behind the existing childcare (picture 7) is a pocket of the reserve that has no through access and limited recreational opportunity so will need to be carefully considered with the master plan principles.

Legend

1) The open grassed area that is suitable for the fields of play.
2) The southern fence of the primary school to the north.
3) Vegetation in the centre of the reserve.
4) The roundabout and site access road.
5) The tree on the most west corner near the proposed play space.
6) The collection of trees running south to north with the potential for a nature walking trial.
7) The space behind the existing childcare centre.
8) Potential pathway that runs from north to south in between the native vegetation areas.
9) Northern access point.
10) Trail entrance and native tree areas.





ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The following map is from the *Native Vegetation Protection Plan* (NVPP) for the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve. There is a large tree that sits to the north of the sensitive vegetation on the south-west boundary of the reserve. This tree is protected under the NVPP and has been considered of high value, as such the design team will endeavour to retain this tree.

The tree is a E.camaldulensis that has a diameter at breast height (DBH) of 1.34 metres. This size of DBH requires any development to occur outside of a 15-metre radius of this tree.

Within the developable area on the site, there are some existing trees that will need to be considered in the planning stages. The two trees located in the middle of the open space are likely to require removal as part of this master plan to provide adequate space for the fields of play. These trees were not identified for retention under the Native Vegetation Protection Plan (NVPP).



Figure 6. Native Vegetation Protection Plan (NVPP) for the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve.

TECHNICAL STUDIES AND IMPLICATIONS

SITE FEATURE SURVEY

During this project, a site feature survey was conducted to assess the existing site conditions.

The site has gradual contour variations sloping towards the west of the reserve. This flat topography will provide a good foundation for planning sporting fields and the proposed pavilion.

There are existing utility markers (i.e. electrical pits and Telstra) that could streamline the integration of essential services for the future facilities.

There are no clearly identifiable concerns regarding site conditions that will impact the master plan.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

As part of the site analysis of Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve, a cultural heritage due diligence assessment was undertaken by a certified archeologist.

Based on the review of the approved Cultural Heritage Master Plan (CHMP), it is recommended that:

- The City and its partners proceed with construction of the proposed Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve in accordance with the ACDC CHMP (Whincop and Feldman, 2011). No further cultural heritage approvals are required.
- The City and its partners must keep a copy of the approved CHMP on-site during construction and make it readily available to all construction personnel.
- In the event that Aboriginal cultural heritage is uncovered during the proposed development, work must cease and the contingencies in the CHMP for any such discoveries would apply.

POWER SUPPLY

A site power assessment was undertaken for Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve to determine the electrical load requirements for both the proposed pavilion and external reserve facilities.

The pavilion assessment considered major kitchen, refrigeration, ventilation, heating/cooling, and lighting equipment, with the peak load estimated at 180-amps three phase. The reserve assessment factored in sports field lighting, car park lighting, irrigation, and BBQs, with peak load estimated at 82-amps three phase.

Allowing for a 30% spare capacity for future growth (e.g. EV chargers, additional kitchen items), the recommended combined total supply is 340-amps three phase. These figures are preliminary and subject to further detailed design and utility provider confirmation.

STORMWATER

A stormwater assessment was undertaken for Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve to confirm alignment with the existing Stormwater Management Strategies.

The site predominantly drains north to Armstrong Creek, with the southern portion draining east before ultimately discharging to the creek. The proposed carpark will outlet west to the Coastside Drive roundabout, requiring modest filling to achieve the necessary grades.

The assessment concluded that no onsite treatment or retardation is required, and existing downstream systems are sufficient to manage stormwater flows.

Underground stormwater reuse systems are being considered for detailed design and costing.

ACCESSIBILITY CATCHMENT ANALYSIS

The following maps outline the 5, 10 and 15-minute drive-time and walking catchments for the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve and the number of residents that have access to the facility. The tables below indicates the amount of people and dwellings that fall within each drive-time catchment, as well as the percentage of the population that reside in these catchments.

DRIVE-TIME CATCHMENT

The reserve has good accessibility to 73,448 people (27 per cent), as well as a sizeable number of residents from Torquay (in the Surf Coast Shire). The accessibility and connectivity with key road networks Horseshoe Bend Road and Warralily Boulevard will make the reserve a desirable location for residents beyond the local 5-minute catchment. Therefore, this reserve will need to provide facilities that can cater for higher levels of utilisation, provided the greater percentage of the population that is within a 15-minute drive.

WALKING CATCHMENT

The 15-minute catchment is currently reaching 3,001 people and 1,055 dwellings, however with the growth that will occur within this precinct over the coming years, the reserve will need to cater for more residents and provide more accessibility options for the future.



Figure 6. Drive-time catchment analysis of Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve.



Figure 7. Walking catchment analysis of Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve.

Catchment	Drive-Time			Walking		
	Dwellings (#)	Population (#)	Population Catchment (%)	Dwellings (#)	Population (#)	Population Catchment (%)
5-minute	2,877	8,229	3%	233	630	0%
10-minute	10,088	26,628	10%	721	2,041	1%
15-minute	30,896	73,448	27%	1,055	3,001	1%

DEMAND ANALYSIS

SPORTING FIELD PROVISION

A sporting field provision analysis was conducted to identify and validate the key gaps in sporting field provision in the ACEPSP and broader Armstrong Creek Urban Growth Area.

The City's standard provision ratios are outlined in the *City of Greater Geelong: Social Infrastructure Plan - Generation One 2020-23*. These were used as a starting point with further benchmarking and analysis completed to assess and validate them. This included benchmarking against 12 Local Government Authorities, State Sport Association (SSA) strategic plans, Geelong Regional Alliance and local sport strategies and engagement with and review of SSA local participation data.

The research and benchmarking has indicated little change is required from the provision standards outlined in the *Social Infrastructure Plan - Generation One 2020-23*. The ratios on the right-hand side illustrate the provision of each sporting asset relative to the population size that were used in this analysis.

Aus. Rules Football
1 oval per 5,000 people

Baseball/Softball
1 diamond per 40,000

Cricket
1 oval per 4,000

Athletics
1 track per 100,000

Soccer/Football
1 pitch per 5,000

Tennis
1 court per 3,000

Rugby
1 pitch per 80,000

Netball
1 court per 4,000

Hockey
1 pitch per 100,000

Bowling
1 green per 40,000

Provision Review Considerations

For the Armstrong Creek Urban Growth Area, the analysis indicates an existing demand for facilities across multiple sports with significant gaps in the provision of soccer, tennis and cricket facilities.

Planned provisions compared with ABS Population projections

The following table represents the current and future provision requirements of sporting fields for the broader ACUGA.

	Aus. Rules Oval	Cricket Oval	Soccer/ Football Pitch	Rugby Pitch	Hockey Pitch	Baseball/ Softball Diamond	Athletics Track	Tennis Court	Netball Court	Bowling Green
Current Provision	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0
Benchmark Provision Today	4.4	5.5	4.4	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.2	7.3	5.5	0.5
Provision Gap Today	-1.4	-2.5	-4.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.5	-0.2	-7.3	-1.5	-0.5
Benchmark Provision in 2046	12.2	15.3	12.2	0.8	0.6	1.5	0.6	20.4	15.3	1.5
Provision Gap in 2046*	-9.2	-12.3	-11.2	-0.8	-0.6	-1.5	-0.6	-20.4	-11.3	-1.5

*If planned sporting facilities were not delivered.

PLAY SPACE PROVISION

The Developer Contribution Plan (DCP) identifies a play space to be delivered at this location. It is proposed that a district play space is included within the master plan for this site to complement the existing passive open space offerings in the local catchment area.

District open spaces are larger spaces which typically provide for sport and community use. They attract a wide range of user groups for different purposes and activities and can accommodate a variety of uses simultaneously. They service several neighbourhoods and are destinations which people are often willing to travel to for recreation.

Items that are typically included in a district play space are an all abilities play space for infants, children and teens; BBQ(s); bicycle racks; concrete paths; drinking fountain(s); an irrigated lawn area; parking; picnic tables and seating; public art; public toilets in the community pavilion; rubbish bins; shade trees and planting.

There are five district level play spaces within the ACUGA, which have been mapped below with a one-kilometre radius surrounding each of them.

- 111 Unity Drive, Mt Duneed – delivered.
- 452A Barwarre Road, Armstrong Creek.
- 2-22 Kennard Grove, Charlemont – delivered.
- 530 Horseshoe Bend Road, Armstrong Creek.
- 50 Buchanan Blvd, Armstrong Creek – delivered.



Figure 8. The existing district play space provision surrounding the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve.

SPORT AND RECREATION TRENDS

AusPlay is the Australian Sports Commission's annual survey of participation, collecting data on over 600 different sports and activities in Australia and provides estimates of both casual and organised participation combined. The diagram below is an extraction of the 2023-24 AusPlay data for Victoria for the top 10 outdoor sports and activities.

AusPlay data for Victoria highlights that recreational walking is by far the most popular physical activity, with nearly 3 million participants. This is followed by swimming (1.03 million), running/jogging (974,147), and bush walking (869,529), indicating a strong preference for informal, self-directed outdoor activities.

Organised sports such as soccer/football (400,695 participants) and cricket (209,987 participants) have comparatively lower participation rates than the informal activities but still represent a high participation rate amongst structured sports.

The master plan will need to balance the integration of structured and unstructured infrastructure to cater for the community demand in both areas.

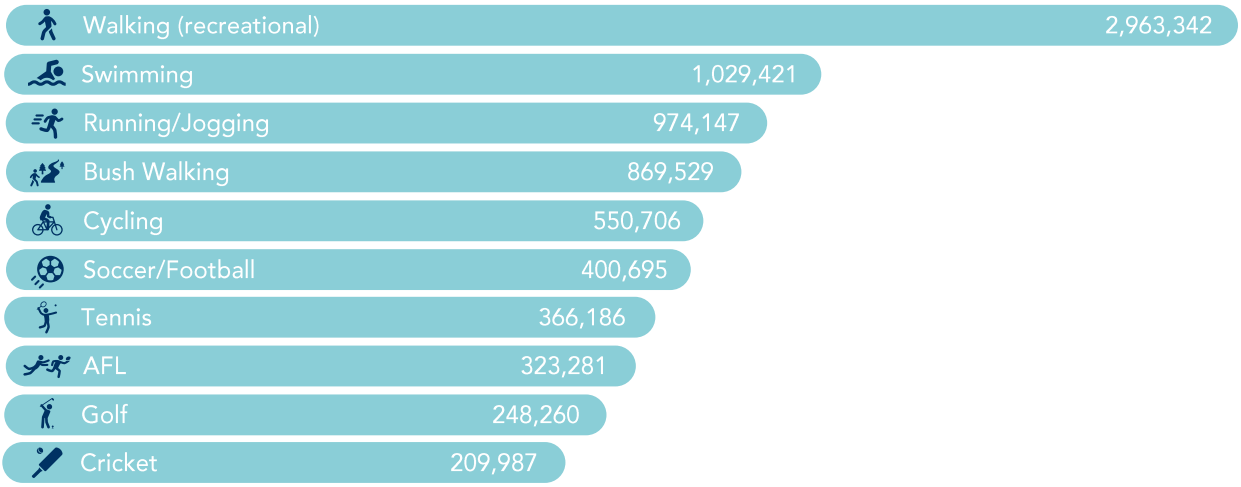
Sport and Recreation Trend Considerations

Based on current sport and recreation trends in Victoria, there is a clear preference for accessible, low-cost, and informal physical activities. Walking (recreational), swimming, jogging, and bush walking dominate participation rates.

For the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve, this trend highlights the importance of integrating infrastructure that supports informal, unstructured activity, such as, walking paths, shared trails, open spaces, and multi-use areas.

Facilities should cater to diverse users of all ages and abilities, ensuring that recreation opportunities are inclusive, flexible, and reflective of how the local community chooses to be active.

AUSPLAY 2023/2024 VICTORIA – TOTAL PARTICIPANTS



CONSULTATION SUMMARY

Community engagement was undertaken between 23 July and 24 August 2025 to gather feedback on the draft master plan. The purpose was to understand community priorities, identify concerns, and ensure the reserve reflects the needs of current and future users. Engagement also sought to build awareness of the project and strengthen local connections.

HOW WE ENGAGED

A mix of online and in-person methods provided multiple ways for the community to participate, where our *Have Your Say* platform served as the central hub.

The engagement received 292 total contributions across a range of engagement methods, including:

- Online survey – 201 responses.
- You decide – Build Your Park Tool – 89 responses.
- On-site consultation – 20 people attended.
- Letterbox drop – 629 delivered.
- Written submission – 2 submissions.

WHO WE ENGAGED

Engagement primarily reached Armstrong Creek residents, with 78 per cent of survey respondents living locally. Most respondents were aged 25-49 years, gender representation was balanced, and younger voices were also captured through the survey.

More than half of respondents (52 per cent) identified as sporting club members, with strong representation from Armstrong United FC (soccer club).

WHAT WE HEARD

The Build Your Park Tool highlighted strong support for a nature-inspired colour palette and the inclusion of large, multi-age play areas with features, such as nature and water play equipment. Respondents prioritised spaces that cater to all ages, with particular emphasis on younger children aged 5-8 years.

KEY FINDINGS OVERVIEW

All community survey responses were reviewed in detail, and the feedback was analysed to identify recurring themes across the consultation. These themes were considered in the preparation of the final master plan to ensure it responds to community needs and expectations.

Overall, the community expressed a high level of support with the draft master plan and a clear sense of optimism for the site's future.

94 per cent fully support or mostly support the draft master plan.

97 per cent believe that the draft master plan meets the community needs very or somewhat well.

83 per cent are very likely to use the reserve once it's developed.

From this review, the following overarching themes have been identified.

Integration of sporting facilities for a growing community

- Strong support for the delivery of new sporting facilities, including dedicated soccer fields.
- Ensure facilities are adaptable to meet future population growth and the needs of the community.

Safe access, traffic management and parking

- Provide safe and convenient access points, with interest in access from Horseshoe Bend Road.
- Ensure adequate car parking.
- Concerns about traffic growth and congestion as the area develops.

Designated dog off-leash and fenced areas

- Community members raised the opportunity for consideration of a designated off-leash space.
- Fenced dog area for training and to minimise conflict.

MASTER PLAN RESPONSE TO THE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

The master plan has been reviewed and updated with the feedback from the community in mind.

Theme 1. Integration of sporting facilities for a growing community

The plan delivers dedicated soccer facilities to relieve pressure on Central Boulevard Recreation Reserve in Armstrong Creek while ensuring the reserve is designed to adapt to future population growth.

A key strength of the master plan is its flexibility. The two soccer fields and the overlaid cricket oval provide opportunities for multiple sporting codes to be accommodated, allowing the site to respond to changing patterns of demand and future-proof the reserve.

The pavilion has been designed with multiple gender neutral changeroom spaces to service both fields, supporting concurrent use and improving inclusivity. Its central location between the sporting fields enables direct viewing across all four playing surfaces, enhancing the spectator experience and ensuring the facility operates as an integrated sporting hub.

Theme 2. Safe access, traffic management and parking

The plan does not propose any traffic changes but highlights the inclusion of a pedestrian connection from Halcyon Lifestyle Village, supported by on-site parking and roundabout to manage vehicle movement.

The community raised concerns about congestion during peak sporting times, particularly around Coastside Drive and Iris Loop. While some congestion is typical for community facilities of this scale, the roundabout is considered the most appropriate treatment to manage traffic flows, reduce delays, and maintain safe movement in and out of the site.

The master plan also incorporates a pedestrian crossing, improving safety for those walking to and from the reserve.

Vehicle access from Horseshoe Bend Road was not feasible due to the presence of significant native vegetation that cannot be removed. Instead, a safe pedestrian connection from Halcyon Lifestyle Village is provided through the southern entry, linked via the existing footpath network.

With regard to Iris Loop, congestion levels will be monitored over time. If traffic or parking demand exceeds acceptable levels, we will consult with residents and consider the introduction of parking restrictions.

At present, no pre-emptive measures are proposed, as the master plan provides substantial on-site parking benchmarked against facility design standards for reserves of this size, while balancing available space to deliver a fit-for-purpose facility.

Theme 3. Designated dog off-leash and fenced areas

The master plan identifies key priorities for this site as being 'local community's hub for active recreation, sporting activity and play, blending high quality facilities with the natural environment'.

While this vision has been proposed for the reserve, following a review of our *Fenced Dog Park – Siting, Design and Management Guidelines*, it has not been identified as a preferred site for a fenced dog park due to the following reasons.

- Proximity to a planned facility: The site falls within a five-kilometre catchment (approximately a 10-minute drive) of the planned dog park at 111-215 Sparrovale Road in Charlemont. This new facility will provide a dedicated fit for purpose dog of leash space and will include open walking areas, multiple access points and dog bag dispensers. It is expected to be delivered in mid-2026.
- Site constraints: The reserve does not have sufficient space to accommodate a fenced dog park that meets our guidelines and broader best-practice design principles.

MASTER PLAN RESPONSE TO THE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

The *Fenced Dog Parks Siting, Design and Management Guidelines* provides us with a framework to plan and deliver fenced dog parks in a coordinated and equitable manner across the municipality. The guidelines outline key principles including locating parks based on areas of need, using consistent site selection criteria, and ensuring parks are within suitable larger open spaces, positioned to serve multiple suburbs, and highly visible.

A minimum fenced area of 3,000m² is recommended, lowering risk of overcrowding and dog conflicts and limit wear and tear.

Although a fenced dog park is not proposed, it is important to note that all sporting reserves within the Greater Geelong are considered dog off-leash areas when organised sport is not being played.

The full community engagement report is provided as an appendices.

MASTER PLAN

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Throughout the master planning process, the detailed site analysis, stakeholder engagement, and strategic planning activities have each contributed to the following key recommendations. Each recommendation responds to identified community needs, projected population growth, spatial opportunities, and broader recreational trends.

The master plan proposes the delivery of soccer fields in lieu of Australian Rules football fields as well as the omission of bowling greens and netball courts that were proposed in the PSP. Due to the impact of the native vegetation, the site does not have the capacity to appropriately cater for the facilities that were proposed in the PSP. The omission of bowling greens and change to soccer fields is also strongly supported by the sports provision analysis which demonstrates an existing over provision of bowling greens and an under provision of soccer facilities.

The master plan can be found on the following page that incorporates all of these recommendations.

Sense of place and community | Accessibility and active transport | Climate change and environmental sustainability | Accessible, integrated and adaptable community facilities

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS		KEY PRINCIPLES
1.	Deliver a district level play space for children of all ages – teens, infants and toddlers, and a sheltered barbeque and picnic area.	
2.	Include a car park of approximately 150 spaces.	
3.	Construct two senior soccer fields overlaid with a cricket oval, on the western side of the reserve.	
4a.	Construct two senior soccer fields to the east of the pavilion.	
4b.	Plan for potential future development of a cricket oval to be overlaid across two proposed senior soccer fields on the east of the pavilion should demand necessitate.	
5.	Build a new multi-purpose community sports pavilion.	
6.	Designate a space for potential installation of future cricket nets.	
7.	Integrate a shared pathway running through the entire reserve.	
8.	Investigate the opportunity to incorporate a nature trail that winds through the existing native tree areas.	
9.	Investigate opportunities for revegetation and ecological remediation.	

Master Plan

0 25 50 75 125



COASTSIDE RECREATION RESERVE PLAY SPACE PLAN

Scale: 1: 400 @A3

0 4m 8m 12m 20m



MASTER PLAN ELEMENTS

MULTI USE FIELDS

Two areas for multi-use fields of play are being proposed for the reserve. It is anticipated that the fields' primary use will be for soccer/football helping to establish a hub for a local soccer/football club in the reserve. Four senior-sized soccer/football pitches can fit within the spaces as pictured. The fields could also be used for other rectangular field sports in the future.

With an allowance for cricket wickets to be placed in between the rectangular fields, the area can accommodate two senior-sized cricket ovals in the warmer months.

The design of the fields of play areas allow for variable dimensions to cater for a range of competition levels. Sports lighting is proposed to meet Football Victoria and Australian Standards. Locations shown are indicative only and will be developed in future design stages.

All fields of play will be surrounded by walking paths and will be easily accessible from the car parking area and central pavilion.

PAVILION

A pavilion is proposed to be placed in between the two fields of play areas and adjacent to the car parking area.

The new pavilion will provide a range of amenities as would be expected by the key stakeholders for the sports that will use the fields of play, including change rooms for players and officials; club/meeting rooms; public toilets; canteen and basic kitchen facilities; storage areas, undercover viewing areas and social spaces.

The pavilion will be a central hub within the reserve and will provide space for community meetings and activities when not being used for sporting-related activity.









MASTER PLAN ELEMENTS

PLAY SPACE

A district level play space area is proposed for inclusion at the north-western edge of the reserve, placing it in close proximity to the car parking area, the public facilities (in the pavilion), the primary school and neighboring residences on Iris Loop and Coastside Drive.

The play space will cater for children of all ages and abilities with a variety of play activities and experiences. This area will also include covered shelters and BBQs, while also providing seating and shaded areas. Public toilets will be located at the sports pavilion.



WALKWAYS

Several walkways will connect the different facilities within the reserve while also providing easy active thoroughfares between neighbourhoods, the reserve, primary school, childcare centre and the proposed commercial and community centres.

Within the reserve, the walkways will surround the fields of play while providing connections to the central pavilion, play space, car parking area and provide opportunities for beautiful tree-lined walks on a long north-south corridor and along the western and southern sides of the reserve.

A 2.5-metre-wide shared bicycle and pedestrian path is proposed to run from the north to the south through the reserve to connect with the broader shared path network on Warralily Boulevard and Horseshoe Bend Road.



MASTER PLAN ELEMENTS

VEHICULAR ACCESS AND PARKING

The primary vehicular access point will be from Coastside Drive on the western side of the reserve. The access road will stem from a roundabout on Coastside Drive and run adjacent to the primary school.

The access road will connect to a proposed car parking area which could accommodate up to 150 vehicles and provide easy access to the play space, pavilion and fields of play.



NATURAL VEGETATION

There is significant protected native vegetation extending around the eastern and parts of the southern boundary and it is planned that these areas will not be developed or impeded on.

There is an opportunity for some revegetation along with continued protection of the native flora.

An inter-linked public open space and path network can build on the existing landscape character while protecting the areas of native vegetation retention and protection.

The master plan is proposing to investigate the opportunity for a nature walk through the existing trees indicated at number 8. The proposal will need to consider tree protection zones to inform the location at the detailed design phase.

The reserve will look to plant several new trees and vegetation with a goal of increasing the tree canopy and the amount of shade around the reserve.



IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING

COST ESTIMATES

Indicative costings have been prepared by a Certified Quantity Surveyor to determine the funding requirements to deliver the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan.

Costs are current at November 2025 and require refinement through further detailed investigations and design development.

FUNDING STRATEGY

The majority of funding for the delivery of the master plan will be provided by the City of Greater Geelong through the Council Budget and Developer Contributions Plan, however additional funding from external sources may be required to complete all master plan proposals.

An indicative list of funding opportunities has been provided that could be pursued to support completion of the plan. These reflect the typical funding pathways available to local government and community organisations for sport and recreation projects.

Generally, opportunities can be sought to support:

- Facility upgrades and new builds – State and federal programs often target investment in pavilions, change facilities, and playing surfaces, particularly where they address participation growth and community demand.
- Lighting and safety improvements – Grants are commonly available to upgrade sports lighting, improve accessibility, and extend safe use of facilities.
- Inclusion and female participation – Dedicated funds regularly focus on increasing opportunities for women and girls, as well as removing barriers for under-represented groups.
- Open space and active recreation – Broader programs can support improvements to parks, playgrounds, and informal recreation spaces that encourage physical activity.
- Planning and feasibility – Funding is sometimes provided for master planning, feasibility studies, or detailed designs that prepare projects for future investment.

INDICATIVE PROGRAMS

- **Sport and Recreation Victoria: Local Sports Infrastructure Fund** – Delivers new and upgraded infrastructure across community facilities, community sports lighting, and planning.
- **Victorian Government: Better Parks and Playgrounds** – Invests in projects that optimise and revitalise the quality, safety, amenity, shared use, accessibility, and function of the open space network in targeted locations.
- **Federal Government: Play Our Way – National Sport Participation Grants** – Increases opportunities for women and girls in sport, including facility enhancements that remove barriers to participation.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The implementation table outlines the recommendations in the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan, including priority order and indicative costs. The project has a delivery budget of approximately $18.4 million, with additional funding to be sought if required.

The indicative costs for the recommendations in the table below do not include non-construction expenses, contingencies, and cost escalations, which are estimated to add approximately $7.5 million to these cost estimates. Implementation will remain focused on aligning outcomes with the vision, objectives, and community needs, supported through collaboration with key stakeholders, future tenant clubs, and funding partners.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS		INDICATIVE 2025 COST ESTIMATE	PRIORITY
3.	Construct two senior soccer fields overlaid with a cricket oval, on the western side of the reserve.	$3,025,000	High
4a.	Construct two senior soccer fields to the east of the pavilion.	$2,522,000	
5.	Build a new multi-purpose community sports pavilion.	$3,869,000	
1.	Deliver a district level play space for children of all ages – teens, infants and toddlers, and a sheltered barbeque and picnic area.	$1,050,000	
2.	Include a car park of approximately 150 spaces.	$850,000	Medium
7.	Integrate a shared pathway running through the entire reserve.	$2,600,000*	
8.	Investigate the opportunity to incorporate a nature trail that winds through the existing native tree areas.	Included in above (7)	
9.	Investigate opportunities for revegetation and ecological remediation.	Included in above (7)	
6.	Designate a space for potential installation of future cricket nets.	Excluded	Low
4b.	Plan for potential future development of a cricket oval to be overlaid across two proposed senior soccer fields on the east of the pavilion should demand necessitate.	Included in above (7)	

*Cost includes general reserve landscaping.

APPENDICES

LITERATURE REVIEW

The following documents provide a broader context for this master plan and ensure that it aligns with our process and planning. We have reviewed several others that can be found in this section.



Each document has been critically reviewed to provide an initial summary of the document, as well as the key insight for consideration.

Council Plan 2025-29

The Council Plan outlines the vision and strategic direction of the Greater Geelong community over the next four years.

The plan provides insights into the key indicators that will help Geelong to achieve their vision of being 'internationally recognised as a clever and creative city-region that is forward looking, enterprising and adaptive, and cares for its people and environment'.

- **Wealth generated by businesses, organisations and individuals working.**
- **Percentage of residents reporting their health and wellbeing as very good or excellent.**
- **Percentage of journeys to work made by public transport, walking or cycling.**
- **Total number of visitors to the city-region.**
- **Percentage of urban tree canopy cover.**
- **Percentage of Geelong's population in the labour force.**
- **Tonnes of CO2 emissions.**
- **Number of Greater Geelong suburbs in the bottom 20 per cent of Index of Relative socio-economic disadvantage.**

The plan highlights the key areas that will be the focus for the next four years:

- Core and critical infrastructure
- Healthy and caring community
- Economic development
- Heritage and culture
- Environment and circular economy
- Governance and integrity

The master plan will deliver infrastructure that is high-quality, while prioritising climate responsibility, encouraging sustainable transport, and creating healthy, inclusive spaces connected to the natural landscape.

Community Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2025-29

This document outlines the health and wellbeing priorities for The City over the next four years and is shaping the social, environmental and economic factors that influence health.

The six health and wellbeing priorities identified in the Strategy are:

- Mental wellbeing and social inclusion – tackling loneliness, psychological distress, and housing insecurity while strengthening community hubs.
- Equitable access to safe, healthy, and sustainable food – addressing rising food insecurity, poor diets, and the resilience of the local food system.
- Physical activity and active living – improving walkability, transport, and affordable access to active spaces to reduce sedentary behaviour.
- Gender equity and prevention of violence – promoting safety, reducing discrimination, and addressing family violence, particularly for women and diverse groups.
- Climate change and health impacts – preparing for extreme weather, heat, and environmental risks while integrating health into climate action.
- Harm minimisation – reducing harm from tobacco, vaping, alcohol, and gambling, especially among young people and disadvantaged communities.

The strategy commits to annual action plans and regular reviews, including an evaluation framework to track progress. Partnerships are central, with Council working alongside health services, community organisations, and state agencies to deliver collective impact.

The master plan should ensure spaces foster connection, active living, safety, equity, and climate resilience. Facilities and environments should actively promote positive health behaviours, reduce harm, and provide inclusive, accessible opportunities for all community members.

Social Infrastructure Plan – Generation One 2020-2023

This document aims to ensure that future decision making and investment in community infrastructure is clear, equitable and based on evidence of need. The plan brings together all our social infrastructure strategies, plans, needs, priorities and responses.

Generation One of the *Social Infrastructure Plan* covers the following social infrastructure networks: early years, youth spaces, libraries, community meeting and program spaces, arts and culture, open space, play spaces, aquatics and leisure, indoor sport and recreation, outdoor sport and recreation (including sports pavilions), golf, cycling and trails, and public toilets.

The key focus areas of the plan are:

- Improving access and connectivity.
- Empowered and informed.
- Intergenerational and adaptive.
- Place based and fit-for-purpose.
- Addressing our ageing and obsolete infrastructure.
- Bridging the difference in service provision across sectors and locations.
- Contemporary systems and data.

The outdoor sport and recreation social network will be vital for this project, identifying the following four key focus areas:

- Focus on building capacity and capability across the existing network.
- Align maintenance programs and budgets to meet agreed service levels.
- Contemporise and undertake holistic planning and policy development.
- Ensure adequate resource alignment to enable and service growth and new projects.

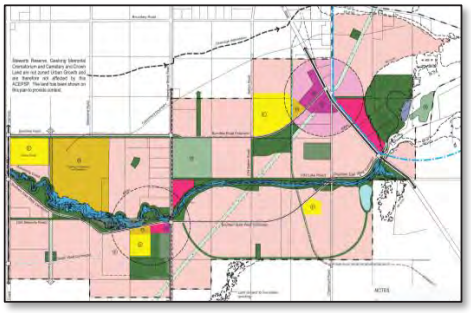
The master plan will need to ensure that proposed facilities not only meet the minimum requirements but provide an equitable and sustainable offering to the local community.

Armstrong Creek East Precinct Structure Plan

The key information relating to the Armstrong Creek East Precinct Structure Plan (ACEPSP) has been detailed throughout this report. We have provided a summary of the PSP and its area, as well as the vision for the precinct.

A precinct structure plan is the planning mechanism used to plan for new urban development together with the infrastructure and services required by its future community. This PSP is in relation to the Armstrong Creek Urban Growth Area (ACUGA) and more specifically the Armstrong Creek East Precinct (ACEP) that sits within this growth area.

The ACEPSP covers approximately 794 hectares, bounded by Surf Coast Highway (west), private properties to the north of Lower Duneed Road (south), Hospital Swamp (east) and the edge of private properties situated between Burvilles Road and Boundary Road (north).



The vision for the ACEP will be:

- An inter-linked public open space and path network and public open space nodes that build on the existing landscape character while protecting the biodiversity in habitat conservation areas and through native vegetation retention and protection.
- Transport and movement systems planned from the outset to facilitate the ability to move about safely by walking and cycling to promote healthy activity, energy conservation and social interaction and, in a coordinated planning manner, to provide for essential vehicle traffic.
- Human-scale facilities including a 'main street' neighbourhood activity centre and a range of other planned and co-located community facilities that are accessible safely by all means of transport and from throughout ACEP and beyond.

The PSP identifies the delivery of two football/ cricket ovals, two netball courts, two bowling greens and a pavilion. The master plan will need to consider the capacity of the site, including the impact of the native vegetation, to appropriately cater for facilities that are proposed in the PSP (along with consideration of the provision analysis).

To ensure that the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve aligns with the vision of the ACEP, the master plan will also need to incorporate public pathway networks that connect existing access points and community facilities to the reserve. This will promote healthy, physical activity and social interaction, as well as reduce the reliance on vehicular traffic.

Armstrong Creek East Precinct Development Contributions Plan

The *Armstrong Creek East Precinct Development Contributions Plan* was developed to support the funding of infrastructure in the Armstrong Creek East Precinct (ACEP) and set out a long-term framework in relation to:

- Land use (such as residential development of varying densities, open space and community facilities).
- Transport (such as the road network, collector roads and proposed public transport).
- Activity centres (e.g. community and commercial facilities).
- Open space (passive and active), waterways and environmentally sensitive areas.

This is not the sole source of funding for all infrastructure in the precinct. The full range of infrastructure identified will only be delivered if infrastructure is provided by a variety of funding sources.

Many components of the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve are included within the developer contribution plan - shared trails, active and passive open space, playground and the community pavilion.

Estimated project costs are determined in the DCP and indexed annually.

The master plan will need to take the budgetary costs into consideration for the implementation planning phase.

Sports Facility Development Guide

The *Sports Facility Development Guide* sets out the different levels of facility provision for sport open space and the facility standards required by us for the growth areas.

The guide aims to:

- Provide the community with local access to places and spaces where they can achieve health and wellbeing aspirations through, physical activity and social connectedness.
- Provide places and spaces where people feel safe, supported and respected, where they can participate free from discrimination and fear of violence.
- Plan, design and deliver places and spaces where people of all ages can participate in physical activity together.
- Maximise the flexibility of facilities through inclusive design which promotes active leisure by the whole community including people of varying ages, interests, gender, identities, abilities and cultures.
- Provide facilities that are flexible, multi-use and shared by a range of users to maximise use of limited spaces.
- Ensure facilities are fit for purpose, compliant, economically sustainable and maximise principles of Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) to achieve a balance between functionality and sustainability.
- To undertake careful planning and design to address the community access to a range of activities and diversity of opportunities to be healthy and active.

The guide provides standard specifications for regional and district level facilities for each sport. As the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve is a district level facility, we have provided the detailed specifications for the relevant sports are provided in an appendix.

The master plan will need to prioritise sporting infrastructure that has a flexible and inclusive design and promotes physical activity and social connectedness.

Armstrong Creek Sports Development Plan

The *Armstrong Creek Sports Development Plan* outlines how sport and associated partners can make a positive contribution towards delivering an active and healthy community. It builds on the historical commitment and grows our involvement in sport to progress and develop its new communities.

The vision as outlined in this plan for Armstrong Creek is 'a residential development that meets the highest standards of sustainable living.'

In alignment with this vision, this plan identified the following four priority areas as having the greatest impact on the planning, development and delivery of sport across Armstrong Creek.

Participation
Ensure the right mix of programs are planned and delivered for the community, whilst balancing development, competition and participation needs.

Management
Understanding the needs of the local community and to match them with the requirements of sport, in addition to delivering quality infrastructure and managing it in a welcoming, shared and flexible way.

People
Understanding the local community, who they are (now and in the future) and how they will connect with sport in the local area.

Delivery
Securing sport, government and community resources, aligning objectives, integrating existing systems and accessing enough resources (financial and human) to create a sustainable sports development model for the local community.

The master plan needs to ensure well planned facilities, in consultation with relevant stakeholders to ensure the above principles are met.

Fair Play Strategy (2017)

(The Fair Play Strategy is currently under review.)

This document provides the fees and charges framework for use of community assets and clarity around the standard provisions and levels of service to be consistent across the region.

The City currently own, manage and maintain 1,700 hectares of open space and $85 million in sport and recreation facilities and assets. These facilities and assets are home to 300 clubs and community groups.

Our renewal gap in 2017 was $197 million over the next 20 years, whereby $121 million is contractually obligated infrastructure in planned growth areas.

The aim of the strategy was to gain a clear understanding of the cost of sport and recreation to us and participants, the subsidy required to support healthy communities and physical activity, and the capacity of clubs and community groups to pay for facility use.

The master plan will need to consider that any new tenants will have a cost associated with their activities and also consideration to the provision of facilities aligns with fair play.

Fair Access Policy (2024)

This document addresses known barriers experienced by women and girls in accessing and using community sports infrastructure.

The policy aims to progressively build the capacity and capabilities in identifying and eliminating systemic causes of gender inequality in policy, programs, communications, and delivery and allocation of community sports and recreation infrastructure.

We have previously identified a need to improve participation for all genders and abilities, in its *Fair Play Strategy*. A *Fair Access Policy* is required focusing on infrastructure, programs and governance.

Whilst key findings from the *Greater Geelong Sport and Recreation Census* (2023) show encouraging trends across:

- 95 per cent of all sports facilities are used for training, events or games for all genders.
- 91 per cent of clubs have women coaches, managers and administrators.
- 84 per cent of clubs report women and girls' results and achievements.

Other indicators from the census support the research that more support is needed to reverse the lower levels of participation and barriers experienced by women and girls, trans and gender diverse people:

- Sports participation rates among girls (22 per cent) are lower than boys (37 per cent).
- Sports participation rates among women (16 per cent) are lower than men (24 per cent).
- 30 per cent of change rooms are gender neutral.

The *Fair Access Policy*, together with the *Fair Access Action Plan* aim to facilitate greater equitable access and allocation of community sport and recreation infrastructure in Greater Geelong.

The policy framework aligns with the State Government's six guiding principles and commitments under the Fair Access Policy Roadmap – two of the six principles relate to infrastructure.

Principle 1 – Infrastructure
Commitment – Community sports and active recreation infrastructure are genuinely welcoming, safe and inclusive.

Principle 3 – Allocation and Scheduling
Commitment – Women and girls will have fair access to and use of community sport and recreation infrastructure which is of the highest quality, at the most convenient location and times and includes new opportunities and sports.

The master plan will need to consider that any new infrastructure is welcoming, safe, inclusive and of a high quality.

Sustainable Communities Infrastructure Guidelines (2016)

The document is intended to facilitate the development of Sustainable Communities through quality planning, design and construction of infrastructure. The infrastructure guidelines are split into the following areas, where relevant components to this project have been provided:

- Transport and Movement.
- Landscape and Streetscape (park and street planting, turf and planting preferences, and weed management).
- To make open space contribute to the health of the local community.
- Water Management.
- Sport, Recreation and Open Space (sporting open space, and pavilions and built infrastructure).
- Protect and enhance the natural and cultural environments.
- Open spaces that ensure conservation and heritage values are retained.
- Social and Community Facilities.
- Environment and Biodiversity

Infrastructure and/or developments should be designed so that:

- They remain viable under the widest range of probable climate futures.
- They can be implemented within planned budgets or refer to sufficient evidence to justify budget/revenue increases.
- They incorporate flexible features and preserve options.
- Due consideration is given to systematic interdependencies when considering climate impacts.

The master plan will need to ensure that facilities not only meet minimum requirements but provide a high quality, equitable and sustainable offering to the local community.

Opportunities for passive recreation, as well as active sporting tenants will need to be discussed.

Urban Forest Strategy (2015-25)

The *Urban Forest Strategy* expands on the concept of enhancing the public and private tree population, where the sum of trees and vegetation is the urban forest. The strategy provides a vision for the urban forest of 'Geelong will be a cool green city for the future.'

Four objectives to achieve the vision:

To green the city
Increase tree planting and associated vegetation in prioritised locations.

To cool the city
Increase canopy cover, increase use of smart water sensitive urban design and an increase in landscape permeability.

To engage the city's community and build regional partnerships
More community activities: tree planting, arts and culture activities, use of social media, working with partners to improve and enhance tree planting projects.

To demonstrate best practice urban tree management
Develop a complete set of technical guidelines for urban tree management and offer training and upskilling where needed.

The key opportunities for providing a healthier and more dynamic urban forest are:

- 45,000 existing vacant nature strips in our streets.
- Developing tree lined entrances to our city.
- Thousands of tree planting locations across Geelong's open space network.
- Improving the quality of streetscapes and open space in urban growth areas.
- Planting more indigenous trees in wetland reserves and conservation areas.

The master plan will be required to conserve the existing forestry and landscape in its planning. The reserve will need to integrate sufficient trees and vegetation to work towards the goal of increasing the tree canopy to 25 per cent over a 30-year period across Geelong.

Armstrong Creek East Native Vegetation Protection Plan

Purpose

In accordance with clause 52.16 of the City of Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, the purpose of this plan is to:

- To make open space contribute to the health of the local community and to provide an experience and landscape that creates opportunities.
- Specify the native vegetation to be protected and the native vegetation that can be removed, destroyed or lopped.
- Ensure that areas set aside to protect native vegetation are managed to conserve ecological values in accordance with the Armstrong Creek East Precinct Structure Plan (ACEPSP).
- Set out the works or other necessary actions to offset the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.
- Streamline the planning approvals process through a landscape approach to native vegetation protection and management.

Vegetation Protection Objectives to be Achieved

1. Provide for the protection of native vegetation within the landscape that recognises the conservation significance of native vegetation in accordance with Victoria's Native Vegetation Management – A Framework for Action (the Framework) (DNRE 2002).
2. Be consistent with and complement the desired outcomes of the ACEPSP.
3. Ensure that appropriate biodiversity outcomes are achieved through the retention of specified native vegetation, habitat enhancement and waterway protection.
4. Support the provision of Public Open Space (POS) and dedicated conservation areas that avoid vegetation loss, minimise impacts and enhance native vegetation protection through the precinct.

SITE CONTEXT MAPS

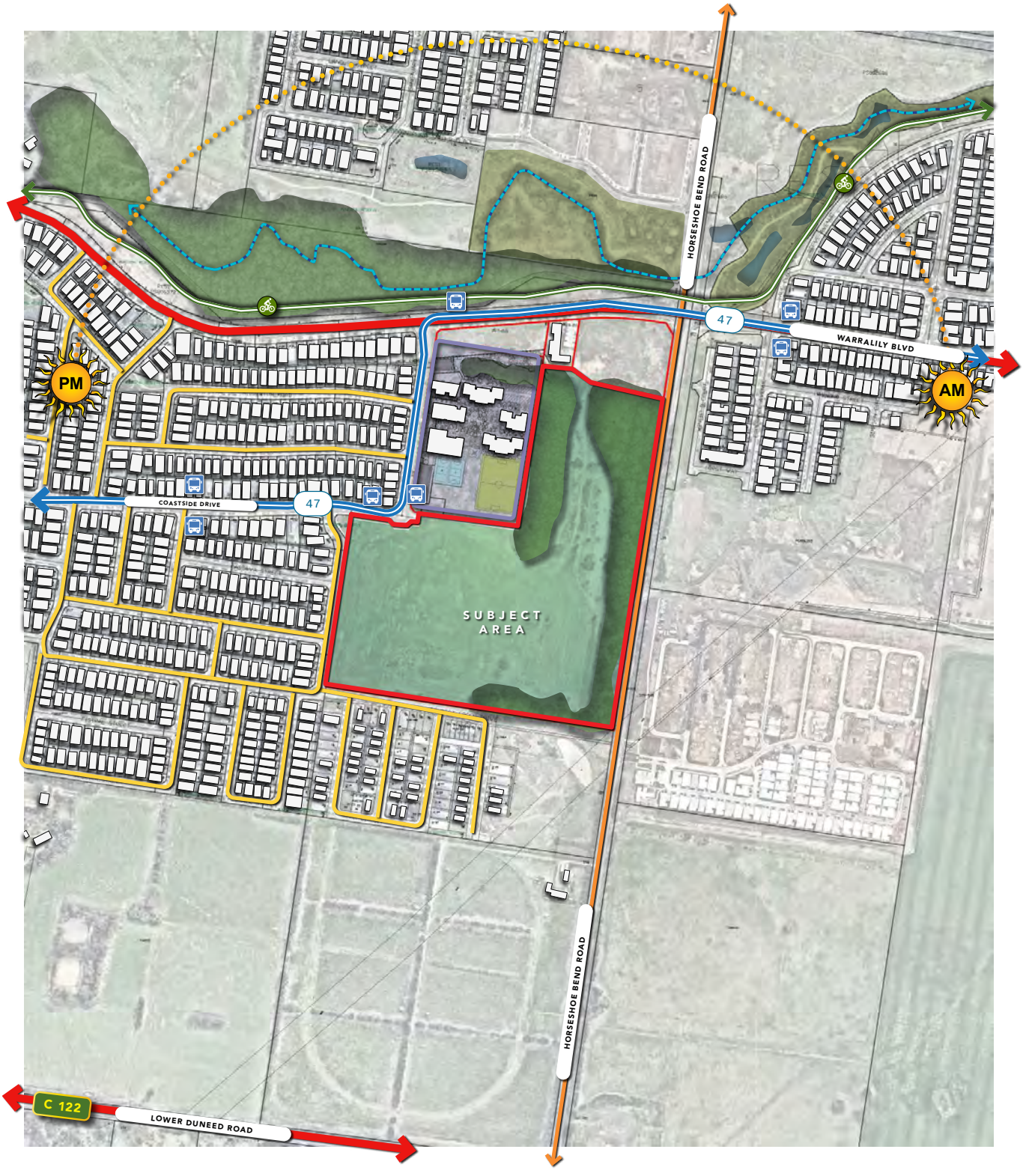
Location Context



Location Context



Location Context

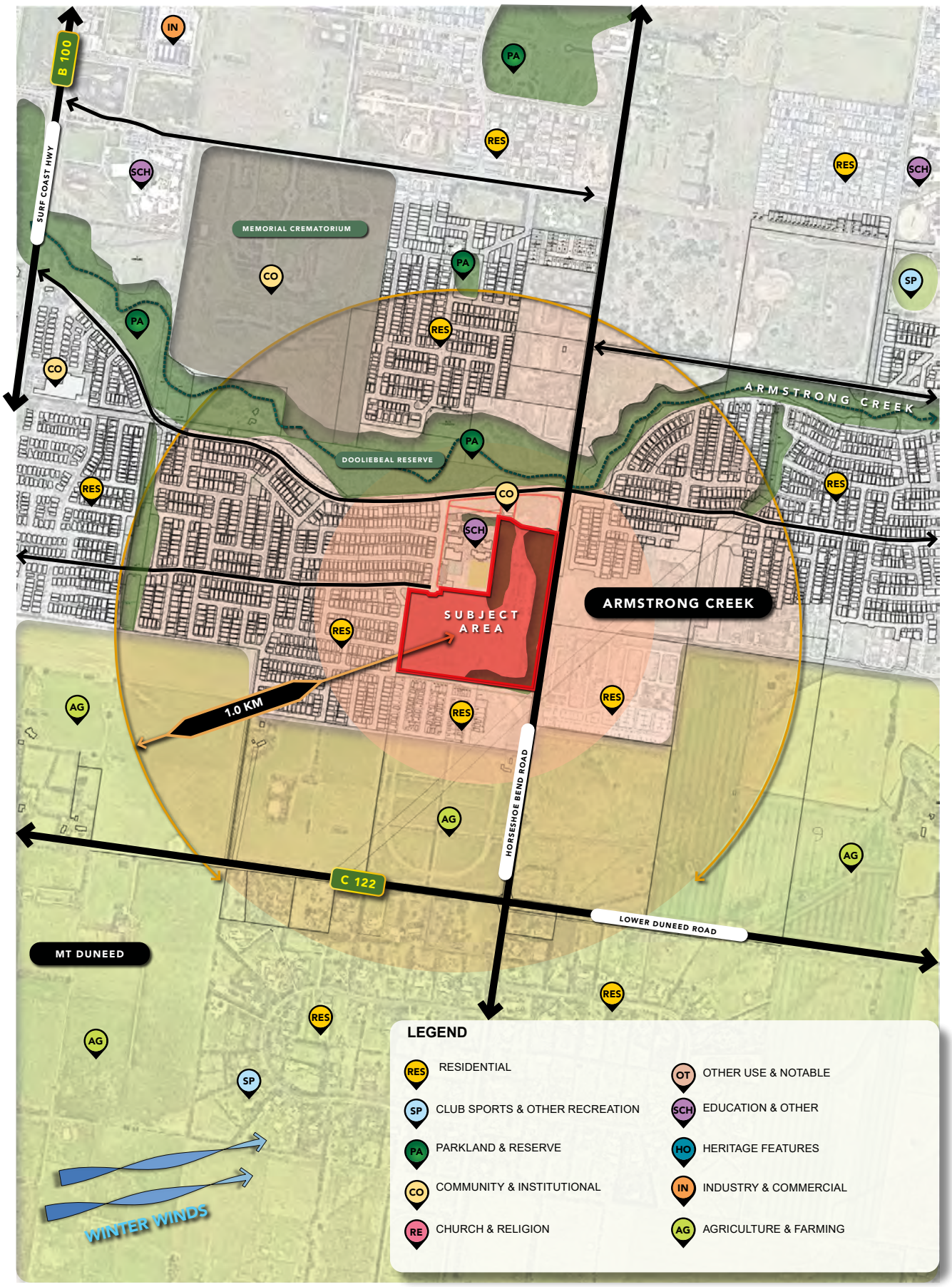


LEGEND

- SITE BOUNDARY
- PRECINCT ENTRY
- GENERAL OPEN SPACE
- NATIVE VEGETATION AREAS
- KEY PRECINCT AND RESERVE ENTRY
- BUS DROP-OFF / PICK-UP
- SMALL BICYCLE PARKING
- BUS ROUTE
- LOCAL CYCLEWAY
- PRIMARY ROADS
- SECONDARY AND CONNECTOR ROADS
- LOCAL ROADS

Location Context

Scale: 1:10,000 @A3



Site Analysis Plan



LEGEND

1. BLOINKS RESERVE - SUBJECT AREA
2. PROPOSED NEW SCHOOL
3. PROPOSED COMMUNITY CENTRE
4. CHILDCARE FACILITY
5. FUTURE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT SITE
6. WALKING TRAIL AND SHARED PATH
7. ARMSTRONG CREEK OPEN SPACE
8. NEW RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Existing Site Plan

0 25 50 75 125



LEGEND

- SUBJECT AREA
- MAIN ENTRY
- SENSITIVE INTERFACES
- EXISTING CAR PARK
- BUS STOP
- SENSITIVE VIEWS/VISTAS
- PRECINCT FOCUS
- IDENTIFIED OPEN SPACE
- PASSIVE CONNECTIONS

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CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

COASTSIDE DRIVE RECREATION RESERVE MASTER PLAN

FINAL ENGAGEMENT REPORT

OCTOBER 2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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Executive Summary

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The City of Greater Geelong engaged consultants Solucio, in partnership with The OCD, to prepare a master plan for the new Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve in Armstrong Creek. The plan will guide development of the greenfield site into a high-quality community asset that balances organised sport, informal recreation, and environmental values.

ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Community engagement was undertaken between 23 July and 24 August 2025 to gather feedback on the draft master plan. The purpose was to understand community priorities, identify concerns, and ensure the reserve reflects the needs of current and future users.

HOW WE ENGAGED

A mix of online and in-person methods provided multiple ways for the community to participate, where our Have Your Say (HYS) platform served as the central hub.

The engagement received 292 total contributions across a range of engagement methods, including:

- Online survey – 201 responses.
- You decide – Build Your Park Tool – 89 responses.
- On-site consultation – 20 people attended.
- Letterbox drop – 629 delivered.
- Written submission – 2 submissions.

WHO WE ENGAGED

Engagement primarily reached Armstrong Creek residents, with 78 per cent of survey respondents living locally and reflecting the area's young family demographic. Most respondents were aged 25–49, gender representation was balanced, and younger voices were also captured through the survey.

More than half of respondents (52 per cent) identified as sporting club members, with strong representation from Armstrong United FC (soccer club).

WHAT WE HEARD

The online survey highlighted strong support for a nature-inspired colour palette and the inclusion of large, multi-age play areas with features, such as nature and water play equipment. Respondents prioritised spaces that cater to all ages, with particular emphasis on younger children aged 5-8 years. The project team has carefully reviewed and analysed all consultation feedback received throughout the engagement process. From this review, the following overarching themes have been identified.

Integration of sporting facilities for a growing community

- Strong support for the delivery of new sporting facilities, including dedicated soccer fields.
- Ensure facilities are adaptable to meet future population growth and the needs of the community.

Safe access, traffic management and parking

- Provide safe and convenient access points, with interest in access from Horseshoe Bend Road.
- Ensure adequate car parking.
- Concerns about traffic growth and congestion as the area develops.

Designated dog off-leash and fenced areas

- Community members raised the opportunity for consideration of a designated off-leash space.
- Fenced dog area for training and to minimise conflict.

HOW WE ARE RESPONDING

The master plan will be reviewed and updated responding to the feedback from the community.

Theme 1. The master plan delivers dedicated soccer facilities with flexible field layouts and a centrally located pavilion, ensuring the reserve can adapt to future growth and support a range of sporting codes.

Theme 2. The master plan provides a pedestrian connection from Halcyon Lifestyle Village, parking and a roundabout, with congestion around Iris Loop to be monitored and addressed if needed.

Theme 3. The master plan does not provide a fenced dog park due to site constraints and proximity to Sparrovale Road facility in Charlemont, however our sports fields are considered designated off leash areas when not in use by organised sporting activities.

Introduction

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The City of Greater Geelong engaged Solucio, in partnership with The OCD, to prepare a master plan for a new recreation reserve at Coastside Drive in Armstrong Creek. The plan will guide development of the site to ensure it sustainably meets community needs.

Informed by the Armstrong Creek East Precinct Structure Plan (PSP) and Developer Contributions Plan (DCP), the master plan has been tested against demand assessments, strategic priorities, and financial considerations. Its purpose is to deliver a high-quality community asset that balances the needs of sport and recreation users with those of the environment.

Before releasing the draft for consultation, a series of activities were completed, including:

- Scoping workshop and site visit.
- Review of key documents and demographic data.
- Site assessment and land feature survey.
- Participation and provision analysis.
- Cultural heritage, power supply, and stormwater assessments.
- Draft master plan development.
- City-led public consultation (online and in-person).

This engagement report presents the outcomes of the consultation process. It is intended for the City of Greater Geelong, the Project Working Group, the Project Reference Group, and the wider community.

ENGAGEMENT PURPOSE

The consultation process aimed to understand the community's priorities for the reserve and gauge sentiment on the draft master plan. By seeking input, we ensured the plan reflects the needs of residents, future tenant sporting clubs, and stakeholders, while also providing Councillors with clear feedback to support decision-making.

Alongside gathering feedback, the process helped raise awareness of the project, generate local interest, and strengthen connections.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report presents the outcomes of the consultation process, which ran from 23 July to 24 August 2025. It summarises the engagement methods used, the feedback received, and how these insights will inform the final master plan.

The intended audience includes the City of Greater Geelong, Councillors, the Project Working Group, the Project Reference Group, and the wider community. For residents and stakeholders, it offers transparency, shows how feedback has been considered, and demonstrates Council's commitment to working in partnership with the community to deliver a high-quality reserve.



Image 1. Artistic render of the future Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve.



Image 2. The open grassed area that is suitable for the fields of play.

How We Engaged

SNAPSHOT

The following mix of online and in-person engagement activities were undertaken to provide the community with multiple ways to participate in the Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Draft Master Plan consultation.



HAVE YOUR SAY (HYS) PLATFORM

The Have Your Say (HYS) platform was the main engagement tool. Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Draft Master Plan | Have Your Say.

A quick view map of the draft master plan was provided on the HYS platform to allow respondents to easily view the plan.

An email campaign was sent out from the HYS platform to members who have indicated an interested in Armstrong Creek projects, sport and recreation, families, children, health and similar categories.

ONLINE SURVEY

An online survey was published on the Have Your Say project platform to seek feedback on the draft master plan. The survey sought feedback on the community's support for the plan, any issues or feedback with plan.

201 responses to the survey were received.

YOU DECIDE – BUILD YOUR PARK TOOL

An online 'Build Your Park' tool was utilised on the Have Your Say platform to allow the community to choose what elements are most important to them for inclusion in the playground design.

89 responses were received though this tool.

ON-SITE CONSULTATION

One x 2 hour onsite drop-in session was held on Saturday 9 August at the reserve. A dotmocracy activity (voting using dots) was used at the popup. The activity involved the community prioritising what type of play equipment elements they liked by placing dots on a range of play equipment images.

20 people attended the session.

LETTERBOX DROP

Flyers were distributed in the first 2 weeks of the engagement to inform residents in close proximity to the reserve of the engagement. Flyers were also provided to the nearby 'Busy Bees' childcare centre and Halcyon Lifestyle Village.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

The project manager's email address was provided on the Have Your Say platform and posters/flyers enabling people to provide feedback through a more direct method.

Two written submissions were received via email.

MEDIA RELEASES

A media release went out on 29 July and articles were also run by the Geelong Times, Armstrong Creek Times and the Surf Coast Times.

ON-SITE SIGNAGE

Four (4) signs were installed on-site at entry points into the reserve, directing people to our Have Your Say platform to provide feedback.

Who We Engaged

WHO WE PLANNED TO ENGAGE

Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve will be a vital sports and recreation hub for the Armstrong Creek community, primarily serving local residents. As a greenfield site that will become a home of soccer and other tenant clubs, the engagement sought to capture the views of those most directly affected by its future use.

We planned to engage:

- Local residents living near the reserve, as the primary users of the site.
- Future sporting clubs and participants, particularly Armstrong United FC as the proposed major tenant, alongside potential users of other sporting and recreation facilities.
- Families and young people, given their likely long-term use of play spaces and recreation areas.

The focus was on the local Armstrong Creek community, as well as the broader municipality, to ensure the reserve reflects the needs of those across Greater Geelong.

PARTICIPATION

The engagement received 292 total contributions across a range of engagement methods, including:

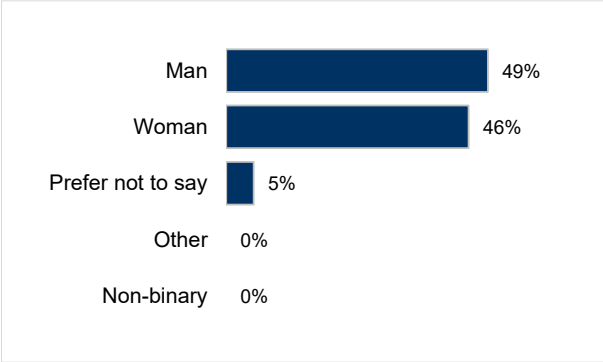
- Online survey – 201 responses.
- You decide – Build Your Park Tool – 89 responses.
- On-site consultation – 20 people attended.
- Letterbox drop – 629 delivered.
- Written submission – 2 submissions.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Survey results indicate strong representation from families and young couples, with 67 per cent of respondents aged 25–49. This aligns with the demographics of Armstrong Creek as a growing community of young families.

- 11 per cent are under 18.
- 3 per cent are aged 18-24 years.
- 22 per cent are aged 25-34 years.
- 45 per cent are aged 35-49 years.
- 10 per cent are aged 50-59 years.
- 6 per cent are aged 60-69 years.
- 3 per cent are aged 70 years and over.

The gender split was relatively even, with 49 per cent male and 46 per cent female respondents. The sample also included younger age groups, highlighting interest from those who will use the reserve in the long-term.



The majority of survey respondents (78 per cent) live in Armstrong Creek, highlighting that feedback is primarily from local residents who are the core users of the reserve.

WHO ACTIVELY ENGAGED

Survey results show strong participation from the sporting community, where 106 respondents (52 per cent) identified as members of a sporting club. Of these, 65 per cent were from Armstrong United FC, reflecting its role as the main tenant of the reserve and resulted in significant support for soccer facilities.

While this feedback is valuable for planning, it is important to note the over-representation of one club. However, broader community perspectives were also present, with 48 per cent being unaffiliated with a sporting club, helping to provide a more balanced representation of views.



Image 3. The Armstrong United FC.

What We Heard

WHAT WE ASKED AND WHY

This round of community engagement was undertaken to receive feedback on the draft master plan and understand community sentiment towards the plan. The engagement also allows us to understand what types of equipment the community would like for the play space. To understand the needs of local residents and the broader community, we asked respondents about:

- **Overall views on the master plan** - level of support, concerns, and whether it meets community needs.
- **Sport and recreation use** - involvement in clubs, activities likely to occur at the reserve, and likelihood of future use.
- **Accessibility and inclusiveness** - whether the plan considers equitable access.
- **Play space design** - suggestions for equipment, age groups, themes/colours, and preferred features.
- **Access to the reserve** - how people travel to and from the site.

KEY FINDINGS OVERVIEW

All community survey responses were reviewed in detail, and the feedback was analysed to identify recurring themes across the consultation. These themes were considered in the preparation of the final master plan to ensure it responds to community needs and expectations. The analysis highlighted three overarching themes that were consistently raised:

1. Support for the integration of sporting facilities for a growing community.
2. Consideration of a designated dog off-leash and fenced areas.
3. Need for safe access, traffic management and parking.

Overall, the community expressed a high level of support with the draft master plan and a clear sense of optimism for the site's future.

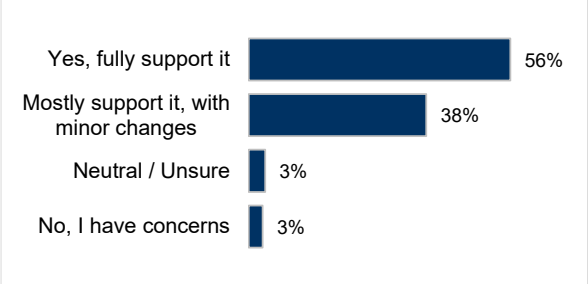
94 per cent fully support or mostly support the draft master plan.

97 per cent believe that the draft master plan meets community needs very or somewhat well.

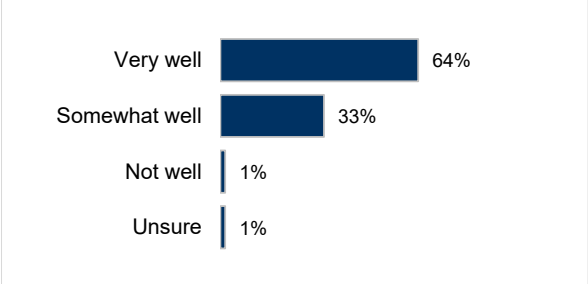
83 per cent are very likely to use the reserve once it's developed.

BREAKDOWN OF FINDINGS

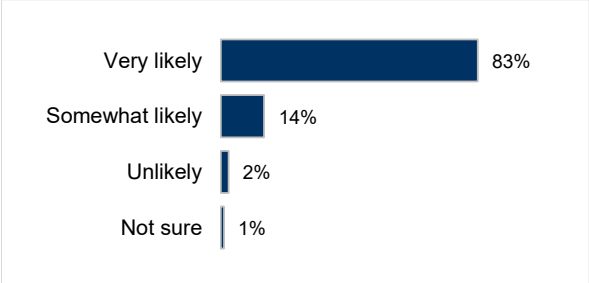
Support for the Draft Master Plan



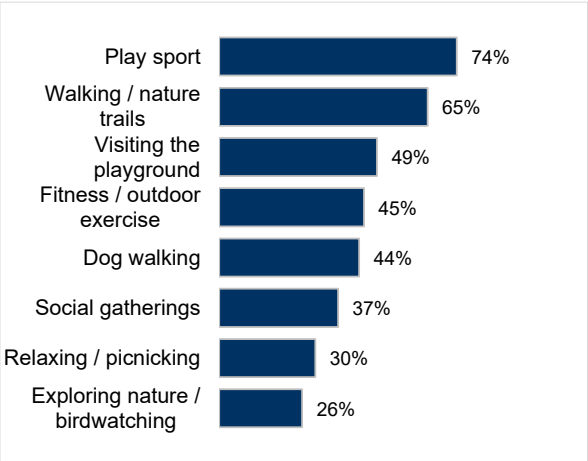
Responds to Community Needs



Likely to Use Once Developed



Activities to Do at the Reserve



What We Heard

PLAY SPACE – SURVEY

Background

The Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan includes a proposed district-level play space at the reserve. To ensure the design reflects community needs and expectations, the survey asked respondents questions about the type of play space they would prefer.

WHAT WE HEARD

Community members strongly supported a play space that caters to a broad range of ages and abilities, combining traditional equipment with nature-based and adventure play. There was consistent emphasis on shaded areas, toilets, and picnic facilities to make the space a comfortable destination for extended family use.

Feedback also called for elements that reflect the local character and promote active recreation beyond traditional play.

Families wanted the play space to be engaging for both younger children and teenagers, ensuring it remains relevant and appealing as the community grows.

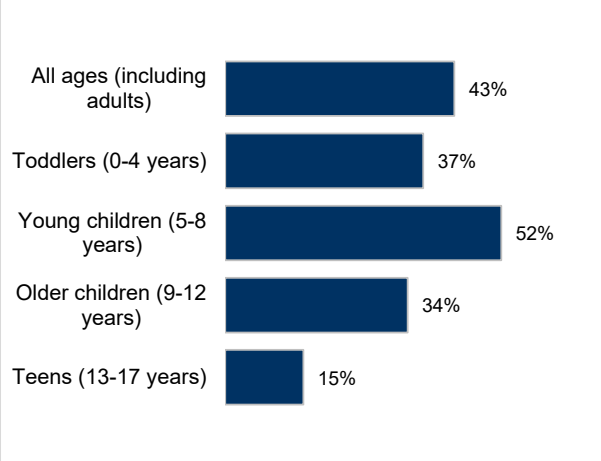
Key Findings Overview

The open-ended feedback highlighted five clear priorities for the district-level play space.

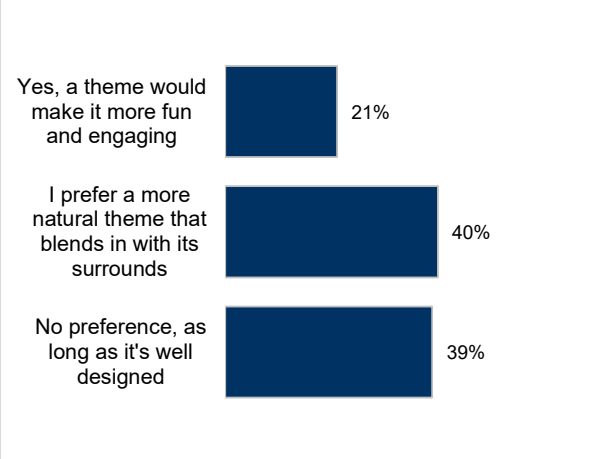
- **Shade and comfort:** Strong demand for shaded seating, shelters, and picnic areas to ensure the space is safe, comfortable, and usable year-round.
- **Multi-age appeal:** Preference for equipment that caters to toddlers, older children, and teenagers, allowing families to use the space together and encouraging longer visits.
- **Nature and sensory play:** Calls for natural and sensory elements such as timber, sand, water, and planting to support imaginative and inclusive play.
- **Accessibility and safety**: Emphasis on all-abilities equipment, accessible paths, fencing near roads, and durable, low-maintenance design.
- **Adventure and active recreation:** Support for adventurous play (large slides, climbing, flying foxes) and active recreation options (bike pump tracks, scooter/BMX features, fitness stations) to broaden appeal.

Breakdown of Findings

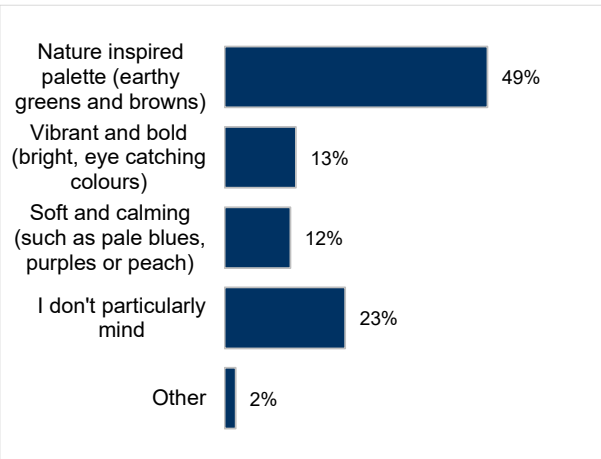
Age Group That The Play Space Should Cater To Most



Whether the Play Space Should Have a Theme



Colour Palette of the New Play Space



What We Heard

PLAY SPACE – BUILD YOUR PARK TOOL

The “Build Your Park” tool enabled residents to select their preferred equipment for the district-level play space, with choices made within a set budget allocation. This provided Council with clear insight into the community’s priorities and the types of features most valued.

The results show strong interest in climbing structures, swings, and slides, which were consistently selected as core play items. Flying foxes and water play elements also ranked highly, reflecting demand for adventurous and interactive play opportunities.

Families expressed a preference for equipment that supports both active play and social interaction, with features such as seating, shaded areas, and nature-based elements seen as important complements.

Lower-priority items included niche or specialist equipment, which received fewer selections compared to the more traditional and adventure-based play options.

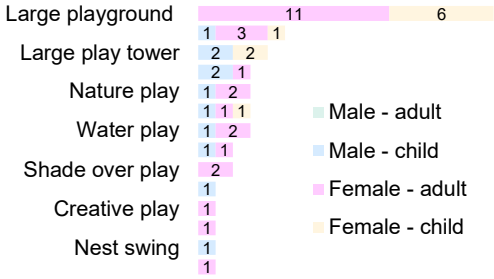
The chart below represents the total points received for each type of equipment.

ON-SITE DOTMOCRACY

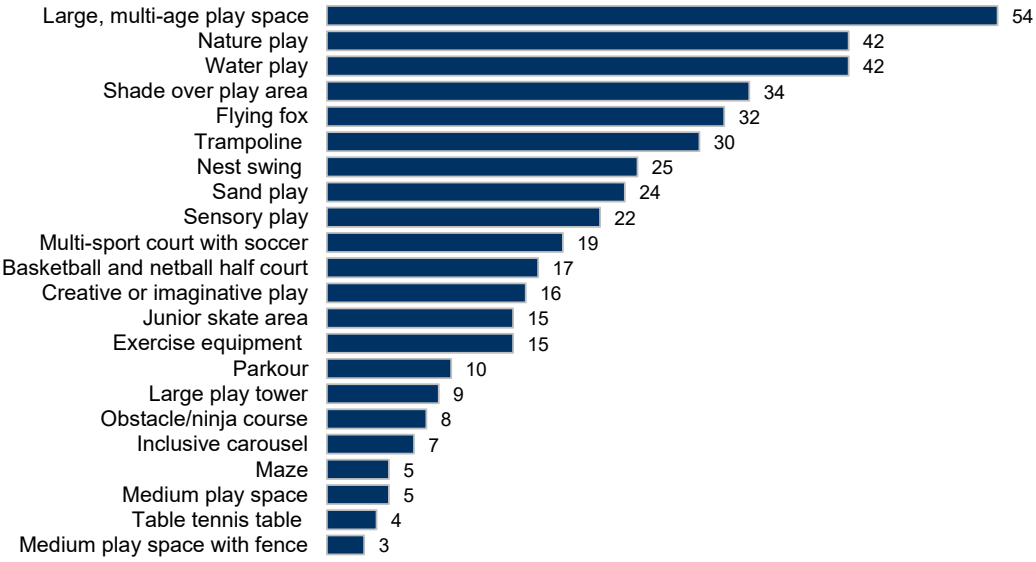
To support the “Build Your Park” tool, attendees at the on-site session were invited to complete a 'dotmocracy' which allowed people to select what type of play equipment elements they liked by placing dots on a range of play equipment images.



Participants were given 10 dots to allocate across their preferred equipment. The results, as shown below, generally align with what was received on the online tool. The dots were also categorised into age and gender to understand what cohorts are selecting which options.



Play Equipment Selected for the Play Space



What We Heard

KEY THEMES

The key themes reflect the feedback most commonly raised throughout the community survey. With a large number of comments received, it was important to examine the responses closely and group them in a way that best captures the breadth of community views.

Each theme has been broken down into sub-themes to highlight specific areas of interest or concern. The following section outlines the key themes that emerged through the consultation process and shaped the final master plan.

Integration of sporting facilities for a growing community

- Strong support for the delivery of new sporting facilities, including dedicated soccer fields.
- Ensure facilities are adaptable to meet future population growth and the needs of the community.

Safe access, traffic management and parking

- Provide safe and convenient access points, with interest in access from Horseshoe Bend Road.
- Ensure adequate car parking.
- Concerns about traffic growth and congestion as the area develops.

Designated dog off-leash and fenced Areas

- Community members raised the opportunity for consideration of a designated off-leash space.
- Fenced dog area for training and to minimise conflict.

KEY THEME 1

Integration of sporting facilities for a growing community



Feedback on sporting facilities was highly positive, with soccer emerging as the clear priority. The community emphasised the need for a dedicated home of soccer to meet demand and support growth in Armstrong Creek. While soccer dominated feedback, there was also some interest in basketball, AFL and tennis, reflecting a desire for a flexible, multi-use precinct.

Sub-theme - Dedicated soccer facilities

Community members repeatedly noted the lack of adequate soccer infrastructure in the area and stressed the importance of creating facilities that can meet the growing demand for the sport. This hub is expected to strengthen junior pathways, foster community identity, and position Armstrong Creek as a key centre for soccer across the region.

Sub-theme - Adaptable infrastructure that meets population growth

Residents also emphasised that infrastructure must be designed for population growth. Priorities included high-quality clubrooms, sufficient car parking, and durable playing surfaces. Suggestions were made for two synthetic pitches to ensure year-round use and better drainage to reduce closures after heavy rain.

> "Having dedicated soccer facilities would give them stability, improve safety, and create a true home for the community with the potential to build a proper club."

> "I'd like to see some forward planning like a larger clubhouse and accessible parking around the oval in case it does become a location for future games."

What We Heard

KEY THEME 2

Safe access, traffic management and parking

The community emphasised the importance of safe and convenient entry points to the reserve, adequate car parking to meet demand, and careful planning to manage traffic as the population continues to grow. Concerns were particularly strong around the pedestrian access points and the impact of congestion on suburban streets.

Sub-theme - Pedestrian access

Respondents frequently requested a pedestrian access point from Horseshoe Bend Road, citing safety issues with current pedestrian routes and the need for more direct entry points to the reserve.

Sub-theme - Vehicular access

There was also mention of the roundabout as a potential bottleneck, particularly during peak periods. Community members felt this intersection would become increasingly problematic as traffic grows, creating safety risks and reducing residential amenity.

Sub-theme - Car parking

Many respondents noted a desire to expand the car park to avoid overflow onto surrounding streets. There was also support for secure bike parking to provide alternatives to car use and reduce pressure on spaces.

Sub-theme - Traffic congestion

Traffic impacts were a recurring concern, particularly at peak times when matches, school events, and other activities overlap.

> "It appears there is plans for approx. 150 car parks in the parking area. This will barely be enough to accommodate the number of cars which will use this facility on a weekend if there is junior sport on every field."

> "The roundabout on Coastside Drive is likely to become a significant bottleneck. This intersection already functions as a key artery into Warralily Boulevard and is surrounded by suburban housing, with much onstreet parking. Directing additional traffic here will increase congestion, compromise safety, and diminish the residential amenity of the area."

KEY THEME 3

Designated dog off-leash and fenced areas

The community highlighted strong support for safe and accessible spaces for dogs and their owners. The community expressed interest in areas that provide opportunities for exercise and play while reducing conflict with other reserve users. There was also a call for practical features that support responsible ownership and enhance the overall amenity of the reserve.

Sub-theme - Off-leash area

The most common suggestions related to fenced and open off-leash areas where dogs can run safely. Respondents recommended the inclusion of agility equipment, open space for walking, and clear access points for dog use. Dog bag dispensers were also proposed as a simple but effective way to encourage responsible behaviour and maintain a clean environment.

Sub-theme - Fenced dog park

Some respondents also highlighted the need for quieter, more controlled spaces for dogs. Ideas included a closed-off dog park and designated training areas where dogs could be exercised in a contained environment. These quieter spaces were seen as important for safety, training, and providing choice for owners who prefer a calmer setting.

> "I would like to see an enclosed off leash dog park included in the plan. There are not enough of these in Armstrong Creek… a small dog and large dog park would be most ideal as small dogs and their owners can be, quite rightly, concerned about having their dogs loose with much larger, and potentially more aggressive, dogs."

> "Many of us locals have dogs and currently use this space to walk, socialise and train them. We would love to have an off-leash dog area here as well if possible."

How Are We Responding

The purpose of the engagement was to ensure the draft master plan accurately reflects the needs and aspirations of the community. The master plan has been reviewed and updated with the feedback from the community in mind.

KEY THEME 1

Integration of sporting facilities for a growing community

The plan delivers dedicated soccer facilities to relieve pressure on Central Boulevard Recreation Reserve in Armstrong Creek while ensuring the reserve is designed to adapt to future population growth.

A key strength of the master plan is its flexibility. The two soccer fields and the overlaid cricket oval provide opportunities for multiple sporting codes to be accommodated, allowing the site to respond to changing patterns of demand and future-proof the reserve.

The pavilion has been designed with multiple gender neutral changeroom spaces to service both fields, supporting concurrent use and improving inclusivity. Its central location between the sporting fields enables viewing across all four playing surfaces, enhancing spectator experience and ensuring the facility operates as an integrated sporting hub.

KEY THEME 2

Safe access, traffic management and parking

The plan does not propose any traffic changes but highlights the inclusion of a pedestrian connection from Halcyon Lifestyle Village, supported by on-site parking and roundabout to manage vehicle movement.

The community raised concerns about congestion during peak sporting times, particularly around Coastside Drive and Iris Loop. While some congestion is typical for community facilities of this scale, the roundabout is considered the most appropriate treatment to manage traffic flows, reduce delays, and maintain safe movement in and out of the site. The master plan also incorporates a pedestrian crossing, improving safety for those walking to and from the reserve.

Vehicle access from Horseshoe Bend Road was not feasible due to the presence of significant native vegetation that cannot be removed. Instead, a safe pedestrian connection from Halcyon Lifestyle Village is provided through the southern entry, linked via the existing footpath network.

With regard to Iris Loop, congestion levels will be monitored over time. If traffic or parking demand exceeds acceptable levels, the City will consult with residents and consider the introduction of parking restrictions.

At present, no pre-emptive measures are proposed, as the master plan provides substantial on-site parking benchmarked against facility design standards for reserves of this size, while balancing available space to deliver a fit-for-purpose facility.

KEY THEME 3

Designated dog off-leash and fenced areas

The master plan identifies key priorities for this site as being 'local community's hub for active recreation, sporting activity and play, blending high quality facilities with the natural environment'.

While this vision has been proposed for the reserve and following a review of the City's Fenced Dog Park – Siting, Design and Management Guidelines, it has not been identified as a preferred site for a fenced dog park due to the following reasons.

- Proximity to a planned facility: The site falls within a five-kilometre catchment (approximately a 10-minute drive) of the planned dog park at 111-215 Sparrovale Road in Charlemont. This new facility will provide a dedicated fit for purpose dog of leash space and will include open walking areas, multiple access points and dog bag dispensers. It is expected to be delivered in mid 2026.
- Site constraints: The reserve does not have sufficient space to accommodate a fenced dog park that meets the City's guidelines and broader best-practice design principles.

The *Fenced Dog Parks Siting, Design and Management Guidelines* provides The City with a framework to plan and deliver fenced dog parks in a coordinated and equitable manner across the municipality. The guidelines outline key principles including locating parks based on areas of need, using consistent site selection criteria, and ensuring parks are within suitable larger open spaces, positioned to serve multiple suburbs, and highly visible.

How Are We Responding

A minimum fenced area of 3,000m² is recommended, lowering risk of overcrowding and dog conflicts and limit wear and tear.

Community consultation for the Guidelines indicated that the majority of respondents were willing to travel more than 10 minutes to access a fenced dog park and would most likely drive their car to access it.

3,000m² is the recommended size for fenced dog parks for the following reasons:

- **Safety and comfort:** Larger areas reduce overcrowding, lowering the risk of dog conflicts and allowing dogs to maintain safe distances.
- **Adequate exercise space:** Dogs of all sizes need room to run, play, and explore freely, which supports physical and mental health.
- **Zoning for different uses:** Allows for separation of active and passive zones, or areas for small and large dogs.
- **Reduced wear and tear:** More space helps distribute foot traffic, minimising damage to turf and infrastructure.
- **Better amenity integration:** Supports inclusion of features like seating, shade, water stations, and agility equipment without overcrowding.
- **Improved user experience:** Enhances comfort for dog owners, encouraging longer visits and positive social interactions.

Although a fenced dog park is not proposed, it is important to note that all sporting reserves within the City are considered dog off-leash areas when organised sport is not being played.

NEXT STEPS

The master plan has been amended, updated and finalised addressing the feedback received in the community consultation process. It is scheduled to be tabled at the Council Meeting on 25 November 2025.

2.8. Councillor Delegation - Korea Foundation Invitation Program for Distinguished Guests

Source: **Corporate Services**
Executive Director: **Troy Edwards**

Purpose

1. To seek Council approval for Cr Trent Sullivan to be nominated as the City's delegate for the Korea Foundation Invitation Program for Distinguished Guests (KFIPDG) in April 2026.

2. The report also recommends that, if the nomination and application to take part in the program is successful, a summary of outcomes and key learnings from the program be presented to Council within two months of the conclusion of travel.

Background

3. The Korea Foundation Program for Distinguished Guests (KFPDG) invites prominent figures from seven key fields - arts and culture, journalism, education, diplomacy and security, government, parliament, and business to visit Korea. The program aims to enhance friendship and strengthen international relationships by facilitating visits to relevant organisations, fostering cooperation, and offering participants first-hand experiences of Korea's history and culture.

4. Through the program, selected participants engage with relevant Korean organisations and institutions, gaining first-hand insight into Korea's culture, history, and contemporary society.

5. Korea has been identified as a Priority Market in the City of Greater Geelong's International Engagement Strategy (IES). Participation in this visit directly supports the City's strategic objectives to:

    5.1. Strengthen and uphold existing international partnerships and formal agreements.

    5.2. Identify and participate in delegations that advance engagement with priority international markets.

    5.3. Prioritise and support strategically aligned international delegations that deliver tangible benefits for the City of Greater Geelong.

6. The City of Greater Geelong already enjoys a strong and growing relationship with Korea, demonstrated through:

    6.1. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Changwon City, signed in April 2022.

    6.2. Ongoing business and manufacturing research partnerships between Geelong and Korean organisations.

    6.3. The hosting of the KT Wiz Korean International Baseball Club for summer training camps in 2025, with a confirmed return in 2026.

6.4. Continued engagement with Korean representatives, including the Consul-General, Changwon City Council, and members of the Korean media.

7. This visit presents an opportunity to further strengthen these partnerships, enhance the City's international profile, and explore new avenues for cultural, educational, and economic collaboration with Korea.

Key Matters

8. The City of Greater Geelong has received a formal invitation from the Korean Consul-General in Melbourne, Mr Jin-Kwan Oh, to nominate a councillor to participate in the Korea Foundation's Invitation Program for Distinguished Guests (KFIPDG).

9. The KFIPDG is hosted by the Korea Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation affiliated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea.

10. The program will take place in Korea from 19–25 April 2026 and includes opportunities to propose strategically significant sites and organisations for engagement.

11. It is proposed that Cr Trent Sullivan represent the City of Greater Geelong as its delegate for the KFIPDG. This nomination recognises Cr Sullivan's established relationship with Korea, developed during his tenure as Mayor, and his ongoing commitment to strengthening Geelong's international partnerships.

12. The nomination of Cr Trent Sullivan as Council's delegate is supported by Korean Consul-General Jin-Kwan Oh. This invitation follows Cr Sullivan's previous visit to Korea during his tenure as Mayor in August 2024 and offers an opportunity for deeper engagement with Korea's cultural and strategic sectors.

13. Whilst participation in the KFIPDG is subject to Cr Sullivan application being successful, the program is a valuable opportunity to strengthen Geelong's international partnerships and elevate the City's global profile. The visit would deepen existing ties with Korea, particularly through the Memorandum of Understanding with Changwon City, while advancing the International Engagement Strategy's focus on priority markets.

14. Participation also provides a platform to attract trade, manufacturing, and investment opportunities, promote cultural and educational exchange, and build on existing community links such as the KT Wiz Baseball partnership.

15. Overall, participation will enhance Geelong's reputation as an innovative, globally connected, and economically dynamic city, delivering lasting benefits to the local community and region.

16. Learnings from the visit will be documented and presented to Council within two months of the program's completion. The visit is expected to strengthen Geelong's international partnerships, enhance future economic and cultural collaboration, and advance the City's vision of being a globally recognised, clever and creative city.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Delegates Cr Trent Sullivan as the nominated representative for the Korea Foundation's Invitation Program for Distinguished Guests in April 2026.**

2. **Notes that a report outlining the outcomes and key learnings from the program be presented to Council within two months following the conclusion of travel, should the application be successful.**

Financial Sustainability

17. All costs associated with participation in the KFIPDG program are fully covered for successful applicants including:

18. Round-trip international airfare

    18.1. Accommodation, meals, and local transportation

    18.2. Cultural experience costs

    18.3. Interpretation services

19. Travel insurance

20. Any incidental expenses incurred during the travel will be covered by Cr Sullivan personally.

21. This fully funded opportunity allows Council to secure significant diplomatic, economic, and cultural benefits without any financial outlay, making participation a highly cost-effective way to advance Geelong's international profile, strengthen partnerships, and explore new avenues for collaboration.

Community Engagement

22. The invitation, extended by the Korean Consulate in Melbourne, aligns closely with the objectives of the Council's International Engagement Strategy and the vision of Geelong on the Rise: A Clever & Creative International City.

23. Consultation and communication with the Consulate and Changwon City Council, which the Council has an MOU with, has identified the significant economic, sporting and diplomatic benefits and opportunities which can be progressed through meetings and visits between Geelong and Korea.

Social Equity and Sustainability

24. An opportunity for a representative of the Council to visit Korea and raise Geelong's profile offers the Council an opportunity to progress initiatives between the two countries including student exchanges and baseball camps.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

25. Participation in the program aligns with the Local Government Act 2020, which provides Council with the authority to undertake activities that promote the economic, social, and cultural development of the community. This includes entering into partnerships and participating in delegations that advance strategic objectives. The KFIPDG supports these provisions by fostering international relationships and delivering community and economic benefits to Geelong.

26. The program supports the objectives of the Australia-Republic of Korea Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (2021), promoting cooperation across strategic, economic, and people-to-people sectors.

27. The visit is consistent with the City of Greater Geelong International Engagement Strategy and complies with the Councillor Expenses Policy and Councillor Gifts, Benefits, and Hospitality Policy.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

28. This report aligns with the Council Plan 2025-29 strategic priority:

29. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong:
A destination that attracts local and international visitors.
Creative and diverse culture.

Conflict of Interest

30. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

31. Participation in the KFIPDG is low risk, as the program is fully funded, supported by the Korean Consulate, and aligns with Council policies and strategic objectives. Standard travel and diplomatic risks are mitigated through compliance with Council procedures, travel insurance, and program safeguards.

32. Declining the opportunity could limit Geelong’s engagement with a key international partner, reduce opportunities for cultural, economic, and diplomatic collaboration, and hinder the City’s ability to advance its International Engagement Strategy and global profile.

Environmental Sustainability

33. This report does not address mitigation and planning for climate change risks.

Attachments

Nil

2.9. Council Meeting Schedule of Dates 2026

Source: **Corporate Services**
Executive Director: **Troy Edwards**

Purpose

1. To seek Council endorsement for the schedule of Council meeting dates for 2026.

Background

2. Council must establish an appropriate schedule of meetings to ensure the business of Council is completed effectively.

3. Council establishes the schedule of meeting dates, so the community is aware of the upcoming dates and times of these decision-making forums of Council and also to ensure arrangements are made to conduct each meeting.

Key Matters

4. The schedule for the 2026 Council meetings, which are to be held on a monthly basis, is attached **(Attachment 1).**

5. The schedule shows that Council Meetings in 2026 are generally planned for the fourth Tuesday of each month. Exceptions to this are:

   5.1. The December meeting which is held on the second Tuesday of that month.

6. Council Meetings are set to commence at 6:00pm at the Council Chambers, City Hall, Geelong.

7. Meetings will continue to be live streamed and recorded providing public access to meetings.

Recommendation

That Council endorses the schedule of Council meeting dates for 2026 (Attachment 1).

Financial Sustainability

8. Costs associated with conducting meetings, such as live streaming, venue bookings or equipment hire are included in the Council budget.

Community Engagement

9. Information in relation to Council meetings is available on the Geelong Australia website and will be advertised in local media.

10. Council will continue to have the opportunity to meet with members of the community in their wards in different ways throughout 2026. This can include where practicable community engagement activities on the development of strategic initiatives or where residents will be invited to ask questions and hear from Councillors and City officers on issues that relate to their local community. These events will be advertised and communicated as they arise throughout the councillor term.

Social Equity and Sustainability

11. The proposal continues to provide access for community participation in the decision-making processes of Council.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

12. This proposal complies with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020,* Council's Governance Rules, Councils Public Question and Submission Time Policy, and Councils election Period Policy.

13. The proposed meeting schedule aligns with the commitment to transparency made by the Council in its Public Transparency Policy adopted in 2022.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

14. This report aligns with the Council Plan 2025-2029 strategic priority:

    Governance and Integrity

Conflict of Interest

15. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

16. There are no significant risks associated with the schedule of Council meeting dates.

17. City officers complete individual risk assessments for all Council meetings.

Environmental Sustainability

18. There are no environmental implications identified for the subject of this report.

Attachments

1. Schedule of Dates - Council Meetings 2026 [**2.9.1** - 1 page]

Schedule – City of Greater Geelong 2026 Council Meetings

MEETING DATES	START TIME	LOCATION
Tuesday 27 January 2026	6PM	City Hall, Chamber
Tuesday 24 February 2026	6PM	City Hall, Chamber
Tuesday 24 March 2026	6PM	City Hall, Chamber
Tuesday 28 April 2026	6PM	City Hall, Chamber
Tuesday 26 May 2026	6PM	City Hall, Chamber
Tuesday 23 June 2026	6PM	City Hall, Chamber
Tuesday 28 July 2026	6PM	City Hall, Chamber
Tuesday 25 August 2026	6PM	City Hall, Chamber
Tuesday 22 September 2026	6PM	City Hall, Chamber
Tuesday 27 October 2026	6PM	City Hall, Chamber
Tuesday 24 November 2026	6PM	City Hall, Chamber
***Tuesday 8 December 2026**	6PM	City Hall, Chamber

**Meeting location, date and time may be changed in consultation with the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer. Any changes to the meeting schedule will be reasonably communicated to Councillors and the Community.*

2.10. Financial Performance Report for the year to date ended 30 September 2025

Source: **Corporate Services**
Executive Director: **Troy Edwards**

Purpose

1. To endorse the Financial Performance report Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025.

Background

2. On 24 June 2025 the 2025-26 budget was adopted with an underlying operating surplus of $509,000, underpinned by an operating efficiency target of $16.6 million, originally assumed as $4.0 million in Materials and Services and $12.6 million in Employee Costs.

3. Following adoption, a detailed efficiency program identified specific actions to achieve this target, replacing broad-based assumptions with targeted measures across departments.

4. These adjustments form the Amended Budget which maintains the original $509K surplus but may differ in categorisation for reporting purposes.

5. Financial performance reports will be presented to Council on a quarterly basis, with this report representing quarter 1 for the 2025-26 financial year (FY26).

6. Further to the performance, the report provides the forward full year forecast for FY26.

Key Matters

7. The recurrent operating result to 30 September 2025 is a surplus of $785,000 dollars, being $1.4 million favourable to the year-to-date budget. This is primarily driven by lower-than-expected supplementary rates income, underutilisation of materials and services across the business and depreciation expenditure of ($820k) unfavourable to budget.

8. The forecast operating position is ($5.9 million), ($6.4 million) unfavourable to the full year budget. Material items contributing to the variance include higher depreciation from asset revaluations at 30 June 2025 ($4.2 million) unfavourable, lower supplementary rates ($627K) and reduced revenue at North Geelong Transfer Station ($560K) and Family Services ($312K), however this is mostly offset with corresponding reduction in expenditure.

9. Capital works expenditure to 30 September 2025 is $1.9 million favourable to the year-to-date budget primarily driven by timing variances across the program of work. A summary of the year-to-date variances is provided in the attachment.

10. The forecast capital works expenditure position is $30.0 million favourable to the full year budget. This primarily relates to timing, with several projects being rephased for delivery in the 2025-26 financial year.

11. Cash and investment balance as at 30 September 2025 of $199.1 million, is $14.4million favourable to the year-to-date budget. This is primarily driven by a $17.4 million favourable opening balance relating to capital program delays in FY25.

12. The cash position is $38.8 million favourable to forecast. This is primarily driven by the delays in delivery of the capital program and early receipt of 50% of the Financial Assistance Grant for 2025-26.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Endorses the Financial Performance Report Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025.**

Financial Sustainability

13. As detailed in the attached Financial Performance Report Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025.

14. It has been determined by the Chief Executive Officer a revised budget is not required for the 2025-26 financial year.

Community Engagement

15. Community engagement was undertaken during the development of the 2025-26 budget. Internal consultation has occurred with managers on the development of the full year forecast. Project managers have been consulted and provided the latest project updates which have been factored into this report.

Social Equity and Sustainability

16. Incomes and expenditures of the City's social equity programs are included in the attached Financial Performance Report Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

17. The report is provided in accordance with the requirements under section 97 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

18. This report aligns with the Council Plan 2025-29 strategic priority:
Governance and Integrity

19. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:
A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities.

Conflict of Interest

20. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

21. There are no high or extreme risks arising from the subject of this report.

Environmental Sustainability

22. Incomes, expenditure, and investments focus on the preservation and enhancement of the City's commitment to environmental strategies and targets.

Attachments

1. Financial Performance Report for the Year to Date Ended 30th September 2025 [**2.10.1** - 25 pages]

Financial Performance Report

Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Year to Date Financial Performance Report – September 2025

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Financial Performance Report

Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

1. Introduction & Purpose

To present the financial performance from 1 July 2025 to 30 September 2025.

This report is intended to identify any material items in Council's financial performance.

2. Efficiency & Amended Budget

The adopted budget for FY26 plans for an operating surplus of $509K. Embedded within this result is an efficiency assumption of $16.6mil. The published and adopted budget included the following broad-based assumptions for the $16.6mil efficiency assumption:

- $4.0mil of savings to be realised through Materials & Services
- $12.6mil of savings to be realised through Employee Costs in the form of vacancy.

Since the adoption of budget, an efficiency program was undertaken throughout the organisation to clearly identified the realisation of the $16.6mil efficiency target. The result of this work was a clear and targeted approach within the business as to how and where this efficiency was to be realised.

Since budget adoption, departmental budgets were adjusted to implement and recognise the identified efficiencies. This resulted in the removal of the broad-based efficiencies in the budget that were replaced with targeted action.

This adjusted version of the budget is referred to as the Amended Budget. This version of the budget will be used for financial management reporting. While the Amended Budget reconciles to the original operating surplus of $509K in the published and adopted budget, be aware there may be differences in categorisation as a result of the efficiency identification work.

3. Financial Performance

a) Summary

Summary	Year To Date			Full Year		
	Actual $000	Budget $000	Variance $000	Forecast $000	Budget $000	Variance $000
Operating						
Income	125,597	126,273 ▼	**(676)**	515,494	518,076 ▼	**(2,582)**
Expenditure	124,812	126,852 ▲	**2,040**	521,377	517,567 ▼	**(3,810)**
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	**785**	**(579)** ▲	**1,364**	**(5,883)**	**509** ▼	**(6,392)**
Capital Works Expenditure	19,037	20,970 ▲	**1,933**	174,351	204,342 ▲	**29,991**
Cash & Investments	199,152	184,764 ▲	**14,388**	227,813	188,974 ▲	**38,839**
Loans	162,108	163,125 ▲	**1,017**	156,540	157,558 ▲	**1,017**

Financial Performance Report

Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

Operating Position

Year To Date: The operating result is a surplus of $785K, being $1.4mil favourable to budget. Material items contributing to the variance include:

- Supplementary Rates are ($627K) lower than expected due to a lower volume of property changes resulting in supplementary rates notices. This includes subdivision, rezoning, new buildings or major improvements.
- Underutilisation of Materials & Services of $3.1mil across several departments in the business.
- Depreciation is ($820K) unfavourable to budget, impacted by the updated on FY25 year-end valuation of property and infrastructure assets, increasing depreciation.

Forecast: The forecasted operating position is deficit of ($5.9mil), being ($6.4mil) unfavourable to budget. Material items contributing to the variance include:

- The impact of upward asset revaluations is expected to result in depreciation being ($4.2mil) higher than budget.
- Supplementary Rates forecast to be ($627K) lower than expected. This is due to a lower than expected volume of property changes and the pending payment on lieu of rates (PILOR) scheme.
- Revenue has also been revised downward for North Geelong Transfer Station ($560K) and Family Services ($312K), however these are mostly offset with a corresponding reduction in expenditure.

Capital Works Expenditure

Year to Date Actuals v Budget: Capital works expenditure is $1.9mil favourable to budget, primarily driven by timing variances across many projects and programs:

- The Core Program capital expenditure is under budget ($1.0mil) due to phasing of the budget which was based on historical delivery patterns. Year to date, has seen a change in the delivery pattern. Phasing assumptions will be revised through forecast.
- The Q1 capital expenditure for the Armstrong Creek Compulsory Land Acquisition Program is ($0.5mil) less than budget due to the inherent uncertainty in relation to the timing and value of disputed claims being settled, material variances to budget are likely.

Full Year Budget v Forecast: Forecast capital works expenditure of $174.3mil is $30.0mil favourable to budget. This primarily relates to timing, with several projects being rephased for delivery in the 2025-26 financial year. Projects contributing to this variance include:

- The purchase of land to support the delivery of Commonwealth Games legacy assets is no longer forecast to be required ($6.0mil). The confidence level in several compulsory land acquisitions in the Armstrong Creek Land Acquisition Program being finalised this financial year has also decreased resulting in $7.1mil being rephased into future financial years.
- Due to delays in completing the detailed designs, construction of the Organics Processing Facility Upgrade project is now expected to commence after winter 2026 ($8.1mil).
- The tender process for the Point Henry FOGO Upgrade project has experienced longer than expected timeframes, leading to delays in equipment delivery and the start of facility upgrades, which are now forecast for FY27 ($3.0mil).

Financial Performance Report

Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Cash & Investments

Full Year Actuals v Budget: The cash position of $199.1mil is $14.4mil favourable to budget.

- A favourable opening balance of $17.4mil relating to capital program delays in FY25.

Full Year Actuals v Forecast: The cash position is $38.8mil favourable to forecast.

- A favourable opening balance of $17.4mil relating to capital program delays in FY25.
- Further expected capital program delays of $29.5mil in FY26.

Loans

Full Year Actuals v Budget: The actual debt owed is $162.1mil which is $1.0mil favourable to budget.

- This is materially consistent with budget.

Full Year Actuals v Forecast: The forecast debt owed at 30 June 2026 of $156.5mil, is $1.0mil favourable to forecast.

- This is materially consistent with budget.

Financial Performance Report

Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

b) Operating Result

Actual variance to Budget: The key drivers to the $1.4mil favourable variance between the actual results and the budget:

Item	Impact	Comment
Revenue		
Supplementary Rates	**($627K)**	Lower than expected volume of property changes resulting in supplementary rates notices. This is largely out of council's control and is expected to present a budget risk at year end.
Voting Infringements	**+233K**	Larger than expected collection of fines relating to voting non-compliance from recent council elections. This has already exceeded the full year budget.
Family Services Funding	**($312K)**	Timing changes to the School Readiness Programming has affected the recognition of income, this will not be a permanent variance and is offset by underspend in associated Materials & Services.
Development Planning Fees	**($329k)**	There's reasonable confidence that $4m as budgeted, is unachievable. Note this is a highly unpredictable revenue stream that is largely dependent on developers activity.
Tree Planting/Removal	**+$304k**	Additional tree planting/removal income. This revenue stream is highly dependent on developers' unknown requirements, hence the reason a conservative budget was set.
North Geelong Transfer Station Closure	**($560K)**	The budget assumed a like-for-like alternative site (Slevin St) would be established, which has not been the case. Slevin St only accepts limited recyclables, meaning both income and waste disposal & recycling expenditure are down and offset for operating result purposes.
Expenditure		
Depreciation	**($820K)**	The impact of upward asset revaluations at FY25 year-end has resulted in depreciation being unfavourable to budget.
EPA Levy	**($1.3mil)**	EPA Levies are greater than budgeted for industrial waste disposed at Drysdale Landfill and represents ~35-45% of total tonnages.
North Geelong Transfer Station Closure	**+$537k**	The budget assumed a like-for-like alternative site (Slevin St) would be established, which has not been the case. Slevin St only accepts only accepts limited recyclables, meaning both income and waste disposal & recycling expenditure are down and offset for operating result purposes.
Parks & Natural Assets Contractors	**+$495k**	Considered timing favourability rather than permanent savings.
Planning & Growth spending delays	**+$466k**	Various programs favourable, most timing related with NWGGA Elcho Road West PSP developer funded spending starting.

Financial Performance Report

Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

Actual variance Forecast: ($6.4mil) unfavourable variance between forecast and full year actuals. The key variances are:

Item	Impact	Comment
Revenue		
Supplementary Rates	**($627K)**	Lower than expected volume of property changes and the pending payment on lieu of rates (PILOR) scheme (unknown if this will impact FY26 or FY27) - which presents a further risk.
Development Planning Fees	**($1.0mil)**	There's reasonable confidence that $4m as budgeted is unachievable. Note this is a highly unpredictable revenue stream that is largely dependent on developers' unknown activity.
Tree Planting/Removal	**+$263k**	Additional tree planting/removal income with full year budget already more than achieved.
North Geelong Transfer Station Closure	**($2.1mil)**	The budget assumed a like-for-like alternative site (Slevin St) would be established, which has not been the case. Slevin St only accepts only accepts limited recyclables, meaning both income and waste disposal & recycling expenditure are down and offset for operating result purposes.
Drysdale Landfill Fees	**+$480k**	Based on current tonnages, expecting to come in higher against budget likely in part due to diversion from North Geelong as Slevin Street can only accept limited recyclables.
Expenditure		
Depreciation	**($4.2mil)**	The impact of upward asset revaluations is expected to result in depreciation being unfavourable to budget.
EPA Levy	**($5.5mil)**	EPA Levies greater than budgeted for industrial waste disposed at Drysdale Landfill and represents ~35-45% of total tonnages.
North Geelong Transfer Station Closure	**+$2.1mil**	The budget assumed a like-for-like alternative site (Slevin St) would be established, which has not been the case. Slevin St only accepts only accepts limited recyclables, meaning both income and waste disposal & recycling expenditure are down and offset for operating result purposes.
Staceys Road Rental Expense	**$493k**	Budget assumed a higher rental expense based on increased acreage at Staceys Road facility; this is not expected to occur until FY27.
Char Maker – Staceys Road	**($268k)**	Budget was based on an outdated quote. This increase reflects the current quote price to carry out this trial.
Community Support	**$211K**	Removal of project contingency that had been carried since FY23 and reduction of accruals from other project savings relating to prior years.
Digital Innovation	**$1.0mil**	Currently behind schedule, likely underspend in FY26 and phased for delivery in FY27.

Financial Performance Report

Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

c) Capital

Actual Variance to Budget: $1.9mil favourable variance between actual results and the budget. The key variances are:

Item	Impact	Comment
Project/Program		
Heavy and Dedicated	**+$1.03mil**	Budget phasing reflects historical delivery patterns. The current variance is expected to be temporary, and no budget risks are anticipated at this stage.
Footpath Renewal	**+$0.67mil**	Budget phasing reflects historical delivery patterns. The current variance is expected to be temporary, and no budget risks are anticipated at this stage.
Community complex - NAC - Horseshoe Bend Rd	**+$0.47mil**	Variance relates to timing only, still forecasting to utilise the full FY26 budget.
Armstrong Creek Land Acquisition Program	**+$0.46mil**	A significant portion of the FY26 budget is allocated to provisions for disputed compulsory acquisition claims. Due to the inherent uncertainty in both the timing and value of these settlements, material variances from budget are likely.
Design and Investigation - Traffic Management	**($0.95mil)**	The variance relates primarily to the S173 funded Ghazeepore Rd upgrade project which was previously forecast to be delivered in FY25.

Forecast Variance to Budget: $30.0mil favourable variance between forecast and budget. The key variances are:

Item	Impact	Comment
Project/Program		
Armstrong Creek Land Acquisition Program	**+$13.1mil**	Due to the nature of compulsory acquisitions the timing and value of this program will always be inherently uncertain and will likely result in further variances in the future.
Organics Processing Facility Upgrade	**+$8.1mil**	Due to delays in completing the detailed designs, construction is now expected to commence after winter 2026.
Sorting/Decontamination Line at Pt Henry for FOGO	**+$3.0mil**	The tender process has experienced longer than expected timeframes, leading to delays in equipment delivery and the start of facility upgrades, which are now forecast for FY27.
Osborne House Remedial Works	**+$1.8mil**	The timing of Council's contribution to the Osborne House works remains uncertain. Confirmation is expected in the coming months, after which the forecast will be updated accordingly.

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4. Income Statement Converted to Cash

Income Statement Converted to Cash	Year To Date			Full Year		
	Actual $'000	Budget $'000	Variance $'000	Forecast $'000	Budget $'000	Variance $'000
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	8,140	12,808 ▼	(4,668)	198,236	210,481 ▼	(12,246)
Adjustment for Non-Cash Items						
Contributions - non-monetary	-	- ▬	-	(116,012)	(116,012) ▬	-
Depreciaiton & ammortisation	27,934	27,113 ▼	(820)	112,848	108,606 ▲	4,242
Written-Down Value of Asset Diposals	-	116 ▼	(116)	6,340	6,456 ▼	(116)
Total Non-Cash Items	**27,934**	**27,229** ▲	**704**	**3,177**	**(950)** ▲	**4,127**
Adjustment for Capital Expenidture						
Capital Expenditure	(19,037)	(20,970) ▲	1,933	(174,351)	(204,342) ▲	29,991
Total Capital Expenditure	**(19,037)**	**(20,970)** ▲	**1,933**	**(174,351)**	**(204,342)** ▲	**29,991**
Adjustment for Financing Items						
New Borrowings/Refinancing	-	- ▬	-	-	- ▬	-
Loan Repayments	(1,876)	(1,856) ▼	(20)	(7,443)	(7,423) ▼	(20)
Lease Repayments	(331)	(318) ▼	(12)	(1,286)	(1,274) ▼	(12)
Total Financing Items	**(2,207)**	**(2,174)** ▼	**(32)**	**(8,729)**	**(8,697)** ▼	**(32)**
Net Cash Position for the Year	**14,829**	**16,893**	**(2,063)**	**18,332**	**(3,507)**	**21,839**
Adjustment for Reserve Movements						
Reserve Drawdown/(Replishment)	31,200	(7,757) ▲	38,958	22,940	6,759 ▲	16,181
Cash Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	**46,030**	**9,135** ▲	**36,894**	**41,273**	**3,252** ▲	**38,021**

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5. Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet Summary	Year To Date			Full Year		
	Actual $000	Budget $000	Variance $000	Forecast $000	Budget $000	Variance $000
Current Assets	557,249	549,414 ▲	**7,834**	265,854	233,698 ▲	**32,156**
Non-Currents Assets	5,383,883	5,300,223 ▲	**83,660**	5,773,496	5,724,564 ▲	**48,932**
Total Assets	**5,941,131**	**5,849,637** ▲	**91,494**	**6,039,350**	**5,958,262** ▲	**81,088**
Current Liabilities	448,029	434,018 ▼	**(14,011)**	140,998	147,557 ▲	**6,560**
Non-Currents Liabilities	190,619	189,731 ▼	**(888)**	184,032	183,143 ▼	**(888)**
Total Liabilties	**638,649**	**623,749** ▼	**(14,899)**	**325,029**	**330,701** ▲	**5,671**
Net Assets	**5,302,483**	**5,225,888** ▲	**76,594**	**5,714,321**	**5,627,561** ▲	**86,759**
Accumulated Surplus	2,483,554	2,381,030 ▲	**102,524**	2,673,650	2,585,463 ▲	**88,186**
Revulation Reserves	2,738,844	2,769,970 ▼	**(31,126)**	2,950,599	2,981,725 ▼	**(31,126)**
Cash Reserves	80,085	74,888 ▲	**5,197**	90,071	60,372 ▲	**29,700**
Total Equity	**5,302,483**	**5,225,888** ▲	**76,594**	**5,714,321**	**5,627,561** ▲	**86,760**
Working Capital Ratio	**1.24**	**1.27** ▼	**(0.02)**	**1.89**	**1.58** ▲	**0.30**
Unrestricted Working Capital Rat	**1.07**	**1.09** ▼	**(0.03)**	**1.25**	**1.17** ▲	**0.07**

a) Overall

Actuals vs Budget

With a working capital ratio of 1.24 year to date, there is a sufficient level of liquidity held. This result is materially consistent with budget.

Adjusting for restricted (reserved) cash, the unrestricted working capital ratio is 1.07. The variance of 0.17 from the working capital ratio represents the high value of restricted cash held. This result is materially consistent with budget.

Forecast vs Budget

The forecast working capital ratio of 1.89 is 0.30 higher than budget. Further expected delays in the capital program will result in a favourable cash balance and working capital ratio at 30 June 2026.

The unrestricted working capital ratio is forecast to be materially consistent with budget.

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b) Trade & Other Receivables

Summary	Year To Date Sep-25 $000	FY25 $000	Movement $000
Statutory receivables			
Rates	329,136	5,852 ▼	**(323,284)**
Infringements	13,378	12,988 ▼	**(390)**
Net GST receivables	1,665	2,593 ▲	**929**
Non-statutory			
Other debtors	15,347	20,676 ▲	**5,329**
Total current trade and other receivables	**359,525**	**42,110** ▼	**(317,416)**
Less impairment loss allowance	(17,878)	(17,414) ▼	**(464)**
Net total current trade and other receivables	**341,647**	**24,696** ▼	**(316,952)**
Non-current			
Statutory receivables			
Special rate scheme	2,264	2,264 ▬	-
Long term rates	18,895	18,895 ▬	-
Total non-current trade and other receivables	**21,159**	**21,159** ▬	-
Total trade and other receivables	**362,806**	**45,855** ▼	**(316,952)**

Our receivables have increased by $317.0mil from 30 June 2025. This indicates that the majority of our rates and charges for 2025-26 are still to be collected.

Current collection of $55mil is 1.4% higher than September 2024, noting Rates Notices were sent earlier this year than previous years and has seen an increase in requests for monthly payment plans.

The arrears balance of $18.7mil is up from $14.0mil this time last year. We have received $6.1mil so far during the 2025-26 year. Reducing this remains a key focus, to try to limit it compounding.

Total collection (current and arrears) is 1.4% higher compared to September 2024.

Please note: The 'Rates' balance in the above table includes all rates related debt, including General Rates, Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (to be passed onto the Victorian State Government), Special Rates & Charges schemes and Environmental Upgrade Agreements.

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Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

c) Treasury Analysis

Summary	Year To Date			Full Year		
	Actual $000	Budget $000	Variance $000	Forecast $000	Budget $000	Variance $000
Cash						
Cash & Cash Equivalents	72,524	73,906 ▼	**(1,382)**	91,125	75,590 ▲	**15,535**
Other Financial Assets	126,628	110,858 ▲	**15,770**	136,688	113,384 ▲	**23,303**
Total Cash Balances	**199,152**	**184,764** ▲	**14,388**	**227,813**	**188,974** ▲	**38,839**
Interest Received on Cash Balanc	1,952	1,793 ▲	**159**	7,328	7,169 ▲	**159**
Loans						
Current Loan Liabilities	7,456	7,555 ▲	**98**	7,456	7,555 ▲	**98**
Non-Current Loan Liabilities	154,652	155,570 ▲	**919**	149,084	150,003 ▲	**919**
Total Loan Balances	**162,108**	**163,125** ▲	**1,017**	**156,540**	**157,558** ▲	**1,017**
Interest Paid on Loans - Operatin	1,439	1,329 ▼	**(110)**	5,234	5,124 ▼	**(110)**
Interest Paid on Loans - Capital	127	192 ▲	**65**	1,330	1,395 ▲	**65**
Total Interest Paid on Loans	**1,566**	**1,521** ▼	**(45)**	**6,564**	**6,519** ▼	**(45)**

Cash & Investments

The current cash position is $14.4mil favourable to budget. This is primarily driven by a favourable opening balance of $17.4mil relating to capital program delays in FY25.

The full year forecast cash position is $38.8mil favourable to budget. This is primarily driven by the favourable opening balance and further expected delays in the capital program.

Loans

The debt owed at 30 September 2025 and the full year forecast are materially consistent with budget.

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d) Cash Reserves Analysis

Summary	Year To Date			Full Year		
	Actual $000	Budget $000	Variance $000	Forecast $000	Budget $000	Variance $000
Cash Reserves						
Developer Contributions/S173	65,582	57,691 ▲	**7,891**	68,400	53,699 ▲	**14,701**
Waste	14,503	17,198 ▼	**(2,695)**	21,671	6,673 ▲	**14,998**
Deferred Income	-	- ▬	**-**	-	- ▬	**-**
Capital Commitment	-	- ▬	**-**	-	- ▬	**-**
Total Cash Reserves	**80,085**	**74,888** ▲	**5,197**	**90,071**	**60,372** ▲	**29,700**

Developer Contribution Reserves

- *Actual variance to Budget:* delays in capital expenditure have resulted in a higher than expected reserve balance at 30 September 2025.

- *Actual variance to Forecast:* Forecast underspend in DCP capital projects, most notably the Land Acquisition program, is expected to result in a higher than forecast DCP reserve balance as at 30 June 2026.

Waste Reserves

- *Actual variance to Budget:* unfavourable operating result due to the EPA levy has resulted in a lower than expected reserve balance.

- *Actual variance to Forecast:* expected to be unfavourable to budget due to the $5.5mil impact in the operating result due to the EPA levy.

Deferred Income Reserve

- No expected movement. Entry to be taken up if early receipt of grant funding that is recognised as income in the FY26 financial year.

Capital Commitment Reserve

- Entry to be taken up when unspent FY26 capital budget is known.

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Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

6. Financial Sustainability Measures

Measure	Target	Forecast Result	Comment
Operating Result			
Operating Result Ratio	**>0%**	**(1.14%)**	Deficit primarily driven by increase in depreciation due to on-going asset work.
Capital Investment			
Capital Projects Delivery	**>80%**	**85.32%**	Per expected capital project delivery prepared for the Q1 forecast.
Asset Sustainability Ratio	**>85%**	**95.3%**	Grant funded upgrades projects in FY26 capital program creating a favourable result.
Cash & Borrowings			
Working Capital Ratio	**>1.0**	**1.9**	Strong cash position due to on-going delays in the capital program.
Indebtedness Ratio (Rates)	**<60%**	**46.0%**	No use of debt in FY25 or FY26. Repayment of $10.0mil of debt in FY25.

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Appendix A – Operating Statement

Operating Statement	Year To Date			Full Year		
	Actual $'000	Budget $'000	Variance $'000	Forecast $'000	Budget $'000	Variance $'000
Revenue						
Rates & Charges	86,149	86,829	**(680)**	339,956	340,636	**(680)**
Fees, Charges & Other	21,842	21,603	**239**	89,657	92,128	**(2,472)**
Government Grants	15,634	15,955	**(320)**	78,255	77,771	**484**
Interest Received	1,952	1,793	**159**	7,328	7,169	**159**
Gain/(Loss) on Sale of Property	20	93	**(73)**	299	372	**(73)**
Total Operating Revenue	**125,597**	**126,273**	**(676)**	**515,494**	**518,076**	**(2,582)**
Expenditure						
Salaries, Wages & Employment	53,822	53,523	**(299)**	214,969	212,032	**(2,938)**
Materials & Services	34,266	37,397	**3,130**	157,770	161,158	**3,388**
Depreciation	27,934	27,113	**(820)**	112,848	108,606	**(4,242)**
Community Support	5,123	5,309	**186**	20,982	21,168	**186**
Utilities	2,592	2,391	**(201)**	10,631	10,385	**(245)**
Interest Expenditure	1,439	1,329	**(110)**	5,234	5,124	**(110)**
Total Operating Expenditure	**125,176**	**127,062**	**1,886**	**522,435**	**518,474**	**(3,961)**
Internal Charges						
Internal Charge Allocation	6,561	7,281	**720**	28,341	29,059	**718**
Internal Cost (Recovery)	(6,925)	(7,491)	**(567)**	(29,399)	(29,965)	**(567)**
Total Operating Internal Charges	**(363)**	**(210)**	**154**	**(1,058)**	**(906)**	**152**
Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	**785**	**(579)**	**1,364**	**(5,883)**	**509**	**(6,392)**
Non-Recurrent Revenue						
Developer Contributions	5,109	10,379	**(5,269)**	36,246	41,515	**(5,269)**
Capital Grants	1,456	2,655	**(1,200)**	39,551	40,306	**(756)**
Contributed Assets	-	-	**-**	116,012	116,012	**-**
Gain/(Loss) on Sale of Property	-	75	**(75)**	10,571	10,646	**(75)**
Other Non-Recurrent Items	790	278	**512**	1,740	1,494	**246**
Tota Non-Recurrent Revenue	**7,355**	**13,387**	**(6,032)**	**204,118**	**209,972**	**(5,854)**
Net Comprehensive Surplus/(Def	**8,140**	**12,808**	**(4,668)**	**198,236**	**210,481**	**(12,246)**

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Key Variances – Operating Statement

Item	Comment
Operating Revenue	
Rates & Charges	*Budget* • Year to date actual result is ($680K) unfavourable to budget, due to lower supplementary rates. *Forecast* • Full Year forecast result is ($680K) unfavourable to budget, due to lower supplementary rates.
Fees, Charges & Other	*Budget* • Year to date actual result is materially consistent with budget. *Forecast* • Full Year actual result is ($2.5mil) unfavourable to budget due to North Geelong Transfer Station closure and lower development planning fees.
Government Grants	*Budget* • Year to date actual result is materially consistent with budget. *Forecast* • Full Year forecast result is materially consistent with budget.
Operating Expenditure	
Salaries, Wages & Employment	*Budget* • Year to date actual result is materially consistent with budget. *Forecast* • Full Year forecast result is ($2.9mil) unfavourable to budget due to the unfavourable classification of expenditure versus budget relating to the Digital Innovation program ($2.7mil) – offset in Materials & Services.
Materials & Services	*Budget* *Forecast* • Full year forecast is $3.4mil favourable to budget due to the favourable classification of expenditure versus budget relating to the Digital Innovation program $3.7mil – offset in Salaries, Wages & Employment.
Depreciation	*Budget* • ($0.8mil) unfavourable due to the impact of upward asset revaluation, resulting in depreciation being unfavourable to budget. *Forecast*

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	• ($4.2mil) unfavourable due to the impact of upward asset revaluations, resulting in depreciation being unfavourable to budget.
Community Support	*Budget* • Year to date actual result is materially consistent with budget. *Forecast* • Full Year forecast result is materially consistent with budget.
Utilities	*Budget* • Full Year actual result is materially consistent with budget. *Forecast* • Full Year actual result is materially consistent with forecast.
Non-Recurrent Revenue	
Developer Contributions	*Budget* • Unfavourable variance of ($11.5mil) mostly due to the timing of milestones within the DCP. *Forecast* • Forecast unfavourable of ($6.1mil) mostly due to the timing of milestones within the DCP.
Capital Grants	*Budget* • Full Year actual result is materially consistent with budget. *Forecast* • Full Year actual result is materially consistent with forecast.
Contributed Assets	*Budget* • Unfavourable variance of ($44.2mil) relates to a delay in the timing of recognition of new contributed assets, with a material amount of contributed asset being recognised as prior year revenue. *Forecast* • Unfavourable variance of ($44.2mil) relates to a delay in the timing of recognition of new contributed assets, with a material amount of contributed asset being recognised as prior year revenue.

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Appendix B – Statement of Financial Position

Statement of Financial Position	Year To Date			Full Year		
	Actual $000	Budget $000	Variance $000	Forecast $000	Budget $000	Variance $000
Current Assets						
Cash & Cash Equivalents	72,524	73,906	**(1,382)**	91,125	75,590	**15,535**
Trade & Other Receivables - Current	341,647	347,009	**(5,362)**	20,819	26,181	**(5,362)**
Other Financial Assets	126,628	110,858	**15,770**	136,688	113,384	**23,303**
Other Assets	14,871	6,893	**7,978**	15,634	7,786	**7,849**
Inventories	1,210	1,269	**(60)**	1,219	1,279	**(60)**
Non-Current Assets Classified As Held For Sale	369	9,479	**(9,110)**	369	9,479	**(9,110)**
Total Current Assets	**557,249**	**549,414**	**7,834**	**265,854**	**233,698**	**32,156**
Non-Current Assets						
Property, Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment	5,332,525	5,262,130	**70,395**	5,724,351	5,688,684	**35,667**
Intangible Assets	13,492	9,852	**3,639**	12,196	8,557	**3,639**
Right-Of-Use Assets	4,451	3,778	**673**	2,919	2,246	**673**
Investments in Associates, Joint Arrangement & Subs	12,256	10,586	**1,670**	12,256	10,586	**1,670**
Trade & Other Receivables - Non-Current	21,159	13,877	**7,283**	21,773	14,491	**7,283**
Total Non-Current Assets	**5,383,883**	**5,300,223**	**83,660**	**5,773,496**	**5,724,564**	**48,932**
Total Assets	**5,941,131**	**5,849,637**	**91,494**	**6,039,350**	**5,958,262**	**81,088**
Current Liabilities						
Trade & Other Payables - Current	25,829	30,978	**5,149**	37,430	42,579	**5,149**
Interest-Bearing Liabilities - Current	7,456	7,555	**98**	7,456	7,555	**98**
Trust Funds & Deposits	77,718	75,087	**(2,631)**	20,588	17,957	**(2,631)**
Prepaid Income	293,520	263,857	**(29,663)**	33,426	24,333	**(9,093)**
Provisions - Current	42,468	55,246	**12,778**	40,995	53,773	**12,778**
Lease Liabilities - Current	1,037	1,295	**258**	1,102	1,360	**258**
Total Current Liabilities	**448,029**	**434,018**	**(14,011)**	**140,998**	**147,557**	**6,560**
Non-Current Liabilities						
Interest-Bearing Liabilities - Non-Current	154,652	155,570	**919**	149,084	150,003	**919**
Lease Liabilities - Non-Current	3,850	3,825	**(26)**	2,830	2,805	**(26)**
Provisions - Non-Current	32,117	30,336	**(1,782)**	32,117	30,336	**(1,782)**
Total Non-Current Liabilities	**190,619**	**189,731**	**(888)**	**184,032**	**183,143**	**(888)**
Total Liabilities	**638,649**	**623,749**	**(14,899)**	**325,029**	**330,701**	**5,671**
Net Assets	**5,302,483**	**5,225,888**	**76,594**	**5,714,321**	**5,627,561**	**86,759**
Equity						
Accumulated surplus	2,483,554	2,381,030	**102,524**	2,673,650	2,585,463	**88,186**
Revulation Reserves	2,738,844	2,769,970	**(31,126)**	2,950,599	2,981,725	**(31,126)**
Other Reserves	80,085	74,888	**5,197**	90,071	60,372	**29,700**
Net Assets	**5,302,483**	**5,225,888**	**76,594**	**5,714,321**	**5,627,561**	**86,760**

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Key Variances – Statement of Financial Position

Item	Comment
Currents Assets	
Cash & Cash Equivalents, Other Financial Assets	*Budget* • Driven by $17.4mil favourable opening balance. This is primarily driven by delays in the capital program. In addition, 50% of the Financial Assistance Grants 2025-26 funding allocation was received in June 2025, ahead of expectations. *Forecast* • Favourable opening balance of $17.4mil. • Cash position will be further improved by expected capital program delays of $29.5mil in FY26.
Non-Current Assets	
Property, Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment	*Budget* • Opening balance higher than expected due to found assets in the FY25 annual reporting process. *Forecast* • Materially consistent with budget.
Current Liabilities	
Interest Bearing Liabilities – Current	*Budget* • Materially consistent with budget. *Forecast* • Materially consistent with budget
Non-Current Liabilities	
Interest Bearing Liabilities – Non Current	*Budget* • Materially consistent with budget. *Forecast* • Materially consistent with budget.

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Appendix C – Statement of Cashflows

Statement of Cashflows Inflow/(Outflow)	Year To Date			Full Year		
	Actual $000	Budget $000	Variance $000	Forecast $000	Budget $000	Variance $000
Cashflow from Operating Activities						
Rates & Charges	68,515	70,077	**(1,562)**	338,392	339,954	**(1,562)**
Fees, Charges & Other	32,918	31,821	**1,097**	91,963	92,692	**(729)**
Grants - Operating	15,647	16,143	**(496)**	78,192	78,689	**(496)**
Grants - Capital	6,156	2,655	**3,500**	38,730	40,306	**(1,577)**
Contributions - monetary	5,109	10,379	**(5,269)**	34,596	41,515	**(6,919)**
Interest Received	1,952	1,793	**159**	7,328	7,169	**159**
Employee Costs	(60,594)	(58,668)	**(1,925)**	(211,014)	(209,089)	**(1,925)**
Materials, Services & Community Support	(52,965)	(52,646)	**(319)**	(183,874)	(189,010)	**5,136**
Cashflow from Operating Activities	**16,739**	**21,554**	**(4,815)**	**194,313**	**202,226**	**(7,914)**
Cashflow from investing activities						
Property, Plant & Equipment	(19,037)	(20,969)	**1,932**	(174,842)	(204,342)	**29,500**
Proceeds from Sale	20	123	**(103)**	17,370	17,474	**(103)**
Cashflow from investing activities	**(19,018)**	**(20,846)**	**1,828**	**(157,472)**	**(186,868)**	**29,396**
Cashflow from financing activities						
Finance Costs	(1,404)	(1,371)	**(33)**	(5,340)	(5,288)	**(52)**
Proceeds from Borrowings	-	-	**-**	-	-	**-**
Repayment of Borrowings	(1,876)	(1,856)	**(20)**	(7,443)	(7,423)	**(20)**
Repayment of Lease Liabilities	(331)	(318)	**(12)**	(1,286)	(1,274)	**(12)**
Cashflow from financing activities	**(3,611)**	**(3,545)**	**(66)**	**(14,070)**	**(13,985)**	**(84)**
Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow)	**(5,890)**	**(2,837)**	**(3,053)**	**22,771**	**1,373**	**21,398**
Opening Cash Balance	**205,041**	**187,601**	**17,440**	**205,041**	**187,601**	**17,440**
Closing Cash Balance	**199,152**	**184,764**	**14,388**	**227,813**	**188,974**	**38,839**

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Key Variances – Statement of Cashflows

Item	Comment
Cashflow from Operating Activities	
Rates and Charges	*Budget* • Unfavourable due to Supplementary Rates being lower than expected lower than expected due to a volume of property changes resulting in supplementary rates notices. This includes subdivision, rezoning, new buildings or major improvements *Forecast* • Full year position projected to be unfavourable due to Supplementary Rates being lower than expected.
Employee Costs	*Budget* • Cash outflows for Employee Costs are $1.5mil favourable to budget mostly as a result of challenges in recruitment and lower service delivery than anticipated for Community Care. *Forecast* • Cash outflows for Employee Costs are $2.6mil favourable to forecast mostly as a result of challenges in recruitment and lower service delivery than anticipated for Community Care.
Cashflow from Investing Activities	
Property, Plant & Equipment	*Budget* • Small level of favourability consistent with the delay in capital expenditure to 30 September 2025. *Forecast* • Expected to be materially favourable due to on-going delays in the capital program.
Cashflow from Financing Activities	
	Materially in line with Budget.

Financial Performance Report

Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Appendix D – Statement of Capital Works

Statement of Capital Works	Year To Date			Full Year		
	Actual $000	Budget $000	Variance $000	Forecast $000	Budget $000	Variance $000
Property						
Land	136	593 ▲	**456**	11,564	23,494 ▲	**11,930**
Buildings	6,201	6,994 ▲	**793**	62,285	64,782 ▲	**2,497**
Heritage Buildings	1	- ▬	**(1)**	349	2,000 ▲	**1,651**
Total Property	**6,338**	**7,587** ▲	**1,249**	**74,198**	**90,276** ▲	**16,078**
Plant & Equipment						
Plant, Machinery & Equipment	195	1,622 ▲	**1,427**	6,430	6,428 ▼	**(2)**
Fixtures, Fittings & Furniture	2	128 ▲	**126**	226	352 ▲	**126**
Computers & Telecommunications	159	369 ▲	**209**	2,078	1,942 ▼	**(136)**
Total Plant & Equipment	**356**	**2,118** ▲	**1,762**	**8,733**	**8,722** ▼	**(12)**
Infrastructure						
Roads	6,486	3,427 ▼	**(3,059)**	31,481	29,567 ▼	**(1,914)**
Bridges	88	136 ▲	**49**	558	610 ▲	**52**
Footpaths & Cycleways	1,274	1,961 ▲	**687**	12,423	12,874 ▲	**451**
Drainage	200	1,010 ▲	**810**	5,668	6,449 ▲	**781**
Recreational, Leisure & Community Facilities	1,636	658 ▼	**(978)**	8,189	5,688 ▼	**(2,500)**
Waste Management	255	439 ▲	**184**	3,713	15,183 ▲	**11,470**
Parks, Open Space & Streetscapes	2,011	1,997 ▼	**(14)**	18,932	24,566 ▲	**5,634**
Other Infrastructure	392	1,637 ▲	**1,245**	10,455	10,405 ▼	**(51)**
Total Infrastructure	**12,343**	**11,265** ▼	**(1,078)**	**91,419**	**105,344** ▲	**13,924**
Total Capital Expenditure	**19,037**	**20,970** ▲	**1,933**	**174,351**	**204,342** ▲	**29,991**
Represented by:						
New Asset Expenditure	5,037	8,968 ▲	**3,931**	73,979	94,363 ▲	**20,384**
Asset Renewal Expenditure	11,056	9,111 ▼	**(1,946)**	62,940	63,664 ▲	**724**
Asset Upgrade Expenditure	2,944	2,891 ▼	**(53)**	37,432	46,315 ▲	**8,883**
Total Capital Expenditure	**19,037**	**20,970** ▲	**1,933**	**174,352**	**204,342** ▲	**29,990**

Financial Performance Report

Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Key Variances – Statement of Capital Works

Item	Comment
Property	
Land	*Budget* • Armstrong Creek Land Acquisition Program is ($0.5mil) favourable due to delays in disputed claims of compulsory land acquisitions. *Forecast* • The actual result for the Armstrong Creek Land Acquisition Program is favourable to forecast FY26 ($13.1mil) due to some land no longer being required ($6mil) and further delays in disputed claims of compulsory land acquisitions ($7.1mil).
Buildings	*Budget* • Buildings capital expenditure is $0.8mil lower than budget primarily due to the timing of Windsor Park Pavilion Upgrades ($0.4mil) and Armstrong Creek Horseshoe Bend Community Complex ($0.3mil). Both projects are still forecast to be materially close to their annual budget allocations with current variances relating to timing only. *Forecast* • The Chilwell Library Redevelopment Project is forecast to be $1.1mil less than budget primarily driven by delays in electrical works by an external contractor. Also contributing to the variance is the McDonald Reserve Pavilion Upgrade project, which has had $0.5 million in expenditure reforecast from FY26 to FY27. This represents a rephasing of expenditure only, with no impact on the forecast practical completion date
Plant & Equipment	
Plant, Machinery & Equipment	*Budget* • The year-to-date variance in Plant, Machinery & Equipment is primarily attributable to the Heavy & Dedicated Replacement Program, which accounts for $1.0 million of the variance. The budget phasing reflects historical delivery patterns, with the full-year budget allocation is still expected to be fully spent.
Infrastructure	
Roads	*Budget* • The core Kerb & Channel Renewal program is currently $0.9mil ahead of the YTD budget allocation. The phasing of the core program was based on historical delivery patterns with the timing of this year's delivery differing slightly from previous years. Phasing assumptions will be revised through the forecast. • Also contributing to the variance is Ghazeepore Road Upgrades ($0.8mil) which were originally forecast to be completed in FY25.

Financial Performance Report

Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

Item	Comment
	Forecast • The forecasted overspend to budget is primarily due to the Roads to Recovery program which has received a higher funding allocation in FY26 than originally budgeted ($1.0mil).
Footpaths & Cycleways	*Budget* • The core Footpath Renewal program is currently $0.6mil under the YTD budget allocation. The phasing of the core program was based on historical delivery patterns with the timing of this year's delivery differing slightly from previous years. Phasing assumptions will be revised through the forecast. Forecast • The forecasted underspend to budget is primarily due to the Special Rates & Charges program ($0.7mil) which has had some expenditure relating to the Ocean Grove Principal Pedestrian Network rephased into FY27.
Drainage	*Budget* • The core Drainage program is currently $0.8mil under the YTD budget allocation. The phasing of the core program was based on historical delivery patterns with the timing of this year's delivery differing slightly from previous years. Phasing assumptions will be revised through the forecast.
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	*Budget* • Recreational, Leisure and Community Facilities is $1.0mil overspent to budget YTD. This is primarily due to Playground Upgrades at Aldershot Reserve ($0.6mil) which were originally forecast to be completed in FY25. *Forecast* • Recreational, Leisure and Community Facilities is forecasted to finish $2.5mil over budget primarily due to the playground upgrade at Aldershot Reserve ($0.9mil) which was originally forecast to be completed in FY25 and the active recreation upgrades at Aldershot Reserve ($0.5mil) which is a part funded project approved after budgets were finalised.
Waste Management	*Forecast* • Waste management capital expenditure is $11.4mil under budget due the Organics Processing Facility Upgrade project ($8.1mil). This underspend is due to detailed designs now forecast to be completed later than expected which will delay construction commencement until after winter 2026. • Delays in the FOGO Sorting & Decontamination Line project ($3.0M), driven by the need for a second round of procurement, have also contributed to the variance.
Parks, Open Space & Streetscapes	*Forecast* • Parks, open space and streetscapes capital expenditure is forecast to finish $5.6mil under budget primarily a result of further CHMP delays in late FY25 for the Drysdale Sporting Precinct project ($3.0mil). The CHMP has now been finalised an construction is forecast to commence imminently.

Financial Performance Report

Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

Item	Comment
Other Infrastructure	*Budget* • Other infrastructure capital expenditure is $1.2mil under budget primarily due to internal costs that have been charged to projects and recategorised to other asset categories.

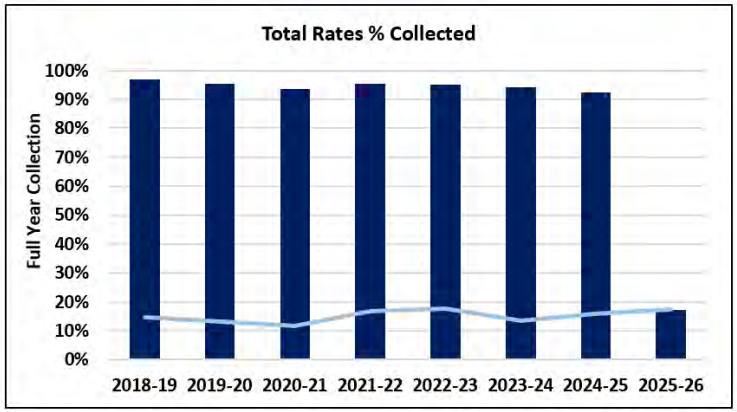
Financial Performance Report

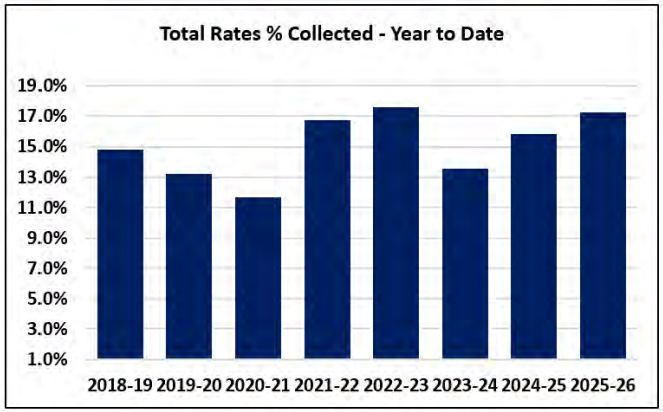
Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025

Appendix G – Rates Collection Report

Rates Collection – September 2025

Figures in $000s	YEAR TO DATE Opening Bal	- Receipts	= O/S Bal	% Collected	% Collected v Prior YTD	PRIOR YEAR TO DATE Opening Bal	- Receipts	= O/S Bal	% Collected
Current	$ 329,547	$ 55,024	$ 274,523	**16.70%**	1.37%	$ 313,213	$ 48,004	$ 265,209	**15.33%**
Arrears	$ 24,810	$ 6,087	$ 18,723	**24.53%**	0.40%	$ 18,417	$ 4,445	$ 13,972	**24.14%**
TOTAL	**$ 354,357**	**$ 61,111**	**$ 293,246**	**17.25%**	**1.43%**	**$ 331,630**	**$ 52,449**	**$ 279,181**	**15.82%**





- **Current** collection of $55m is 1.4% higher than September 2024. Please note that Rates Notices were sent earlier this year than previous years.
- The **arrears** balance of $18.7m is up from $13.9m this time last year. We have received $6m so far during the 2025-26 year. Reducing this remains a key focus, to try to limit it compounding.
- **Total** collection (current and arrears) is 1.43% higher compared to September 2024.

2.11. Proposed road discontinuance and transfer of land - Part Purrumbete Avenue, Manifold Heights

Source: **Office of the Chief Executive**
Chief Executive Officer: **Ali Wastie**

Purpose

1. To seek Council approval to initiate the statutory process for the proposed road discontinuance of part of Purrumbete Avenue, Manifold Heights and transfer the land within the road reserve to the Department of Education as shown in Attachment 1.

Background

2. Manifold Heights Primary School is located on either side of a section of Purrumbete Avenue.

3. The southern end of Purrumbete Avenue is fenced, with school playground equipment on it and it is being used by the school community.

Key Matters

4. The Department of Education has requested to take ownership of approximately 1,184m2 of the land to enable the school to have full control of the land for use and development for school purposes.

5. The Council has the authority to approve the discontinuance of part of the road and transfer the land to the Department of Education.

6. Community engagement will be undertaken to inform the community of this proposal and invite submissions which will be considered by the Council in determining if it approves the proposal.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Endorses community engagement and invite submissions in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, section 116 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Community Engagement Policy of its intention to discontinue part of Purrumbete Avenue, Manifold Heights and transfer the land measuring approximately 1,184m2 as shown in the attached plan to the Department of Education;**

2. **Appoints a Submissions Review Panel to hear any submissions, if any person wishes to appear in person or be represented by a person specified in support of a submission; and**

3. **Notes that a further report will be presented to Council to consider the outcome of the community engagement.**

Financial Sustainability

7. The City will be reimbursed for all legal and registration fees costs incurred for the road discontinuance and the transfer of the land.

Community Engagement

8. Community engagement will be undertaken on the Have Your Say page and a notice published in the Geelong Classifieds.

9. Any person will have an opportunity to make a written submission on the proposed road discontinuance and transfer of the land. A submitter is entitled to request in the submission that the person wishes to appear or be represented by a person specified in the submission, at a meeting to be heard in support of their submission.

Social Equity and Sustainability

10. There are no adverse social equity issues created as a result of this proposed road discontinuance and transfer of land.

11. Providing the land to the Department of Education will enable the primary school to continue to plan for and deliver its service to the local community.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

12. Council has the authority to discontinue a road under Clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 1989* by notice published in the Government Gazette.

13. A person may make a submission in accordance with Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* on the proposed exercise of power to discontinue a road.

14. Section 116 of the *Local Government Act 2020* applies to the transfer of the land to a public body.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

15. This report aligns with the Council Plan 2025-29 strategic priority:
Governance and Integrity

16. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
Development and implementation of sustainable solutions.

Conflict of Interest

17. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

18. The primary school is occupying the land for its purposes and wants to further develop the land to meet its needs. The Department of Education has approached the City to assist in rectifying the encroachment for a permanent solution.

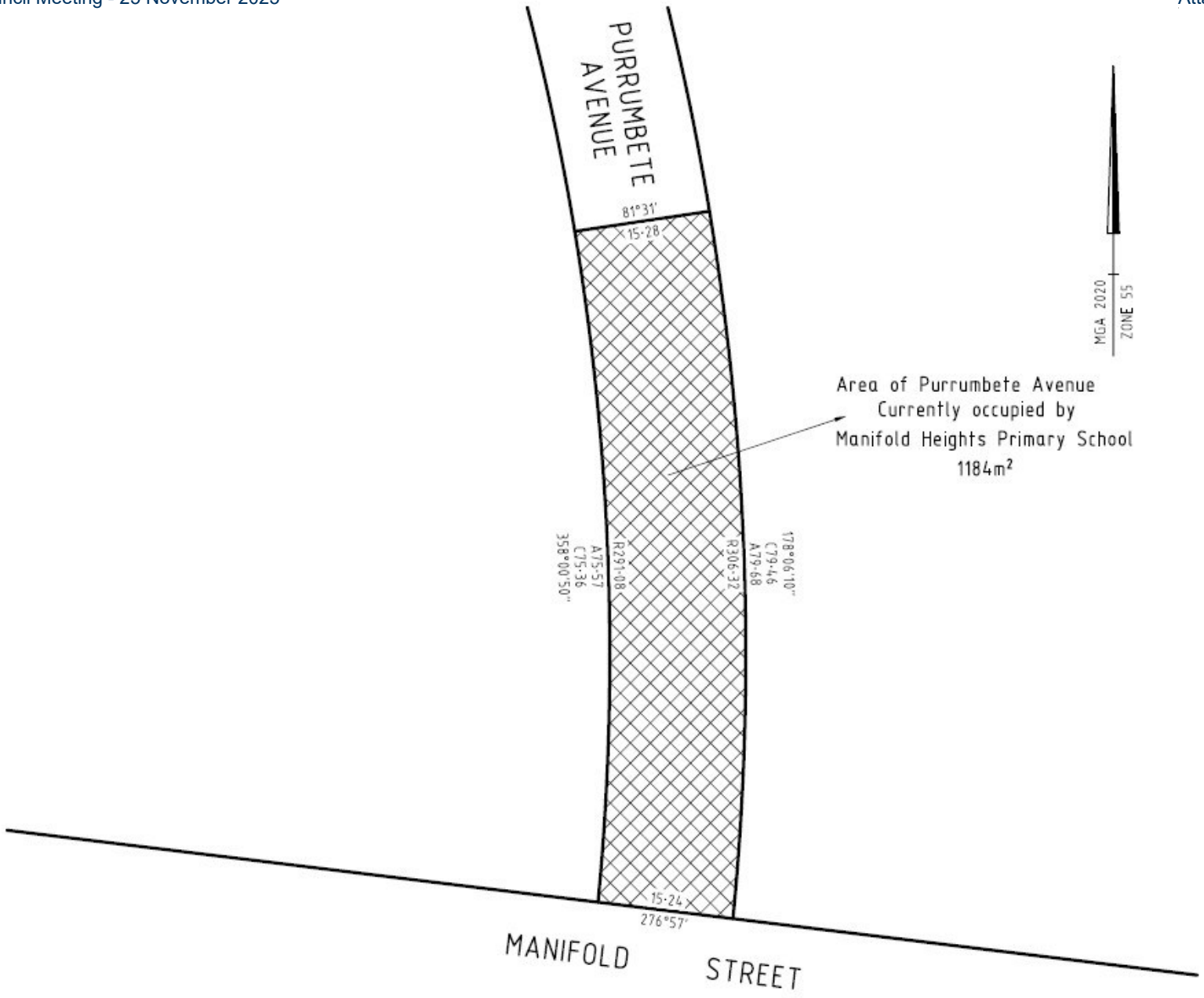
19. The proposal to discontinue the road and transfer the land to the Department of Education will remove any risk associated with the use and development from the City to enable the school to manage the land appropriately.

Environmental Sustainability

20. There are no environmental sustainability implications to the proposal.

Attachments

1. Purrumbete Ave, Manifold Heights [**2.11.1** - 1 page]
2. Purrumbete Ave, Manifold Heights - Aerial [**2.11.2** - 1 page]


PURRUMBETE AVENUE
81°31'
15·28
MGA 2020
ZONE 55
Area of Purrumbete Avenue
Currently occupied by
Manifold Heights Primary School
1184m²
A75·57
C75·36
358°00'50"
R291·08
R306·32
178°06'10"
C79·46
A79·68
15·24
276°57'
MANIFOLD STREET


Narmbool Street
Purrumbete Avenue
Strachan Avenue
Bostock Avenue
Oliver Street
Manifold Street
TP345404
LP5875
RP6185
RP13623
PS703473
TP741701
LP121004
PS911990
TP225741
TP258533
RP5379
TP559602
TP665966
TP629637
TP907563
RP17873
PS316551
LP79115
LP60474

2.12. Amendment C472ggee - Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Expansion - 92-100 Melaluka Road, Leopold

Source: **Placemaking**
Executive Director: **Tennille Bradley**

Purpose

1. To seek a Council resolution to prepare and exhibit Amendment C472ggee and associated Development Plan and Planning Permit, subject to authorisation by the Minister for Planning.

Background

2. The Planning Scheme Amendment, Development Plan, and Planning Permit application has been submitted by Urbis, on behalf of Calardu Leopold Pty Ltd.

3. The Amendment seeks to rezone the land at 92-100 Melaluka Road, Leopold, from Farming Zone (FZ) to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z), to facilitate the northern expansion of the Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre.

4. Applicable to the land is Schedule 30 to Clause 43.04 Development Plan Overlay of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme (DPO30), which identifies the subject site as the 'northern expansion site' of the Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre.

5. The Amendment is accompanied by a Planning Permit application, pursuant to Section 96A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Concurrently, the Applicant also seeks approval of a Development Plan for the site.

6. The Planning Permit and Development Plan are associated with use and development of the land for a Homemaker Centre and other complementary uses including restricted retail tenancies, food and drink tenancies, a gym and a childcare centre. The proposed anchor tenant is Harvey Norman.

7. The developed land immediately south of the subject site comprises the existing southern site of the Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre, which includes the Gateway Plaza shopping centre and Bunnings.

Key Matters

8. Amendment C472ggee is well supported broadly by policy. The subject site is within the Leopold settlement boundary of the *Leopold Structure Plan 2011 (amended 2013)*, which identifies the subject site as suitable for rezoning to facilitate development of the Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre.

9. The subject site is also identified as 'Activity Centre' in the Victorian State Government Distinctive Areas and Landscapes *Bellarine Peninsula Statement of Planning Policy* (BPSPP) (DTP, 2023). The land is located within the protected settlement boundary of the BPSPP Leopold Settlement Plan.

10. The Amendment is supported by the *City of Greater Geelong Retail Strategy 2020-2036* (COGG, 2020), which includes the subject site within the Leopold Sub Regional

Activity Centre and discusses the future role and opportunity for the expansion of the centre in a northerly direction along Melaluka Road.

11. The Amendment proposes to rezone the land from Farming Zone (FZ) to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z) and amend the C1Z Schedule to include reference to the subject site. The Amendment also seeks to revise DPO30 with updates to context and policy, including reference to a revised *Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Urban Design Framework 2025* as a Background Document to the Planning Scheme, superseding the *Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Urban Design Framework 2011*, while maintaining its key objectives (as outlined in **Attachment 2**).

12. Development contributions will be required for community infrastructure. As a requirement of DPO30, this will be attained through an agreement under Section 173 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

13. The application has been referred to internal council departments and external agencies for comments and draft permit conditions. Council officers are working closely with Urbis to complete the required documentation for exhibition. A draft planning permit will be prepared for public exhibition alongside the Amendment.

14. It is recommended that the Amendment is prepared and then exhibited, inviting submissions as part of the planning scheme amendment process (subject to authorisation from the Minister for Planning).

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Supports the preparation and exhibition of Amendment C472ggee Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre – Combined Amendment, Development Plan 798/2025 and Planning Permit 397/2025 to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme to:**

    1.1. **Rezone the land at 92-100 Melaluka Road, Leopold, from Farming Zone (FZ) to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z);**

    1.2. **Amend the Schedule to Clause 34.01 Commercial 1 Zone to include reference to the proposed development;**

    1.3. **Revise Schedule 30 to Clause 43.04 Development Plan Overlay with updates to context and policy, as outlined in Attachment 2; and**

    1.4. **Include a revised Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Urban Design Framework 2025 as a Background Document to the Planning Scheme, superseding the Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Urban Design Framework 2011, while maintaining its key objectives.**

2. **Considers the application for approval of a Development Plan and Planning Permit to use and develop the site for a Homemaker Center and other complementary uses, concurrently with the preparation of the amendment, in accordance with the provisions of Section 96A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*;**

3. **Prepares a Section 173 Agreement for key infrastructure contributions; and**

4. **Requests the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation and exhibition of Amendment C472ggee.**

Financial Sustainability

15. As a requirement of DPO30, the Applicant will be required to enter into an agreement with Council pursuant to Section 173 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987,* in relation to contributions (including works in kind) towards key infrastructure. Community Infrastructure contributions, including road and footpath upgrades, will be negotiated with the Applicant through a Section 173 Agreement.

Community Engagement

16. If Council resolves to support exhibition, the Amendment, Development Plan, and Planning Permit will be exhibited in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Nearby landowners and occupiers, prescribed Ministers and other relevant agencies will be directly notified during the exhibition period. The broader community will be notified through notices in the local newspaper and the City of Greater Geelong website.

17. Affected and interested parties will be able to lodge submissions which are intended to be considered under Council delegation.

Social Equity and Sustainability

18. The Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Urban Design Framework 2011 identified Leopold as having a key role as the gateway to the Bellarine Peninsula, providing a focus for retail and services to local communities. The proposal will provide social benefits through the planned expansion of the Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre to service the Leopold township and the wider Bellarine Peninsula.

19. The proposal of a childcare centre within the development will support local families in the Leopold community.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

20. There is strong support for the Amendment in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme's Municipal Planning Strategy, most notably at Clause 02.04-1 'Municipal Framework Plan' and Clause 02.04-2 'Retail Activity Centre Hierarchy', which designate the site as a 'Sub Regional Activity Centre' and 'Restricted Retail' respectively. This is supported by the 'Activity centres and retail' table at Clause 02.03-1 'Settlement'.

21. The Amendment is consistent with several clauses of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme Planning Policy Framework, as follows:

    21.1. Clause 11.01-1S Settlement: The Amendment supports this policy as it will concentrate retail and community facilities within the settlement boundary, to support convenient access to jobs and services.

    21.2. Clause 11.01-1R Settlement - Geelong G21: The Amendment supports the growth of Leopold as a district town, reinforcing the township's role in providing services to surrounding areas.

    21.3. Clause 11.03-1S Activity centres and precincts: The Amendment supports this policy by facilitating major retail development in a planned Sub Regional Activity Centre with good public transport services.

21.4. Clause 11.03-1L Activity centres in Greater Geelong: This policy supports the role and function of centres in the Geelong Retail Centre Hierarchy and continued diversification of retail centres over time. The proposal is consistent with the *City of Greater Geelong Retail Strategy 2020-2026* and offers a mix of retail and community facilities as well as future development opportunity.

21.5. Clause 11.03-6L-01 Bellarine Peninsula: Consistent with this policy, the Amendment seeks to facilitate the planned expansion of the Leopold Sub Regional Retail Activity Centre, which also provides local community, recreational and employment facilities to Leopold's residents. The Amendment is consistent with the Leopold Structure Plan Map of this policy, as it facilitates rezoning of the subject site within the settlement boundary.

22. The Amendment is aligned with the Victoria State Government Bellarine Peninsula Statement of Planning Policy (BPSPP) (DTP, 2023), which the City is required to implement. The subject site is within the BPSPP Protected Settlement Boundary, and rezoning to C1Z is consistent with the designated 'Activity Centre' use for the land. As the BPSPP designates the northern and western boundaries of the subject site as an 'urban-rural' interface, Council officers are working with the Applicant to ensure specification of appropriate architectural and landscaping interface treatments to support a sensitive transition to the adjacent 'green break'.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

23. This report aligns with Council Plan 2025-29 strategic priorities:
Environment and Circular Economy
Economic Development

24. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future* community aspirations for:

Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities.

Conflict of Interest

25. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

26. There are no notable risks associated with implementing the recommendations of this report.

Environmental Sustainability

27. The amendment will be supported by technical assessments and planning controls to provide for a development that considers appropriate stormwater management, environmentally sustainable design and impacts to the public realm. This information will be used to inform the development plan, the planning permit and development outcomes for the site.

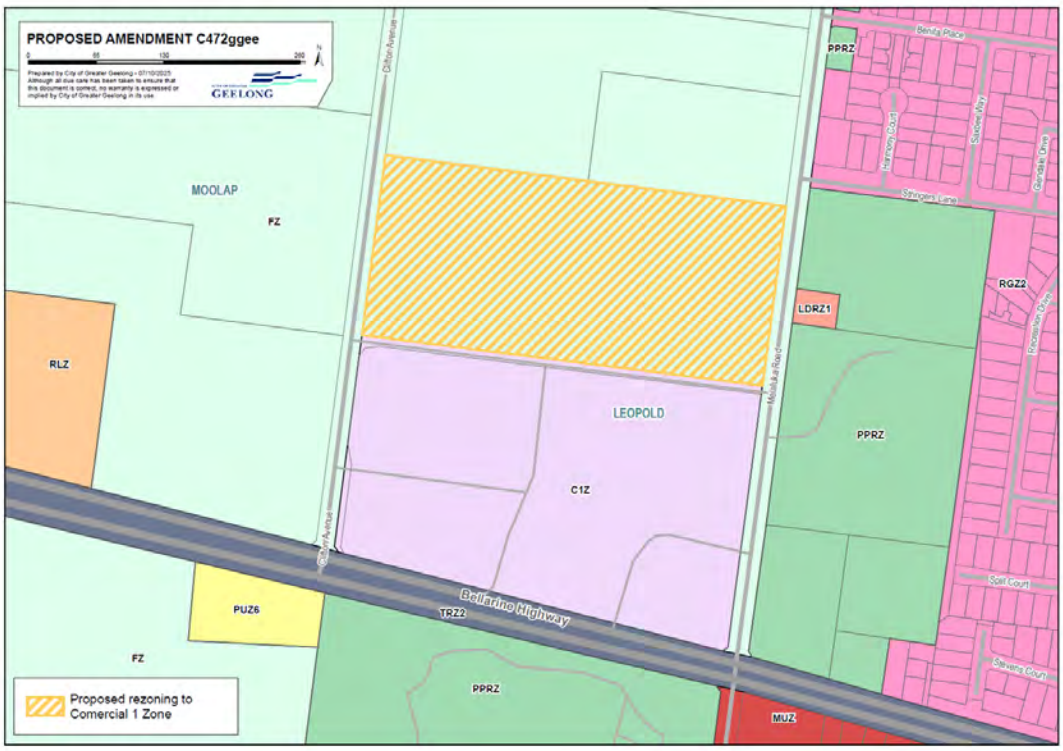
Attachments

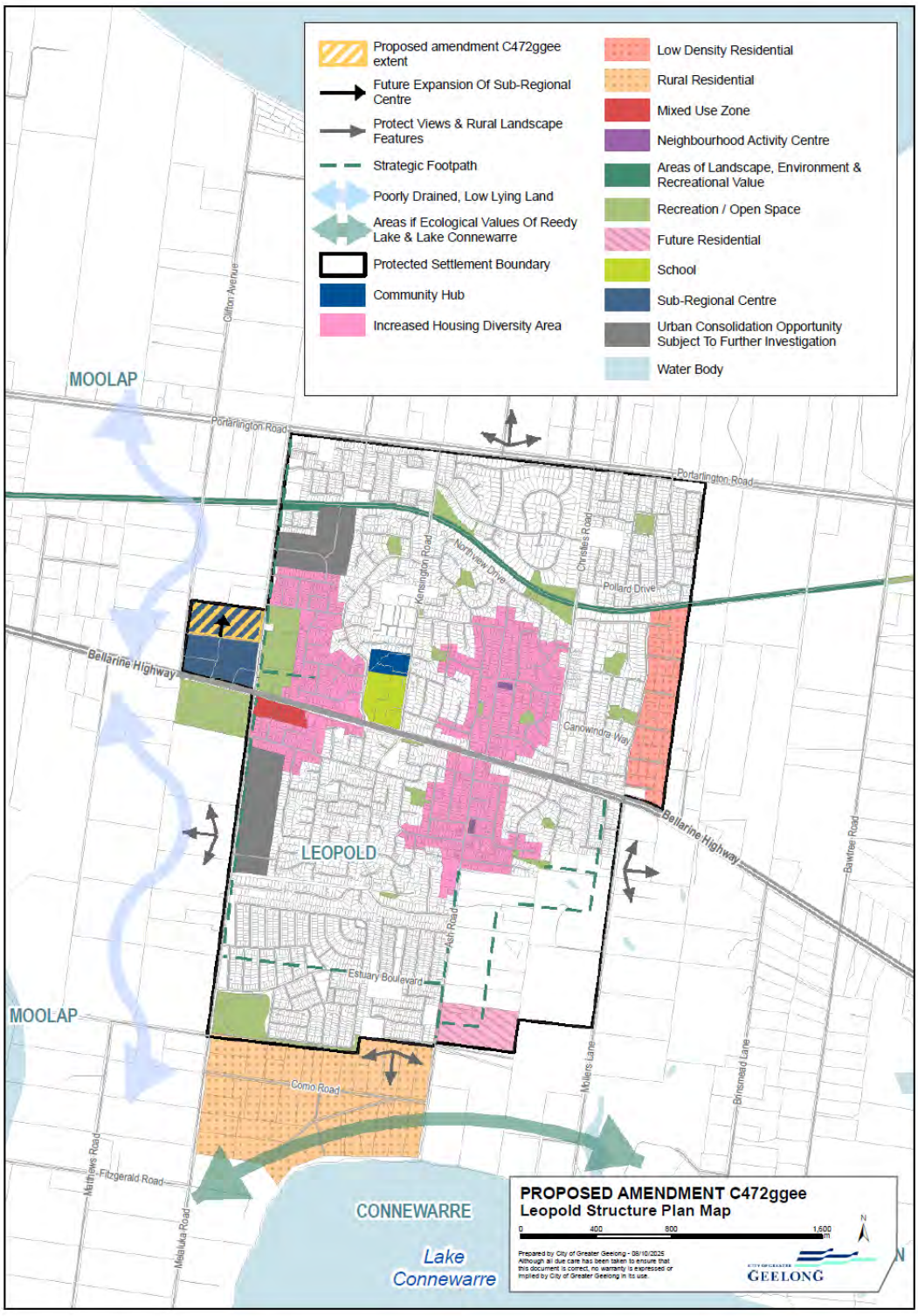
1. C472ggee Attachment 1 Maps 35 [**2.12.1** - 2 pages]

2. C472ggee Attachment 2 Background Report [**2.12.2** - 12 pages]

Attachment 1: ***Amendment C472ggee aerial, proposed rezoning, and Leopold Structure Plan maps***






Proposed amendment C472ggee extent
Future Expansion Of Sub-Regional Centre
Protect Views & Rural Landscape Features
Strategic Footpath
Poorly Drained, Low Lying Land
Areas if Ecological Values Of Reedy Lake & Lake Connewarre
Protected Settlement Boundary
Community Hub
Increased Housing Diversity Area
Low Density Residential
Rural Residential
Mixed Use Zone
Neighbourhood Activity Centre
Areas of Landscape, Environment & Recreational Value
Recreation / Open Space
Future Residential
School
Sub-Regional Centre
Urban Consolidation Opportunity Subject To Further Investigation
Water Body
MOOLAP
Portarlington Road
Clifton Avenue
Kensington Road
Northview Drive
Christies Road
Pollard Drive
Bellarine Highway
Canowindra Way
LEOPOLD
Ash Road
Estuary Boulevard
Como Road
Moliers Lane
Brimstead Lane
Bawtree Road
Matthews Road
Fitzgerald Road
Melaluka Road
CONNEWARRE
Lake Connewarre
PROPOSED AMENDMENT C472ggee
Leopold Structure Plan Map
0 400 800 1,600 m
N
GEELONG

Proposed Amendment C472ggee
92-100 Melaluka Road, Leopold – Planning Scheme Amendment, Development Plan, and Planning Permit

Attachment 2 – Background Report

Background to the Amendment

1. Amendment C472 is a developer-initiated Planning Scheme Amendment seeking to rezone the land at 92-100 Melaluka Road, Leopold, from Farming Zone (FZ) to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z), to facilitate the northern expansion of the Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre. This land is shown in **Attachment 1**.

2. The Amendment application has been submitted by Urbis, on behalf of Calardu Leopold Pty Ltd ('the Applicant'), and is accompanied by a Planning Permit application, pursuant to Section 96A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Concurrently, the Applicant also seeks approval of a Development Plan for the site.

3. The Permit and Development Plan are associated with use of the site for a Homemaker Centre and other complementary uses, as discussed in the 'Proposal' section of this report. The proposed anchor tenant is Harvey Norman.

4. As the Planning Scheme Amendment ('the Amendment') has been initiated by a developer, Council is relying on the Applicant to prepare the necessary technical reports to support the Amendment, as well as costs and fees associated with the Amendment process. The City is working closely with Urbis to complete the required documentation for exhibition, which is forecast to occur in 2026.

5. The Amendment application was submitted to Council in May 2025, following pre-application discussions with Council Officers from 2022 to 2024. Council Officers have reviewed the submitted application and referred it to various Council Departments and external authorities for comment as relevant to the proposal. In addition to comments, all referral recipients were asked to provide draft permit conditions to inform the permit component of the application.

6. The proposed Homemaker Centre is broadly supported in policy, as outlined in this report. Council's support of Amendment C472ggee will provide the Applicant with confidence and certainty to continue with preparation of the Amendment, including a request for authorisation from the Minister for Planning and subsequent exhibition.

Location and Site Context

7. The subject land of the Amendment comprises the entire 6.72 hectare lot at 92-100 Melaluka Road, Leopold, as shown in **Attachment 1**.

8. The site is approximately nine kilometres south-east of central Geelong. The land is generally rectangular in shape, and is bound by Melaluka Road to the east, Clifton Avenue to the west, and an access roads running east-west along the southern boundary.

9. The land is currently zoned as Farming Zone (FZ) and consists of one residential dwelling and a shed fronting Melaluka Road. The site is relatively flat and is mostly grassland, with clusters of established trees in the eastern portion of the site.

10. The land is subject to Schedule 30 to Clause 43.04 Development Plan Overlay (DPO30) of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme ('Planning Scheme'), which identifies the site as the "northern expansion site" of the Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre.

11. The developed land immediately south of the boundary comprises the existing southern site of the Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre, which includes the Gateway Plaza Shopping Centre and Bunnings. This southern site is in the Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z) and was developed pursuant to Planning Scheme Amendment C277 (gazetted in 2014) and Planning Permits 994/2012 (shopping centre expansion) and 1116/2013 (drainage reserve).

12. The Leopold Memorial Reserve, comprising athletic fields and the Leopold Football/Netball club, is located east to the site across Melaluka Road. This land is predominantly zoned as Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ), with a small parcel of land comprising a residential property zoned as Low Density Residential Zone (LDRZ1).

13. The land to the north and west of the site is Farming Zone (FZ) with scattered residential properties. Established housing exists north-east of the site along the intersection of Melaluka Road and Springers Lane, which is within the Residential Growth Zone 2 (RGZ2).

Strategic Basis for the Amendment

14. Strategic support for the Amendment is well established. In 2006, the *City of Greater Geelong Retail Strategy (Essential Economics, June 2006)* recommended investigation of the potential or otherwise for the (then proposed) neighbourhood centre site to be the location of a new sub-regional centre.

15. Further assessment by way of the *Leopold Sub-Regional Activity Centre Assessment (Tim Nott Economic Analysis + Strategy, January 2010)* concluded the likelihood of sufficient demand to accommodate the expansion of the existing Leopold Gateway shopping centre to a sub-regional activity centre over the period to 2021.

16. The *Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Urban Design Framework 2011* was informed by the two abovementioned reports and situates the subject site within the Sub Regional Activity Centre concepts. This Urban Design Framework sets key objectives to guide future development.

17. The City's current retail strategy, *City of Greater Geelong Retail Strategy 2020-2036*, continues to support the site as a Sub Regional Activity Centre within the retail hierarchy. It is suggested that a review of DPO30 and the Urban Design Framework is appropriate, to consider urban design improvements and strategies to transition the centre to a true activity centre with a diverse range of uses, as well as exploration of Melaluka Road as a 'main street' concept, and integration of the Leopold Memorial Park with the centre.

18. Strategic planning for Leopold is guided by the *Leopold Structure Plan 2011 (City of Greater Geelong, September 2011, amended January 2013)*. The Leopold Structure Plan includes the subject site as part of the Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre and recommends the site as appropriate for rezoning.

19. The Leopold Structure Plan further suggests that a rezoning proposal could be considered alongside a development proposal in the form of a 96A application. Additionally, it recommends a Development Plan Overlay to ensure an integrated centre is achieved that generally meets the key objectives of the *Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Urban Design Framework 2011*. Facilitating this policy direction, Development Plan Overlay Schedule 30 (DPO30) is currently applicable to the land.

20. The Leopold Structure Plan map appears at Clause 11.03.06L-01 *Bellarine Peninsula* of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, as shown below:



Figure 1: Leopold Structure Plan Map (Source: Leopold Structure Plan, City of Greater Geelong 2011, amended 2013)

21. The Amendment is consistent with the Strategic Directions of the Municipal Planning Strategy in the Planning Scheme, including Clause 02.03-1 'Settlement', the Municipal Framework Plan at Clause 02.04-1 which identifies the site as 'Sub Regional Activity Centre', and the Retail Activity Centre Hierarchy at Clause 02.04-2, which identifies the site as 'Restricted Retail'.

22. Other relevant strategies to the Amendment, which are embedded in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, are:

    22.1. *G21 Regional growth Plan 2013* at Clause 11.01-1R.
    22.2. *City of Greater Geelong Settlement Strategy 2020*.
    22.3. *Bellarine Localised Planning Statement 2015* at Clause 11.03-5S.

Plan for Victoria and the Bellarine Peninsula Statement of Planning Policy

23. The Amendment aligns with the Victoria State Government *Plan for Victoria* Map 15 'Geelong in the Future'. *Plan for Victoria* (Victoria State Government, 2025) sets the state-wide vision for how Victoria will grow over time to 2050. The subject site is within the Protected Settlement Boundary of Map 15. Consistent with other strategies discussed in this report, Leopold is designated as 'Activity centre (sub-regional)'.

24. On 29 October 2019 the Bellarine Peninsula was declared a Distinctive Area and Landscape (DAL) under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. This declaration triggered the requirement to prepare the Bellarine Peninsula Statement of Planning Policy (BPSPP). A Protected Settlement Boundary is identified within the Leopold Settlement Plan of the BPSPP to ensure that settlement does not inappropriately encroach into valued natural and rural landscapes. The Leopold Settlement Plan map is as follows:

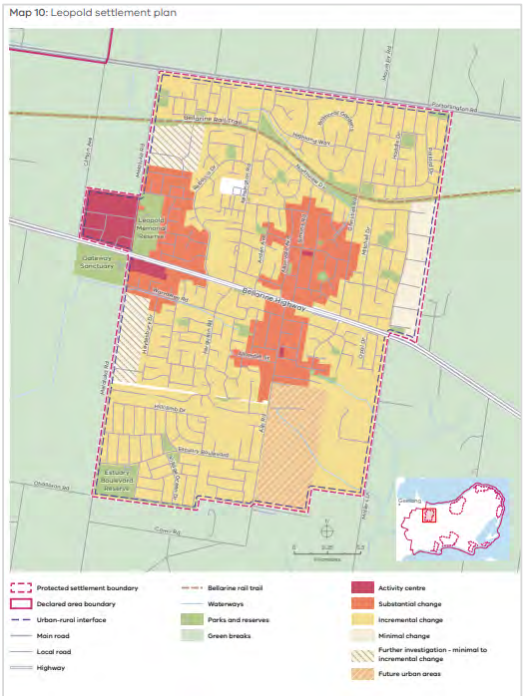


Figure 2: Leopold Settlement Plan Map, Department of Transport and Planning, July 2023)

25. The subject land of this Amendment is positioned within the BPSPP Protected Settlement Boundary, which is the same as the settlement boundary identified in the Leopold Structure Plan Map of the Planning Scheme and Plan for Victoria.

26. Under the BPSPP Leopold Settlement Plan, the subject site is designated as 'Activity Centre'. The northern and western boundaries of the site are identified as an 'urban-rural interface' to the adjacent 'Green Break'.

27. While the BPSPP has not yet been incorporated into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, it is operational and forms part of the state-standard provisions of the Victoria Planning Provisions. The City is required to implement the BPSPP, as a Responsible Public Entity for managing land in the declared area.

Proposal

28. The Amendment application being considered comprises three components: a Planning Scheme Amendment, an application for approval of a Development Plan, and a Planning Permit application.

Proposed Planning Controls

29. The Planning Scheme Amendment seeks to rezone the subject land from Farming Zone (FZ) to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z). This includes updating Map Number 57 'Zones' of the Planning Scheme, and amending the C1Z Schedule to include reference to the proposed development.

30. The purpose of the C1Z is to create vibrant mixed use commercial centres for retail, office, business, entertainment and community uses, and to provide for residential uses at densities complementary to the role and scale of the commercial centre. The C1Z is considered most appropriate for the site, as it will allow a diverse range of uses to support the role of the Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre.

31. In addition to rezoning, the Amendment seeks to revise the existing Schedule 30 to Clause 43.04 - Development Plan Overlay (DPO30), which is applicable to the land. The Development Plan Overlay identifies areas which require the form and conditions of future use and development to be shown on a development plan before a permit can be granted to use or develop the land.

32. The proposed revisions to DPO30 include updates to context and policy, as follows:

    31.1. Include an updated Concept Plan at Clause 5.0 of the Schedule to replace the existing Concept Plan, to:
    - Reflect as-built conditions of the existing southern site of the Activity Centre.
    - Identify key access points to improve integration between the southern and northern sites of the Sub Regional Activity Centre, Melaluka Road and Clifton Avenue. This includes pedestrian connectivity with the existing centre.

- Outline the layout for the proposed development.
- Identify the service road function between the northern and southern sites of the Activity Centre.
- Outline the frontage treatment to Melaluka Road.
- Identify the western portion of the land as 'future development'.

31.2. Include reference to the *City of Greater Geelong Retail Strategy (2020-2036).*

31.3. Include reference to a revised *Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Urban Design Framework 2025*, replacing reference to the *Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Urban Design Framework 2011* while retaining its key objectives. It is proposed that this revised framework will also be referenced as a Background Document to the Planning Scheme to supersede the previous version.

31.4. Update references to the most current environmental standards, including guidelines for water safety in Urban Water Developments.

31.5 Amend infrastructure contribution requirements in Clause 3.0, as discussed in the 'Infrastructure Contributions' section of this report.

31.5 Remove references to redundant developed planning permits.

Proposed Development Plan and Planning Permit

33. As per the requirements of DPO30, the Development Plan must include an overall *Urban Design Masterplan*, *Traffic Management Plan*, a detailed *Flooding, Stormwater and Drainage Management Plan*, *Landscape Masterplan*, *Economic Impact Assessment*, and *Staging Plan*.

34. The proposed Development Plan has been prepared in accordance with the proposed amended DPO30. Council Officers are currently working with Urbis to refine the proposed DPO30 revisions and Development Plan for exhibition alongside the Amendment.

35. Within the Development Plan, the western portion of the site is designated for future land use and development, as indicated as 'Stage 4' in the proposed Staging Plan, shown in **Figure 3**. It is noted that this plan is indicative, with the details of layout and design currently in discussion.

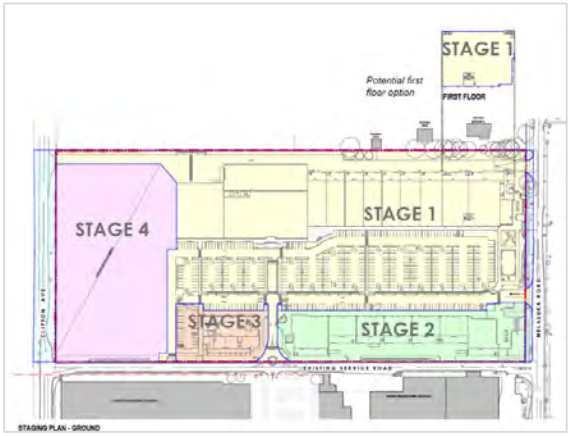


Figure 4: Indicative Staging Plan showing future development to the western portion of the site. (Source: Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Development Plan - Northern Expansion, Urbis, March 2025).

Figure 3: Proposed Staging Plan (Indicative only) (Source: Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Development Plan –

36. The Planning Permit application is for use and development of the site for a Homemaker Centre and other complementary uses, including restricted retail tenancies, food and drink tenancies, a gym, and a childcare centre. Council Officers will be formulating draft permit conditions for exhibition alongside the Amendment.

37. The western portion of the subject site is not included in the Planning Permit component of the application as it is designated for future development.

Discussion

Application Considerations

38. The application has undergone substantial consideration with Council to date. Preliminary Council comments were provided to the Applicant in February 2023 in response to a preliminary proposal for rezoning and development.

39. This pre-application feedback included Council comment recommending the preliminary proposal to further incorporate a continuous 'main street' concept along Melaluka Road including the proposed tavern, active frontages, footpaths, and a direct pedestrian connection to the existing shopping centre along the Melaluka Road frontage. Comments were also provided regarding strengthened pedestrian connectivity between the southern and northern sites of the Sub Regional Activity Centre, the provision of a *Flooding, Stormwater and Drainage Management Plan*; and compliance of the proposal with DPO30.

40. Following receipt of the application on 2 May 2025, the submitted proposal was referred internally and externally for comment and draft permit conditions.

41. Accompanying the application, the Applicant submitted technical assessments to inform development and infrastructure requirements. Assessments were prepared for economic impact, urban design, native vegetation, trees, bushfire risk, cultural heritage, land contamination, sustainability, stormwater drainage, traffic engineering, acoustic impact, and waste.

42. Council has requested that some assessments are updated following Council and external agency review, to a level that can appropriately form an application to the Minister for Planning to request authorisation for the Amendment to proceed, and subsequent exhibition of the Amendment.

Retail / Economic Impact

43. The applicant has proposed to amend the C1Z Schedule by introducing an additional row to the C1Z Schedule table, to identify a maximum 5,000 square metres of 'shop' floor space trigger for the land. Council officers have noted that this proposal is likely in reference to the provisions of Clause 4.0 of DPO30. It is further noted, however, that this provision has been superseded by the Retail Strategy Planning Scheme Amendment

C393ggee, where an Independent Panel agreed with Council that a cap of 30,000 square metres is appropriate. Council officers are currently discussing this with the applicant.

Urban Design

44. Integration of the development with its surrounding context is a key consideration. Design strategies to support interconnectivity between the existing southern and proposed northern development of the Activity Centre, as well as the Leopold Memorial Reserve to the east, are being considered. Within the proposed *Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Urban Design Framework 2025,* the Applicant has proposed five urban design principles, including a 'retail loop' to support pedestrian connectivity, as shown in Figure 4. Council Officers have reviewed these principles and are discussing design strategies with the Applicant.

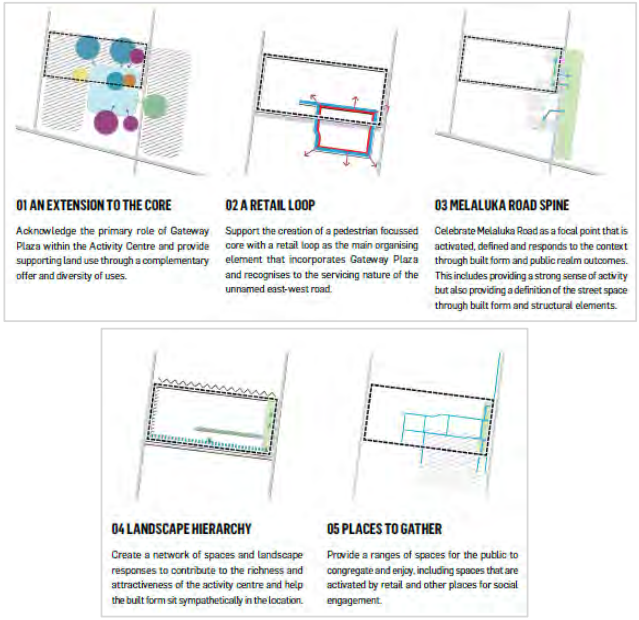


Figure 4: Proposed Urban Design Principles (Source: Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Urban Design Framework 2025, Urbis, 2025).

45. Activation of the Melaluka Road frontage has been raised as a key consideration from Council Officers. Currently, DPO30 requires the Urban Design Masterplan to include 'a pedestrian based, main street treatment along Melaluka Road that is consistent for both the southern and northern expansion sites'. It is proposed to revise this in DPO30, requiring the Urban Design Masterplan to include 'pedestrian treatments along Melaluka Road continuing from the Shopping Centre and providing a 'retail loop' connection between the southern and northern expansion sites', as per the urban design principle proposed in Figure 4. The submitted proposal includes green open space, a play area and landscaped gathering areas, as well as two Food and Beverage tenancies with

frontages to Melaluka Road. Council Officers are discussing design strategies with the Applicant to ensure that an activated frontage is achieved.

46. It is recognised that the Urban-Rural Interface to the western and northern boundaries of the site require appropriate sensitive treatment as per the Bellarine Peninsula Statement of Planning Policy. Comments from the Department of Transport and Planning regarding this interface treatment are being considered, to determine appropriate landscaping and built form treatments.

Traffic / Transport

47. The proposal includes access to the site via Melaluka Road to the east, to the service road on the southern boundary of the site, and to Clifton Avenue to the west. Discussion is underway with the applicant and relevant transport agencies regarding ensuring safe and efficient movement in and around the site. This includes the function of the existing east – west road between the existing and proposed commercial sites, and links to public transport.

Stormwater Engineering

48. Appropriate Stormwater management is a key consideration of the subject site, with the requirements of the *Flooding, Stormwater and Drainage Management Plan* detailed in DPO30. The subject site is relatively flat and is lower than existing developments to the south and east, and the land immediately west. The subject site currently tends to drain towards the centre and north.

49. It is proposed to regrade the site to drain to the south-west corner, to connect to existing drainage infrastructure. On-site treatment is proposed via rainwater tanks for reuse and raingardens for filtration of stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces. The application has been reviewed by Council's Stormwater Engineering Civil Infrastructure team, who have communicated detailed comment and further information requests to the Applicant.

50. The application has also been referred to Barwon Water, Corangamite Catchment Management Authority, and the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), each of which have provided comments on stormwater engineering for consideration.

Environment and Sustainability

51. A Preliminary Risk Screening Assessment (PRSA) has been conducted on the subject land, which has confirmed that an Environmental Audit is not required. Council Officers have referred the PRSA to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under Ministerial Direction 19, who have confirmed that no updates to the PRSA are required.

52. The Applicant has submitted Biodiversity and Arboricultural Impact Assessments which have been reviewed by Council Officers and referred to DEECA for comment. A concern

raised by Council officers and DEECA is the proposed removal of all native vegetation from the site, due mainly to fill associated with stormwater regrading. Further exploration of native vegetation and tree retention strategies within the proposal has been requested. Council Officers have reviewed the submitted Landscape Plan and have provided Indigenous plant species and weed avoidance recommendations.

53. The applicant submitted a Bushfire Risk Assessment, which has been referred to the CFA for comment. CFA is generally supportive of the recommendations contained within the Bushfire Assessment, and has provided Council with further bushfire mitigation measures to consider for inclusion within the proposal. Council Officers are currently discussing these recommendations with the CFA.

54. The proposal has been reviewed by Council's Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) Officers, including review of the Sustainability Management Plan. Comments have been provided to the Applicant to ensure that the proposal aligns with relevant strategies including the *Bellarine Peninsula Statement of Planning Policy*, *City of Greater Geelong Urban Forest Strategy*, and *City of Greater Geelong Climate Change Response Plan*.

55. Recently, *Ministerial Direction Number 22 – Climate Change Considerations* was gazetted on 11 September 2025. This was issued under section 12A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, and requires all Planning Authorities to consider climate change matters when preparing a planning scheme amendment. Council Officers are considering the requirements of this new direction and associated reporting requirements to include with the Amendment documents.

Cultural Heritage

56. The proposal has been referred to the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Corporation for review, however a response has not yet been received. Council Officers will continue to engage with the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Corporation as the application is progressed.

Development Contributions

57. As a requirement of DPO30, the Applicant will be required to enter into an agreement with Council pursuant to Section 173 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* in relation to contributions (including works in kind) towards key infrastructure.

58. The Applicant has proposed to amend DPO30 Clause 3.0 Section 173 Agreement requirements to include lengthening of the turning lanes to the intersections of Bellarine Highway approaching Clifton Avenue, and Bellarine Highway approaching Melaluka Road. DPO30 Clause 3.0 also includes footpath upgrade requirements and construction upgrades to the central east-west street of the Activity Centre, and upgrades to the service road north of the site. The Applicant has proposed alterations to the wording of some road and footpath contributions in DPO30. Council Officers are currently reviewing the proposal and assessing appropriate and agreed contributions.

59. It is noted that DPO30 Clause 3.0 also outlines some Section 173 Agreement requirements which have already been delivered as part of the southern development of the Sub Regional Activity Centre, including the signalised intersection at Clifton Avenue and the Bellarine Highway. It is proposed that references to redundant infrastructure contribution requirements will be removed from DPO30 as part of the Amendment.

Future Development Opportunities

60. The western portion of the subject site is noted for future development and the proposal does not outline specific intentions for the future use of this portion of the site.

61. Following review of the submitted Economic Impact Assessment, Council Officers have noted that Clause 02.03 *Strategic Directions* of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme designates the site as both a Restricted Retail Centre and a Sub Regional Activity Centre. The policy further supports Retail Centres to grow and transition over time into activity centres with an extended offer including uses other than retail.

62. This aligns with the purpose of the Commercial 1 Zone (as outlined in the 'Proposal' section of this report, Item 30), and the *City of Greater Geelong Retail Strategy 2020-2036* 'Future Role and Opportunities' notes for the Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre.

Impacts on Adjoining Landowners

63. **Attachment 1** includes maps showing properties located adjacent to and surrounding the subject site.

64. The Applicant has submitted Acoustic Impact and Waste Management Reports as part of the application. The proposal, including these assessments, has been reviewed by Council's Environmental Health team, with specific queries further referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under Ministerial Direction 19. Comments on light emissions and acoustic considerations have been provided to the Applicant, with the intention of minimising impacts.

65. It is likely that adjacent residential properties will be subject to construction amenity impacts. These impacts will be managed by way of conditions on the Planning Permit.

Next Steps

Exhibition

66. Provided Council are supportive of the preparation and exhibition of Amendment C472ggee, and pursuant to Authorisation from the Minister for Planning, the timing of exhibition will be subject to finalising the Amendment documents and draft planning permit acceptable to Council Officers. All Amendment and supporting documentation, as well as the draft planning permit, will be exhibited and any affected or interested person

may lodge a submission about the Amendment. Submissions are intended to be considered under Council delegation.

2.13. Amendment C433ggee - Pakington Street Urban Design Frameworks - Consideration of Submissions

Source: **Placemaking**
Executive Director: **Tennille Bradley**

Purpose

1. To consider the submissions to Planning Scheme Amendment C433ggee and recommend that all submissions be referred to an independent planning panel.

Background

2. The Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue Urban Design Framework, 2024 adopted on 14 December 2021 and the Pakington North Urban Design Framework, 2024 adopted on 28 May 2024 (UDF's) are driven and supported by the City's Settlement Strategy 2020 and supports Council's goal of providing for 50% of future housing needs through urban infill.

3. The UDFs support the State Government's Plan for Victoria which identifies Geelong's housing target to 2051 as 128,600 additional homes, of which 77,500 must be delivered in established areas.

4. The location of Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue in the context of Central Geelong Activity Centre, Geelong-Melbourne rail line, and existing community infrastructure has led the precincts to be identified as an Increased Housing Diversity Area and a Key Development Area.

5. The City's Retail Strategy 2020–36 identifies Pakington Street (Geelong West) retail spine as a specialised centre.

6. The exhibited amendment rezones land from Commercial 2 Zone (C2Z) to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z) and to the Residential Growth Zone (RGZ) subject to two new Schedules to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO) and the Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO) to facilitate a broader range of retail and office uses and to support greater housing growth.

7. Schedule 56 to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO56) and Schedule 57 to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO57) (DDO's) provide direction and certainty to the local community on future development and building heights.

8. Public exhibition commenced on 31 July 2025 and closed on 1 September 2025.

Key Matters

9. A total of 51 submissions were received to the exhibited amendment. Of these, 13 were supportive, 34 objected, and 4 provided comments only.

10. Submissions to Amendment C433ggee focused on 10 key issues including traffic congestion, parking shortages and limited public transport; proposed building heights; drainage and sewerage capacity; the loss of the Autumn Street car park and need for more green space; application of the Environmental Audit Overlay to certain sites;

concerns with rezonings to the Residential Growth Zone and Commercial 1 Zone; calls for more flexible Design and Development Overlay controls; changes to local policy; and updates to the UDF's.

11. In accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act (1987),* Council must now either:

    11.1. Change the amendment in the manner requested by the submitters;

    11.2. Refer the submissions to an independent planning panel; or

    11.3. Abandon the amendment or part of the amendment.

12. In response to submissions Council officers propose changes to the DDO's (e.g. wind/solar terminology, decision guidelines, side setbacks) and local policy to recognise the significance of the rail sidings yard.

13. It is recommended that all submissions be referred to an independent panel appointed by the Minister for Planning.

Recommendation

That Council, having considered all submissions to Amendment C433ggee to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme resolves to:

1. **Request the Minister for Planning appoint an independent Planning Panel under Part 8 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*;**

2. **Refer all submissions to the Panel; and**

3. **Submit to the panel its response to the submissions generally as outlined in this report.**

Financial Sustainability

14. The amendment will not have any significant financial implications to Council except for the usual costs associated with the planning scheme amendment process including Panel hearing fees.

Community Engagement

15. Consultation of the UDF's consisted of four phases of engagement and a deliberative panel which occurred over the period between 2018 and 2024.

16. Exhibition and notice of Amendment C433ggee were conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987.*

17. Notice was sent to over 1400 owners and occupiers either directly impacted by the amendment or nearby. Notice was also sent by email to all people involved in the deliberative consultation.

18. The amendment and supporting documents were published on C433ggee webpage on the City of Greater Geelong website.

19. Notice of the amendment was published in the local newspaper on 25 July 2025 and in the Victorian Government Gazette on 31 July 2025.

20. Prescribed Ministers, relevant authorities and government agencies were notified.

21. Informal notices appeared in the Geelong Advertiser and Geelong Independent, and a Facebook campaign reached 740 people.

Social Equity and Sustainability

22. The amendment provides for increased housing diversity in proximity to employment, public transport, local shopping and community facilities in a Key Development Area.

23. Local policy encourages affordable and social housing contributions consistent with the City's Social Housing plan 2020-2042 and in accordance with State Government policy.

24. The amendment provides greater certainty to the local community about future development. Implementing the proposed DDO56 and DDO57 will ensure that high quality design and built form outcomes are to be achieved in any new development.

25. Improvements to the public realm of Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue through active frontages and improving pedestrian and cycling amenities will lead to positive social effects and outcomes for residents, businesses and the wider community.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

26. Council's Settlement Strategy 2020 outlines the need to provide infill housing opportunities to support population growth.

27. The amendment is consistent with State and local planning policy on activity centres, urban design, housing supply and affordability and transport networks.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

28. This report aligns with the Council Plan 2025-29 strategic priority:
Core and Critical Infrastructure

29. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

30. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

31. If land in Gordon Avenue and Pakington Street is not rezoned as proposed, Greater Geelong may be unable to accommodate sufficient housing growth within established areas placing greater pressure on greenfield and peri-urban locations, where the costs of new infrastructure provision are higher and environmental impacts from urban expansion are more significant. Not proceeding with the rezonings would compromise the municipality’s ability to meet housing targets while also delivering sustainable growth outcomes.

32. If the proposed DDOs are not applied to the subject land, there will continue to be a lack of sufficient planning policy to deliver high quality development and built form outcomes for the area.

Environmental Sustainability

33. The amendment is expected to have a positive environmental impact by requiring new development to provide landscaped setbacks, solar access protections, and wind comfort measures. It applies the Environmental Audit Overlay to potentially contaminated land, ensuring sites are safe for sensitive uses. It also directs growth into established areas, reducing urban sprawl and associated environmental impacts.

34. The UDFs provide key environmentally sustainable elements that focus on urban greening, energy efficiency, solar access, sustainable transport, and sensitive built form design.

Attachments

1. Attachment 1 Background and Consideration of Submission [**2.13.1** - 26 pages]
2. Attachment 2 Summary of Submissions and Council s recommendation [**2.13.2** - 21 pages]

ATTACHMENT 1. – Consideration of Submissions C433ggee

BACKGROUND

1. Amendment C433ggee proposes to implement the *Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue Urban Design Framework, 2024* and the *Pakington North Urban Design Framework, 2024* (UDFs) into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.

2. The City of Greater Geelong commenced work on the Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue UDF in 2018.

3. The Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue UDF identified the three precincts: Gordon Avenue precinct, Heritage Core precinct and Pakington Street North precinct.

4. There was significant community feedback on the Pakington North precinct, and further community consultation was recommended to enhance the community's understanding of the intent for this area.

5. On 14 December 2021, Council adopted the Gordon Avenue precinct and Heritage Core precinct of the Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue UDF and resolved to continue consultation on Pakington North precinct.

6. In 2022, the City of Greater Geelong commenced community engagement for Pakington North UDF. However, the additional round of community engagement did not receive sufficient support. It was therefore decided to progress with a deliberative engagement process.

7. In February 2023, City of Greater Geelong commissioned engagement specialists Capire Consulting to deliver the deliberative engagement process.

8. Capire Consulting led the deliberative engagement in early 2024, establishing and managing a representative community panel ensuring that the 66 community members invited to participate on the panel was a representative sample of the broader community.

9. The Community Panel recommendations were incorporated into draft objectives, guidelines and plans for the Pakington North UDF.

10. Caprie Consulting provided a report "Pakington North Urban Design Framework – Community Panel Engagement Summary Report" which identified that 79% of panellists felt the Pakington North UDF reflected the work of the panel, 61% supported its role in guiding development, and 60% were comfortable with it going to Council for adoption (noting a portion remained uncomfortable).

11. On Tuesday 28 May 2024, Councillors adopted the Pakington North UDF and resolved to request the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation and exhibition of a planning scheme amendment to implement the UDFs.

THE URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK PRECINCTS

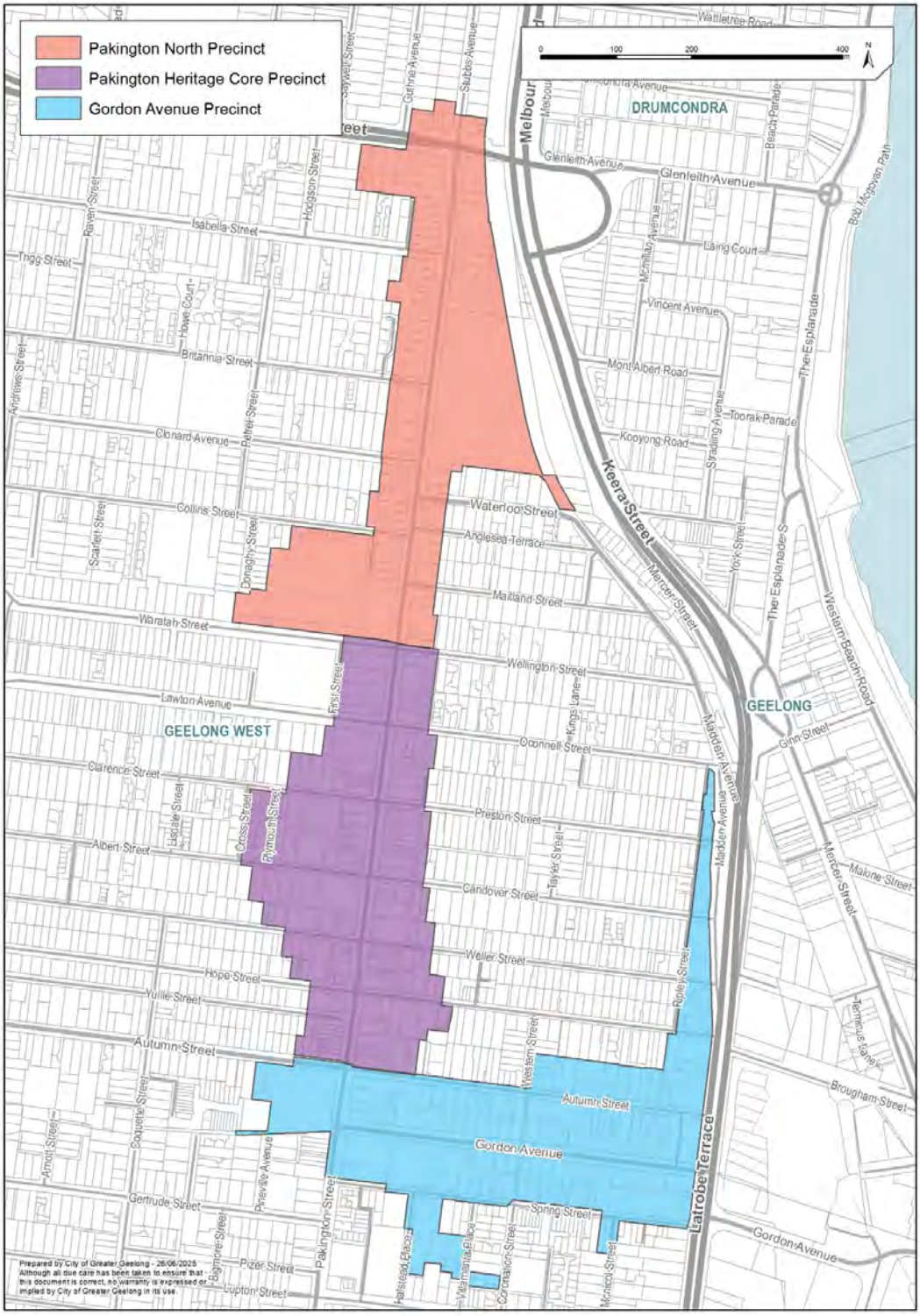


Image 1; Pakington North UDF and Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue UDF Precincts

POLICY CONTEXT

12. Amendment C433 is required to implement the Council adopted UDFs.

13. Council's Settlement Strategy 2020 identifies Gordon Avenue as an urban renewal precinct within walking distance of Central Geelong station and should be investigated as part of the Pakington Street UDF.

14. The Retail Strategy 2020–36 identifies Pakington Street (Geelong West) retail spine as a specialised centre and highlights the need for an urban design framework, or structure plan that considers rezoning opportunities within the northern end of Pakington Street and reviews the role of Gordon Avenue restricted retail precinct.

15. The amendment ensures growth is directed into an accessible, serviced location, consistent with the G21 Regional Growth Plan, while reducing pressure on greenfield and peri-urban areas.

16. Plan for Victoria, recently implemented into the Planning Scheme via Amendment VC283, identifies Geelong's housing target to 2051 as 128,600 additional homes, of which 77,500 must be delivered in established areas.

PROPOSED PLANNING SCHEME CHANGES

17. The amendment proposes to make the following changes to Greater Geelong's Planning Scheme:

18. Zone changes:

    18.1. Rezone land in Pakington North precinct from Commercial 2 Zone (C2Z) to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z) and correct the zone at 1/2 Waratah Street from Mixed Use Zone (MUZ) to Neighbourhood Residential Zone (NRZ).

    18.2. Rezone land in Gordon Avenue Precinct along Latrobe Terrace from Commercial 2 Zone (C2Z) to Mixed Use Zone (MUZ).

    18.3. Rezone land in Gordon Avenue Precinct along Gordon Avenue, Autumn Street and Spring Street from Commercial 2 Zone (C2Z) and General Residential Zone (GRZ) to Residential Growth Zone (RGZ) and Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z).

    18.4. Rezone council owned land in Gordon Avenue Precinct at 21-33 Autumn Street from General Residential Zone (GRZ) to Public Parks and Recreation Zone (PPRZ).

19. Overlay changes:

    19.1. Apply a new schedule to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO57) to land in Pakington North precinct.

    19.2. Apply a new schedule to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO56) to land in the Gordon Avenue precinct.

    19.3. Apply the Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO) to selected properties in the Pakington North precinct and Gordon Avenue precinct.

20. Planning scheme ordinance changes:

    20.1. Inserts Clause 11.03-6L-06 Pakington Street Geelong West to implement objectives and strategies for Pakington Street Geelong West identified in the UDFs.

20.2. Deletes Clause 15.01-1L-02 Pakington Street North urban design.

20.3. Amends Clause 16.01-1L-01 Integrated housing and housing diversity to identify the Pakington North and Gordon Avenue precincts as Key Development Areas.

20.4. Amends Clause 16.01-1L-02 to remove the Pakington North Key Development Area and Gordon Avenue Key Development Area from the Geelong West, Manifold Heights & Newtown IHDA map.

20.5. Inserts Clause 16.01-2L Social and affordable housing.

20.6. Amends Schedule 17 to Clause 43.02 Design and Development Overlay to remove the Latrobe Terrace area.

20.7. Inserts new Schedule 56 to Clause 43.02 Design and Development Overlay (DDO56) applying to the Gordon Avenue precinct identified in Figure 1.

20.8. Inserts new Schedule 57 to Clause 43.02 Design and Development Overlay (DDO57) applying to the Pakington North precinct identified in Figure 1.

20.9. Amends the Schedule to Clause 72.08 Background Documents to insert the following as a Background Document: - Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue Urban Design Framework (City of Greater Geelong, updated May 2024) - Pakington North Urban Design Framework (City of Greater Geelong, May 2024).

20.10. Amends the Schedule to Clause 74.02 Further Strategic Work to identify necessary future work, including for the Rail Sidings Yard Key Strategic Site.4 - 40 and 9 - 37 Gordon Avenue, Geelong West.

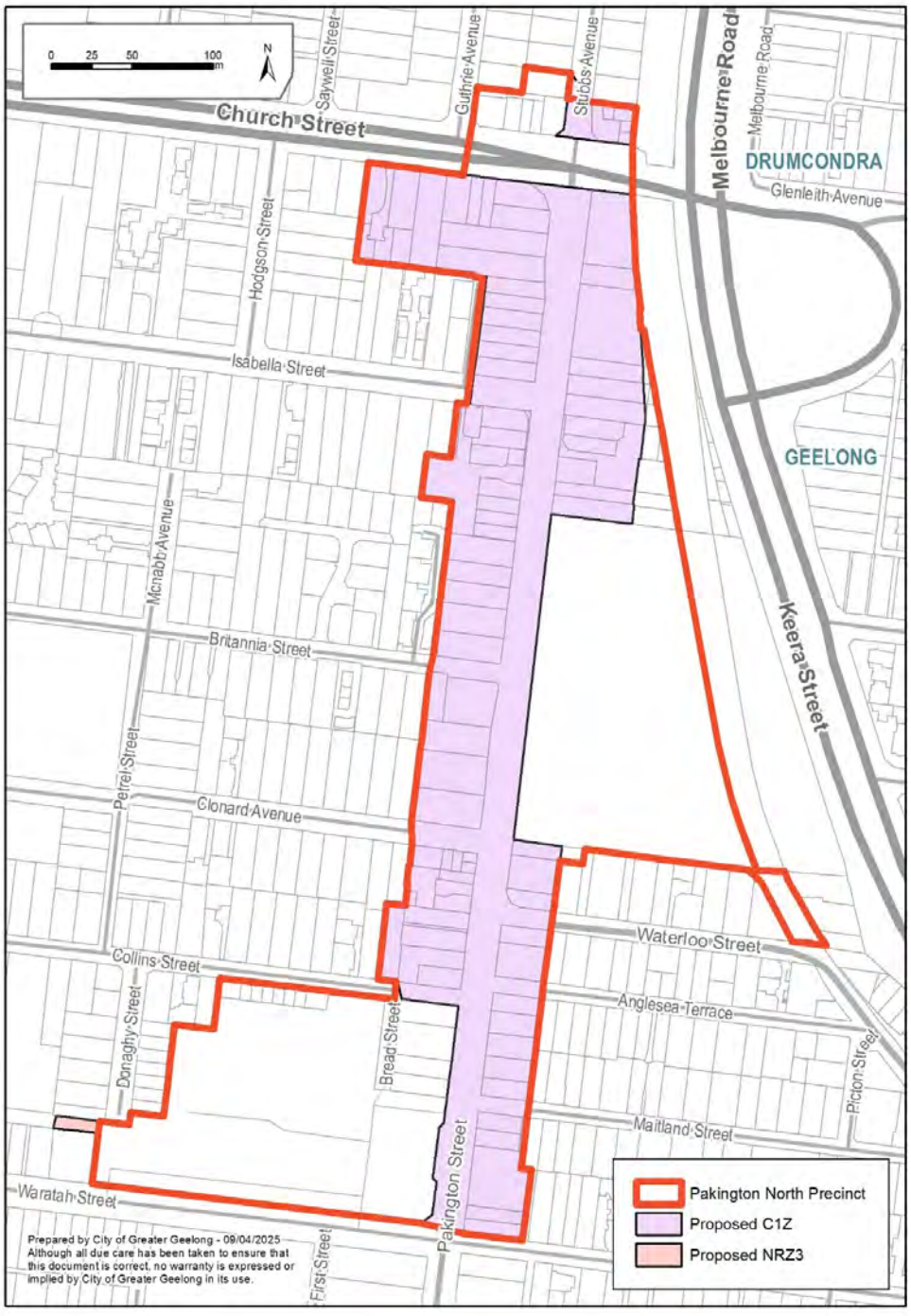


Image 2; Proposed zone changes for Pakington North Precinct

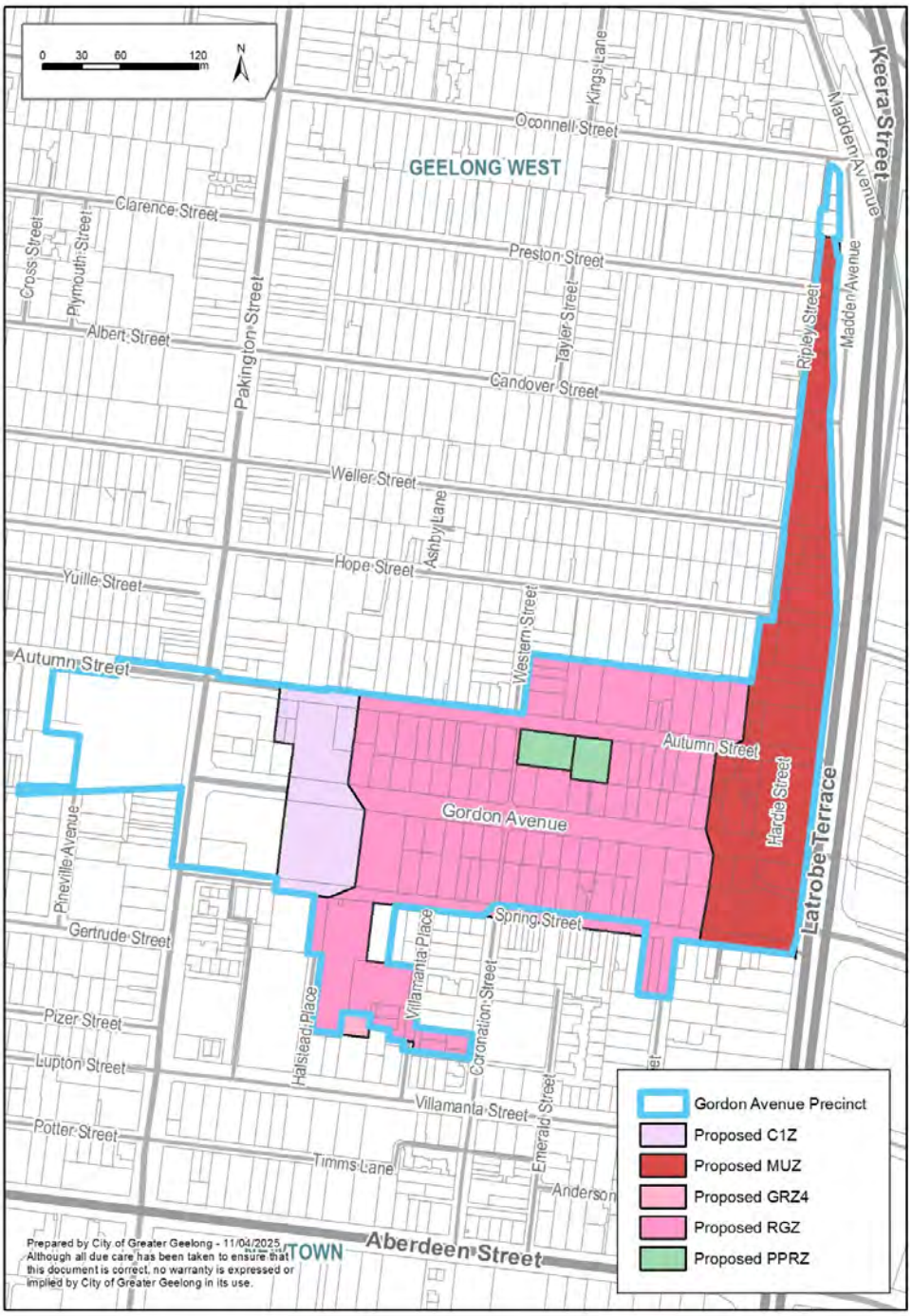


Image 3; Proposed zone changes for Gordon Avenue Precinct

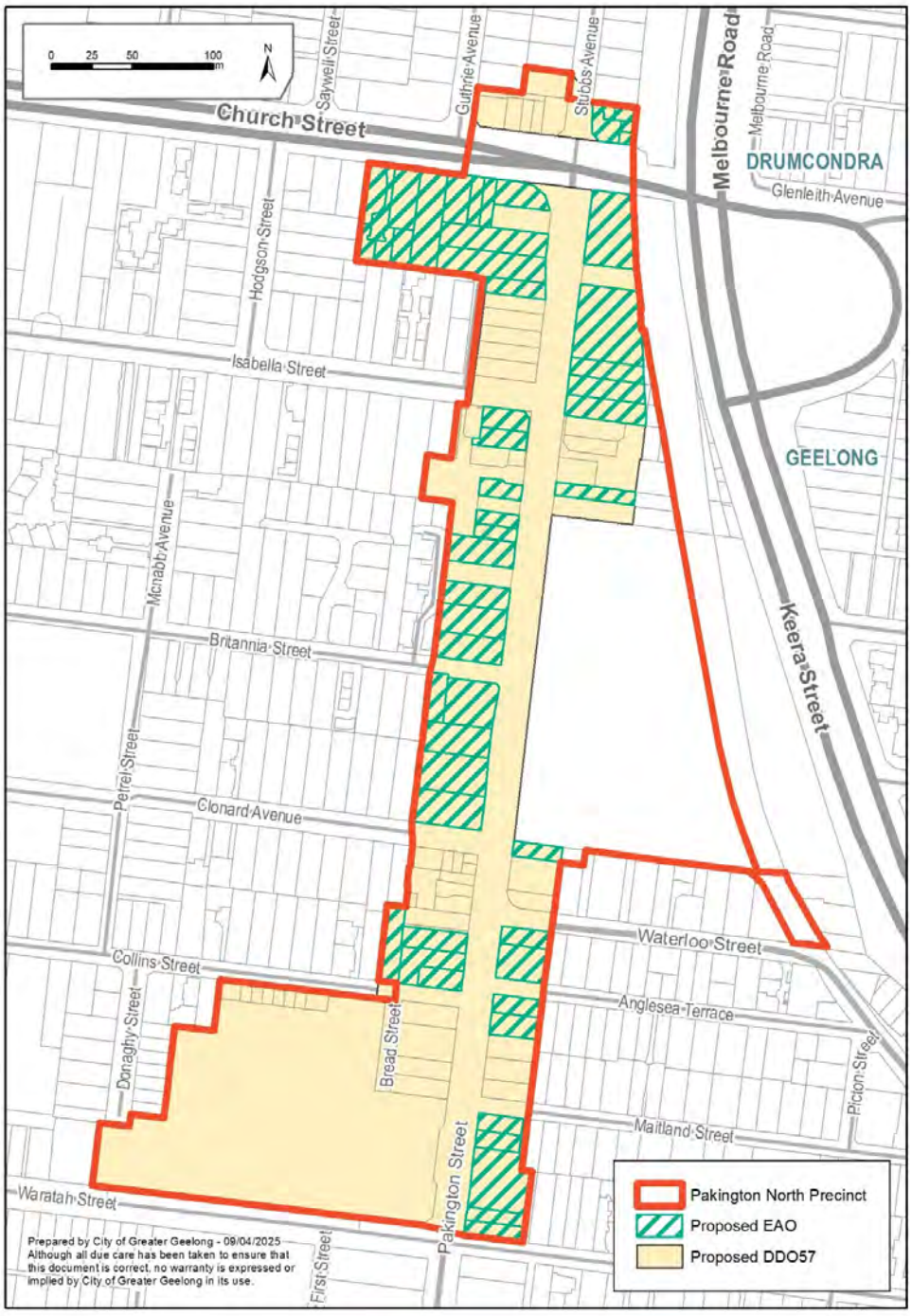


Image 4; Proposed overlay changes for Pakington North Precinct



Image 5; Proposed overlay changes for Gordon Avenue Precinct

AUTHORISATION AND PUBLIC EXHIBITION

21. On 20 June 2025 under delegation from the Minister, Council was authorised to prepare and exhibit Amendment C433ggee subject to the following conditions:

    21.1. Include the rear of 66 Pakington Street in the C1Z and DDO57 (this property is included within the boundary of the Pakington North UDF).

    21.2. Replace the proposed RGZ5 with the RGZ1.

    21.3. Amend Clause 11.03-6L-06 in accordance with the DTP edited version.

    21.4. Update the Geelong West, Manifold Heights & Newtown IHDA map in Clause 16.01-1L-02 to remove the Pakington North Key Development Area.

    21.5. Amend Clause 16.01-2L to include reference to the map in Clause 11.03-6L-06.

    21.6. Amend Schedules 56 and 57 to the Design and Development Overlay in accordance with the DTP edited versions.

    21.7. Amend the Schedule to Clause 72.08 to correct the references to the DDO to 43.02.

    21.8. Amend the Instruction Sheet and Explanatory Report in accordance with the DTP edited versions.

22. The amendment and supporting documents were placed on exhibition and was published in the Victorian Government Gazette on 31 July 2025 and closed on 1 September 2025.

23. Notices were sent to all directly affected owners and occupiers (i.e. those whose land is within the three precincts), as well as 766 nearby residents and business owners pursuant to s.19 of *the Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

24. Prescribed Ministers, relevant authorities and government agencies were notified.

25. A statutory notice was published in the Geelong Times and the Victorian Government Gazette. The Amendment was posted on the City's website and a physical copy was made available at the Geelong West Library.

26. Informal notices appeared in the Geelong Advertiser on 21 August 2025 and the Geelong Independent on 28 August 2025 and a Facebook advert notifying users of Amendment C433ggee was active from 20 August 2025 till 1 September 2025. The advert reached 740 people and resulted in 5 link clicks. Council also notified 62 submitters via email from the Pakington North UDF community panel consultation conducted in February-April 2024.

SUBMISSIONS

27. A total of 51 submission were received to the exhibited amendment. Of the 51 submissions, 13 were accepting, 34 objected to the amendment and 4 provided comments only.

COMMON THEMES AND RESPONSES

1. Strategic Merit and Process

28. 6 of the 51 submitters raised concerns with the strategic merit of the amendment and describe the amendment as unfairly targeting Geelong West for high-rise development and as council applying a “Melbourne” scale to a regional setting.

29. 2 of the 51 submitters expressed either the amendment notification as being insufficient or raised concerns with the deliberative community panel engagement process in developing the Pakington North UDF.

Council officer response

Strategic Merit

30. Amendment C433 implements the Council adopted UDFs to guide growth and change in the Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue precincts. The Retail Strategy 2020–36 identifies Pakington Street as a specialised centre, and both the Plan for Victoria and Geelong Settlement Strategy (2020) highlight the need to accommodate significant housing growth in established, well-serviced locations.

31. Pakington North and Gordon Avenue have been identified as Key Development Areas due to their proximity to Central Geelong Train Station, employment, services and shops. The amendment is strategically justified and necessary to achieve coordinated housing, retail and urban design outcomes.

32. Refer to section ‘Policy Context’ in this report.

Notification and Engagement Process

33. Exhibition and notice of Amendment C433ggee were conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987.*

34. Refer to section ‘Authorisation and Public Exhibition’ of this report.

35. The adopted Pakington North UDF was informed by a deliberative community panel process designed to reflect a cross-section of the community. Council notes the concerns raised but considers the process consistent with endorsed engagement strategies and appropriate for informing the Pakington North UDF and subsequent planning controls.

2. Traffic, Car Parking and lack of Public Transport

36. Car parking and traffic were among the most consistently raised concerns in submissions.

37. 15 of the 51 submitters raise concerns regarding the transition of the Autumn Street car park to open space within Gordon Avenue precinct and rezoning of 21-33 Autumn Street from General Residential Zone (GRZ) to Public Parks and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) particularly in relation to the impact on students at Oxygen College and surrounding businesses.

38. 13 of the 51 submitters emphasised that Pakington Street and adjoining residential streets already experience high levels of congestion and parking pressure, particularly around peak times and near schools. There is strong concern that the additional heights and densities enabled by the amendment will exacerbate these existing problems.

39. 4 of the 51 submitters raised concerns with the lack of public transport.

40. Key themes include:

    40.1. Congestion: Intersections such as Pakington Street - Church Street and Gordon Avenue - Latrobe Terrace are already seen as bottlenecks. Increased development is feared to worsen traffic volumes and reduce safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

    40.2. Poor traffic management: At the Telegraph Bridge and unsafe turning movements into Stubbs Avenue from Guthrie Avenue.

    40.3. Parking availability: Residents, traders and visitors report difficulty finding spaces, with overflow into side streets. Submitters strongly object to any reduction or waiving of parking requirements for new developments.

    40.4. Amenity and safety: Traffic spill-over into narrow residential streets is viewed as a direct threat to neighbourhood amenity and pedestrian safety.

    40.5. Public transport limitations: Multiple submissions noted that bus services are infrequent or unreliable, meaning residents will continue to rely on cars unless significant improvements are made.

    40.6. Request for an updated traffic study and parking management plan.

Council officer response

Traffic

41. The request for council to undertake an additional traffic study is not supported.

42. The Traffic Network Impact Assessment (One Mile Grid, 2021) indicates that redevelopment is expected to generate a modest and manageable increase in traffic averaging 0.7% per year over a 20 year period. The most notable impacts are forecast at the Pakington Street - Gordon Avenue intersection, with traffic volumes increasing by about 13% in the morning peak and 10% in the afternoon peak.

43. Traffic growth is expected to be gradual and manageable through a mix of infrastructure upgrades, behaviour change, and site specific measures required through the DDOs at the planning permit stage.

44. Council acknowledges that due to travel and trade restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, up to date traffic counts could not be undertaken as they would not provide typical results. As such, the existing conditions analysis in the Traffic Network Impact Assessment utilises historical turning movements counts and weeklong tube count data provided by Council as well as intersection volumes sourced from Department of Transport (previously VicRoads), to approximate the existing traffic conditions as best as possible with the data available. In the absence of more up to date traffic data, this methodology is considered acceptable and is outlined in more detail in the Traffic Network Impact Assessment.

45. Traffic impacts will continue to be assessed and managed at the planning permit stage (including the requirement for site specific Traffic Impact Assessments, access design and parking provision).

Car parking

46. The request to remove the proposed future open space from council owned land at 21-33 Autumn Street is not supported.

47. The transition of 21–33 Autumn Street from a car park to open space will occur incrementally and will align with redevelopment and increased demand for open space. Rezoning the land to PPRZ will ensure surrounding development provides appropriate interfaces to the future open space.

48. Car parking requirements for development will continue to be assessed under Clause 52.06 of the Victoria Planning Provisions. Reductions from the standard parking provision would require a planning permit, with applications assessed against demand, accessibility, and local policy to ensure equitable outcomes.

49. The Pakington Street Public Parking Plan was developed by the City and completed in February 2024, with the aim to improve the management of existing car parking spaces along Pakington Street. The Plan has developed a proposed parking option for each parking area along Pakington Street, with appropriate amendments from existing conditions. Further funding is required for the implementation of the plan and will be considered as part of council's future resource planning and annual budget planning process.

50. The City will work with Pakington Street traders to ensure parking controls are up to date and relevant with future conditions and publicise key changes.

Public Transport

51. The UDFs include actions to improve bus infrastructure, advocate for increased service frequency, and strengthen sustainable transport connections. Responsibility for bus routes and service delivery lies with the Head of Transport for Victoria (Head (TfV).

52. The Head (TfV) has provided the following information in a submission to the exhibited Amendment:

    52.1. The 2025/26 State Budget allocated funding for localised development work across regional Victoria that will deliver bus network plans for high-priority regional areas, including Geelong. The Geelong Bus Network Review will identify gaps and opportunities across the network, enabling proactive responses to emerging priorities.

    52.2. Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue are important streets for bus movements for both current and future bus services. Depending on the outcome of the Geelong Bus Network Review, improvements to both corridors may be required to provide for a reliable and efficient bus network for commuters.

3. Building Heights

53. 5 of the 51 submitters object to the proposed building heights, specifically in Pakington North, arguing they are excessive, out of character with the existing two-storey and low-rise residential and heritage context. Heights of 6–10 storeys are described as inappropriate for narrow streets and sensitive heritage interfaces, with several submitters requesting a reduction in building heights.

54. 1 submitter requested an increase in building heights in Gordon Avenue precinct from 6 storeys to 12+ storeys noting limited impacts to overshadowing.

55. Submitter 15 highlights broader amenity impacts, including noise, overlooking, overshadowing, loss of privacy, overcrowding, and erosion of neighbourhood character and requests to limit building heights in Pakington North to 4 storeys.

56. Submitter 16 emphasises the importance of protecting the historic identity and heritage of Pakington Street and argue that the scale of development proposed is inappropriate for the area, particularly given the presence of schools and narrow residential streets.

57. Submitters 27, 30 and 42 emphasise that such scale is inconsistent with surrounding heritage or would undermine the village character of Pakington Street. Submitter 27 and 30 requests to reduce building heights by 2 storeys across Pakington North (Wellington/Waratah Street to Clonard Street) to ensure better transition to the heritage core and surrounding residential areas. Submitter 42 requests to limit building heights to no more than 15m (4–5 storeys).

Council officer response

58. The request to reduce or increase building heights in Pakington North precinct is not supported.

59. The exhibited building height controls are discretionary and deliberately establish a flexible mid-rise built form to balance redevelopment opportunities with protection of amenity, solar access, and character.

60. The adopted building heights of Pakington North precinct were determined through a deliberative community panel process and extensive built form testing, which considered overshadowing, overlooking, solar access, heritage character and amenity impacts.

61. The DDOs create a graduated built form transition, ensuring mid-rise development respects surrounding character, amenity and heritage.

Amenity Impacts, Neighbourhood Character and Heritage

62. DDO56 and DDO57 include requirements to minimise impacts to amenity and consider surrounding neighbourhood character and heritage.

63. Privacy and overlooking: Building separation standards and setback requirements ensure new development respects the privacy of adjoining dwellings.

64. Overshadowing and solar access: Built form testing indicated overshadowing could be kept to a minimum and does not compromise public amenity.

65. Noise and wind impacts: Requirements for acoustic and wind protection measures, supported by landscaping to soften building edges and improve the pedestrian environment.

66. Character and heritage: Sensitive transitions, landscaped buffers to heritage sites, retention of heritage frontages and setbacks ensure that new development respects the established identity and fine-grain heritage of Pakington Street.

67. Collectively, these controls are designed to protect existing amenity while enabling appropriate redevelopment in line with the area's strategic role.

4. Drainage

68. 3 of the 51 (22, 27 and 30) submitters raised concerns with infrastructure capacity, specifically, stormwater management and drainage.

Council officer response

69. The UDFs recognise that parts of the Gordon Avenue precinct are affected by flooding and overland flow, as reflected by the Special Building Overlay. The Gordon Avenue Infrastructure Capacity Assessment (Stantec 2023) identifies the presence of

significant underground drainage infrastructure and highlights the need for augmentation and possible relocation of drains as redevelopment occurs.

70. While the UDFs do not provide detailed drainage design, they ensure these constraints are acknowledged, and any future development will be required to demonstrate appropriate stormwater management through the planning permit process and in consultation with the relevant authorities.

71. Council is also undertaking a Catchment Management Strategy for Central Geelong with the aim to understand and manage flood risk, stormwater quality, and water supply in the Central Geelong area. The strategy includes detailed flood modelling for the Central Geelong, Newtown, Geelong West, Manifold Heights, and East Geelong.

72. The project is in its final stages, with community feedback on flood mapping and mitigation options gathered in 2023/2024 and 2025. The goal is to inform better planning decisions, improve flood management, and enhance stormwater quality and reuse for a more resilient and liveable Geelong.

5. Open Space

73. 2 of 51 submissions raised concerns with open space, specifically a lack of open / green space.

Council officer response

74. The UDFs for Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue embed objectives to improve the public realm, create landscaped streetscapes, and support greening and pedestrian amenity alongside higher-density development. These objectives are carried into the statutory provisions of DDO56 (Gordon Avenue) and DDO57 (Pakington North), which:

    74.1. Require landscaped setbacks at residential interfaces.

    74.2. Provide for widened footpaths and planting zones through street wall and setback treatments.

    74.3. Protect key public spaces and footpaths from overshadowing.

75. Together, these provisions ensure redevelopment delivers greener, more pedestrian-friendly environments and improved public realm outcomes.

76. In addition, Council is preparing a new Open Space Strategy, informed by data and community input, to guide the future provision and enhancement of parks, gardens, and reserves across the municipality, including identification of gaps and priority areas for investment.

6. Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO)

77. 3 of 51 submitters questioned the application of the Environmental Audit Overlay either directly on their property or just in general.

78. Submitter 18, Homes Victoria, requested land at 1/29 Church Street, Geelong be removed from the proposed EAO, as the Landserv report (June 2023) does not specifically recommend its application to this site.

79. Submitter 20 questions the need for an EAO over 39–45 Gordon Avenue, noting further evidence will be provided by the submitter indicating the land is not contaminated.

80. Submitter 43 raised concerns about underground contamination along both sides of Gordon Avenue. The submitter argues this will constrain residential development and notes this needs to be addressed.

Council officer response

81. Submitter 20 was contacted to request 'further information' in support of their submission. The submitter confirmed the testing conducted related to the ground water, not soil. On this basis the submitter withdrew their submission regarding the application of the EAO.

82. The Landserv report (June 2023) identifies land as high, medium or low potential for contamination and "low" is considered to not meet the definition of potentially contaminated land.

83. The City's primary focus in dealing with potentially contaminated land is on sites that are being rezoned from a zone that does not allow (or allows a limited range of) sensitive uses to a zone that allows more or all sensitive uses.

84. 1/29 Church Street and 39-45 Gordon Avenue are proposed to be rezoned from Commercial 2 Zone (C2Z) to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z) which allows sensitive land use. Both sites were identified as either high or medium potential for contamination. Land along Gordon Avenue and Spring Street is proposed to be rezoned from C2Z to either C1Z, RGZ or MUZ (all allow sensitive land uses).

85. Ministerial Direction No. 1 requires a planning authority to satisfy itself that potentially contaminated land is suitable for the use by either a Preliminary Risk Screen Assessment (PRSA) statement stating that no audit is required, or an environmental audit statement stating that the land is suitable for the proposed use.

86. Where complying with either of those assessments is difficult, deferring these requirements through application of an EAO is appropriate.

87. The UDFs implemented via the amendment are long-term plans for the area. Therefore, it is difficult or inappropriate to meet environmental audit system requirements at the amendment stage. Applying the EAO allows land to continue in its current use and is consistent with Planning Practice Note 30 (PPN30) in deferring the requirements of a Preliminary Risk Screen Assessment or environmental audit at the planning permit stage to ensure land is suitable for residential or sensitive uses.

7. Proposed zones

Rezone land to Residential Growth Zone (RGZ)

88. 2 of the 51 submitters objects to their land being rezoned to Residential Growth Zone (RGZ).

89. Submitter 40 requests that 22-42 Spring Street retain its current zone General Residential Zone (GRZ) for the following reasons:

    89.1. RGZ would allow 4-5 storey development and is considered excessive for narrow streets.

    89.2. The established open garden outlook and sense of spaciousness valued by residents would be undermined with risks of overshadowing, loss of natural light, and diminished outlooks.

    89.3. Increased density would add to existing congestion and parking pressures on Spring Street.

90. Submitter 43 objects to the RGZ along Gordon Avenue and Spring Street. Many sites contain relatively new developments unlikely to be demolished or redeveloped in the near future. The submitter suggests the Mixed Use Zone (MUZ) would be more appropriate.

Council officer response

91. The request to retain 22-42 Spring Street in its current zone (GRZ) or the request to rezone land proposed to be zoned to RGZ to MUZ is not supported.

Rationale for Applying Residential Growth Zone (RGZ)

92. The proposed application of the RGZ in the Gordon Avenue precinct is supported by Plan for Victoria and the guidance in Planning Practice Note 91: *Using the Residential Zones* (PPN91), which directs higher density housing to well-serviced locations close to activity centres, jobs and transport that can accommodate substantial housing growth.

93. The rezoning is supported by the adopted Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue UDF, which identify Gordon Avenue precinct as a strategic renewal area capable of delivering mid-rise residential outcomes providing a transition from the high density scale of Central Geelong to more low density sensitive residential areas. The precinct is within walking distance of Central Geelong, Geelong Station and established retail centres, making them appropriate locations for higher density housing.

94. Supporting technical reports including population projections, traffic, infrastructure, and acoustic assessments confirm the precinct can absorb additional growth while maintaining amenity and access to services. The RGZ will contribute to meeting Geelong's share of the State housing target identified in the *Plan for Victoria* (128,600 new homes by 2051, including 77,500 in established areas).

95. Accordingly, the proposed RGZ is strategically justified and consistent with PPN91's purpose of directing housing growth to locations with strong strategic support, infrastructure capacity and access to services.

Rezone land to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z)

96. 2 of the 51 submitters raised concerns or requests in relation to the proposed rezoning of land to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z).

97. Submitter 18, Homes Victora requested to rezone Homes Victoria owned properties adjoining the Gordon Avenue precinct to C1Z to provide greater development opportunities. The properties include:

    97.1. 1A Villamanta Place, Geelong West

    97.2. Multiple units at 15 Halstead Place and 56 Villamanta Street, Geelong West

    97.3. Units 1–6 at 46–50 Villamanta Place, Geelong West

    97.4. Multiple units at 9 McNicol Street, Geelong West

98. Submitter 42 objects to the land proposed to be rezoned to C1Z in the Pakington North precinct noting C1Z prioritises generic apartment development at the expense of existing diverse businesses, services, and creative industries. They request Commercial 3 Zone (C3Z) instead of C1Z due to its ability to sustain small scale manufacturers, start-ups, and creative industries while balancing moderate population growth. Submitter notes that alternative zoning options were not canvassed in consultation processes.

Council officer response

99. The request to rezone Homes Victoria properties listed in the submission to C1Z is not supported. All properties are outside the study area and do not have strategic justification to consider a rezone at this stage. 46-50 Villamanta Street is currently in two different zones and Amendment C433 seeks to correct this anomaly and rezone to the appropriate zone that fits the current land use being the GRZ.

100. The request to rezone land to C3Z instead of C1Z is not supported.

Rationale for Applying Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z)

101. C1Z is designed to create vibrant, mixed use commercial centres with an emphasis on retail, office, entertainment, community uses and residential at complementary densities. C3Z, by contrast, is a mixed-use employment zone, prioritising industrial, office, creative industries and small-scale employment uses with only limited retail and residential allowances.

102. The Pakington North UDF identifies Pakington North as a renewal precinct intended to evolve into a vibrant mixed use activity centre with retail and hospitality at ground floor and housing above. This aligns directly with the purpose of the C1Z, which supports retail led activation and residential development as part of activity centre growth. Applying C3Z would conflict with this intent because it is employment focused and limits retail and residential uses, which could undermine the delivery of the UDFs.

103. The *Greater Geelong Retail Strategy (2020–2036)* identifies Pakington Street (Geelong West) as a Specialised Activity Centre. These centres are expected to deliver retail, hospitality, community services and higher density housing. The C1Z is the standard zone for activity centres, whereas the C3Z is more appropriate for transitional employment precincts (such as older industrial areas identified for creative industries).

8. Design and Development Overlays (DDOs)

104. 6 of the 51 submitters requested changes to either Schedule 56 to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO56) or Schedule 57 to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO57) or both.

Table 1; Requested changes to Schedule 56 to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO56)

Schedule 56 to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO56)	
Submitter 17	**Council officer response**
A minimum 5 metre setback from the north edge of the northern footpath on Spring Street.	Do not agree to a 5 metre setback to Spring Street. The proposed 3 metre setback provides for street landscaping, widening of footpaths and addresses the sensitive residential area to the south while providing for good development opportunities.
Extend the restriction on locating services (currently applied to Gordon Street and La Trobe Terrace) to also apply to Spring Street, to protect residential amenity.	Not supported. The provision to "*Avoid locating services on Gordon Avenue and Latrobe Terrace….*" is due to their role as primary pedestrian and activation frontages.

	While DDO56 does not specifically restrict services on Spring Street, the following provision applies to the submitters request: "Services, loading and waste areas should be accessed away from main streets and public spaces and located within basements or upper levels."
Submitter 20	**Council officer response**
Building heights: Requests 12+ storeys on larger sites along Gordon Avenue, supported by shadow studies and prior planning approvals.	The request to increase heights to 12+ storeys is not supported. The exhibited controls are discretionary and deliberately establish a mid rise built form along Gordon Avenue to balance redevelopment opportunities with protection of amenity, solar access, and character.
Site Coverage: Opposes the 60% site coverage cap on C1Z land, noting it is more restrictive than the adjacent GRZ (70%). Seeks higher site coverage to support active ground floors, efficient podium layouts, and stronger public realm outcomes.	Not supported. The 60% site coverage is proposed to apply to Gordon West in the Gordon Avenue precinct owing to large allotment sizes and potential to deliver significant open space and public realm. The preferred site coverage is discretionary and was informed by the UDF's built form testing and engagement feedback.
Interface treatments: a) Remove the mandatory 3 metre front setback on Gordon Avenue and Spring Street, arguing it is unnecessary and limits development outcomes. b) Reconsider street wall height controls on the south side of Gordon Avenue, suggesting human-scale design can be achieved without strict height limits. c) Reduce tower separation requirements (currently 20 metre for buildings over 8 storeys), which are considered excessive and above normal planning practice.	Council officers have considered interface treatments and offer the following response: a) Do not support the request to remove the mandatory 3 metre front setback. The 3 metre ground level setback is based on a site analysis and is intended to: • Avoid a cluttered and inconsistent streetscape. • Reduce safety risks from concealed spaces. • Protect landscaped areas that support the UDF vision. • Improve amenity for ground floor dwellings. Removing this control risks undermining the corridor's identity. Upper-level setbacks and street wall/podium heights remain discretionary to allow design flexibility. b) Street Wall Height – The preferred maximum street wall or podium height for Gordon Avenue is 15 metres and responds to existing scale and massing of built form. This is a discretionary provision and provides flexibility where applications can show it meets design objectives. c) Tower separation – Agreed. Recommend amending Figure 6 and Figure 7 of DDO56 to require a preferred 6 metres side separation for all buildings built to boundary

	above 4 storeys, to manage building massing and amenity while providing flexibility for alternative design solutions.
Floor Area Ratios (FAR): Opposes cumulative restrictions of FAR combined with height, setback, and coverage controls. Recommends a more flexible, performance based approach	FARs are discretionary and aligned with preferred heights and site coverage to set clear development expectations. They are designed to provide flexibility, encourage varied building typologies, and deliver site specific outcomes while ensuring consistency with the UDF vision. Performance based flexibility exists where exceptional design quality and public benefit can be demonstrated.
Submitter 28	**Council officer response**
Make wind and solar controls mandatory in DDO56 (consistent with PPN59 and other DDOs in Geelong and Melbourne). Ensure the phrase "a permit cannot be granted…" is applied for shadow and wind requirements. Alternatively, a decision guideline should be provided within both schedules relating to solar and wind protection of the public realm.	The amendment seeks to balance development potential with amenity. The adopted approach reflects the community feedback for clear controls while ensuring sufficient flexibility for site responsive design and innovative outcomes. Agree to update Decision Guidelines in DDO56 to include: "Whether the development achieves comfortable wind conditions".
Wind impacts: a) Replace the word "safe" with "comfortable" to align with PPN93 and other DDOs. b) Apply consistent trigger points for wind assessments (set at 5 storeys, not 16m).	a) Agree to change "safe" with "comfortable" in DDO56. The change aligns with Clause 58.04-4 which specifies "comfortable" wind conditions for public land and publicly accessible areas on private land and other DDOs in the Geelong planning scheme. b) Not supported. 16 metres is consistent with the ACZ – Central Geelong and ensure wind assessments are consistent across land uses.
Solar access: a) Amend the Design Objective in DDO56 to duplicate what's in DDO57 by including the following objective: *"To protect the amenity of key public spaces including footpaths, future plazas and new public open spaces from overshadowing impacts."* b) Adopt winter solstice (not spring equinox) as the test date for overshadowing of public open spaces in DDO56.	a) Not supported. The following proposed objective to be more appropriate as it balances landscaping, solar access and wind: *"To ensure high quality architectural design that integrates landscaping, maintains solar access and ensures comfortable wind conditions within the public realm."* b) Not supported. The testing of solar access to public open spaces at spring equinox reflects existing controls in Geelong's planning scheme. Solar access controls measured at winter solstice would overly constrain development potential and was not supported through UDF testing.
Submitter 51	**Council officer response**

Requests additional control/objective to address the development interface with Latrobe Terrace and Church Street.	Agree to include the following change to DDO56: Access, parking and services *"New development that abuts Latrobe Terrace to avoid direct access to Latrobe Terrace (where possible) and make use of the local road network for access".*

Table 2; Requested changes to Schedule 57 to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO57)

Schedule 57 to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO57)	
Submitter 28	**Council officer response**
Make wind and solar controls mandatory in DDO57 (consistent with PPN59 and other DDOs in Geelong and Melbourne). Ensure the phrase "a permit cannot be granted…" is applied for shadow and wind requirements. Alternatively, a decision guideline should be provided within both schedules relating to solar and wind protection of the public realm.	Mandatory wind and solar controls are not supported. The amendment seeks to balance development potential with amenity. The adopted approach reflects the community feedback for clear controls while ensuring sufficient flexibility for site-responsive design and innovative outcomes. Council officer supports strengthening Decision Guidelines in DDO57 to include: "Whether the development achieves comfortable wind conditions". And to amend the following Decision Guideline in DDO57: "Whether the development retains solar access to the locations specified in table 3 to this schedule".
Wind impacts: a) Replace the word "safe" with "comfortable" to align with PPN93 and other DDOs. b) Apply consistent trigger points for wind assessments (set at 5 storeys, not 16m). c) Remove wording in DDO57 that limits wind reporting to commercial buildings; apply requirements consistently across both schedules.	a) Agree to change "safe" with "comfortable" in DDO57. The change aligns with Clause 58.04-4 which specifies "comfortable" wind conditions for public land and publicly accessible areas on private land and other DDOs in the planning scheme. b) Not supported. 16 metres is consistent the ACZ – Central Geelong and ensures wind assessments are consistent across land uses. c) Agree to remove the word "commercial" in the wind report requirements in DDO57 as they are not limited to commercial buildings.
Solar access: a) Clarify vague terms such as "all other streets" in DDO57 and provide specific time periods for solar access. b) Extend solar access controls to 3pm (instead of 2pm) for better protection of eastern Pakington Street footpaths.	a) Not supported. The reference to "All other streets" in Table 3 is considered clear as it follows the specific solar access requirements for Pakington and Waratah Streets and therefore applies to all remaining streets within the precinct. Introducing additional time-based requirements for the side streets would significantly constrain the development potential of the corner sites, particularly on narrower lots. Overshadowing impacts on

c) Update decision guidelines in DDO57 to reference both “all other streets” and public open space.	the southern footpaths can be appropriately assessed and managed through the planning permit process to ensure unreasonable outcomes are avoided. b) Not supported. Extending solar access controls to 3pm and testing at winter solstice (rather than equinox) were considered but not adopted as this would substantially constrain development potential and was not supported through UDF testing. The equinox standard reflects established practice in Geelong DDOs. c) Do not support updating the decision guidelines for solar access in DDO57 for the same reason stated in point a) above.
Open Space: Specify approximate sizes for proposed new open spaces in DDO57, rather than leaving it to permit stage.	Not supported. The Pakington North UDF identifies a lack of open space within the precinct and provides the objective to “establish new open space within strategic sites of Pakington Strand and Railing Sidings Yard. However, the UDF did not specify the exact requirements for any future open space. Council is in the process of developing an Open Space Strategy which may look to provide greater detail regarding size, category of park and associated uses which would inform an application at the planning permit stage.
Submitter 35	**Council officer response**
Remove mandatory street wall/interface controls and any other mandatory requirements.	The request to remove mandatory controls is not supported. Ground level setbacks are the only mandatory control in DDO57. These setbacks ensure a soft transition between larger scale mixed-use buildings and adjoining fine-grain residential or heritage streetscapes. They allow for landscaping and urban greening, consistent with objectives to deliver urban cooling, biodiversity benefits, and improved amenity. They also help manage pedestrian amenity, safety, and sightlines at narrow residential streets, which was a core concern raised during engagement. All other controls are discretionary.
Delete the two indicative open space/plaza locations shown on Map 1 of DDO57, as they pre-empt site specific design, compromise redevelopment potential, and were applied only due to the large site size. Suggest Council	Do not agree to remove the two open space/plaza locations shown on Map 1 of DDO57. The property in question is located on the corner of Waratah Street and Pakington Street

instead explore land acquisition for open space elsewhere.	in the Pakington North precinct. The site was established as a key strategic site: • as it acts as a gateway and anchor within the precinct. • to reinforcing pedestrian movement along key east–west connections. • to create opportunities for landmark buildings. Strategic sites are expected to contribute public plazas, open space, or streetscape improvements as part of redevelopment. Their selection was informed by the need to balance housing growth with community infrastructure and amenity outcomes. The plaza/open space locations are indicative and intended to be delivered generally in accordance with Map 1, allowing some design flexibility at the permit stage.
Remove winter solstice overshadowing requirements linked to the proposed open space locations and delete the reference to the north side of Waratah Street footpath in the solar access diagrams (Appendix 6.4). These requirements are seen as unfeasible and not supported.	Not supported. The overshadowing requirements for open space in DDO57 ensures new development protects solar access to key public spaces, consistent with the Pakington North UDF objectives and the overshadowing/solar access studies undertaken for the precinct. Council officer notes the built form testing and overshadowing requirements performed for Pakington North precinct and DDO57 was measured at spring equinox. The UDF specifies both winter solstice and spring equinox at different points in the document and DDO57 referenced winter solstice incorrectly. Recommend amending DDO57 to be consistent with built form testing and change the overshadowing requirements to open space from winter solstice to spring equinox (10am-2pm) in line with the Pakington North Community Panel Summary Report p.48 (May 2024).
Remove the 60% site coverage control, as it is inappropriate for a key urban renewal site in an activity centre and more akin to suburban residential standards.	The request to remove the 60% site coverage requirement is not supported. The control ensures sufficient space for landscaping, open space, and amenity outcomes within large strategic sites. The preferred site coverage balances redevelopment opportunities with broader public realm benefits expected in a specialised activity centre. The control is discretionary and provides flexibility where design objectives can be met.

Update references in DDO57 regarding pedestrian permeability objectives to align with the correct planning scheme clause.	DDO57 is referring to the correct clause of the planning scheme, 11.03-6L-06, which is part of the same amendment.
Submitter 39	**Council officer response**
Remove mandatory ground level setbacks in the Type 2B interface (Waterloo Street frontage). Instead, apply discretionary controls to allow site specific design responses and avoid poor design outcomes caused by rigid requirements.	See response to submitter 35 in DDO57.
Reconsider rear setback controls where C1Z land abuts residential zones (NRZ/GRZ). Allow greater wall heights at rear interfaces to achieve more practical floorplates and appropriate transitions, consistent with Pakington Street's linear subdivision pattern.	The exhibited controls provide for rear setbacks and height transitions to manage amenity impacts such as overshadowing, privacy, and noise at sensitive residential interfaces. These standards were informed by built form testing and community panel feedback and are necessary to ensure compatible transitions to lower-scale neighbourhoods. These controls are discretionary and provide for design flexibility.
Convert mandatory design requirements in DDO57 to preferred requirements, enabling more flexibility and better design outcomes in future redevelopment.	The request to remove mandatory controls is not supported. Mandatory provisions are limited to ground level setbacks, as these are fundamental to achieving the design vision and public realm outcomes for Pakington North. Retaining them as mandatory ensures certainty in delivering safe, landscaped, and high-amenity interfaces. Converting them to preferred provisions would undermine these objectives. See response to submitter 35 in DDO57.
Submitter 51	**Council officer response**
Include an additional, control requirement/objective to address the development interface with Latrobe Terrace and Church Street as per the attachment to this submission.	Agree to include the following changes to DDO57: Access, parking and services "*New development that abuts Church Street to avoid direct access to Church Street (where possible) and make use of the local road network for access".* Amend the following strategy to include (Where possible, provide access via local streets): "Minimise or consolidate vehicular access points and carefully design ramps into basements to support increased amenity and safety for pedestrians and bicycles."

9. Local Policy

105. 2 of the 51 submitters requested changes to proposed local policy.

106. Submitter 28 requests public realm objectives proposed to be deleted from Clause 15.01-1L-02 be reinstated into Clause 11.03-6L-06, including specific objectives/strategies relating to solar access and wind protection and high-quality built form outcomes. The following objectives and strategies were requested to be included in Clause 11.03-6L-06:

106.1. Objective – To ensure the continued preservation of public realm amenity.

Strategy – To ensure appropriate solar access is maintained to the public realm and wind impacts from new developments are addressed on-site to maintain comfortable wind conditions within the public realm.

106.2. Objective – To ensure new development provides for a high quality presentation to the public realm.

Strategy – Require new development to achieve high quality architectural outcomes.

107. Submitter 51, Head of Transport for Victoria (TfV), raises concerns regarding the intention of the rail sidings yard and request local policy relevant to the Pakington North precinct to acknowledge that the rail sidings yard is an essential site for provision of rail services.

Council officer response

108. Council officer does not support the request to include the objective and strategy at point 107.1 and consider them to be duplicating state policy under Clause 15.01-1S (Urban Design):

"Ensure development supports public realm amenity and safe access to walking and cycling environments and public transport."

109. The proposed strategy is delivered in the two exhibited DDOs as a design objective and supported by "Solar access, wind and weather" controls:

109.1. DDO56

Design Objectives - To ensure high quality architectural design that integrates landscaping, maintains solar access and ensures comfortable wind conditions within the public realm.

109.2. DDO57

Design Objectives - To protect the amenity of key public spaces including footpaths, future plazas and new public open spaces from overshadowing impacts.

110. Council officer does not support the request to include the objective and strategy at point 107.2 and consider this objective to be duplicating state policy under Clause 15.01-2S (Building design):

"To achieve building design and siting outcomes that contribute positively to the local context, enhance the public realm and support environmentally sustainable development."

111. While DDO57 does not specifically require high quality architectural design, it sets out architectural outcomes around scale, proportion, setbacks, activation, and contextual design, all aimed at ensuring high quality built form. Where a zone, overlay, particular provision or general provision provides all the direction required to make a planning decision, a local policy is not needed.

112. Council officer accepts Submitter 51 (Head TfV) request to include local policy for the Pakington North precinct to acknowledge that the rail sidings yard is an essential site for provision of rail services.

113. The Pakington North UDF recognises the rail sidings yard at 28–64 Pakington Street as a strategic site within the study area. However, it is not proposed for rezoning or immediate urban renewal.

114. Schedule 57 to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO57) includes provisions and decision guidelines to manage sensitive interfaces with the rail sidings yard.

115. Given this context, it would be appropriate for Clause 11.03-6L-06 (Pakington North precinct local policy) to explicitly acknowledge the ongoing rail function of the site to support decision making.

116. Council considers the following local policy to be included in Clause 11.03-6L-06 as appropriate:

    "The rail sidings yard at 28–64 Pakington Street is an essential site for the operation of rail services in Geelong and must be protected for ongoing transport use."

10. Urban Design Frameworks

117. 4 of the 51 submitters referenced strategies or processes relevant to the UDFs.

118. Submitter 20 requests to reinstate 39-45 Gordon Avenue as a key strategic site.

119. Submitter 36 supports the vision but recommends UDF refinements for wayfinding, station parking integration, and connectivity to waterfront.

120. Submitter 51 requests the adopted UDFs be amended to reflect the retention of the strategic rail infrastructure.

Council officer response

121. In response to submitter 20, Gordon Avenue precinct is identified as a Key Development Area and the amendment proposes to update Clause 16.01-1L-01 accordingly. The Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue UDF does not separately identify any key sites for development.

122. The UDFs were adopted by Council following a comprehensive process, including technical studies, built form testing, and a deliberative community panel. Amendment C433ggee gives statutory effect to the UDFs through rezonings and the introduction of new Schedules to the Design and Development Overlays (DDO56 and DDO57).

123. In response to submitter 36:

    123.1. Wayfinding: The recommendation is supported in principle. Wayfinding improvements at Gordon Avenue and Latrobe Terrace require coordination with the State Government. Council will advocate for this outcome as part of ongoing transport and movement planning.

    123.2. Parking integration: Supported in principle. The Pakington Street Public Parking Plan (2024) and UDFs identify the need to optimise existing supply and manage demand. Integration of Geelong Station parking is a matter for State Government but will continue to be raised through Council advocacy.

    123.3. Connectivity: The UDF objectives and DDO provisions prioritise safe and legible pedestrian and cycling links. Improving connections to Central Geelong and the

waterfront is a short-term priority and will be advanced through infrastructure planning and advocacy with State agencies.

124. Reopening or redrafting the UDFs as part of this amendment process is not supported. The UDFs are Council adopted and provide an appropriate balance between facilitating growth, supporting business and community activity, and protecting sensitive residential and heritage interfaces.

Attachment 2 – Summary of Submissions and Council Response

Submissions have been summarised into their key themes. This includes any specific requests for changes to Amendment C433ggee, such as changes to the two schedules to the Design and Development Overlay. The following key themes have been identified from the issues raised in submissions.

1. **Strategic Merit and Engagement Process**
   Issues regarding whether the amendment is strategically justified for this location and the adequacy and representativeness of notification and the deliberative panel process.
2. **Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport**
   Issues about existing traffic congestion and parking shortfalls being exacerbated by higher densities and limited public transport.
3. **Building Heights**
   Issues raised regarding the proposed building heights negatively impacting surrounding neighbourhood character, amenity and heritage with some submitters requesting a reduction in building heights.
4. **Drainage**
   Issues concerning stormwater and sewer network's ability to accommodate additional development, especially in areas affected by overland flow/flooding.
5. **Open Space**
   Issues concerning lack of open space.
6. **Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO)**
   Issues relate to whether specific properties warrant an EAO, the evidence base for contamination potential, and the development implications of audit requirements.
7. **Proposed Zones**
   Issues regarding the proposed Residential Growth Zone (RGZ) and Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z) including requests to rezone land to alternative zones or leave land in its current zone.
8. **DDO controls**
   Issues regarding mandatory provisions, site coverage, setbacks, wind and solar requirements and proposed open space.
9. **Local policy**
   Includes request to amend proposed local policy.
10. **Urban Design Frameworks (UDF's)**
    Concerns regarding wayfinding, station parking integration and connectivity.

No.	Submission Type	Summary of Submission	Themes	Council officer response	Recommendation
01.	Objection	Concerns regarding current car parking issues and the removal of the car park from 21-33 Autumn Street to facilitate future open space.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel
02.	Objection	The submitter expresses general support for amendment and acknowledge some shopkeepers may oppose the changes due to possible business impacts. Overall, the changes are viewed positively as a significant improvement for both Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue.	N/A	Noted.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
03.	Acceptance	The submitter prefers 'high density housing options that maximise vertical space close to public transport as opposed to developing more land by spreading out.'	N/A	Noted.	Submission supportive. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
04.	Objection	The submitter works on Gordon Avenue and objects to the removal of the car park.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
05.	Acceptance	The submitter is "happy with amendments made".	N/A	Noted.	Submission supportive. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
06.	Objection	Raises issues with the current car parking conditions and objects to the removal of the car park from 21-33 Autumn Street to facilitate future open space.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
07.	Acceptance	The amendment is not only logical, but critical to ensuring the area continues to flourish. Submitter supports the amendment.	N/A	Noted.	Submission supportive. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
08.	Acceptance	Supports the work of the UDF and the subsequent amendment.	N/A	Noted.	Submission supportive. Refer

					submission to independent Planning Panel.
09.	Comment	The CFA reviewed the amendment and noted that the affected land is not within a bushfire prone area. The proposed rezoning and Design and Development Overlay (DDO) changes are focused on guiding future built form and do not alter bushfire risk. Accordingly, CFA offers no further comment on the amendment. The CFA also highlighted that part of the land sits within a Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) area, not CFA's operational area.	N/A	Noted.	Submission supportive. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
10.	Objection	Objects to the proposed changes for Pakington Street, stressing that the precinct's existing role as a popular shopping and dining destination would be undermined by new apartment development, which they see as visually unattractive and unsuitable in an already busy area. They also raise concern about past planning decisions that harmed the Geelong CBD.	Strategic Merit and Engagement Process	See response to theme 1.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
11.	Objection	Concerns regarding the removal of all day car parking and lack of public transport. Requests all day car parking to be increased.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
12.	Objection	The submitter works on Gordon Avenue and objects to the removal of the car park.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
13.	Comment	EPA has already provided its views on Amendment C433 under Ministerial Direction 19 (MD19). EPA have not reviewed the exhibited documents and will not make a submission.	N/A	Noted.	No submission made. Do not refer to an independent Planning Panel.
14.	Objection	Objects to the removal of the Council-owned car park at 21-33 Autumn Street, Geelong West. Suggests considering underutilised land or shared-use arrangements for green space instead of removing essential parking.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

15.	Objection	1. Building heights & increased density • Strong objection to proposed 8–10 storeys as excessive, out of character with the prevailing two-storey scale and adjoining low-rise residential areas. • Requests building heights to be capped at 4 storeys to protect neighbourhood character, privacy, and amenity. • Concerns about noise, overshadowing, overlooking, overcrowding, and loss of privacy. 2. Traffic, car parking & public transport • Objection to any waiver of car parking in an area already under pressure, with fears of worsening congestion. • Notes adjoining streets are narrow, unsafe, and unsuitable for more vehicles, particularly given proximity to two primary schools and vulnerable users. 3. Strategic merit & process • Perceives the proposal as unfairly targeting Geelong West for high-rise development compared with other centres (North Geelong, Newtown, Barwon Heads). • Suggests Council is motivated by rates revenue and not applying growth equitably across the municipality. • Requests housing growth be redirected to areas with modern infrastructure better able to accommodate intensity.	Building Heights, Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport, Strategic Merit and Engagement Process	1. See response to theme 3. 2. See response to theme 2. 3. See response to theme 1 and policy context.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
16.	Objection	1. Building heights & increased density • Opposes proposed heights, requesting nothing over 5 storeys near Church Street tapering down to 2–3 storeys towards Britannia Street to protect the area's heritage, history, and identity. • Seeks a reduction of at least half the exhibited heights to safeguard residential amenity and neighbourhood character. 2. Traffic, car parking & public transport	Building Heights, Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport, Strategic Merit and Engagement Process	1. See response to theme 3. 2. See response to theme 2. 3. See response to theme 1 and policy context.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		• Argues increased height/density will worsen traffic and parking pressures in already narrow streets, creating safety risks for children and school communities. • Notes existing waiver of parking for businesses has already negatively impacted residents' ability to park. 3. Strategic merit & process • Suggests larger-scale development should be directed to better-suited areas such as Central Geelong, South Geelong, or East Geelong, rather than the historic Pakington Street precinct.			
17.	Objection	1. DDO controls (DDO56 & DDO57) • Requests clarification of setback measurements in Figure 1 and seeks a mandatory 5m setback from the north edge of the Spring Street footpath to protect adjoining residential amenity. • Suggests extending restrictions on locating services (currently applying to Gordon Avenue and Latrobe Terrace) to also cover Spring Street. 2. Traffic, car parking & public transport • Notes a lack of clear guidance on car parking provision in DDO56 and requests realistic parking requirements be applied to future developments, despite proximity to Geelong Station.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport, DDO controls	1. See response to theme 8. Setbacks (DDO56 Figure 1 & Table 3) – Figure 1 illustrates side and rear setbacks to adjoining General Residential or Neighbourhood Residential zoned land, with a 5-metre requirement from property boundaries. For street setbacks, including Spring Street, DDO56 specifies a mandatory 3-metre ground-level setback measured from the property boundary (Table 3). 2. See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

18.	Objection	1. Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO) Exclude Homes Victoria land at 1/29 Church Street, Geelong from the proposed EAO (map reference 003eaoMap37), as the Landserv report (June 2023) does not specifically recommend its application to this site. 2. Proposed Zones Rezone Homes Victoria-owned properties adjoining the Gordon Avenue Precinct to Commercial 1 Zone to provide greater development opportunities. The properties include: • 1A Villamanta Place, Geelong West • Multiple units at 15 Halstead Place and 56 Villamanta Street, Geelong West • Units 1–6 at 46–50 Villamanta Place, Geelong West • Multiple units at 9 McNicol Street, Geelong West Homes Victoria requests to be consulted in relation to any further review of the Heritage Core Precinct overlays (HO1634) affecting Homes Victoria land at 1–16 and 1A Lawton Avenue, Geelong West, and 4 Clarence Street, Geelong West.	Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO), Proposed Zones	1. See response to theme 6. 2. See response to theme 7. Heritage Overlay extents: Request to be consulted on any future Heritage Overlay review is supported and noted.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
19.	Objection	Raises issues with the current car parking conditions and objects to the removal of the car park from 21-33 Autumn Street to facilitate future open space.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See council to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
20.	Objection	The submitter expresses conditional support for Amendment C433ggee. The submitter supports the overall vision of the UDF and rezoning of the site 39–45 Gordon Avenue to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z) but raises significant concerns that elements of DDO56 are too restrictive and risk constraining development potential on larger strategic sites. 1. UDF - Key site status: Reinstate the land at 39–45 Gordon Avenue as a key site, given its scale, location, and capacity to contribute to public realm outcomes. 2. Building height - Opposes the 6-storey preferred height along Gordon Avenue; requests allowance for 12+ storeys on	UDFs, Building Heights, DDO Controls, Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO)	1. See response to theme 10 2. See response to theme 3. 3. See response to theme 8. 4. See response to theme 6. Council requested further information from the submitter.	Change recommended. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		larger sites, supported by shadow studies and prior planning approvals. 3. DDO controls - Site coverage: Opposes the 60% site coverage cap on C1Z land, noting it is more restrictive than the adjacent GRZ (70%). Seeks higher site coverage to support active ground floors, efficient podium layouts, and stronger public realm outcomes. Interface treatments: • Remove the mandatory 3m front setback on Gordon Avenue and Spring Street, arguing it is unnecessary and limits development outcomes. • Reconsider street wall height controls on the south side of Gordon Avenue, suggesting human-scale design can be achieved without strict height limits. • Reduce tower separation requirements (currently 20m for buildings over 8 storeys), which are considered excessive and above normal planning practice. Floor Area Ratio (FAR): Opposes cumulative restrictions of FAR combined with height, setback, and coverage controls. Recommends a more flexible, performance-based approach. 4. Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO): Questions the need for an EAO over the site, arguing preliminary information suggests the land is unlikely to be contaminated and further evidence will be provided by the submitter to support the removal of the EAO.		Human Habitats confirmed the testing provided related only to groundwater, not soil. On this basis the submitter withdrew their submission regarding the application of the EAO.	
21.	Acceptance	No comment.	N/A	Noted	Submission supportive. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
22.	Objection	The submitter objects to the amendment, arguing that the UDFs have not adequately addressed key infrastructure and amenity issues. Concerns include:	Drainage, Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	1. See response to theme 4.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		1. The capacity of stormwater and sewer systems to support multiple new developments. 2. Existing parking pressures on residential streets, with an apparent omission of traffic data. 3. A lack of provision for new or enhanced green spaces.		2. See response to theme 2. 3. See response to theme 5.	
23.	Acceptance	The submitter expresses support for the amendment, describing it as a positive plan that will create additional business opportunities in the area and provide affordable living options for new residents in a convenient location within Geelong West.	N/A	Noted	Submission supportive. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
24.	Objection	Objects to the proposal, expressing frustration with existing traffic and safety issues in the Pakington Street area. Specific concerns include poor traffic management at the Telegraph Bridge, unsafe turning movements into Stubbs Avenue from Guthrie Avenue due to the lack of a turning arrow and red-light running, and confusing line markings and inadequate signal times at the Weddell Road intersection. Believes additional traffic generated by the proposal will exacerbate these existing problems and result in failure of the road network in the area.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
25.	Objection	Objects to the proposed conversion of the car park into green space, citing significant concerns about the loss of essential parking for students, local businesses, and employees. They note that Council's recent shift from all-day to 1–2 hour on-street parking has already increased pressure. Requested Changes: Retain the existing car park rather than converting it to green space. Redirect Council's renewal efforts to the CBD instead of removing commercial parking capacity in Geelong West.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
26.	Objection	Objects to the removal of the car park next to Oxygen Music, stating it is essential for students and workers who need convenient access for schooling and employment. They argue that replacing the car park with green space is unnecessary	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		given the proximity of the Botanical Gardens less than 10 minutes away.			
27.	Objection	1. Building heights & increased density • Strong objection to proposed building heights in Pakington North, requesting a two-storey reduction across the precinct (Wellington/Waratah St to Clonard St/railyards). • Concerns that current heights will overshadow, overlook, and overwhelm adjoining heritage overlay residential streets, erode village character, and create heat island/wind tunnel impacts. • Notes Pakington Street is already functioning well and should not be redeveloped “like the CBD.” 2. Traffic, car parking & public transport • Deep concerns that increased density will exacerbate existing congestion, parking shortages, and safety issues in narrow side streets, particularly in heritage precincts like Waterloo. • Notes inadequate traffic data (based on 2009 studies) and calls for an updated traffic and parking management plan. • Highlights safety issues for residents and emergency vehicles, reliance on on-street parking, and rat-running in heritage side streets. • Argues Geelong West lacks adequate public transport alternatives, with infrequent buses and no metro system, so residents will remain car dependent. 3. Drainage & infrastructure capacity • Questions how century-old stormwater and sewer systems will cope with additional population and development pressures. 4. DDO controls (DDO56 & DDO57)	Building Heights; Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport; Drainage; DDO Controls; Strategic Merit and Engagement Process;	1. See response to theme 3. 2. See response to theme 2. 3. See response to theme 4. 4. See response to theme 8. The majority of Maitland Street, Waterloo Street and Anglesea Terrace sit outside of the Pakington North Precinct; no zoning changes are proposed to that area through this amendment. 5. See response to theme 1.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		• Requests stronger protections for Waterloo heritage streets (Maitland, Anglesea, Waterloo), including ensuring they remain zoned NRZ3, are not used for rear access to Pakington developments, and avoid commercial encroachment. 5. Strategic Merit & Engagement process • Argues Council is applying a “Melbourne” scale to a regional setting, ignoring Geelong’s different context. • Suggests growth should instead be directed to Central Geelong, South Geelong, East Geelong, and the North Geelong Saleyards redevelopment, which were previously identified for higher-density growth. • Claims exhibition notification was inadequate, with only residents within 4–5 houses of Pako formally notified. • Argues this skews submissions towards business/landowners and breaks earlier undertakings that all Geelong West residents could comment at amendment stage.			
28.	Objection	1. Local policy (Clause 11.03-6L-06) • Supports the amendment but requests that public realm objectives proposed for deletion from Clause 15.01-1L-02 be reinstated in Clause 11.03-6L-06. • Suggested objectives/strategies include: preserving public realm amenity (solar access and wind protection) and requiring new development to achieve high-quality architectural outcomes. 2. DDO controls (DDO56 & DDO57) Mandatory Provisions: • Recommends adopting the phrase “a permit cannot be granted” for shadow/wind requirements or at minimum including decision guidelines referencing “comfortable” wind conditions (Clause 58.04-4). Wind Impacts:	Local Policy; DDO Controls;	1. See response to theme 9. 2. See response to theme 8.	Change recommended. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		• Replace “safe” with “comfortable” for wind conditions in both DDOs. • Set wind assessment triggers at 5 storeys (not 16m) in both DDOs. • Remove wording in DDO57 that limits wind reporting to commercial buildings. Solar access: • Apply DDO57’s overshadowing objective to DDO56. • Clarify “all other streets” in DDO57 and provide specific time periods for solar access. • Extend eastern Pakington footpath protection to 3pm. • Adopt winter solstice (not spring equinox) as the test date for overshadowing of public open spaces in DDO56. • Requests decision guidelines in DDO57 be updated to reference both “all other streets” and public open space. Open space • Requests DDO57 specify approximate sizes for proposed new open spaces rather than leaving this detail to the planning permit stage.			
29.	Objection	The submitter objects to the proposal, noting they work in the area and rely on the existing car park. They express concern that, if the car park is removed, there will be no suitable alternative parking available for workers.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
30.	Objection	1. Strategic Merit • Submitter argues the amendment applies a “Melbourne-centric” approach unsuited to Geelong’s infrastructure and transport context. • Concern it will erode Pakington North’s village character and liveability. • Recommends reconsidering overall housing density to better reflect Geelong’s unique heritage and local constraints.	Strategic Merit and Engagement Process; Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport; Building Heights; Drainage; Open Space	1. See response to theme 1. 2. See response to theme 2. 3. See response to theme 3. 4. See response to theme 4.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		2. Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport • Existing congestion is already severe. Says amendment relies on flawed/outdated traffic data (2010) and that promised connections like the Madden Avenue extension have not been delivered. Narrow side streets (<7m wide) may become unsafe "rat runs." • Significant existing parking pressure from businesses and limited off-street residential parking. Concerned new development won't provide enough on-site spaces, pushing overflow into nearby residential streets. • Geelong's limited, disconnected bus/train services are not a realistic alternative to cars, contrary to assumptions in the UDF. • Requests Council undertake up-to-date traffic and parking studies and prepare a reliable traffic management plan before development proceeds. 3. Building Heights • Strong opposition to proposed 4–6 storey heights in Pakington North, arguing they are excessive compared with the two-storey heritage core and adjoining heritage streets (Maitland St, Anglesea Terrace, Waterloo St). • Concerns about overshadowing, amenity loss, and poor transition to residential/heritage areas. • Requested change: Reduce proposed heights by 2 storeys across the precinct (Wellington/Waratah to Clonard Street). 4. Drainage • Belief that the ageing stormwater and sewer system cannot accommodate additional density, especially in overland flow areas. 5. Open Space • Concerns about loss of the large railyard siding maintenance site as open space.		5. See response to theme 5.	

		• Only two small open spaces are proposed, seen as inadequate to meet local needs or address urban heat impacts. • Requested change: Provide additional green space, with commitments to deliver rail site open space followed through.			
31.	Objection	The submitter objects to the removal of the car park, explaining they rely on it for all-day parking while at work. They note that all-day parking in the area is already limited, and they cannot reasonably move their car during the day, making the existing facility essential.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See council officer response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
32.	Acceptance	The submitter expresses support for the amendment, noting it will improve the area and encourage stronger commercial use of the proposed locations.	N/A	Noted.	Submission supportive. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
33.	Acceptance	The submitter expresses strong support for Amendment C433ggee, particularly the proposed rezoning of land at Hope Street, Geelong West from Commercial 2 Zone (C2Z) to Mixed Use Zone (MUZ) with associated overlays. Key Reasons for Support: Rezoning to MUZ supports the fair, orderly, and sustainable use of land under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and aligns with the Planning Policy Framework and local housing strategies. Current C2Z restrictions discourage residential redevelopment. MUZ will enable sensitive residential and mixed-use projects more suited to community needs. Supports State and Council objectives for increased housing supply and diversity in established areas close to services, jobs, and transport.	N/A	Noted.	Submission supportive. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		Application of DDO56 will guide high-quality design, protect neighbourhood amenity, and ensure new development integrates with existing character.			
34.	Acceptance	The submitter supports the rezoning of 1 Hope Street, Geelong West from Commercial 2 Zone (C2Z) to Mixed Use Zone (MUZ). The property has functioned as a dwelling for over 100 years, but the previous C2Z prevented replacement with a new dwelling if demolished. Rezoning to MUZ provides a more practical outcome by allowing continued residential use while also enabling future mixed-use opportunities. The approach is seen as fair and sensible, respecting the site's history while providing flexibility for future development.	N/A	Noted.	Submission supportive. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
35.	Comment	Supports recognition of 91–93 Pakington Street as a strategic redevelopment opportunity but seeks greater flexibility in controls to enable feasible design outcomes. 1. DDO Controls (DDO57) • Mandatory provisions in DDO57 reduce flexibility and are not appropriate for a strategic site. Requests to remove all mandatory requirements in DDO57. • Winter solstice overshadowing controls linked to proposed plazas are unfeasible. Requests overshadowing requirements linked to plaza/open space locations be removed. • Reference to solar access on the north side of Waratah Street footpath is not supported. Requests to remove the Waratah Street solar access reference. • 60% site coverage control is considered inappropriate, being more aligned with suburban residential standards. Requests this provision be removed. • Objects to the two indicative open space/plaza locations in Map 1 of DDO57, stating they pre-empt site-specific design and compromise redevelopment potential. Requests Council delete the indicative open space/plaza locations at 91–93 Pakington Street and instead explore Council-led acquisition of open space elsewhere.	DDO Controls; Local Policy	1. See response to theme 8. 2. See response to theme 9.	Change recommended. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		2. Local Policy • References to pedestrian permeability in DDO57 are inconsistent with the planning scheme. Requests Council update references to align with the correct clause.			
36.	Acceptance	Expresses support for the principles of Amendment C433ggee and the UDFs. Recommendations: Wayfinding: Implement a coordinated approach with the State Government to improve wayfinding at the Gordon Avenue and Latrobe Terrace intersection. Parking integration: Explore opportunities to better utilise Geelong Station parking as a destination, helping to manage demand and encourage safe movement towards the city. Connectivity: Prioritise safe, legible pedestrian and cycling links between the Pakington Street precinct and the Geelong waterfront in the short term, to ensure both precincts achieve their intended success.	UDFs	See response to theme 10.	Submission supportive. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
37.	Acceptance	The submitter expresses support for the amendment, welcoming the proposed changes to Pakington Street as a positive step for future generations. The submission also thanks Council for its work on the project and acknowledges the challenges involved.	N/A	Noted.	Submission supportive. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
38.	Objection	The submitter objects to the amendment on the basis of parking loss. They highlight that parking in the area is already very limited, with the only alternatives being behind Oxygen College or at Geelong Station, which is full before 7:30 am. The removal of the existing car park would make it extremely difficult for local workers, including themselves, to access suitable parking.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
39.	Acceptance	Overall submitter supports Amendment C433ggee, including its objectives, rezoning, and the strategic outcomes it seeks for Pakington Street North. The rezoning of 68 and 70 Pakington Street, Geelong West from Commercial 2 Zone (C2Z) to	DDO Controls	See response to theme 8.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z) is supported as a logical extension of the retail and heritage core, better aligned to surrounding residential interfaces, and consistent with broader strategic policy for activity centres. Requested Changes: DDO Controls (DDO57) • Mandatory ground-level setbacks in the Type 2B (Waterloo Street) interface are too rigid and may lead to poor outcomes. Requests to replace with discretionary controls. • Rear setback controls where C1Z abuts NRZ/GRZ are overly restrictive; higher rear wall heights are needed for functional floorplates and appropriate transitions. Reconsider rear interface controls to allow greater wall heights and practical design responses. • Convert mandatory requirements in DDO57 to preferred requirements to support flexibility and site-responsive design.			
40.	Objection	The submitter objects to amendment for the following reasons: 1. Proposed Zones • Objects to rezoning of 22–42 Spring Street from GRZ4 to RGZ1. Requests Council do not rezone and retain current GRZ4 zoning. • Rezoning to RGZ1 would enable 4–5 storey development, seen as excessive for a narrow street. Concerns that recent apartment projects nearby have been of poor design quality and may set an undesirable precedent. • Established open garden outlook and sense of spaciousness would be undermined by increased height and density, with risks of overshadowing, loss of natural light, and reduced outlooks. 2. Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport; Proposed Zones	1. See response to theme 7. 2. See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		• Increased density would worsen congestion and parking pressures on Spring Street, which is already narrow and affected by existing traffic associated with Rex Gorell.			
41.	Objection	The submitter objects to the amendment, expressing frustration at existing traffic congestion in the area. They argue that the proposed changes would deliberately worsen already busy conditions on local streets, creating further traffic problems.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
42.	Objection	Objects to Amendment C433ggee for Pakington North Precinct. Concern that the amendment enables inappropriate high-density apartment development, risking overdevelopment and undermining the precinct's role as a regional business, retail, and cultural hub. 1. Proposed Zones (C2Z → C1Z) • Opposes rezone from Commercial 2 Zone (C2Z) to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z), noting it prioritises apartments over existing diverse businesses and creative industries. • Requests Council rezone to Commercial 3 Zone (C3Z) as a better fit, supporting small-scale manufacturing, start-ups, and creative industries alongside modest housing growth. • Alternative zoning options were not presented during consultation. 2. Building heights • Considers heights above 15m (approx. 4–5 storeys) unsustainable in this context due to street pattern, scale, and expected impacts on the precinct's role and character. Requests building heights to be capped at 15m in Pakington North Precinct 3. Traffic Car Parking and Public Transport • States traffic studies are outdated/insufficient and do not reflect current conditions (school/childcare traffic, narrow streets, emergency access).	Proposed Zones; Building Heights; Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport; Strategic Merit and Engagement Process	1. See response to theme 7. 2. See response to theme 3. 3. See response to theme 2. 4. See response to theme 1.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		• Notes limited public transport (distance to station, single bus route, radial network) and high car dependency; indicates higher density would exacerbate congestion/parking. • Requests Council obtain updated traffic and parking assessments and a parking management plan before permitting further density. • Address public transport gaps prior to intensifying residential development. 4. Strategic Merit and Engagement Process • Questions validity of community panel process due to declining attendance and possible undeclared conflicts of interest. • Claims resident voices, particularly the “Help Save Pako Street” group, were underrepresented. Requests Council refer amendment to Planning Panels Victoria for independent review.			
43.	Objection	The submitter raises objections to aspects of Amendment C433ggee relating to the Gordon Avenue Precinct. 1.Proposed Zones • Objects to rezoning to RGZ along Gordon Avenue and Spring Street (to Coronation Street), stating many properties contain relatively new housing unlikely to be redeveloped. Requests amendment apply the Mixed Use Zone (MUZ) instead, as a more suitable zoning outcome. 2. Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO) • Concern that underground contamination along both sides of Gordon Avenue will constrain residential development potential. Believes this needs to be properly addressed before applying residential-focused zones.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport; Proposed Zones; Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO)	1. See response to theme 7. 2. See response to theme 6. 3. See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		• Ensure contamination issues are resolved or addressed prior to rezoning for residential growth. 3. Car Parking • Objects to rezoning 21–33 Autumn Street to public open space (PPRZ), noting it currently provides all-day parking for business employees. Loss of this car park is seen as detrimental to small businesses and would exacerbate parking shortages and reliance on private rentals. • Requests Council retain the site as parking rather than rezoning to open space.			
44.	Objection	Traffic congestion in Geelong West is described as already severe, particularly at peak times due to the concentration of schools and businesses. Concern that further development will exacerbate congestion or push traffic into back streets, increasing risks for pedestrians and school children. Parking provision is considered inadequate in recent developments, attributed to poor planning standards. Concern that additional businesses and residences will worsen parking pressures. Requests Council address traffic and parking impacts before allowing further development and require new developments to provide sufficient on-site parking to meet demand and avoid spillover into surrounding streets.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
45.	Objection	The submitter objects to the proposal, stating that parking in the area is already inadequate. They argue that removing the only available all-day parking will worsen the situation and negatively affect local users who rely on it.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
46.	Acceptance	The submitter strongly supports Amendment C433ggee and the proposed UDF for the Pakington Street and Gordon Avenue precincts. Key Reasons for Support:	N/A	Noted	Submission supportive. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		Renewal and revitalisation: The precinct shows signs of age and underuse; the UDFs present an opportunity to inject life through upgrades to streetscapes, amenities, footpaths, planting, lighting, wayfinding signage, and public art. Economic vitality: The amendment will help sustain existing businesses by attracting residents, visitors, and investment, while strengthening Pakington Street's identity as a boutique retail and cultural destination. Sustainable growth: New zoning provisions will enable development of businesses, housing, and apartments in a way that aligns with the UDF's vision while preserving local character. Community benefit: Revitalisation is seen as essential to maintaining liveability, lifestyle, cultural richness, and the long-term viability of the precincts.			
47.	Objection	The submitter objects to the removal of the nearby car park. They explain that it is the only convenient place for the students to park while attending classes at Oxygen College.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
48.	Objection	No comment	N/A	Noted	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
49.	Objection	The submitter objects to the amendment, raising concerns that existing parking and lane space in the area are already insufficient. They argue that additional development would increase traffic congestion and create hazards for larger vehicles, including public transport, which already struggle to move safely and efficiently through the area.	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport	See response to theme 2.	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.
50.	Objection	The submitter does not oppose the development in principle but requests changes to ensure parking adequacy and provision of local services. Requested Changes: 1. Car Parking - Make it mandatory that each apartment includes at least one designated car space (basement or	Traffic, Car Parking and Public Transport; DDO Controls	1. See response to theme 2. DDO57 includes design objectives and built form provisions that encourage active ground floor frontages	Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

		otherwise), rather than simply encouraging basement parking, to address existing congestion. Require the ground floor of larger developments to include essential services such as a supermarket, restaurants, gyms, or community facilities. If this is not feasible, set aside land specifically for the provision of these amenities, with mechanisms to ensure their delivery.		and commercial uses along Pakington Street and key pedestrian areas. These provisions support retail, and hospitality at ground level. Land use will be guided by the Zone provisions.	
51.	Comment	1. DDO Controls (DDO56) • Supports mandatory 6m ground level setback along Latrobe Terrace for safety and amenity. • Amend DDO56 schedule to include specific objectives/controls for Latrobe Terrace and Church Street interfaces. • Amend DDO57 to include a strategy for the Rail Sidings Yard 2. UDFs • Rail Sidings Yard (Pakington North Precinct) is essential infrastructure. Contains Geelong line's only train turntable. • Not realistic to identify for urban renewal. • Strong objection to the proposed shared overpass through the yard. • Modify UDFs to remove urban renewal assumption for the rail sidings yard and emphasise its strategic operational role. • Exclude or amend reference to a shared overpass through the sidings; develop alternative connectivity options in consultation with TfV.	DDO Controls; UDF's	1. See response to theme 8. 2. See response to theme 10.	Change Recommended. Refer submission to independent Planning Panel.

2.14. T2500064 - Plant Hire Services

Source: **Corporate Services**
Executive Director: **Troy Edwards**

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to award contracts for Plant Hire Services to the preferred tenderers as detailed in Clause 3 of the Confidential Procurement Evaluation Report at **Attachment 1**.

Background

2. The City is seeking to establish a panel of suitably qualified and experienced suppliers to provide wet and dry hire of fleet and plant equipment across multiple business units.

3. These services will supplement the City's existing fleet on an as-needed basis to support operational and project requirements.

Confidentiality

4. Confidential information is contained in **Attachment 1** as circulated in the confidential section of the report attachments. The information in the Attachment is confidential information for the purposes of 66(2)(a) and the definition of "confidential information" in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* because it is council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released (section 3(1)(a)).

Key Matters

5. The Procurement and Strategic Sourcing team administered an open tender process on behalf of the City Works team.

6. Details of the Procurement process, including the evaluation methodology and the preferred tenderers, are outlined in the Confidential Procurement Evaluation Report at **Attachment 1**.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Awards the contracts for T2500064 - Plant Hire Services to the preferred tenderers detailed in Clause 3 of the Confidential Procurement Evaluation Report, based on the tendered schedule of rates and otherwise in accordance with the negotiated terms and conditions of the contract;**

2. **Approve the contract term of three years, with the option to extend the contract for up to two additional terms of one year;**

3. **Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to execute contracts for T2500064 and any other documents required by or to give effective to the terms of the Contract on behalf of Council;**

4. **Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to release the names of the awarded tenderers following the execution of the Contract by the relevant parties; and**

5. **Resolves that the information contained in Attachment 1 of the report from management is to remain confidential pursuant to section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* because it contains Council business information being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations. This section is applicable because of the ongoing contract negotiations with the preferred tenderers.**

Financial Sustainability

7. The estimated cost of delivering these services over the full contract term, including extension options, will be managed within current and future approved budgets.

Community Engagement

8. There was no community engagement on this tender as it is part of Council's regular operations to fulfil its legislative and management obligations to residents, ratepayers and visitors to the area.

Collaboration Opportunities

9. No tender collaboration opportunities were identified at this time however opportunities may present themselves in the future to be considered for new contracts.

Social Equity and Sustainability

10. The preferred tenderers operate their businesses within the Geelong Region providing significant local employment and economic benefits to the Geelong community.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

11. This tender was advertised and managed in accordance with the requirements of sections 108 and 109 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and in accordance with the City's Procurement Policy.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

12. This report aligns with our Council Plan 2025-2029 strategic priority:

    Core and Critical Infrastructure

13. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:
    A fast, reliable and connected transport network.

Conflict of Interest

14. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

15. The tender evaluation process involved the assessment of work, health and safety policies, procedures, and risk assessment documents. Any other risks associated with the acceptance of this tender will be managed through the contract conditions.

Environmental Sustainability

16. Any environmental implications associated with this contract will arise from the execution of the services. It is considered these are the responsibility of the contractor and will be managed through the contract documentation.

Attachments

1. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - T 2500064 - Tender Evaluation Report Council [**2.14.1** - 170 pages]

2.15. Review of Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Council Staff

Source: **Corporate Services**
Executive Director: **Troy Edwards**

Purpose

1. To review and update the Greater Geelong City Council (Council) Instrument of Delegation for Council to members of Council staff.

Background

2. The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) provides for the delegation of Council's powers, duties and functions under that Act or any other Act.

3. Council last reviewed the delegation to members of Council staff on 10 December 2024.

4. Council subscribes to Maddocks Lawyers delegations and authorisation service which provides six-monthly updates ensuring changes to legislation are captured.

Key Matters

5. It is important to ensure that Council has properly delegated powers, duties and functions, in order to avoid any issues arising regarding the legality of a decision or an action purportedly made or taken on behalf of the Council.

6. The powers conferred on the Council under some legislative instruments cannot be delegated through the CEO and must be delegated by resolution directly to members of Council staff.

7. The schedule to the instrument of delegation Council to members of Council staff **(Attachment 1)** has been updated to include:

    7.1. amendments to the conditions and limitations for section 64(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to align with the Planning Committee Terms of Reference;

    7.2. minor legislative amendment as advised by Maddocks Lawyers; and

    7.3. organisational structure and functional changes.

Recommendation

1. In the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation, the Greater Geelong City Council (Council) resolves that:

1.1. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument (Attachment 1);

1.2. The Instrument comes into force immediately upon the resolution of Council;

1.3. The Instrument be signed by the Chief Executive Officer on behalf of Council;

1.4. On the coming into force of the instrument all previous delegations from Council to members of Council staff (other than the Chief Executive Officer) are revoked; and

1.5. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

Financial Sustainability

8. There are no financial sustainability implications associated with this report.

Community Engagement

9. The attached Instrument has been prepared in consultation with relevant Council officers.

Social Equity and Sustainability

10. There are no social equity or sustainability issues arising from the subject of this report.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

11. The powers conferred on the Council under some legislative instruments cannot be delegated through the CEO and must be delegated by resolution directly to Council officers.

12. The Acts and Regulations referred to in Attachment 1 are among those which require direct delegation.

Alignment to Council Plan and Vision

13. This report aligns with the Council Plan 2025-2029 strategic priority:
Governance and Integrity

Conflict of Interest

14. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

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

Environmental Sustainability

16. There are no environmental sustainability implications identified for the subject of this report.

Attachments

1. S6 Instrument of Delegation Council to Members of Council Staff (1) [**2.15.1** - 163 pages]

Greater Geelong City Council

Instrument of Delegation

to

Members of Council Staff

Instrument of Delegation

In exercise of the power conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached Schedule, the Greater Geelong City Council:

1. delegates each duty and/or function and/or power described in column 1 of the Schedule (and summarised in column 2 of the Schedule) to the member of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the office or position described opposite each such duty and/or function and/or power in column 3 of the Schedule;

2. declares that:

2.1 this Instrument of Delegation is authorised by a resolution of Council passed on 25 November 2025; and

2.2 the delegation:

2.2.1 comes into force immediately upon the resolution of Council;

2.2.2 remains in force until varied or revoked;

2.2.3 is subject to any conditions and limitations set out in sub-paragraph 2.3, and the Schedule; and

2.2.4 must be exercised in accordance with any guidelines or policies which Council from time to time adopts; and

2.3 the delegate must not determine the issue, take the action or do the act or thing:

2.3.1 if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action or thing which Council has previously designated as an issue, action, act or thing which must be the subject of a Resolution of Council; or

2.3.2 if the determining of the issue, taking of the action or doing of the act or thing would or would be likely to involve a decision which is inconsistent with a

(a) policy; or

(b) strategy;

adopted by Council; or

2.3.3 if the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing cannot be the subject of a lawful delegation; or

2.3.4 the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing is already the subject of an exclusive delegation to another member of Council staff.

Signed for GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL by
ALI WASTIE, Chief Executive Officer

_____
Chief Executive Officer

Date:

SCHEDULE

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DOMESTIC ANIMALS ACT 1994

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
DOMESTIC ANIMALS ACT 1994	s 41A(1)	Power to declare a dog to be a menacing dog	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Parking & Animal Management Services	Council may delegate this power to a Council authorised officer

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017	s 271	Power to issue improvement notice	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017	s 272	Power to issue prohibition notice	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017	s 279	Power to amend a notice	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017	s 358	Functions of the Environment Protection Authority	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017	s 359(1)(b)	Power to do all things that are necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of the Environment Protection Authority's functions and duties and to enable the Authority to achieve its objective	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017	s 359(2)	Power to give advice to persons with duties or obligations	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	

FOOD ACT 1984

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19(2)(a)	Power to direct by written order that the food premises be put into a clean and sanitary condition	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	If s 19(1) applies
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19(2)(b)	Power to direct by written order that specified steps be taken to ensure that food prepared, sold or handled is safe and suitable	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	If s 19(1) applies
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19(3)	Power to direct by written order that the food premises not be kept or used for the sale, or handling for sale, of any food, or for the preparation of any food, or for any other specified purpose, or for the use of any specified equipment or a specified process	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health	If s 19(1) applies. Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19(4)(a)	Power to direct that an order made under s 19(3)(a) or (b), (i) be affixed to a conspicuous part of the premises, (ia) displayed at any point of sale, (ib) be published on the food businesses Internet site and (ii) inform the public by notice in a published newspaper, on the Internet site or otherwise	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health	If s 19(1) applies

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19(6)(a)	Duty to revoke any order under s 19 if satisfied that an order has been complied with	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	If s 19(1) applies
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19(6)(b)	Duty to give written notice of revocation under s 19(6)(a) if satisfied that an order has been complied with	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	If s 19(1) applies
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19AA(2)	Power to direct, by written order, that a person must take any of the actions described in (a)-(c)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19AA(4)(c)	Power to direct, in an order made under s 19AA(2) or a subsequent written order, that a person must ensure that any food or class of food is not removed from the premises	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Note: the power to direct the matters under s 19AA(4)(a) and (b) not capable of delegation and so such directions must be made by a Council resolution Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19AA(7)	Duty to revoke order issued under s 19AA and give written notice of revocation, if satisfied that that order has been complied with	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19CB(4)(b)	Power to request copy of records	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19E(1)(d)	Power to request a copy of the food safety program	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19EA(3)	Function of receiving copy of revised food safety program	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19FA(1)	Power to direct a proprietor of a food premises to revise the food safety program for the premises or comply with any requirements specified in the food safety program	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where Council is the registration authority ~~Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises~~ Subject to s 19FA(2), which requires a time limit for compliance to be specified
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19FA(3)(a)	Power to refuse to approve an application for registration or renewal of the premises, where a proprietor of a food premises fails to comply with a direction given under s 19FA(1)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where Council is the registration authority ~~Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises~~ Refusal to grant or renew the registration of a food premises must be ratified by Council or the CEO (see s 58A(2))
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19FA(3)(b)	Power to revoke a registration granted in respect of premises, where a proprietor of a food premises fails to comply with a direction given under s 19FA(1)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where Council is the registration authority ~~Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises~~
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19FA(3)(c)	Power to suspend the registration of the premises, where a proprietor of a food premises fails to comply with a direction given under s 19FA(1)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where Council is the registration authority ~~Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises~~

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19GB	Power to request proprietor to provide written details of the name, qualification or experience of the current food safety supervisor	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	S 19IA(1)	Power to form opinion that the food safety requirements or program are non-compliant	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19IA(2)	Duty to give written notice to the proprietor of the premises	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority Note: Not required if Council has taken other appropriate action in relation to deficiencies (see s 19IA(3))
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19M(4)(a) & (5)	Power to conduct a food safety audit and take actions where deficiencies are identified	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where council is the registration authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19N(2)	Function of receiving notice from the auditor	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19NA(1)	Power to request food safety audit reports	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19U(3)	Power to waive and vary the costs of a food safety audit if there are special circumstances	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health	
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19UA	Power to charge fees for conducting a food safety assessment or inspection	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health	Except for an assessment required by a declaration under s 19C or an inspection under s 38B(1)(c) or 39
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19W	Power to direct a proprietor of a food premises to comply with any requirement under Part IIIB	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19W(3)(a)	Power to direct a proprietor of a food premises to have staff at the premises undertake training or instruction	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 19W(3)(b)	Power to direct a proprietor of a food premises to have details of any staff training incorporated into the minimum records required to be kept or food safety program of the premises	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	---	Power to register or renew the registration of a food premises	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where council is the registration authority refusal to grantor renew the registration of a food premises must be ratified by Council or the CEO (see s 58A(2))
FOOD ACT 1984	s 36A	Power to accept an application for registration or notification using online portal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 36B	Duty to pay the charge for use of online portal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38AA(5)	Power to (a) request further information; or (b) advise the proprietor that the premises must be registered if the premises are not exempt	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38AB(4)	Power to fix a fee for the receipt of a notification under s 38AA in accordance with a declaration under ss (1)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38A(4)	Power to request a copy of a completed food safety program template	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38B(1)(a)	Duty to assess the application and determine which class of food premises under s 19C the food premises belongs	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where council is the registration authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38B(1)(b)	Duty to ensure proprietor has complied with requirements of s 38A	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38B(2)	Duty to be satisfied of the matters in s 38B(2)(a)-(b)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38D(1)	Duty to ensure compliance with the applicable provisions of s 38C and inspect the premises if required by s 39	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38D(2)	Duty to be satisfied of the matters in s 38D(2)(a)-(d)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38D(3)	Power to request copies of any audit reports	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where council is the registration authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38E(2)	Power to register the food premises on a conditional basis	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where council is the registration authority not exceeding the prescribed time limit defined under subsection (5)
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38E(4)	Duty to register the food premises when conditions are satisfied	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38F(3)(b)	Power to require proprietor to comply with requirements of this Act	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38G(1)	Power to require notification of change of the food safety program type used for the food premises	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38G(2)	Function of receiving notice from proprietor if there is a change of the food safety program type used for the food premises	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 38G(4)	Power to require the proprietor of the food premises to comply with any requirement of the Act	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 39(2)	Duty to carry out an inspection of the premises during the period of registration before the registration of the food premises is renewed	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 39A	Power to register, or renew the registration of a food premises despite minor defects	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health	Where council is the registration authority only if satisfied of matters in subsections (2)(a)-(c)

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 39A (6)	Duty to comply with a direction of the Secretary	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	
FOOD ACT 1984	s 40(1)	Duty to give the person in whose name the premises is to be registered a certificate of registration	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 40(2)	Power to incorporate the certificate of registration in one document with any certificate of registration under Part 6 of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	
FOOD ACT 1984	s 40C(2)	Power to grant or renew the registration of food premises for a period of less than 1 year	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 40D(1)	Power to suspend or revoke the registration of food premises	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 40E	Duty to comply with direction of the Secretary	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	
FOOD ACT 1984	s 40F	Power to cancel registration of food premises	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 43	Duty to maintain records of registration	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer Food Safety Assessment Officer Food Safety Officer	Where council is the registration authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
FOOD ACT 1984	s 43F(6)	Duty to be satisfied that registration requirements under Division 3 have been met prior to registering, or renewing registration of a component of a food business	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health	Where council is the registration authority
FOOD ACT 1984	s 43F(7)	Power to register the components of the food business that meet requirements in Division 3 and power to refuse to register the components that do not meet the requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health	Where council is the registration authority Refusal to grant or renew the registration of a food premises must be ratified by Council or the CEO (see s 58A(2))
FOOD ACT 1984	s 45AC	Power to bring proceedings	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	
FOOD ACT 1984	s 46(5)	Power to institute proceedings against another person where the offence was due to an act or default by that other person and where the first person charged could successfully defend a prosecution, without proceedings first being instituted against the person first charged	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Coordinator Environmental Health Team Leader Environmental Health Environmental Health Officer Graduate Environmental Health Officer	Where council is the registration authority

HERITAGE ACT 2017

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
HERITAGE ACT 2017	s 116	Power to sub-delegate Executive Director's functions, duties or powers	Chief Executive Officer	Must first obtain Executive Director's written consent Council can only sub-delegate if the instrument of delegation from the Executive Director authorises sub-delegation

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989	s 185L(4)	Power to declare and levy a cladding rectification charge	Chief Executive Officer[1]	

[1] The only member of staff who can be a delegate in Column 3 is the CEO.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 4B	Power to prepare an amendment to the Victoria Planning Provisions	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation	If authorised by the Minister
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 4G	Function of receiving prescribed documents and a copy of the Victoria Planning Provisions from the Minister	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner- Business Facilitation Principal Planner Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Senior Statutory Planner Subdivision Officer Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 4H	Duty to make amendment to Victoria Planning Provisions available in accordance with public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 4I(2)	Duty to make a copy of the Victorian Planning Provisions and other documents available in accordance with public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 8A(2)	Power to prepare amendment to the planning scheme where the Minister has given consent under s 8A	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 8A(3)	Power to apply to Minister to prepare an amendment to the planning scheme	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 8A(5)	Function of receiving notice of the Minister's decision	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Manager Urban Design and Place Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 8A(7)	Power to prepare the amendment specified in the application without the Minister's authorisation if no response received after 10 business days	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 8B(2)	Power to apply to the Minister for authorisation to prepare an amendment to the planning scheme of an adjoining municipal district	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 12(3)	Power to carry out studies and do things to ensure proper use of land in which Council is the planning authority and consult with other persons to ensure co-ordination of planning scheme with these persons	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Project Manager Northern and Western Geelong Growth Areas Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 12B(1)	Duty to review planning scheme	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 12B(2)	Duty to review planning scheme at direction of Minister	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 12B(5)	Duty to report findings of review of planning scheme to Minister without delay	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 14	Duties of a Responsible Authority as set out in subsections (a) to (d)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 17(1)	Duty of giving copy amendment to the planning scheme	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 17(2)	Duty of giving copy s 173 agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Senior Strategic Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 17(3)	Duty of giving copy amendment, explanatory report and relevant documents to the Minister within 10 business days	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Snr Strategic Planner/Project Officer Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 18	Duty to make amendment etc. available in accordance with public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	Until the proposed amendment is approved or lapsed
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 19	Power to give notice, to decide not to give notice, to publish notice of amendment to a planning scheme and to exercise any other power under s 19 to a planning scheme	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 19	Function of receiving notice of preparation of an amendment to a planning scheme	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery	Where Council is not the planning authority and the amendment affects land within Council's municipal district; or where the amendment will amend the planning scheme to designate Council as an acquiring authority
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 20(1)	Power to apply to Minister for exemption from the requirements of s 19	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	Where Council is a planning authority
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 20(5)	Function of being consulted by the Minister'	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth Manager City Development	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 21(2)	Duty to make submissions available in accordance with public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Planning ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery	Until the end of 2 months after the amendment comes into operation or lapses
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 21A(4)	Duty to publish notice in accordance with section	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Planning	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 22(1)	Duty to consider all submissions received before the date specified in the notice	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	Except submissions which request a change to the items in s 22(5)(a) & (b)
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 22(2)	Power to consider a late submission Duty to consider a late submission, if directed by the Minister	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 23(1)(b)	Duty to refer submissions which request a change to the amendment to a panel	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 23(2)	Power to refer to a panel submission which do not require a change to the amendment	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 24	Function to represent council and present a submission at a panel hearing (including a hearing referred to in s 96D)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 26(1)	Power to make report available for inspection in accordance with public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 26(2)	Duty to keep report of panel available for inspection in accordance with public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	During the inspection period
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 27(2)	Power to apply for exemption if panel's report not received	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 28(1)	Duty to notify the Minister if abandoning an amendment	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 28(2)	Duty to publish notice of the decision on Internet site	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 28(4)	Duty to make notice of the decision available on Council's Internet site for a period of at least 2 months	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 30(4)(a)	Duty to say if amendment has lapsed	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 30(4)(b)	Duty to provide information in writing upon request	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 32(2)	Duty to give more notice if required	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 33(1)	Duty to give more notice of changes to an amendment	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 36(2)	Duty to give notice of approval of amendment	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 38(5)	Duty to give notice of revocation of an amendment	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 39	Function of being a party to a proceeding commenced under s 39 and duty to comply with determination by VCAT	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 40(1)	Function of lodging copy of approved amendment	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 41(1)	Duty to make a copy of an approved amendment available in accordance with the public availability requirements during inspection period	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 41(2)	Duty to make a copy of an approved amendment and any documents lodged with it available in person in accordance with the requirements set out in s 197B of the Act after the inspection period ends	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 42(2)	Duty to make copy of planning scheme available in accordance with the public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46AAA	Duty to prepare an amendment to a planning scheme that relates to Yarra River land that is not inconsistent with anything in a Yarra Strategic Plan which is expressed to be binding on the responsible public entity	Not applicable	Where Council is a responsible public entity and is a planning authority
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46AW	Function of being consulted by the Minister	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	Where Council is a responsible public entity
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46AX	Function of receiving a draft Statement of Planning Policy and written direction in relation to the endorsement of the draft Statement of Planning Policy power to endorse the draft Statement of Planning Policy	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking	Where Council is a responsible public entity
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46AZC(2)	Duty not to prepare an amendment to a declared area planning scheme that is inconsistent with a Statement of Planning Policy for the declared area that is expressed to be binding on the responsible public entity	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Snr Strategic Planner/Project Officer Strategic Planner	Where Council is a responsible public entity

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46AZK	Duty not to act inconsistently with any provision of the Statement of Planning Policy that is expressed to be binding on the public entity when performing a function or duty or exercising a power in relation to the declared area	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Statutory Planning. Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Snr Strategic Planner/Project Officer Strategic Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	Where Council is a responsible public entity
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GI(2)(b)(i)	Power to agree to a lower rate of standard levy for a class of development of a particular type of land than the rate specified in a Minister's direction	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	Where Council is the planning authority, the municipal Council of the municipal district in which the land is located and/or the development agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GJ(1)	Function of receiving written directions from the Minister in relation to the preparation and content of infrastructure contributions plans	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GK	Duty to comply with a Minister's direction that applies to Council as the planning authority	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Snr Strategic Planner/Project Officer Strategic Planner Development Contributions Accountant Senior Strategic Planner – Planning Delivery Growth Area Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GN(1)	Duty to arrange for estimates of values of inner public purpose land	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GO(1)	Duty to give notice to owners of certain inner public purpose land	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Snr Strategic Planner/Project Officer Strategic Planner Development Contributions Accountant Senior Strategic Planner – Planning Delivery Growth Area Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GP	Function of receiving a notice under s 46GO	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Snr Strategic Planner/Project Officer Strategic Planner Development Contributions Accountant Senior Strategic Planner – Planning Delivery Growth Area Officer	Where Council is the collecting agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GQ	Function of receiving a submission from an affected owner who objects to the estimated value per hectare (or other appropriate unit of measurement) of the inner public purpose land	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Snr Strategic Planner/Project Officer Strategic Planner Development Contributions Accountant Senior Strategic Planner – Planning Delivery Growth Area Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GR(1)	Duty to consider every submission that is made by the closing date for submissions included in the notice under s 46GO	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Snr Strategic Planner/Project Officer Strategic Planner Development Contributions Accountant Senior Strategic Planner – Planning Delivery Growth Area Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GR(2)	Power to consider a late submission duty to consider a late submission if directed to do so by the Minister	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Snr Strategic Planner/Project Officer Strategic Planner Development Contributions Accountant Senior Strategic Planner – Planning Delivery Growth Area Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GS(1)	Power to accept or reject the estimate of the value of the inner public purpose land in a submission made under s 46GQ	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GS(2)	Duty, if Council rejects the estimate of the value of the inner public purpose land in the submission, to refer the matter to the valuer-general, and notify the affected owner of the rejection and that the matter has been referred to the valuer-general	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GT(2)	Duty to pay half of the fee fixed by the valuer-general for arranging and attending the conference	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GT(4)	Function of receiving, from the valuer-general, written confirmation of the agreement between the planning authority's valuer and the affected owner's valuer as to the estimated value of the inner public purpose land	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GT(6)	Function of receiving, from the valuer-general, written notice of a determination under s 46GT(5)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GU	Duty not to adopt an amendment under s 29 to an infrastructure contributions plan that specifies a land credit amount or a land equalisation amount that relates to a parcel of land in the ICP plan area of the plan unless the criteria in s 46GU(1)(a) & (b) are met	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GV(3)	Function of receiving the monetary component and any land equalisation amount of the infrastructure contribution power to specify the manner in which the payment is to be made	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GV(3)(b)	Power to enter into an agreement with the applicant	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	Where Council is the collecting agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GV(4)(a)	Function of receiving the inner public purpose land in accordance with s 46GV(5) & (6)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Projects Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	Where Council is the development agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GV(4)(b)	Function of receiving the inner public purpose land in accordance with s 46GV(5) & (6)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	Where Council is the collecting agency

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GV(7)	Duty to impose the requirements set out in s 46GV(3) & (4) as conditions on the permit applied for by the applicant to develop the land in the ICP plan area	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Snr Strategic Planner/Project Officer Strategic Planner Development Contributions Accountant Senior Strategic Planner – Planning Delivery Growth Area Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GV(9)	Power to require the payment of a monetary component or the provision of the land component of an infrastructure contribution to be secured to Council's satisfaction	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GX(1)	Power to accept works, services or facilities in part or full satisfaction of the monetary component of an infrastructure contribution payable	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking	Where Council is the collecting agency

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GX(1)	Power to accept works, services or facilities in part or full satisfaction of the monetary component of an infrastructure contribution payable	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth	Where Council is the collecting agency Limited to instances where the value of works, services, land or facilities do not exceed value of levy payable
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GX(2)	Duty, before accepting the provision of works, services or facilities by an applicant under s 46GX(1), to obtain the agreement of the development agency or agencies specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GY(1)	Duty to keep proper and separate accounts and records	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Chief Financial Officer Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GY(2)	Duty to keep the accounts and records in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Chief Financial Officer Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZ(2)(a)	Duty to forward any part of the monetary component that is imposed for plan preparation costs to the planning authority that incurred those costs	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan this duty does not apply where Council is that planning authority
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZ(2)(a)	Function of receiving the monetary component	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where the Council is the planning authority this duty does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZ(2)(b)	Duty to forward any part of the monetary component that is imposed for the provision of works, services or facilities to the development agency that is specified in the plan as responsible for those works, services or facilities	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan this provision does not apply where Council is also the relevant development agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZ(2)(b)	Function of receiving the monetary component	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan this provision does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZ(4)	Duty to use any land equalisation amounts to pay land credit amounts under s 46GZ(7), except any part of those amounts that are to be forwarded to a development agency under s 46GZ(5)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZ(5)	Duty to forward any part of a land equalisation amount required for the acquisition of outer public purpose land by a development agency specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan to that development agency	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the relevant development agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZ(5)	Function of receiving any part of a land equalisation amount required for the acquisition of outer public purpose land	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the development agency specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZ(7)	Duty to pay to each person who must provide an infrastructure contribution under the approved infrastructure contributions plan any land credit amount to which the person is entitled under s 46GW	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZ(9)	Duty to transfer the estate in fee simple in the land to the development agency specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan as responsible for the use and development of that land	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	If any inner public purpose land is vested in Council under the Subdivision Act 1988 or acquired by Council before the time it is required to be provided to Council under s 46GV(4) Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the development agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZ(9)	Function of receiving the fee simple in the land	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZA(1)	Duty to keep proper and separate accounts and records	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Chief Financial Officer Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZA(2)	Duty to keep the accounts and records in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Chief Financial Officer Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZB(3)	Duty to follow the steps set out in s 46GZB(3)(a) - (c)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZB(4)	Duty, in accordance with requirements of the VPA, to report on the use of the infrastructure contribution in the development agency's annual report and provide reports on the use of the infrastructure contribution to the VPA	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	If the VPA is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZD(2)	Duty, within 6 months after the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires, to follow the steps set out in s 46GZD(2)(a) & (b)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZD(3)	Duty to follow the steps set out in s 46GZD(3)(a) & (b)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZD(5)	Duty to make payments under s 46GZD(3) in accordance with ss 46GZD(5)(a) and 46GZD(5)(b)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZE(2)	Duty to forward the land equalisation amount back to the collecting agency within 6 months after the expiry date if any part of a land equalisation amount paid or forwarded to a development agency for acquiring outer public purpose land has not been expended by the development agency to acquire that land at the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan this duty does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZE(2)	Function of receiving the unexpended land equalisation amount	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan this duty does not apply where Council is also the development agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZE(3)	Duty, within 12 months after the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires, to follow the steps set out in s 46GZE(3)(a) & (b)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZF(2)	Duty, within 12 months after the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires, to use the public purpose land for a public purpose approved by the Minister or sell the public purpose land	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZF(3)	Duty, if land is sold under s 46GZF(2)(b), to follow the steps in s 46GZF(3)(a) & (b)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZF(3)	Function of receiving proceeds of sale	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collection agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan this provision does not apply where Council is also the development agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZF(4)	Duty to divide the proceeds of the public purpose land among the current owners of each parcel of land in the ICP plan area and pay each current owner a portion of the proceeds in accordance with s 46GZF(5)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZF(6)	Duty to make the payments under s 46GZF(4) in accordance with s 46GZF(6)(a) & (b)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZH	Power to recover the monetary component, or any land equalisation amount of the land component, payable under Part 3AB as a debt in any court of competent jurisdiction	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZI	Duty to prepare and give a report to the Minister at the times required by the Minister	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is a collecting agency or development agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46GZK	Power to deal with public purpose land which has vested in, been acquired by, or transferred to, Council	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	Where Council is a collecting agency or development agency

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46LB(3)	Duty to publish, on Council's Internet site, the payable dwelling amount for a financial year on or before 1 July of each financial year for which the amount is adjusted under s 46LB (2)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Planning Delivery Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46N(1)	Duty to include condition in permit regarding payment of development infrastructure levy	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Planning Delivery Development Contributions Accountant **Senior Strategic Planner - Planning Delivery** Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46N(2)(c)	Function of determining time and manner for receipt of development contributions levy	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46N(2)(d)	Power to enter into an agreement with the applicant regarding payment of development infrastructure levy	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46O(1)(a) & (2)(a)	Power to ensure that community infrastructure levy is paid, or agreement is in place, prior to issuing building permits	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46O(1)(d) & (2)(d)	Power to enter into agreement with the applicant regarding payment of community infrastructure levy	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46P(1)	Power to require payment of amount of levy under s 46N or s 46O to be satisfactorily secured	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Planning Delivery Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46P(2)	Power to accept provision of land, works, services or facilities in part or full payment of levy payable	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth	Limited to instances where the value of works, services, land or facilities do not exceed value of levy payable
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46P(2)	Power to accept provision of land, works, services or facilities in part or full payment of levy payable	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46Q(1)	Duty to keep proper accounts of levies paid	Chief Executive Officer Chief Financial Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46Q(1A)	Duty to forward to development agency part of levy imposed for carrying out works, services, or facilities on behalf of development agency or plan preparation costs incurred by a development agency or plan preparation costs incurred by a development agency	Chief Executive Officer Chief Financial Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46Q(2)	Duty to apply levy only for a purpose relating to the provision of plan preparation costs or the works, services and facilities in respect of which the levy was paid etc.	Chief Executive Officer Chief Financial Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46Q(3)	Power to refund any amount of levy paid if it is satisfied the development is not to proceed	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth	Only applies when levy is paid to Council as a 'development agency'
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46Q(4)(c)	Duty to pay amount to current owners of land in the area if an amount of levy has been paid to a municipal council as a development agency for plan preparation costs incurred by the council or for the provision by the council of works, services or facilities in an area under s 46Q(4)(a)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Planning Development Contributions Accountant	Must be done within six months of the end of the period required by the development contributions plan and with the consent of, and in the manner approved by, the Minister

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46Q(4)(d)	Duty to submit to the Minister an amendment to the approved development contributions plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Development Contributions Accountant	Must be done in accordance with Part 3
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46Q(4)(e)	Duty to expend that amount on other works etc.	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Development Contributions Accountant	With the consent of, and in the manner approved by, the Minister
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46QC	Power to recover any amount of levy payable under Part 3B	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Planning Delivery Development Contributions Accountant	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46QD	Duty to prepare report and give a report to the Minister	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Planning Delivery Development Contributions Accountant	Where council is a collecting agency or development agency
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46V(3)	Duty to make a copy of the approved strategy plan (being the Melbourne Airport Environs Strategy Plan) and any documents lodged with it available in accordance with the public availability requirements, during the inspection period	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning ~~Coordinator Statutory Planning~~ ~~Statutory Planning Project Coordinator~~ Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery	N/A to Geelong

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46V(4)	Duty to make a copy of the approved strategy plan (being the Melbourne Airport Environs Strategy Plan) and any documents lodged with it available in accordance with s 197B of the Act and on payment of the prescribe fee, after the inspection period	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery	N/A to Geelong
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46V(5)	Duty to keep a copy of the approved strategy plan incorporating all amendments to it	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery	N/A to Geelong
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46V(6)	Duty to make a copy of the approved strategy plan incorporating all amendments to it available in accordance with the public available requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery	N/A to Geelong
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 46Y	Duty to carry out works in conformity with the approved strategy plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager Planning & Growth	N/A to Geelong

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 47	Power to decide that an application for a planning permit does not comply with that Act	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 49(1)	Duty to keep a register of all applications for permits and determinations relating to permits	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 49(2)	Duty to make register available for inspection in accordance with the public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 50(4)	Duty to amend application	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 50(5)	Power to refuse to amend application	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 50(6)	Duty to make note of amendment to application in register	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 50A(1)	Power to make amendment to application	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 50A(3)	Power to require applicant to notify owner and make a declaration that notice has been given	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 50A(4)	Duty to note amendment to application in register	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 51	Duty to make copy of application available for inspection in accordance with the public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 52(1)(a)	Duty to give notice of the application to owners/occupiers of adjoining allotments unless satisfied that the grant of permit would not cause material detriment to any person	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 52(1)(b)	Duty to give notice of the application to other municipal councils where appropriate	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 52(1)(c)	Duty to give notice of the application to all persons required by the planning scheme	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 52(1)(ca)	Duty to give notice of the application to owners and occupiers of land benefited by a registered restrictive covenant if may result in breach of covenant	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 52(1)(cb)	Duty to give notice of the application to owners and occupiers of land benefited by a registered restrictive covenant if application is to remove or vary the covenant	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 52(1)(d)	Duty to give notice of the application to other persons who may be detrimentally effected	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 52(1AA)	Duty to give notice of an application to remove or vary a registered restrictive covenant	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 52(3)	Power to give any further notice of an application where appropriate	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 53(1)	Power to require the applicant to give notice under s 52(1) to persons specified by it	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 53(1A)	Power to require the applicant to give the notice under s 52(1AA)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 54(1)	Power to require the applicant to provide more information	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 54(1A)	Duty to give notice in writing of information required under s 54(1)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 54(1B)	Duty to specify the lapse date for an application	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 54A(3)	Power to decide to extend time or refuse to extend time to give required information	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 54A(4)	Duty to give written notice of decision to extend or refuse to extend time under s 54A(3)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 55(1)	Duty to give copy application, together with the prescribed information, to every referral authority specified in the planning scheme	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 57(2A)	Power to reject objections considered made primarily for commercial advantage for the objector	Not Delegated	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 57(3)	Function of receiving name and address of persons to whom notice of decision is to go	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 57(5)	Duty to make a copy of all objections in accordance with the public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	S 57A(4)	Duty to amend application in accordance with applicant's request, subject to s 57A(5)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 57A(5)	Power to refuse to amend application	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 57A(6)	Duty to note amendments to application in register	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 57B(1)	Duty to determine whether and to whom notice should be given	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 57B(2)	Duty to consider certain matters in determining whether notice should be given	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner – Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 57C(1)	Duty to give copy of amended application to referral authority	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 58	Duty to consider every application for a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner – Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 58A	Power to request advice from the Planning Application Committee	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 60	Duty to consider certain matters	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner – Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 60(1A)	Duty to consider certain matters	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 60(1B)	Duty to consider number of objectors in considering whether use or development may have significant social effect	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 61(1)	Power to determine permit application, either to decide to grant a permit, to decide to grant a permit with conditions or to refuse a permit application	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	The permit must not be inconsistent with a cultural heritage management plan under the Aboriginal Heritage At 2006
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 61(2)	Duty to decide to refuse to grant a permit if a relevant determining referral authority objects to grant of permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 61(2A)	Power to decide to refuse to grant a permit if a relevant recommending referral authority objects to the grant of permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 61(3)(a)	Duty not to decide to grant a permit to use coastal Crown land without Minister's consent	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 61(3)(b)	Duty to refuse to grant the permit without the Minister's consent	Not Delegated	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 61(4)	Duty to refuse to grant the permit if grant would authorise a breach of a registered restrictive covenant	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 62(1)	Duty to include certain conditions in deciding to grant a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 62(2)	Power to include other conditions	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 62(4)	Duty to ensure conditions are consistent with paragraphs (a),(b) and (c)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 62(5)(a)	Power to include a permit condition to implement an approved development contributions plan or an approved infrastructure contributions plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 62(5)(b)	Power to include a permit condition that specified works be provided on or to the land or paid for in accordance with s 173 agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 62(5)(c)	Power to include a permit condition that specified works be provided or paid for by the applicant	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 62(6)(a)	Duty not to include a permit condition requiring a person to pay an amount for or provide works except in accordance with ss 46N(1), 46GV(7) or 62(5)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 62(6)(b)	Duty not to include a permit condition requiring a person to pay an amount for or provide works except a condition that a planning scheme requires to be included as referred to in s 62(1)(a)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 63	Duty to issue the permit where made a decision in favour of the application (if no one has objected)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 64(1)	Duty to give notice of decision to grant a permit to applicant and objectors	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	Subject to advising all Councillors prior to any delegated decision being made in respect of applications with ~~6~~ 10 or more objections with the right for any Councillor to refer an application to the Planning Committee in accordance with the Planning Committee terms of reference, *except where a proposal is deemed under the planning scheme to comply with the relevant clause(s) (including where deemed to have met all relevant objectives, by meeting all corresponding standards) and there are no overlays or other permit triggers applicable. If a proposal is deemed to comply, notification to Councillors is not required, and the application cannot be referred by Councillors to a Planning Committee.*

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 64(3)	Duty not to issue a permit until after the specified period	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit - see s 75
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 64(5)	Duty to give each objector a copy of an exempt decision	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 64A	Duty not to issue permit until the end of a period when an application for review may be lodged with VCAT or until VCAT has determined the application, if a relevant recommending referral authority has objected to the grant of a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit - see s 75A

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 65(1)	Duty to give notice of refusal to grant permit to applicant and person who objected under s 57	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	Subject to advising all Councillors prior to any delegated decision being made in respect of refusal of applications with the right for any Councillor to refer an application to the Planning Committee in accordance with the Planning Committee terms of reference*, except where a proposal is deemed under the planning scheme to comply with the relevant clause(s) (including where deemed to have met all relevant objectives, by meeting all corresponding standards) and there are no overlays or other permit triggers applicable. If a proposal is deemed to comply, notification to Councillors is not required, and the application cannot be referred by Councillors to a Planning Committee.*
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 66(1)	Duty to give notice under s 64 or s 65 and copy permit to relevant determining referral authorities	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 66(2)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to grant a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	If the recommending referral authority objected to the grant of the permit or the responsible authority decided not to include a condition on the permit recommended by the recommending referral authority
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 66(4)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to refuse a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	If the recommending referral authority objected to the grant of the permit or the recommending referral authority recommended that a permit condition be included on the permit

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 66(6)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority a copy of any permit which Council decides to grant and a copy of any notice given under s 64 or 65	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	If the recommending referral authority did not object to the grant of the permit or the recommending referral authority did not recommend a condition be included on the permit
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 69(1)	Function of receiving application for extension of time of permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 69(1A)	Function of receiving application for extension of time to complete development	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 69(2)	Power to extend time	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 70	Duty to make copy permit available in accordance with the public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 71(1)	Power to correct certain mistakes	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 71(2)	Duty to note corrections in register	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 73	Power to decide to grant amendment subject to conditions	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 74	Duty to issue amended permit to applicant if no objectors	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 76	Duty to give applicant and objectors notice of decision to refuse to grant amendment to permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 76A(1)	Duty to give relevant determining referral authorities copy of amended permit and copy of notice	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 76A(2)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to grant an amendment to a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	If the recommending referral authority objected to the amendment of the permit or the responsible authority decided not to include a condition on the amended permit recommended by the recommending referral authority
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 76A(4)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to refuse a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	If the recommending referral authority objected to the amendment of the permit or the recommending referral authority recommended that a permit condition be included on the amended permit

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 76A(6)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority a copy of any amended permit which Council decides to grant and a copy of any notice given under s 64 or 76	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	If the recommending referral authority did not object to the amendment of the permit or the recommending referral authority did not recommend a condition be included on the amended permit
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 76D	Duty to comply with direction of Minister to issue amended permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 83	Function of being respondent to an appeal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 83B	Duty to give or publish notice of application for review	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 84(1)	Power to decide on an application at any time after an appeal is lodged against failure to grant a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 84(2)	Duty not to issue a permit or notice of decision or refusal after an application is made for review of a failure to grant a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 84(3)	Duty to tell principal registrar if decide to grant a permit after an application is made for review of its failure to grant a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 84(6)	Duty to issue permit on receipt of advice within 3 business days	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 84AB	Power to agree to confining a review by the Tribunal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 86	Duty to issue a permit at order of Tribunal within 3 business days	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 87(3)	Power to apply to VCAT for the cancellation or amendment of a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer ~~Planning Investigations Officer~~ Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner ~~Town Planner~~ ~~Student Planner~~	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 90(1)	Function of being heard at hearing of request for cancellation or amendment of a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner ~~Town Planner~~ ~~Student Planner~~ Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer ~~Planning Investigations Officer~~	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 91(2)	Duty to comply with the directions of the VCAT	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 91(2A)	Duty to issue amended permit to owner if Tribunal so directs	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 92	Duty to give notice of cancellation/amendment of permit by VCAT to persons entitled to be heard under s 90	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 93(2)	Duty to give notice of VCAT order to stop development	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 95(3)	Function of referring certain applications to the Minister	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 95(4)	Duty to comply with an order or direction	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 96(1)	Duty to obtain a permit from the Minister to use and develop its land	Chief Executive Officer Executive Directors Manager Planning & Growth Chief Financial Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 96(2)	Function of giving consent to other persons to apply to the Minister for a permit to use and develop Council land	Chief Executive Officer Executive Directors Manager Planning & Growth Chief Financial Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 96A(2)	Power to agree to consider an application for permit concurrently with preparation of proposed amendment	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 96C	Power to give notice, to decide not to give notice, to publish notice and to exercise any other power under s 96C	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 96F	Duty to consider the panel's report under s 96E	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 96G(1)	Power to determine to recommend that a permit be granted or to refuse to recommend that a permit be granted and power to notify applicant of the determination (including power to give notice under s 23 of the Planning and Environment (Planning Schemes) Act 1996)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 96H(3)	Power to give notice in compliance with Minister's direction	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 96J	Duty to issue permit as directed by the Minister	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 96K	Duty to comply with direction of the Minister to give notice of refusal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 96Z	Duty to keep levy certificates given to it under ss 47 or 96A for no less than 5 years from receipt of the certificate		N/A Metropolitan Planning Levy
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 97C	Power to request Minister to decide the application	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 97D(1)	Duty to comply with directions of Minister to supply any document or assistance relating to application	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 97G(3)	Function of receiving from Minister copy of notice of refusal to grant permit or copy of any permit granted by the Minister	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 97G(6)	Duty to make a copy of permits issued under s 97F available in accordance with the public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 97L	Duty to include Ministerial decisions in a register kept under s 49	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 97MH	Duty to provide information or assistance to the Planning Application Committee	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 97MI	Duty to contribute to the costs of the Planning Application Committee or subcommittee	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 97O	Duty to consider application and issue or refuse to issue certificate of compliance	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 97P(3)	Duty to comply with directions of VCAT following an application for review of a failure or refusal to issue a certificate	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 97Q(2)	Function of being heard by VCAT at hearing of request for amendment or cancellation of certificate	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 97Q(4)	Duty to comply with directions of VCAT	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 97R	Duty to keep register of all applications for certificate of compliance and related decisions	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 98(1) & (2)	Function of receiving claim for compensation in certain circumstances	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 98(4)	Duty to inform any person of the name of the person from whom compensation can be claimed	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 101	Function of receiving claim for expenses in conjunction with claim	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 103	Power to reject a claim for compensation in certain circumstances	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 107(1)	Function of receiving claim for compensation	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 107(3)	Power to agree to extend time for making claim	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 113(2)	Power to request a declaration for land to be proposed to be reserved for public purposes	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 114(1)	Power to apply to the VCAT for an enforcement order	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 117(1)(a)	Function of making a submission to the VCAT where objections are received	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 120(1)	Power to apply for an interim enforcement order where s 114 application has been made	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 123(1)	Power to carry out work required by enforcement order and recover costs	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 123(2)	Power to sell buildings, materials, etc salvaged in carrying out work under s 123(1)	Chief Executive Officer Chief Financial Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development	Except Crown Land
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 125(1)	Power to apply to any court of competent jurisdiction or to the tribunal for an injunction restraining any person from contravening an enforcement order or an interim enforcement order.	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development	Section 123 of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998 applies on an application to the Tribunal.

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 129	Function of recovering penalties	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Chief Financial Officer Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planning Investigations Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 130(5)	Power to allow person served with an infringement notice further time	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Town Planner Student Planner Senior Statutory Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 148B	Power to apply to the Tribunal for a declaration.	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 149A(1)	Power to refer a matter to the VCAT for determination	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 149A(1A)	Power to apply to VCAT for the determination of a matter relating to the interpretation of a s 173 agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Planning Delivery Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Town Planner Student Planner Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 156	Duty to pay fees and allowances (including a payment to the Crown under s 156(2A)), and payment or reimbursement for reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the panel in carrying out its functions unless the Minister directs otherwise under s 156(2B) power to ask for contribution under s 156(3) power to abandon amendment or part of it under s 156(4)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 171(2)(f)	Power to carry out studies and commission reports	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Principal Planner Senior Statutory Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 171(2)(g)	Power to grant and reserve easements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Principal Planner Senior Statutory Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Town Planner Student Planner Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Principal Development Engineer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 172C	Power to compulsorily acquire any outer public purpose land that is specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Planning Delivery	Where Council is a development agency specified in an approved infrastructure contributions plan
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 172D(1)	Power to compulsorily acquire any inner public purpose land that is specified in the plan before the time that the land is required to be provided to Council under s 46GV(4)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery	Where Council is a collecting agency specified in an approved infrastructure contributions plan

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 172D(2)	Power to compulsorily acquire any inner public purpose land, the use and development of which is to be the responsibility of Council under the plan, before the time that the land is required to be provided under s 46GV(4)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Planning Delivery	Where Council is the development agency specified in an approved infrastructure contributions plan
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 173(1)	Power to enter into agreement covering matters set out in s 174	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	S 173(1A)	Power to enter into an agreement with an owner of land for the development or provision of land in relation to affordable housing	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	Where council is the relevant responsible authority

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987		Power to decide whether something is to the satisfaction of Council, where an agreement made under s 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 requires something to be to the satisfaction of Council or Responsible Authority	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Town Planner Student Planner Coordinator ~~Development Planning~~Infrastructure Development Principal Development Engineer Senior Development Engineer Development Engineer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987		Power to give consent on behalf of Council, where an agreement made under s 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 requires that something may not be done without the consent of Council or Responsible Authority	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Manager Urban Design and Place Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Implementation Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Town Planner Student Planner Coordinator ~~Development Planning~~Infrastructure Development Principal Development Engineer Senior Development Engineer Development Engineer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 177(2)	Power to end a s 173 agreement with the agreement of all those bound by any covenant in the agreement or otherwise in accordance with Division 2 of Part 9	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Planning Delivery	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178	Power to amend a s 173 agreement with the agreement of all those bound by any covenant in the agreement or otherwise in accordance with Division 2 of Part 9	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178A(1)	Function of receiving application to amend or end an agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development ~~Manager Planning & Growth~~ ~~Coordinator Strategic Implementation~~ Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178A(3)	Function of notifying the owner as to whether it agrees in principle to the proposal under s 178A(1)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178A(4)	Function of notifying the applicant and the owner as to whether it agrees in principle to the proposal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178A(5)	Power to propose to amend or end an agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178B(1)	Duty to consider certain matters when considering proposal to amend an agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development ~~Manager Planning & Growth~~ ~~Coordinator Strategic Implementation~~ Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178B(2)	Duty to consider certain matters when considering proposal to end an agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development ~~Manager Planning & Growth~~ ~~Coordinator Strategic Implementation~~ Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178C(2)	Duty to give notice of the proposal to all parties to the agreement and other persons who may be detrimentally affected by decision to amend or end	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development ~~Manager Planning & Growth~~ ~~Coordinator Strategic Implementation~~ Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178C(4)	Function of determining how to give notice under s 178C(2)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development ~~Manager Planning & Growth~~ ~~Coordinator Strategic Implementation~~ Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178E(1)	Duty not to make decision until after 14 days after notice has been given	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development ~~Manager Planning & Growth~~ ~~Coordinator Strategic Implementation~~ Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178E(2)(a)	Power to amend or end the agreement in accordance with the proposal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	If no objections are made under s 178D Must consider matters in s 178B
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178E(2)(b)	Power to amend or end the agreement in a manner that is not substantively different from the proposal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	If no objections are made under s 178D Must consider matters in s 178B
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178E(2)(c)	Power to refuse to amend or end the agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	If no objections are made under s 178D Must consider matters in s 178B
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178E(3)(a)	Power to amend or end the agreement in accordance with the proposal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s 178B
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178E(3)(b)	Power to amend or end the agreement in a manner that is not substantively different from the proposal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s 178B
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178E(3)(c)	Power to amend or end the agreement in a manner that is substantively different from the proposal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s 178B
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178E(3)(d)	Power to refuse to amend or end the agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s 178B

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178F(1)	Duty to give notice of its decision under s 178E(3)(a) or (b)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development ~~Coordinator Strategic Implementation~~ Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178F(2)	Duty to give notice of its decision under s1 78E(2)(c) or (3)(d)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development ~~Coordinator Strategic Implementation~~ Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178F(4)	Duty not to proceed to amend or end an agreement under s 178E until at least 21 days after notice has been given or until an application for review to the Tribunal has been determined or withdrawn	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development ~~Coordinator Strategic Implementation~~ Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner- Business Facilitation Principal Planner Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178G	Duty to sign amended agreement and give copy to each other party to the agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178H	Power to require a person who applies to amend or end an agreement to pay the costs of giving notices and preparing the amended agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development ~~Coordinator Strategic Implementation~~ Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 178I(3)	Duty to notify, in writing, each party to the agreement of the ending of the agreement relating to Crown land	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development ~~Coordinator Strategic Implementation~~ Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 179(2)	Duty to make copy of each agreement available in accordance with the public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 181	Duty to apply to the Registrar of Titles to record the agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 181(1A)(a)	Power to apply to the Registrar of Titles to record the agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 181(1A)(b)	Duty to apply to the Registrar of Titles, without delay, to record the agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 182	Power to enforce an agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Statutory Planner Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 183	Duty to tell Registrar of Titles of ending/amendment of agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 184F(1)	Power to decide to amend or end an agreement at any time after an application for review of the failure of Council to make a decision	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 184F(2)	Duty not to amend or end the agreement or give notice of the decision after an application is made to VCAT for review of a failure to amend or end an agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 184F(3)	Duty to inform the principal registrar if the responsible authority decides to amend or end an agreement after an application is made for the review of its failure to end or amend the agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 184F(5)	Function of receiving advice from the principal registrar that the agreement may be amended or ended in accordance with Council's decision	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 184G(2)	Duty to comply with a direction of the Tribunal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Principal Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 184G(3)	Duty to give notice as directed by the Tribunal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 185B(1)	Duty to comply with a request from the Minister to provide the name, address, email address or telephone number of any person to whom the Minister is required to give notice	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 198(1)	Function to receive application for planning certificate	Not applicable	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 199(1)	Duty to give planning certificate to applicant	Not applicable	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 201(1)	Function of receiving application for declaration of underlying zoning	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Projects Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner ~~Team Leader Statutory Planning~~ ~~Principal Planner~~ ~~Senior Statutory Planner~~ ~~Town Planner~~ ~~Student Planner~~	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 201(3)	Duty to make declaration	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Projects Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Senior Strategic Planner Strategic Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987		Power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, that a specified thing has or has not been done to the satisfaction of Council	Chief Executive Officer Executive Directors Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Manager Urban Design and Place Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator ~~Development Planning~~Infrastructure Development Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Development Engineer Senior Development Engineer Technical Officer (Engineering) Business Support Officer Senior WSUD Development Engineer Senior Traffic Development Engineer ~~Traffic~~ Traffic Development Engineer Principal Stormwater Planning Officer Development Engineer Coordinator Open Space Planning Senior Open Space Planner Open Space Planner Senior Parks Planning Arborist Parks Planning ~~Officer~~Arborist Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Town Planner Student Planner Environmental Planning Team Leader Senior Environmental Planning Officer Environmental Planning Officer Senior Sustainable Development Officer Senior ESD Planning Officer ESD Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	-	Power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit that a specified thing may be altered or modified with Council's consent	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	-	Power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, that a specified thing may be done subject to Council's prior consent or must not be done without Council's prior consent	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Infrastructure Development Principal Development Engineer Senior Development Engineer Technical Officer (Engineering) Business Support Officer Senior WSUD Development Engineer Senior Traffic Development Engineer Traffic Development Engineer Principal Stormwater Planning Officer Development Engineer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	-	Power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, that a specified thing is required to be approved and or endorsed by Council	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987		Power, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, to consent or refuse to consent to any matter which requires the consent or approval of Council	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Manager Urban Design and Place Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Strategic Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Principal Planning Investigations Officer Planning Investigations Officer Senior Planning Investigations Officer Town Planner Student Planner	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987		Power to approve and endorse any plan or any amendment to a plan or other document in accordance with a provision of a planning scheme or condition in a permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Directors Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Manager Urban Design and Place Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator ~~Development Planning~~Infrastructure Development Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~ Principal Development Engineer Senior Development Engineer Development Engineer Technical Officer (Engineering) Business Support Officer Senior WSUD Development Engineer Senior Traffic Development Engineer ~~Traffic~~ Traffic Development Engineer Principal Stormwater Planning Officer Coordinator Open Space Planning Senior Open Space Planner Open Space Planner Senior Parks Planning Arborist Parks Planning ~~Officer~~Arborist Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer Town Planner Student Planner Environmental Planning Team Leader Senior Environmental Planning Officer Environmental Planning Officer	

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987		Power to give written authorisation in accordance with a provision of a planning scheme	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Manager Urban Design and Place Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 201UAB(1)	Function of providing the Victoria Planning Authority with information relating to any land within municipal district	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner- Business Facilitation Principal Planner Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	s 201UAB(2)	Duty to provide the Victoria Planning Authority with information requested under s 201UAB(1) as soon as possible	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Senior Planning Subdivision Officer Subdivision Officer	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987	-----	Power to determine whether or not a document or series of documents constitute a Development Plan for the purposes of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme is to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987		Exercise all the powers, duties and functions of a referral authority under the Planning and Environment Act	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT (FEES) REGULATIONS 2016

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT (FEES) REGULATIONS 2016	r 19	Power to waive or rebate a fee relating to an amendment of a planning scheme	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT (FEES) REGULATIONS 2016	r 20	Power to waive or rebate a fee other than a fee relating to an amendment to a planning scheme	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development ~~Coordinator Strategic Implementation~~Coordinator Statutory Planning	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT (FEES) REGULATIONS 2016	r 21	Duty to record matters taken into account and which formed the basis of a decision to waive or rebate a fee under r 19 or 20	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Statutory Planning	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT REGULATIONS 2015

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT REGULATIONS 2015	r 6	Function of receiving notice, under s 19(1)(c) of the Act, from a planning authority of its preparation of an amendment to a planning scheme	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Planning Delivery	Where Council is not the planning authority and the amendment affects land within Council's municipal district; or where the amendment will amend the planning scheme to designate Council as an acquiring authority
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT REGULATIONS 2015	r 21	Power of responsible authority to require a permit applicant to verify information (by statutory declaration or other written confirmation satisfactory to the responsible authority) in an application for a permit or to amend a permit or any information provided under s 54 of the Act	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT REGULATIONS 2015	r 25(a)	Duty to make copy of matter considered under s 60(1A)(g) in accordance with the public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner	Where Council is the responsible authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT REGULATIONS 2015	r 25(b)	Function of receiving a copy of any document considered under s 60(1A)(g) by the responsible authority and duty to make the document available in accordance with the public availability requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Project Coordinator Coordinator Strategic Implementation Team Leader Statutory Planning Principal Planner Principal Planner - Business Facilitation Senior Statutory Planner Town Planner Student Planner Team Leader Statutory Planning Administration Senior Technical Officer Administration/Technical Officer	Where Council is not the responsible authority but the relevant land is within Council's municipal district
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT REGULATIONS 2015	r 42	Function of receiving notice under s 96C(1)(c) of the Act from a planning authority of its preparation of a combined application for an amendment to a planning scheme and notice of a permit application	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Manager Planning & Growth Coordinator Strategic Implementation Coordinator Strategic Planning Coordinator Planning Delivery Coordinator Statutory Planning Statutory Planning Projects Coordinator	Where Council is not the planning authority and the amendment affects land within Council's municipal district; or where the amendment will amend the planning scheme to designate Council as an acquiring authority.

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT 1997

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT 1997	s 518F	Power to issue notice to caravan park regarding emergency management plan if determined that the plan does not comply with the requirements	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT 1997	s 522(1)	Power to give a compliance notice to a person	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT 1997	S 525(2)	Power to authorise an officer to exercise powers in s 526 (either generally or in a particular case)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT 1997	s 525(4)	Duty to issue identity card to authorised officers	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT 1997	s 526(5)	Duty to keep record of entry by authorised officer under s 526	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT 1997	s 526A(3)	Function of receiving report of inspection	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Manager City Development Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~ Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration / Technical Officer Assistant Building Surveyor	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT 1997	s 527	Power to authorise a person to institute proceedings (either generally or in a particular case)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Executive Director City Life Manager City Development Manager Community Safety & Regulation Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Municipal Building Surveyor	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 7	Power to enter into a written agreement with a caravan park owner	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 10	Function of receiving application for registration	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 11	Function of receiving application for renewal of registration	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 12(1)	Duty to grant the registration if satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ ~~–~~Building Surveyor	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 12(1)	Power to refuse to ~~renew~~ grant the registration if not satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 12(2)	Duty to renew the registration if satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 12(2)	Power to refuse to renew the registration if not satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ –Building Surveyor	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 12(3)	Duty to have regard to matters in determining an application for registration or an application for renewal of registration	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 12(4) & (5)	Duty to issue certificate of registration	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 14(1)	Function of receiving notice of transfer of ownership	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 14(3)	Power to determine where notice of transfer is displayed	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 15(1)	Duty to transfer registration to new caravan park owner	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 15(2)	Duty to issue a certificate of transfer of registration	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 15(3)	Power to determine where certificate of transfer of registration is displayed	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 16(1)	Power to determine the fee to accompany applications for registration or applications for renewal of registration	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 17	Duty to keep register of caravan parks	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 21(1)	Duty to notify a caravan park owner of the relevant emergency services agencies for the caravan park, on the request of the caravan park owner	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 21(2)	Duty to consult with relevant emergency services agencies	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 22	Power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display a copy of emergency procedures	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 23	Power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display copy of public emergency warnings	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services (Municipal Building Surveyor) Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 20242020	r 24(2)	Power to consult with relevant floodplain management authority	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 26(b)(i)	Power to approve system for the discharge of sewage and wastewater from a movable dwelling	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 38	Function of receiving notice of proposed installation of unregistrable movable dwelling or rigid annexe	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor ~~Technical Officer~~ Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 38(b)	Power to require notice of proposal to install unregistrable movable dwelling or rigid annexe	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 39(3)	Function of receiving installation certificate	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Team Leader Building Services Administration Administration/Technical Officer Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 45(3)	Power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display name and telephone number of an emergency contact person	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services ~~(Municipal Building Surveyor)~~ Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024	r 45(5)	Power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display the certificate of registration or certificate of renewal of registration, the plan of the caravan park and a copy of the caravan park rules	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services ~~(Municipal Building Surveyor)~~ Coordinator Building Services Support Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor Building Inspector Building Investigations Officer Assistant Building Surveyor Cadet Building Surveyor ~~Building Compliance Inspector~~	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2020	r 43	Power to approve use of a non-habitable structure as a dwelling or part of a dwelling	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services~~ Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance Building Surveyor	
RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2020	Schedule 3 clause 4(3)	Power to approve the removal of wheels and axles from unregistrable movable dwelling	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Placemaking Municipal Building Surveyor Coordinator Building Services Municipal Building Surveyor Senior Building Surveyor – Team Leader ~~Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor - Governance~~ Building Surveyor	

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 11(1)	Power to declare a road by publishing a notice in the Government Gazette	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Executive Director Corporate Services Chief Financial Officer Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Revenue Property & Valuations	Obtain consent in circumstances specified in s 11(2)
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 11(8)	Power to name a road or change the name of a road by publishing notice in Government Gazette	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Executive Corporate Services Chief Financial Officer Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Revenue Property & Valuations	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 11(9)(b)	Duty to advise Registrar	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Executive Director Corporate Services Chief Financial Officer Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Revenue Property & Valuations	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 11(10)	Duty to inform Secretary to Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning of declaration etc.	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Executive Director Corporate Services Chief Financial Officer Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Revenue Property & Valuations	Clause subject to s 11(10A)
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 11(10A)	Duty to inform Secretary to Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning or nominated person	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 12(2)(b)	Function of providing consent to the Head, Transport for Victoria for the discontinuance of a road or part of a road	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 12(10)	Duty to notify of decision made	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Executive Director Corporate Services Chief Financial Officer Manager Civil Infrastructure	Duty of coordinating road authority where it is the discontinuing body does not apply where an exemption is specified by the regulations or given by the Minister
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 13(1)	Power to fix a boundary of a road by publishing notice in Government Gazette	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Power of coordinating road authority and obtain consent under s 13(3) &s 13(4) as appropriate
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 14(4)	Function of receiving notice from the Head, Transport for Victoria	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 14(7)	Power to appeal against decision of the Head, Transport for Victoria	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 15(1)	Power to enter into arrangement with another road authority, utility or a provider of public transport to transfer a road management function of the road authority to the other road authority, utility or provider of public transport	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Design & Services ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Program Delivery	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 15(1A)	Power to enter into arrangement with a utility to transfer a road management function of the utility to the road authority	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Design & Services ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Program Delivery	Not applicable

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 15(2)	Duty to include details of arrangement in public roads register	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport Coordinator Program Delivery	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 16(7)	Power to enter into an arrangement under s 15	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 16(8)	Duty to enter details of determination in public roads register	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 17(2)	Duty to register public road in public roads register	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 17(3)	Power to decide that a road is reasonably required for general public use	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 17(3)	Duty to register a road reasonably required for general public use in public roads register	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the coordinating road authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 17(4)	Power to decide that a road is no longer reasonably required for general public use	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Transport	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 17(4)	Duty to remove road no longer reasonably required for general public use from public roads register	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Transport	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 18(1)	Power to designate ancillary area	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Where council is the coordinating road authority, and obtain consent in circumstances specified in s 18(2)
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 18(3)	Duty to record designation in public roads register	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 19(1)	Duty to keep register of public roads in respect of which it is the coordinating road authority	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 19(4)	Duty to specify details of discontinuance in public roads register	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 19(5)	Duty to ensure public roads register is available for public inspection	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 21	Function of replying to request for information or advice	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works Manager Major Projects Coordinator Design & Services ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport Coordinator Program Delivery	Obtain consent in circumstances specified in s 11(2)
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 22(2)	Function of commenting on proposed direction	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Design & Services ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Program Delivery Coordinator Transport ~~Coordinator Program Delivery~~	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 22(4)	Duty to publish a copy or summary of any direction made under s 22 by the Minister in its annual report	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 22(5)	Duty to give effect to a direction under this section	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 40(1)	Duty to inspect, maintain and repair a public road	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works Coordinator Maintenance City Works Coordinator Construction City Works Manager Major Projects Coordinator Design & Services ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Program Delivery Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 40(5)	Power to inspect, maintain and repair a road which is not a public road	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Major Projects Coordinator Design & Services ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Program Delivery Coordinator Transport	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 41(1)	Power to determine the standard of construction, inspection, maintenance and repair	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Major Projects Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 42(1)	Power to declare a public road as a controlled access road	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Program Delivery	Power of coordinating road authority and Schedule 2 also applies
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 42(2)	Power to amend or revoke declaration by notice published in Government Gazette	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Power of coordinating road authority and Schedule 2 also applies
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 42A(3)	Duty to consult with Head, Transport for Victoria and Minister for Local Government before road is specified	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the coordinating road authority if road is a municipal road or part thereof
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 42A(4)	Power to approve Minister's decision to specify a road as a specified freight road	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the coordinating road authority if road is a municipal road or part thereof and where road is to be specified a freight road
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 48EA	Duty to notify the owner or occupier of land and provider of public transport on which rail infrastructure or rolling stock is located (and any relevant provider of public transport)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Major Projects	Where Council is the responsible road authority, infrastructure manager or works manager
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 48M(3)	Function of consulting with the relevant authority for purposes of developing guidelines under s 48M	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 49	Power to develop and publish a road management plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 51	Power to determine standards by incorporating the standards in a road management plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 53(2)	Power to cause notice to be published in Government Gazette of amendment etc of document in road management plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Transport ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 54(2)	Duty to give notice of proposal to make a road management plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 54(5)	Duty to conduct a review of road management plan at prescribed intervals	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 54(6)	Power to amend road management plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	Not applicable

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 54(7)	Duty to incorporate the amendments into the road management plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 55(1)	Duty to cause notice of road management plan to be published in Government Gazette and newspaper	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 63(1)	Power to consent to conduct of works on road	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 63(2)(e)	Power to conduct or to authorise the conduct of works in, on, under or over a road in an emergency	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works	Where council is the infrastructure manager
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 64(1)	Duty to comply with clause 13 of Schedule 7	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Major Projects Manager City Works	Where council is the infrastructure manager or works manager

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 66(1)	Power to consent to structure etc	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Major Projects ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Amenity Protection Permits and Review Services Coordinator Parking & Animal Management Services ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Team Leader Amenity Protection & Review Services Prosecutions and Local Laws Technical Officer Health & Amenity Officer Team Leader Parking & Information Services Parking Information Services Officer Team Leader Animal & Information Services Parking & Information Services Lead Officer Lead Animal & Information Services Officer Animal Management Officer Project Support & Engagement Officer Principal Infrastructure Engineer	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 67(2)	Function of receiving the name & address of the person responsible for distributing the sign or bill	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Major Projects ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development	Where council is the coordinating road authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 67(3)	Power to request information	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Executive Director City Life Manager Community Safety & Regulation Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Major Projects ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Design & Services Coordinator Amenity Protection Permits and Review Services Coordinator Parking & Animal Management Services ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport Team Leader Amenity Protection & Review Services Prosecutions & Local Laws Technical Officer Team Leader Parking & Information Services Health & Amenity Officer Parking Information Services Officer Parking & Information Services Lead Officer Team Leader Animal & Information Services Lead Animal & Information Services Officer Animal Management Officer Project Support & Engagement Officer Principal Infrastructure Engineer	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 68(2)	Power to request information	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Major Projects ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Design & Services Coordinator Transport ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Program Delivery Principal Infrastructure Engineer	Where council is the coordinating road authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 71(3)	Power to appoint an authorised officer	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Executive Director City Life Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Community Safety & Regulation	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 72	Duty to issue an identity card to each authorised officer	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Community Safety & Regulation Technical Officer Security	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 85	Function of receiving report from authorised officer	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Community Safety & Regulation Manager City Works	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 86	Duty to keep register re s 85 matters	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Life Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 87(1)	Function of receiving complaints	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Executive Director City Life Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works Manager Community Safety & Regulation	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 87(2)	Duty to investigate complaint and provide report	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Executive Director City Life Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Community Safety & Regulation ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 96	Power to authorise a person for the purpose of instituting legal proceedings	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Executive Director City Life Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Major Projects Manager Community Safety & Regulation	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 112(2)	Power to recover damages in court	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Executive Director City Life Executive Director Corporate Services Chief ~~Legal Counsel~~Compliance & Integrity Officer Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Major Projects	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 116	Power to cause or carry out inspection	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Community Safety & Regulation Manager City Works Coordinator Transport ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Principal Asset Management Engineer Principal Infrastructure Engineer	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 119(2)	Function of consulting with the Head, Transport for Victoria	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 120(1)	Power to exercise road management functions on an arterial road (with the consent of The Head, Transport for Victoria)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 120(2)	Duty to seek consent of VicRoads to exercise road management functions before exercising power in s 120(1)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Coordinator Design & Services ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport Coordinator Program Delivery	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 121(1)	Power to enter into an agreement in respect of works	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Major Projects ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Program Delivery Coordinator Design & Services ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 122(1)	Power to charge and recover fees	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	s 123(1)	Power to charge for any service	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 2 Clause 2(1)	Power to make a decision in respect of controlled access roads	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Not applicable
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 2 Clause 3(1)	Duty to make policy about controlled access roads	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 2 Clause 3(2)	Power to amend, revoke or substitute policy about controlled access roads	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Not applicable

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 2 Clause 4	Function of receiving details of proposal from the Head, Transport for Victoria	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 2 Clause 5	Duty to publish notice of declaration	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7, Clause 7(1)	Duty to give notice to relevant coordinating road authority of proposed installation of non-road infrastructure or related works on a road reserve	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the infrastructure manager or works manager
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7, Clause 8(1)	Duty to give notice to any other infrastructure manager or works manager responsible for any non-road infrastructure in the area, that could be affected by any proposed installation of infrastructure or related works on a road or road reserve of any road	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works Manager Major Projects	Where council is the infrastructure manager or works manager
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7, Clause 9(1)	Duty to comply with request for information from a coordinating road authority, an infrastructure manager or a works manager responsible for existing or proposed infrastructure in relation to the location of any non-road infrastructure and technical advice or assistance in conduct of works	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works	Where council is the infrastructure manager or works manager responsible for non-road infrastructure

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7, Clause 9(2)	Duty to give information to another infrastructure manager or works manager where becomes aware any infrastructure or works are not in the location shown on records, appear to be in an unsafe condition or appear to need maintenance	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works Manager Major Projects	Where council is the infrastructure manager or works manager
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7, Clause 10(2)	Where Schedule 7 Clause 10(1) applies, duty to, where possible, conduct appropriate consultation with persons likely to be significantly affected	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager Major Projects	Where council is the infrastructure manager or works manager
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 12(2)	Power to direct infrastructure manager or works manager to conduct reinstatement works	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 12(3)	Power to take measures to ensure reinstatement works are completed	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 12(4)	Duty to ensure that works are conducted by an appropriately qualified person	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 12(5)	Power to recover costs	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 13(1)	duty to notify relevant coordinating road authority within 7 days that works have been completed, subject to Schedule 7, Clause 13(2)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works	Where council is the works manager

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 13(2)	power to vary notice period	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 13(3)	Duty to ensure works manager has complied with obligation to give notice under Schedule 7 Clause 13(1)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the infrastructure manager
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 16(1)	Power to consent to proposed works	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 16(4)	Duty to consult	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development	Where council is the coordinating road authority, responsible authority or infrastructure manager
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 16(5)	Power to consent to proposed works	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Principal Infrastructure Engineer	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 16(6)	Power to set reasonable conditions on consent	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Principal Infrastructure Engineer	Where council is the coordinating road authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 16(8)	Power to include consents and conditions	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Principal Infrastructure Engineer	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 17(2)	Power to refuse to give consent and duty to give reasons for refusal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 18(1)	Power to enter into an agreement	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works Manager Major Projects ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 19(1)	Power to give notice requiring rectification of works	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Program Delivery ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Where council is the coordinating road authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 19(2) & (3)	Power to conduct the rectification works or engage a person to conduct the rectification works and power to recover costs incurred	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Program Delivery ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7 Clause 20(1)	Power to require removal, relocation, replacement or upgrade of existing non-road infrastructure	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Program Delivery Coordinator Design & Services ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7A Clause 2	Power to cause street lights to be installed on roads	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Power of responsible road authority where it is the coordinating road authority or responsible road authority in respect of the road
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7A Clause 3(1)(d)	Duty to pay installation and operation costs of street lighting - where road is not an arterial road	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works	Where council is the responsible road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7A Clause 3(1)(e)	Duty to pay installation and operation costs of street lighting ,¬ where road is a service road on an arterial road and adjacent areas	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works	Where council is the responsible road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004	Schedule 7A Clause 3(1)(f)	Duty to pay installation and percentage of operation costs of street lighting ¬ for arterial roads in accordance with clauses 3(2) and 4	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works	Duty of council as responsible road authority that installed the light (re: installation costs) and where council is relevant municipal council (re: operating costs)

ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 8(1)	Duty to conduct reviews of road management plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Program Delivery Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 9(2)	Duty to produce written report of review of road management plan and make report available	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Program Delivery Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 9(3)	Duty to give notice where road management review is completed and no amendments will be made (or no amendments for which notice is required)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 10	Duty to give notice of amendment which relates to standard of construction, inspection, maintenance or repair under s 41 of the Act	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 13(1)	Duty to publish notice of amendments to road management plan	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 13(3)	Duty to record on road management plan the substance and date of effect of amendment	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Coordinator Transport	

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 16(3)	Power to issue permit	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Principal Infrastructure Engineer	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 18(1)	Power to give written consent re damage to road	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning Principal Infrastructure Engineer	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 23(2)	Power to make submission to Tribunal	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 23(4)	Power to charge a fee for application under s 66(1) Road Management Act	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 25(1)	Power to remove objects, refuse, rubbish or other material deposited or left on road	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure ~~Coordinator Development Planning~~Coordinator Infrastructure Development Coordinator Program Delivery ~~Coordinator Infrastructure Planning~~Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Planning	Where council is the coordinating road authority
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 25(2)	Power to sell or dispose of things removed from road or part of road (after first complying with r 25(3)	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Manager City Works	Where council is the coordinating road authority

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016	r 25(5)	Power to recover in the Magistrates' Court, expenses from person responsible	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure Executive Director City Life Chief ~~Legal Counsel Officer~~Compliance & Integrity Officer	

ROAD MANAGEMENT (WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE) REGULATIONS 2015

Column 1		Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Statute or Source	**Provision**	**Matter delegated**	**Delegate by Position**	**Conditions and Limitations**
ROAD MANAGEMENT (WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE) REGULATIONS 2015	r 15	Power to exempt a person from requirement under clause 13(1) of Schedule 7 of the Act to give notice as to the completion of those works	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the coordinating road authority and where consent given under s 63(1) of the Act
ROAD MANAGEMENT (WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE) REGULATIONS 2015	r 22(2)	Power to waive whole or part of fee in certain circumstances	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director City Infrastructure Manager Civil Infrastructure	Where council is the coordinating road authority

3. RECORD OF INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

Source: **Corporate Services**
Executive Director: **Troy Edwards**

Summary

1. The Governance Rules of the City of Greater Geelong require the tabling of records of informal meetings of Councillors at the next convenient Council meeting and that their record be included in the minutes of that Council meeting.

2. A summary of the informal meetings of Councillors is attached.

Recommendation

That Council receive the summary of the informal meetings of Councillors for the period to 25 November 2025.

INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS
(Council Meeting 25 November 2025)

Informal Meeting Details	Councillor Attendance/Apology	Officer Attendance	Agenda Items	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
Meeting with Borough of Queenscliff **16 October 2025**	Cr S Kontelj Cr R Story	T Bradley (EXEC DIR)	• Proposed Planning Scheme Amendment to rezone land at 2341-2349 Bellarine Highway, Point Lonsdale	• Nil
Additional Briefing **29 October 2025**	Cr A Aitken Cr A Katos Cr E Kontelj *Apology:* *Cr E Sinclair*	A Basford (EXEC DIR) A Higgs (MGR) R Clarke (CO ORD) D Heyward (SNR OFF)	• Coastside Drive Master Plan	• Nil

Informal Meeting Details	Councillor Attendance/Apology	Officer Attendance	Agenda Items	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
Additional Briefing **30 October 2025**	Cr E Wilkinson Cr E Sinclair	J Stirton (EXEC DIR) A Bedggood (MGR)	• RRON (Regional Renewable Organic Network)	• Nil
Additional Briefing **3 November 2025**	Cr S Kontelj	T Bradley (EXEC DIR) J Randles (MGR) K Shearer (CO ORD)	• Early Years Pipeline	• Nil
Sports & **Recreation** Portfolio Meeting **5 November 2025**	Cr A Aitken Cr E Kontelj	A Basford (EXEC DIR) A Higgs (MGR) A Locke (MGR) S Cloverdale (SNR OFF) D Bushall (A/CO ORD)	• Priority of Use Policy for New Sports Centers • Myers Reserve Master Plan and Stakeholder Representation • Football Victoria Regional Soccer Review Facility Project • Community Participation Project Updates and Reporting • Queens Park and Balyang Tender Processes • Community Infrastructure Grant Application for Fly Fishing Group • Upcoming Council Reports and Project Runway	• Nil

Informal Meeting Details	Councillor Attendance/Apology	Officer Attendance	Agenda Items	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
Strategic Session **4 November 2025**	Cr S Kontelj Cr R Nelson Cr T Sullivan Cr M Cadwell Cr E Kontelj Cr A Aitken Cr E Wilkinson Cr C Burson Cr R Story Cr A Katos *Apology:* *Cr E Sinclair (LOA)*	A Wastie (CEO) V Allen (A/EXEC DIR) A Basford (EXEC DIR) T Bradley (EXEC DIR) J Stirton (EXEC DIR) A Martin (CHIEF) E Ryan (SNR OFF) K Shearer (COORD) J Randles (MGR) J Brooks (A/MGR) A Gaskill (COORD) J Thomas (A/MGR) J Spittle (A/MGR) L Manley (SNR OFF) B Sanders (MGR)	**Presentations:** • Early Years Infrastructure Planning • Emergency Management & Fire Prevention • Plan for Nature • City Hall Activation (*External Presenters*)	• Nil
Councillor Briefing **11 November 2025**	Cr S Kontelj Cr R Nelson Cr T Sullivan Cr M Cadwell Cr E Kontelj Cr A Aitken Cr E Wilkinson Cr C Burson Cr R Story Cr A Katos *Apology:* *Cr E Sinclair (LOA)*	A Wastie (CEO) T Edwards (EXEC DIR) A Basford (EXEC DIR) T Bradley (EXEC DIR) A Martin (CHIEF) A Higgs (MGR) Z Sells (COORD) F Bilitho (MGR) J Van Slageren (MGR) T Webb (SNR OFF) J Thomas (A/MGR) M McKay (MGR) J Barrand (COORD) J Douglas (MGR) D Pangrazio (OFFICER)	**Presentations:** • Fair Play Policy • Domestic Animal Management Plan • Heritage Design Guidelines **Reports**: • Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP • Endorsement of Names – Biyala Community Hub and Yirrama Community Hub • Introduction of Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines 2025 into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme • Geelong Major Events Annua Report 2024-2025 • Fair Play Policy • Draft Community Engagement Policy • Coastside Drive Recreation Reserve Master Plan • Council Meeting Schedule of Dates 2026 • Financial Performance Report for the Year to Date Ended 30 September	• Cr A Katos declared a conflict of interest in relation to *Amendment C433ggee – Pakington Street Urban Design Frameworks – Consideration of Submissions* and left the room for the discussion of this item. • Cr E Kontelj declared a conflict of interest in relation to *T2500064 – Plant Hire Services*. However, no discussion of this item took place.

Informal Meeting Details	Councillor Attendance/Apology	Officer Attendance	Agenda Items	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
			2025 • Proposed Road Discontinuance and Transfer of Land – Part Purrumbete Avenue, Manifold Heights • Amendment C472ggee – Leopold Sub Regional Activity Centre Expansion – 92-100 Melaluka Road, Leopold • Amendment C433ggee – Pakington Street Urban Design Frameworks – Consideration of Submissions • T2500064 – Plant Hire Services • Review of Instrument of Delegation – Council to Members of Staff • CEO Employment and Remuneration Matter (Confidential) • Appointment of an Independent Member to Audit and Risk Committee (Confidential) • Audit and Risk Committee October Meeting Minutes and End of Year Activity Report (Confidential) • Councillor Delegation- Korea Foundation Invitation Program for Distinguished Guests	
Additional Briefing **13 November 2025**	Cr S Kontelj Cr R Nelson Cr M Cadwell Cr R Story	T Edwards (EXEC DIR) A Basford (EXEC DIR) S Beck (SNR OFFICER) T Biggs (OFFICER) F Bolitho (MGR)	• Community Strengthening First Nations Grant.	• Nil

4. CONFIDENTIAL

Council will close the meeting to the public in accordance with the provision of section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* to consider the following list of items.

4.1. CEO Employment and Remuneration Matter (Confidential)

CONFIDENTIAL

Recommendation

That Council consider this report at the conclusion of the meeting as it is designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66 of the Local Government Act 2020, the information contained in this report is confidential because it contains personal information that would if released result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about personal affairs. This section is applicable because it relates to the Chief Executive Officer's personal affairs

4.2. Appointment of an Independent Member to the Audit and Risk Committee (Confidential)

CONFIDENTIAL

Recommendation

That Council consider this report at the conclusion of the meeting as it is designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66 of the Local Government Act 2020, the information contained in this report is confidential because it contains Council business information being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations. This section is applicable because the report relates to the appointment of an individual to a role.

4.3. Audit & Risk Committee October meeting Minutes and year-end Activity Report (Confidential)

CONFIDENTIAL

Recommendation

That Council consider this report at the conclusion of the meeting as it is designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66 of the Local Government Act 2020, the information contained in this report is confidential because it contains Council business information being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations. This section is applicable because of the sensitive and varied nature of the information received and considered by the Audit & Risk Committee from time-to-time which can pertain to external stakeholders also.

5. CLOSE OF MEETING