

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 25 November 2025
6:00 pm

City Hall
57 Little Malop Street, Geelong 3220

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)

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Present: Cr S Kontelj
Cr R Nelson
Cr T Sullivan
Cr A Aitken
Cr E Wilkinson (Virtual)
Cr E Sinclair
Cr A Katos
Cr M Cadwell (Virtual)
Cr R Story
Cr C Burson

LOA: Cr E Kontelj

Also Present: T Edwards (Acting Chief Executive Officer),
A Stout (Acting Executive Director, Corporate Services),
T Bradley (Executive Director, Placemaking),
J Stirton (Executive Director, City Infrastructure),
F Bolitho (Acting Executive Director City Life),
J Douglas (Manager Council & Corporate Governance)
E Ryan (Senior Governance Advisor – Council Business)
D Pangrazio (Governance Advisor Council Business).

Opening: The Mayor declared the meeting open at 6.02pm.

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

Nil

1.3. Leaves of Absence

RESOLUTION – Item 1.3.1

Cr A Katos moved, Cr R Nelson seconded -

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

Carried.

RESOLUTION – Item 1.3.2

Cr R Story moved, Cr E Sinclair seconded -

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

Carried.

RESOLUTION – Item 1.3.2

Cr T Sullivan moved, Cr A Katos seconded -

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

Carried.

1.4. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Cr A Katos declared a conflict of interest in relation to item 2.13 Amendment C433ggee - Pakington Street Urban Design Frameworks - Consideration of Submissions due to his employer owning properties within the subject area.

1.5. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLUTION - Item 1.5.1

Cr A Katos moved, Cr R Nelson seconded -

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

Carried

1.6. Public Question and Submission Time

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

The following persons submitted questions prior to the Council Meeting and presented them at the Council Meeting, on the following subjects:

- Bernice Davies - Land Management
- Chrissy Freestone - Private Tree Protection
- Jeanne Nel - Trees On Private Land
- Louis De Koker - Barwon River Development
- Jennifer Bantow - Heritage Design Guidelines

The following persons submitted questions prior to the Council Meeting but were not in attendance to present them at the Council Meeting, on the following subjects:

- Charles (Chaz) Street - Industrial Land Use
- Jane Abbott - Coles Proposed Development

SUBMITTER 1. BERNICE DAVIES

Subject: LAND MANAGEMENT

Question 1:

Dear City of Greater Geelong Council, in regard to the Dean Street Plantation Reserve, I understand that approximately 60% of the land has been allocated to housing. Could you please clarify whether the remaining 40% includes access roads, car parks, and other infrastructure — or if that proportion represents genuine public open space and green areas? Thank you for your time and consideration.

Question 2:

Additionally, could you advise whether any of the remaining land will be set aside specifically for environmental preservation or native vegetation restoration?

Question 1 and 2 Response

Thank you for your questions Bernice.

As per the resolution of Council at the 28 October Council meeting, Council authorised the CEO to seek requests for proposals from Registered Housing Associations (RHA's) to identify opportunities for Social Housing at 5A Dean Street, Belmont.

City officers will work with RHA's to ensure their proposals address the specified condition in the resolution to retain approximately 40% of the land as public open space. The location and detail of this space will be part of the concept planning of the site.

**SUBMITTER 2. CHARLES (CHAZ)
STREET**

Subject: INDUSTRIAL LAND USE

Question 1:

Good evening Council. At “No Waste Incinerators in Lara & Greater Geelong Incorporated” we note that Council is conducting an “Industrial Land Supply Review”; community submissions having closed 2 November 2025. We are united with residents, the business community, many political leaders and Council in opposing the installation of an industrial scale waste incinerator anywhere in the City of Greater Geelong. We are thinking that one of the most effective ways of achieving that outcome is to ensure that there is no land within the City of Greater Geelong with zoning (e.g. IN2Z), that can accept an industrial scale waste incinerator, or anything similar. Our submission to the Review states accordingly. Would Council please consider zoning the Lara Big Incinerator, and similar, out of existence, please ?”

Question 1 Response

Thank you for your question Charles,

The Industrial Land Supply Review (ILSR) is a strategic planning study that assesses industrial land supply and demand across Geelong. It does not rezone land.

The City incorporates over 1,600 hectares of land zoned for heavy industry and high impact uses (Industrial 2 Zoned land), in the northern industrial precincts. The draft ILSR has found the importance of protecting this core heavy industrial area to secure Geelong’s future economic growth. Any future use of land within this Industrial 2 Zoning would require consideration against the Industrial 2 Zone requirements including proximity to residential areas, potential health impacts, and environmental risks.

Officers are currently reviewing submissions to the ILSR, following engagement on the draft in October 2025.

SUBMITTER 3. CHRISSY FREESTONE

Subject: PRIVATE TREE PROTECTION

Question 1:

At the last council meeting I expressed disappointment in Council's decision to not pursue stronger private tree protection regulation and in your response you mentioned that a 'broad cost and feasibility analysis' had been undertaken when considering local laws and planning overlays. Could you please clarify what specific costs and factors were examined as part of this analysis? Additionally, is this cost analysis available for public viewing, or could a summary of its findings be provided to better inform the community on how these conclusions were reached?

Question 1 Response

Thank you for your question Chrissy,

Indicative costs are discussed in sections 7.1.2 and 7.2.2 of the background report that you can find in the minutes of the Council meeting on 23 September 2025.

Question 2:

My second question relates to the upcoming refresh of the Urban Forest Strategy you referenced in your recent response to my question at the last Council meeting. Could you please provide the expected timeline for releasing this updated strategy? Additionally, which aspects of the refreshed Urban Forest Strategy do you anticipate will address the issue of better protection for trees on private land?

Thank you for your second question Chrissy,

The expected timeframe for community consultation on the Urban Forest Strategy 2025 (strategy) via Have Your Say page is March 2026. The strategy development will follow.

The Strategy will focus on education and partnering to promote the urban forest on private land. Since the introduction of Amendment VC289 which introduced clause 52.37 (Canopy trees) to all planning schemes as of September 2025 the City will manage the protection of private trees via the planning scheme.

SUBMITTER 4. JEANNE NEL

Subject: TREES ON PRIVATE LAND

Question 1:

At the October Council meeting, Chrissy Freestone sought clarification on the City's decision to rely on community education, rather than regulatory measures, to protect trees on private land. The Council's response referenced several initiatives largely related to tree planting and general environmental engagement. In particular, the Council cited educational programs run by the Geelong Botanic Gardens.

QUESTION: To clarify the Council's reference to these programs, could the Council please specify which education programs offered by the Geelong Botanic Gardens relate directly to urban tree planting, stewardship, and the environmental value of urban trees for adult property owners, as distinct from general plant education for school groups?

Question 1 Response

Thank you for your question Jeanne,

The Friends of the Geelong Botanic Gardens offer guided walks for people of all ages that promote urban tree planting, stewardship, and the environmental value of urban trees, more information on these programs can be found on the Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens website: <https://friendsgbg.org.au/visiting-the-gardens/guided-walks>.

To further promote the urban forest the City has had approximately 2,500 students come through the Geelong Botanic Gardens education programs. The majority of these are early learning to year 2 who are building the foundation of their environmental knowledge. We promote environmental responsibility and see a big focus in learning institutions already about the importance of environmental guardianship. These children are then taking these lessons home to their parents and communicating these values, which will push for behavioural changes.

Question 2:

The Council's response to the question about relying on community education, rather than regulatory measures, to protect trees on private land also stated that it partners with industry bodies to provide seminars on tree care and maintenance.

QUESTION: Could the Council please advise: a) Which industry bodies the Council partners with to deliver seminars on tree care and maintenance; and b) When and where these seminars have been offered, and where residents can access information about upcoming or past sessions?

Thank you for your second question Jeanne,

The City partners with industry bodies such as Arboriculture Australia, the Victorian Tree Industry Organisation (VTIO) and Treenet. Links to more information on these events can be found below:

<https://vtio.org.au/events/>

<https://www.trees.org.au/events>

SUBMITTER 5. LOUIS DE KOKER

Subject: BARWON RIVER DEVELOPMENT

Question 1:

The Barwon River Office Park at 45 Riversdale Road, Newtown, has now taken shape, with the Mayor participating in the celebration marking the placement of its highest beam (Geelong Advertiser, 20 November 2025, p. 11). As a result of its design - particularly the height, bulk and unbroken frontage - the development dominates Balyang Sanctuary and intrudes into the Barwon River views from Barwon Valley Park. The front block rises above the mature tree line, giving the upper-level offices unobstructed views of the river and the surrounding areas of Highton and Belmont. In doing so, it positions the development prominently in the Barwon River views of the residents. Design changes such as lowering the front block, breaking up its mass, and tapering the height towards Balyang Sanctuary, while increasing height and river views at the rear, would have significantly reduced the development's visual impact on this important green corridor of Geelong. The Barwon River is a jewel of the city and should be actively protected by Council and its Councillors.

Why did Council and Councillors allow a design that impacts the Barwon River and Balyang Sanctuary views so extensively when less intrusive alternatives were available?

Question 1 Response

Thank you for your question Louis,

The subject site is located at 45-47 & 51-53 Riversdale Road, Newtown and is zoned Industrial 1 Zone and contains the Heritage Overlay HO1617, Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 2, a Special Building Overlay, and Design and Development Overlay Schedule 20.

The proposed development presents as three storeys on Riversdale Road, four storeys in the centre of the site, and three storeys on the southern boundary. On balance, the planning application was assessed against the various planning controls, including the West Fyans/Fyans Structure Plan and the proposal was deemed to satisfy the controls. As part of the public notice of the application Council received two (2) objections, neither of these objections raised design issues.

Question 2:

What are the Council and Councillors doing to ensure that further planned development along the Barwon River bank will more sensitive?

Thank you for your second question Louis,

The West Fyans/Fyans Structure Plan was completed in 2009. It's currently being reviewed with a community survey undertaken earlier this year and an engagement report released by the City in June 2025.

Community consultation on the draft structure plan can be expected to take place in early 2026.

SUBMITTER 6. JENNIFER BANTOW

Subject: HERITAGE DESIGN GUIDELINES

Question 1:

ITEM 2.3. Introduction of Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines 2025 into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.

We have lost two important heritage places in central Geelong both in Malop St to FACADISM.

In 2016 Dalgety & Co at 1 Malop Street was demolished except for parts of two walls, and in 2017 only two external walls were partially left when the Carlton Hotel at 13-19 Malop St was demolished.

QUESTION ONE

Will Facadism be discouraged in the Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines 2025?

Question 1 Response

Thank you for your question Jennifer,

The Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines 2025 provide clear, practical advice to guide alterations, additions, infill development and new works within heritage overlays. The Guidelines clearly state that 'retention of only the front facade (in other words facadism) provides limited appreciation of the building's significance. The guidelines discourage facadism.

The focus is on retaining 'significant fabric and the building's three-dimensional form' rather than a façade only approach and additions should retain the 'three-dimensional form and construction of the heritage place and avoid facadism'.

Question 2:

ITEM 2.3. Introduction of Greater Geelong Heritage Design Guidelines 2025 into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. Distinctly different from other regional cities, many Geelong region heritage places are often industrial, and often connected to our Wool history. This is particularly evident in city architecture. It would appear that these Heritage Design Guidelines 2025 will provide good management to protect our heritage in central Geelong. QUESTION TWO To achieve this good management and increased protection of heritage places, is Council undertaking any review to extend and protect the important Woolstores Industrial Heritage Area?

Thank you for your second question Jennifer,

The City is undertaking the Central Geelong Heritage Review to address Action 18 within the 2023 Central Geelong Framework Plan. This review will include a gap review of Central Geelong, to highlight significant places with no protections and update existing heritage protections in line with best practice standards. The Woolstores Industrial Heritage Area is included within this study and will form part of this review.

SUBMITTER 7. JANE ABBOTT

Subject: COLES PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Question 1:

Are the City of Greater Geelong planning and environmental departments planning to review the zoning of the land in Pt Lonsdale where Coles are proposing to build a supermarket and its attendant infrastructure, on the edge of a newly designated Ramsar Wetlands of Lakers Cutting. This new Ramsar site proclamation should be sufficient grounds for a review of the zoning

Question 1 Response

Thank you for your question Jane,

While the Structure Plan designates the site for rezoning to the Special Use Zone, it is not Council's responsibility to initiate rezoning of private land. The Minister has the ability to take on this role.

1.7. Petitions

1.7.1 Safety Issues – Boundary Road, Mount Duneed

Arthur Rogers, Chair of Mount Duneed Lifestyle Homeowners Committee, presented a petition on behalf of residents. The petition requests Council take action to improve the safety of the Boundary Road extension between Baanip Boulevard and Sovereign Drive by installing two physical Traffic Calming Devices (raise pavements or similar) and we suggest that they could be installed on Boundary Road at the intersection of Cornflower Way and in the vicinity of the Gravity Drive intersection or at the beginning of the straight part of the road near the eastern boundary of the Lifestyle Community.

The petition contains approximately 209 signatures.

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 dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in the municipal district and ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with the Act and regulations.

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.1

Cr C Burson moved, Cr M Cadwell seconded -

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.**

Carried

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]

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.2

Cr E Sinclair moved, Cr T Sullivan seconded -

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.**

Carried

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.3

Cr A Katos moved, Cr R Story seconded -

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.**

Carried

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]

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

Economic Impact

Annual increase of 10% in total economic impact over the next five years to \$131 million by 2029

Brand Marketing Impact

The Major Events portfolio has 20% Anchor Events

Community Impact

Increase in local participation and attendance at major events by 30% by 2029.

Sustainability Impact

Reduce the major events carbon footprint by 50% by 2029.

2024-2025 Progress

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.

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.

On track

Local residents accounted for 33% of the total attendance at major events in 2024-2025.

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.4

Cr A Katos moved, Cr T Sullivan seconded -

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.**

Carried

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]

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.5

Cr A Aitken moved, Cr R Nelson seconded –

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.**

Carried

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). Tenanted 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]

Cr C Burson left the meeting at 7.17pm.

Cr C Burson returned to the meeting at 7.20pm.

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.6

Cr E Sinclair moved, Cr M Cadwell seconded -

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.**

Carried

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:
19. 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

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

Risk Assessment

21. 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

22. 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]

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.7

Cr E Sinclair moved, Cr A Aitken seconded -

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.**

Carried

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]

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.8

Cr A Katos moved, Cr A Aitken seconded -

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.**

Carried

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.9

Cr A Aitken moved, Cr C Burson seconded -

That Council endorses the schedule of Council meeting dates for 2026 (Attachment 1).

Carried

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]

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.10

Cr A Katos moved, Cr A Aitken seconded -

That Council:

1. **Endorses the Financial Performance Report Year to Date Ended 30 September 2025.**

Carried

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]

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.11

Cr A Aitken moved, Cr T Sullivan seconded -

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.**

Carried

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]

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).

RESOLUTION - Item 2.12

Cr T Sullivan moved, Cr E Wilkinson seconded -

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.**

Carried

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]

Cr A Katos declared a conflict of interest in item 2.13 and left the meeting at 7.47pm.

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.13

Cr T Sullivan moved, Cr C Burson seconded -

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.**

Carried

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]

Cr A Katos returned to the meeting at 7.52pm.

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**.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.14

Cr T Sullivan moved, Cr R Story seconded -

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 effect 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.**

Carried

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.15

Cr R Story moved, Cr A Aitken seconded -

- 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.**

Carried

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]

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 3.1

Cr A Katos moved, Cr R Nelson seconded -

That Council receive the summary of the informal meetings of Councillors for the period to 25 November 2025.

Carried

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

RESOLUTION - Item 4.1

Cr A Katos moved, Cr E Sinclair seconded -

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

Carried

4.2. Appointment of an Independent Member to the Audit and Risk Committee (Confidential)

CONFIDENTIAL

RESOLUTION - Item 4.2

Cr C Burson moved, Cr A Aitken seconded -

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.

Carried

4.3. Audit & Risk Committee October meeting Minutes and year-end Activity Report (Confidential)

CONFIDENTIAL

RESOLUTION - Item 4.3

Cr C Burson moved, Cr R Nelson seconded -

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.

Carried

5. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was closed to the public at 7.57pm.

RESOLUTION –

Cr R Nelson moved, Cr A Katos seconded –

That the meeting be re-opened to the public.

Carried.

The meeting was re-opened to the public at 8.01pm

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 8.02 pm on Tuesday 25 November 2025.

Signed: _____

Cr Stretch Kontelj (Mayor)

Date: _____