



MELTON CITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the
Melton City Council**

23 June 2015

PUBLIC COPY

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MELTON CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MELTON CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, 232 HIGH STREET, MELTON ON 23 JUNE 2015 AT 7PM

Present: Cr S.Ramsey (Mayor)
Cr M.Bentley
Cr L.Carli
Cr K.Majdlik
Cr B.Turner

Mr K.Tori, Chief Executive Officer
Mr P.Bean, General Manager Corporate Services
Mr M.Heaney, General Manager Community Services
Mr L.Stokes, Acting General Manager Planning and Development
Mr B.Baggio, Manager Planning
Mr D.Hogan, Manager Customer Engagement
Ms E.Haley, Acting Coordinator, Communications

1. OPENING PRAYER AND RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

The Mayor, Cr Ramsay read the opening prayer, and reconciliation statement.

2. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Crs Cugliari and Dunn.

3. CHANGES TO THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Nil.

4. DEPUTATIONS

Nil.

5. DECLARATION OF ANY PECUNIARY INTEREST, OTHER INTEREST OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST OF ANY COUNCILLOR

Cr Ramsey, declared a direct conflict of interest under s.77B in Item 11.10 of the Agenda as she is the subject of the report/recommendation. Cr Ramsey also declared an indirect conflict of interest under s.78B in Items 9.2 and 18.1 of the Agenda, in that she is a Board Member of Djerriwarrh Health Services.

Mr K Tori, Chief Executive Officer, declared a direct interest under s.77B in Item 11.10 of the Agenda, he is the subject of the report/recommendation.

Cr Turner, declared an indirect conflict of interest under s.78B in items 9.2 and 18.1 of the Agenda, in that he is an Officer of the Lions Club of Melton.

Cr Carli, declared an interest in item 11.4 of the Agenda, relating to Minutes of Section 223 Committee Meeting 2 June 2015, Recommendation 14, as an immediate family member represents the Westside Strikers Caroline Springs Football Club as a player.

6. ADOPTION AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26 May 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Crs Turner/Bentley. That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

7. CORRESPONDENCE INWARD

Nil.

8. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

Nil.

9. RESUMPTION OF DEBATE OR OTHER BUSINESS CARRIED OVER FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

9.1 PROPOSED COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD - ACCESS AND INCLUSION LEADER/S OF THE YEAR AWARD

Author: Matthew Wilson- Manager Community Planning
Presenter: Maurie Heaney- General Manager Community Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide a response to Notice of Motion 401 raised at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 10 March 2015.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1 Create a new award within the annual Community Achievement Awards program titled 'Access and Inclusion Leader of the Year Award';
- 2 Make the award open to all residents in the City of Melton; and
- 3 Add an additional selection criteria to the award category as stated, "Commitment to improving the life of people with a disability in the City of Melton".

Crs Majdlik/Turner. That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

A Notice of Motion (NOM) was raised by Cr Kathy Majdlik at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 10 March 2015 stating:

"That Officers implement a new Community Achievement Award specifically under the category of 'Melton Disability Award' for all future Australia Day Celebrations. That Officers present to Councillors some options as to what / who may be included in this category to celebrate and recognise the important contributions made by people and / or organisations who are affected by disabilities."

Officers investigated the request in the NOM through consultation with Council's Disability Advisory Committee and benchmarking practices with six (6) other local government authorities.

It was found that there is a place for the recommended award category within the existing Community Achievement Awards program that occurs annually at the Australia Day celebrations.

2. Background/Issues

A Notice of Motion (NOM) was raised by Cr Kathy Majdlik at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 10 March 2015 stating:

“That Officers implement a new Community Achievement Award specifically under the category of ‘Melton Disability Award’ for all future Australia Day Celebrations. That Officers present to Councillors some options as to what / who may be included in this category to celebrate and recognise the important contributions made by people and / or organisations who are affected by disabilities.”

Initial Officer comments made to the NOM were as follows:

“Officers believe that the implementation of a new Community Achievement Award, specifically under the category of ‘Melton Disability Award’ for all future Australia Day celebrations could be accommodated. Furthermore, the Melton Disability Action Plan 2013-2017 could also potentially assist with the evaluation of this Award as it supports residents with a disability to engage in civic life. Guidance on what may constitute appropriate criteria for the award will need to be sought from the Disability Advisory Committee (DAC). Additionally, information from other Councils that offer similar awards may advise this process.”

The matter was subsequently tabled at the meeting of the Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) on 2 April 2015 under Business Arising. Officers received feedback from members of the committee that the proposed award could focus on an individual or group who has been inspiring and who has demonstrated leadership within the community or improved the quality of life of a person with a disability. Feedback also noted a desire for less focus on the word disability in the proposed title for the award.

Specifically, the minutes of the meeting recorded the following discussion.

The DAC discussed the proposed Australia Day Disability Award and agreed that an additional award within the existing Council Community Achievement Award program could be achievable. The award may be titled, Access and Inclusion Leader/s of the Year Award, and be open to all residents and not for profit organisations. The selection criteria for this award could be, ‘Commitment to improving the life of people with a disability in the City of Melton.’

Although the DAC discussed the option of making the award open to organisations, it is proposed by Officers to align it with the existing awards and make it open to individuals only.

Additional to the consultation with the DAC, Officers consulted with Councils across Victoria via the Local Government Association (LGA) Metro Access and Disability Planners Network. Six LGA members responded that they provide a community award with a disability focus. Therefore there is precedent for establishing the proposed new award category within the local government sector.

Officers considered how to best recommend establishing the proposed award and selection criteria, and identified that consistency with the existing Council Community Achievement Awards is desirable.

The current Award categories are:

1. Citizen of the Year - *Open to all residents of the City of Melton.*
2. Young Citizen of the Year - *Open to residents of the City of Melton under 25 years old.*

3. Community Project of the Year - *Open to all community projects within the City of Melton.*
4. Woman of the Year - *Open to all women within the City of Melton.*

It is proposed that the new Access and Inclusion Leader of the Year Award would be created to be similar to the existing awards and open to all residents in the City of Melton.

The current Community Achievement Award Categories share a common selection criteria, with the Woman of the Year Award having an additional criteria. The current selection criteria are as follows:

- 'Commitment to improving community access, participation and involvement in the City of Melton'.
- 'Commitment to fostering community partnerships in the City of Melton'.
- 'Commitment to demonstrating community leadership in the City of Melton'.

An additional criteria for the Woman of the Year Award is:

- 'Commitment to advancing the status of women in the City of Melton'

It is proposed that an additional criteria be added for the Access and Inclusion Leader of the Year Award, and that criteria to be as follows:

'Commitment to improving the life of people with a disability in the City of Melton'.

Officers also identified an opportunity to have potential recipients of the Access and Inclusion Leader of the Year Award be nominated for the Victorian Disability Sector Awards as a representative of the City of Melton.

In response to the NOM, and under the advice of the Disability Advisory Committee, it is the recommendation of Officers that Council consider establishing the Access and Inclusion Leader of the Year Award.

3. Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

3. Diverse, Confident and Inclusive Communities: A culturally rich, active, safe and connected City
 - 3.6 *Create a safer community through building a sense of belonging and community pride*

4. Financial Considerations

There are minor financial considerations that relate to potential costs associated with administering and presenting the award on an annual basis. However, it is the advice of Officers that these costs may be accommodated within the existing operational budget for the Community Achievement Awards.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Consultation occurred with the Melton City Council Disability Advisory Committee at the meeting on 2 April 2015, with discussion and recommendations of the committee noted above.

6. Risk Analysis

Nil

7. Options

Council has the following options:

1. To endorse the recommendations as put by the Officer, or
2. To endorse the recommendations and include the option of it being open to organisations as well as individuals.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Nil

Note: Cr Ramsey and Cr Turner declared conflicts of interest in this item, and therefore a quorum was not able to be maintained. The matter will lay on the table until the next Ordinary Meeting of Council.

9.2 2014-15 COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

Author: Dana Praiz- Acting Community Funding Officer
Presenter: Maurie Heaney- General Manager Community Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present to Council the Assessment Panel recommendations for the allocation of funds within the Annual Grants Category of Council's 2014/15 Community Grants Program

10. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Name	Question asked of Council
Prasad Ranatunga	The submitter of the Public Question was not present. A written response will be prepared.
Karin Scherma	The submitter of the Public Question was not present. A written response will be prepared.
Alex Jinks	The submitter of the Public Question was not present. A written response will be prepared.
Carolyn MacGavin	Wording of signs regarding disabled parking having a 2 hour limit.
Allen Fairweather	Works being done in the drain outside the large block in Outlook Ride.
Allen Fairweather	Image in the June 2015 Moving Ahead publication regarding the photo on page 16.
Carolyn MacGavin	Posting of Garage Sale signs in public places and poles.
Toni di Pasquale	Operational concerns at Melton Waves.
David O'Connor	Consultation phase of Victoria's new Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan.
David O'Connor	Parking at the two vacant commercial properties in Cradle Road Diggers Rest.

11. PRESENTATION OF STAFF REPORTS

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Crs Majdlik/Turner. That the recommendation as printed in items 11.1, 11.2, 11.3 and 11.8 be adopted in block.

CARRIED

11.1 AUTHORISATION OF AFFIXING THE COMMON SEAL OF COUNCIL

Author: Christie Shields- Governance Officer

Presenter: Peter Bean- General Manager Corporate Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

For Council to adopt the schedule of documents (**Appendix 1**) requiring the Common Seal of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council Seal be affixed to the documentation as detailed in the Schedule for Authorising of Affixing of the Common Seal of Melton City Council dated 3 February 2015 and appended to this report (**Appendix 1**).

Crs Majdlik/Turner. That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

Documents requiring the Common Seal of Council to be affixed are detailed in **Appendix 1**.

2. Background/Issues

Use of the Council Seal is required where Council as a body corporate is required to acquit a document or agreement for the purpose of performing its functions and exercising its powers.

The *Local Government Act 1989* prescribes that a Council must have a common seal, and that the common seal must –

- (a) Bear the name of the Council (which name may refer to the inhabitants of the municipal district) and any other word, letter, sign or device the Council determines should be included; and
- (b) Be kept at the Council office; and
- (c) Be used in accordance with the local laws of the Council.

Council's Meeting Procedure Local Law (2013) prescribes the use of Council's Common Seal and the authorized officers who have the authority to sign every document to which the common seal is affixed.

3. Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

2. *A Well Governed and Leading Organisation: Operating with innovation, transparency, accountability and sustainability*
 - 2.6 *Ensure timely compliance with statutory and regulatory obligations.*

4. Financial Considerations

There are no financial considerations relating to the use of the Council Seal.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Not applicable.

6. Risk Analysis

Ensuring that the Council Seal is only affixed in accordance with a resolution of Council controls the potential risk of the Seal being incorrectly affixed to a document.

7. Options

Not applicable.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Authorisation of Affixing the Common Seal of Council

11.2 POLICY REVIEW PANEL MINUTES 27 MAY 2015

Author: Tracy Spiteri- Governance Coordinator
Presenter: Peter Bean- General Manager Corporate Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report presents to Council *Minutes of the Policy Review Panel* meeting for adoption of the panel's recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION:

That :

1. The unconfirmed minutes of the Policy Review Panel Meeting of 27 May 2015 be noted **(Appendix 1)**.
2. Council adopt the recommendations of the Committee as detailed in the Minutes appended to this report.

Crs Majdlik/Turner. That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

Presented for Councils consideration are the Policy Review Panel Meeting Minutes of 27 May 2015.

At the meeting held on 27 May 2015 the panel considered the following items:

- Children Unattended Policy & Procedure
- Media Policy
- Lease and Licence Policy
- Community Engagement Policy & Guidelines
- CALDAC Terms of Reference
- Corporate Performance Reporting Policy
- Fees & Charges Policy & Review Procedures and Guidelines
- Men's Shed Policy

2. Background/Issues

Council established a "Policy Review Panel" to review existing Council policy and formulate new policies in new areas identified by Council as requiring appropriate policy consideration.

The panel is an Advisory Committee which meets monthly and presents its recommendations to the Council for adoption. A copy of the Minutes is attached as **Appendix 1** to this report.

The policies and terms of reference largely reflect what is the pre-existing practice in relation to these matters and therefore are not viewed as containing any major issues for Council.

3. Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

2. A Well Governed and Leading Organisation: Operating with innovation, transparency, accountability and sustainability

2.6 Ensure timely compliance with statutory and regulatory obligations

4. Financial Considerations

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations of the Committee as contained in the Minutes.

All policies considered are incorporated within Council's existing budgets.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

The Policy Review Panel is an Advisory Committee of Council and where public consultation and or submissions are identified as being appropriate the Committee would recommend an appropriate consultation process to Council for endorsement.

6. Risk Analysis

Maintaining up to date policies within an organisational framework assists Council in controlling risk.

7. Options

The Policy Review Panel is an Advisory Committee of Council and Council therefore has the discretion to accept/reject or amend its recommendations as Council deems appropriate.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Policy Review Panel Minutes 27 May 2015 Amended
2. Children Unattended Policy
3. Children Unattended Procedure
4. Lease & Licence Policy
5. Community Engagement Policy
6. Community Engagement Guidelines
7. CALDAC Terms of Reference
8. Corporate Performance Reporting Policy
9. Fees & Charges Policy
10. Fees & Charges - Review Procedure and Guidelines

11.3 MINUTES OF THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 4 JUNE 2015

Author: Coral Crameri- Manager Community Care and Inclusion
Presenter: Maurie Heaney- General Manager Community Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present the minutes of the Disability Advisory Committee held on 4 June 2015

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the unconfirmed minutes of the Disability Advisory Committee meeting held on 4 June 2015, as attached at **Appendix 1**.

Crs Majdlik/Turner. That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

The Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) has been established to provide advice to Council on issues and barriers that affect people with a disability living, working, recreating or studying in the City of Melton.

Membership of the Committee is drawn from people with a disability, carers of people with a disability and community service providers who have a significant role in delivering services and responding to local disability priorities.

The minutes of the DAC meeting held on 4 June 2015 are attached to this report as **Appendix 1**.

2. Background/Issues

The DAC meets bi-monthly to consider matters in relation to the needs of people with a disability and to raise advocacy issues for Council to consider.

The DAC meeting on 4 June 2015 addressed the following:

- Council's Integrated Transport Strategy Consultation
- Belgravia Leisure recently appointed an Inclusion Coordinator, resulting in the implementation of a range of access initiatives to increase participation of people with a disability at Melton Waves Leisure Centre
- Resignation of committee member M Jimeno who represents carers of an adult with a disability
- Victorian Electoral Commission Draft Disability Action Plan

3. Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

3. Diverse, Confident and Inclusive Communities: A culturally rich, active, safe and connected City

3.1 Provide an accessible range of services for all including children, young people, families and older adults

4. Financial Considerations

Operational expenses and initiative related to the DAC are accommodated within Council's recurrent budget programs.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

The DAC is an Advisory Committee of Council, and where public consultation and/or submissions are identified as being appropriate, the Committee will recommend an appropriate consultation process to Council for endorsement.

6. Risk Analysis

The DAC ensure continued meaningful engagement and dialogue with people with a disability, carers and community service providers and ensures relationships and resources are adequately aligned and assist Council in mitigating possible risk.

7. Options

The DAC is an Advisory Committee to Council, therefore has the discretion to accept, reject or amend the Committee's recommendations as Council deems appropriate.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Minutes of Disability Advisory Committee - 4 June 2015

11.4 MINUTES OF SECTION 223 SUBMISSIONS COMMITTEE 02 JUNE 2015 - ADOPTION OF 2015/16 BUDGET

Author: Shan Thurairajah- Manager Finance
Presenter: Peter Bean- General Manager Corporate Services

Cr Carli having declared an interest in Item 5 of the Agenda requested Council's consent that Recommendation 14, contained within the Section 223 Submissions Committee Meeting Minutes attached as Appendix 1 of this Report, be considered separately to the remainder of the Minutes in order to leave the Chamber, yet return to consider the substantive matter. Council acceded to this request.

Cr Carli left the Chamber prior to discussion taking place.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report advises Council of the minutes of the Section 223 Submissions Committee meeting held on 02 June 2015 and recommends action emanating from the minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the unconfirmed minutes of the Section 223 Submissions Committee of 02 June 2015 be endorsed by Council.
2. That Council adopts the recommendations as detailed in the minutes of the Section 223 Submissions Committee meeting held on 02 June 2015 (**Appendix 1**), following consideration of the submission process.

Motion

Crs Majdlik/Bentley

That Council adopts Recommendation 14, contained within the Section 223 Submissions Committee Meeting Minutes attached as Appendix 1 of this Report.

CARRIED

Cr Carli returned to the Chamber.

Motion

Crs Majdlik/Turner

1. That the unconfirmed minutes of the Section 223 Submissions Committee of 02 June 2015 be endorsed by Council.
2. That Council adopts the recommendations 1-13 as detailed in the minutes of the Section 223 Submissions Committee meeting held on 02 June 2015 (**Appendix 1**), following consideration of the submission process, and that all submitters be informed in writing of the outcome, including any division of this Motion.

CARRIED

Cr Majdlik called for a division of Council

For:

Crs Bentley, Majdlik, Ramsey and Turner

Against:

Cr Carli

The Mayor declared the division CARRIED

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

Section 127 of the Local Government Act 1989 (The Act) requires that Council prepare a budget for each financial year.

Council reviewed the 2015/16 Draft Budget at its meeting held on 21 April 2015 and resolved that:-

The "Section 223 Submission Committee" of Council consider any submissions made in accordance with Section 223 of the Act and report these submissions to Council.

The "Draft Budget" be placed on public display as required by the Act, and submissions on the Draft Budget be received up until 22 May 2015. The Section 223 Submissions Committee of the Council consider submissions on 02 June 2015.

The Minutes of the Section 223 Submissions Committee Meeting held on 02 June 2015 are attached as Appendix 1.

2. Background/Issues

The Draft Budget for 2015/16 was presented to Council at the Ordinary meeting of the Council on 21 April 2015. Council resolved that the Draft Budget be displayed for 28 days as required by Section 129(3) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (The Act) inviting public submission.

Council received a total of 14 submissions, mainly from organisations seeking allocation of additional funding for Council facilities.

The Section 223 Submissions Committee met on 02 June 2015 to consider the submissions received. The Submissions Committee reviewed the 14 submissions received, of which 6 verbal presentations were made in support of submissions lodged for consideration.

3. Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

2. *A Well Governed and Leading Organisation: Operating with innovation, transparency, accountability and sustainability.*

2.6 *Practice good governance, social, economic and environmental responsibility.*

4. Financial Considerations

Costs associated with advertising and exhibiting the 2015/16 Draft Budget have been provided for in the current budget.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Council, in accordance with Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, invited submissions on the 2015/16 *Draft Budget* from the community, for consideration by Council on 2 June 2015 before adopting the 2015/16 Draft Budget.

The Section 223 Committee considered all submissions received on 2 June 2015 and make recommendations to Council to consider the recommendations before formally adopting the 2015/16 Municipal Budget.

6. Risk Analysis

Council's process of endorsing the 2015/16 Draft Budget and seeking public submissions is in accordance with in the *Local Government Act 1989* and poses no risk to Council.

7. Options

Council is required to have the 2015/16 Budget adopted by 30 June 2015.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Minutes of the Section 223 Submissions Committee Meeting 2 June 2015

11.5 COMMUNITY SERVICES CAPACITY AND ATTRACTION FRAMEWORK

Author: Michelle Rowe- Social Planning Officer
Presenter: Maurie Heaney- General Manager Community Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present the Community Services Capacity and Attraction Framework for Council's consideration and endorsement.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. Endorse the Community Services Capacity and Attraction Framework as presented at **Appendix 1**.
2. Note the Background Paper: Community Services Capacity and Attraction Framework as presented at **Appendix 2**.

Crs Majdlik/Bentley. That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

Council is committed to the provision of accessible services for all citizens, including supporting the attraction of services to meet the needs of immediate and future communities.

The Community Services Capacity and Attraction Framework and Background Paper: Community Services Capacity and Attraction Framework support this commitment. The Framework aims to strengthen and enhance the capacity of the existing community service sector in the municipality, as well as striving to attract additional community services to ensure the short, medium and long term needs of the community are met. Furthermore, it aims to support decision makers to explore opportunities for development and coordinated action in improving access to services for citizens.

The Framework has been developed in close consultation with the community service sector and its implementation and monitoring will be a shared responsibility with agency partners.

2. Background/Issues

The rapid pace of municipal population growth and new residential communities has created significant demand for Council and local community service provision. Providing services to the existing community and a growing number of new residents is an ongoing challenge that Council and the service sector share. In particular, Interface Councils are recognised as being under-resourced when it comes to matching service demand to identified community need.

As outlined in the Council Plan 2013-2017, Council is committed to supporting the provision of accessible, affordable and relevant community services, both now and into the future. Over the past eighteen months several community services have either been expanded, or commenced, providing services within the City of Melton, including but not limited to:

- Ambulatory Care Centre
- Scope
- Autism Plus
- Youth Now
- Volunteer West
- VICSEG
- Brimbank-Melton Community Legal Centre
- The New Hope Foundation

Overview of the Community Services Capacity and Attraction Framework

The Background Paper: Community Services Capacity and Attraction Framework underpins the Framework. The background paper analyses a range of data sources and incorporates consultation outcomes received from sector.

The Framework aims to support decision makers to explore opportunities for development and coordinated action in improving access to services for citizens. It reflects the two key aspects of 'capacity' and 'attraction,' recognising the separate yet interrelated elements of each aspect. The Framework identifies six target areas, each with a number of opportunities for action and shared responsibility. The target areas and opportunities have been identified by the community service sector.

The six target areas

<p>Target One—Capacitate, Decision Make & Collaborate</p> <p>Connection, networking and best practice</p>	<p>Target Four—Community Engagement</p> <p>Creating connected communities</p>
<p>Target Two—Digital Media Portal</p> <p>Service directories, databases and digital connectivity</p>	<p>Target Five—Affordable, Accessible Flexible Facilities</p> <p>Accommodation and facilities</p>
<p>Target Three—Physical Resource and Information Hub</p> <p>One stop shop, integrated services hubs and co-location of like services</p>	<p>Target Six—Conduct Research Locally</p> <p>Research innovation, inclusion and involvement locally</p>

Implementation and monitoring

Implementation of the Framework requires a collaborative approach in which all agencies combined are responsible for its success. It is intended to provide an overarching framework and approach that supports and reinforces existing approaches to community service planning activities. In addition, it is intended to enable agile and responsive avenues to embrace new and emerging service opportunities.

Council's role and Council led actions may be identified through annual action planning processes of both the Council Plan and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan. Additionally, Council will monitor and review the application of the Framework on an annual basis.

3. Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

3. Diverse, Confident and Inclusive Communities: A culturally rich, active, safe and connected City

3.1 Provide an accessible range of services for all including children, young people, families and older adults.

4. Financial Considerations

The Community Services Capacity and Attraction Framework establishes a reference point for decision making and collaboration. The target areas and indicative opportunities do not require immediate resourcing. Identification of actions requiring future resourcing will be considered through Council's budget processes in addition to pursuing external funding opportunities.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

The development of the Community Services Capacity and Attraction Framework was informed by a comprehensive engagement program with over 100 community service organisation representatives. A half-day forum was held in December 2014, with over 90 attendees. In addition sector surveys were also undertaken. The draft documents were widely circulated for feedback and updated accordingly.

6. Risk Analysis

Without collaborative service planning there is a risk that current and future communities will not have access to accessible, affordable and relevant community services. This risk is shared with the community service sector and all levels of government.

7. Options

Nil

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Community Services Capacity and Attraction Framework
2. Background Paper: Community Services Capacity and Attraction Framework

11.6 VCAT DECISION ON APPLICATION TO AMEND PLANNING PERMIT No. PA2012/3458 - 171-197 HARKNESS ROAD, MELTON SOUTH

Presenter: Bob Baggio- Manager Planning and Environment

Author: Bob Baggio- Manager Planning and Environment

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of a recent VCAT decision on a proposed amendment to a planning permit authorising a Place of Worship on land at 171-197 Harkness Road, Melton South.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the VCAT decision.

Crs Turner/Majdlik. That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

The subject land is on the east side of Harkness Road, about 200m north of Giblin Lane in Melton South. The land is irregular in shape and has an area of 10.45ha. It is occupied by a dwelling and a number of outbuildings.

In July 2012, Council issued a permit to use and develop the subject land for a Place of Worship. The permit contained a number of conditions, including restricting the life of the permit to five years (expiring in July 2017) and the use to Wednesday and Friday evenings and Sunday morning (as requested by the applicants at the time).

The current applicant (contracted to purchase the land) now wants to construct a mosque there. An application was made to Council to amend the condition in the permit to enable the use to operate between 5 am and 11 pm seven days per week. The application was refused by Council essentially on grounds that the increase in hours would detrimentally affect the amenity of surrounding residents.

The applicant subsequently sought a review of Council's refusal which was heard by VCAT in February. VCAT has decided that the amenity impacts are not unreasonable, and has directed that the amended permit be issued.

2. Background/Issues

The land is on the northwest outskirts of Melton, about 5km from the Melton town centre. It is on the east side of Harkness Road, about 200m north of Giblin Lane. The land is irregular in shape and has a frontage to Harkness Road of 220m, a maximum depth of 630m and an area of 10.45ha. The land is flat and occupied by a dwelling and a number of outbuildings. It is used for grazing livestock. There is mature indigenous vegetation at the rear of the land.

Refer to **Appendix 1** for a copy of locality plan.

On 13 July 2012, Council issued a temporary permit to use and develop the subject land for a Place of Worship.

The current Applicant now wants to construct a mosque on the site. A mosque is a Place of Worship. Condition 7 of the permit restricts the use to Wednesday and Friday evenings and Sunday morning, being a total of 9 hours per week. As these times do not correspond with ordinary prayer times for a mosque, the Applicant applied to the Council to amend the condition in the permit to enable the use to operate between 5 am and 11 pm seven days per week.

There were six objections to the application. The Council at its meeting on 24 June 2014 decided to refuse the application on the following grounds:

1. *Increasing the hours of operation as proposed will not satisfy the purposes of the Green Wedge A Zone, which include the need to protect the amenity of existing rural living areas and to protect, conserve and enhance the biodiversity of the area.*
2. *Increasing the hours of operation as proposed is a significant departure from those which were approved, and the proposed change in hours will have an adverse impact on the amenity of the area.*
3. *The increased hours have the potential to result in additional vehicle movements along Harkness Road, which in turn will adversely impact on the unsealed sections of Harkness Road and will require a greater maintenance regime on the road.*

The Applicant subsequently applied to the Tribunal to review that decision. The hearing was conducted on 20 February this year. VCAT's decision was made on 4 May 2015.

The Tribunal indicated that its:

... ambit of discretion is confined to the amendments. To the extent that the Respondents are opposed to the subject land being used for a mosque, those submissions are not relevant. A mosque is a Place of worship and has been permitted as a lawful use of the subject land. The main issues in this proceeding are whether the amenity, biodiversity and traffic impacts of the amendments are unreasonable.

After considering the submissions and the evidence and inspecting the land and surrounds, I have decided those impacts are not unreasonable and I will allow the application and amend the permit.

*Refer to **Appendix 2** for a full copy of the VCAT decision.*

In essence, the Tribunal considered that the main issues relating to the proposal were:

- Amenity
- Biodiversity
- Traffic.

Following is a summary of the decision.

Amenity

The effect of the proposal is to increase the Place of Worship use from a maximum of nine hours to 126 hours. The Tribunal identified that this increase was not insignificant.

Nevertheless, the Tribunal considered that:

- The Place of worship will be relatively modest in size.
- The use is not to be located in a congested residential street but is on a large lot on the north-western outskirts of Melton. Consequently, the land uses in the surrounding area are mixed and some of them are or will be changing.
- The use is not prohibited in a green wedge. State policy refers to supporting developments in green wedges that offer social benefits.

- People living in a green wedge cannot expect the same level of amenity as a residential area. Nonetheless, the closest dwelling is about 430m southwest from the Place of worship.
- It is also relevant to amenity impact that the permit will expire on 13 July 2017 and that an application for a new permit to continue the use would need to be assessed and granted.

Biodiversity

The Council and the residents submitted that the amendments would adversely impact the biodiversity values of the adjoining Woodland by additional traffic increasing the risk of road kill of kangaroos and birds and by additional light impact with evening prayer sessions disturbing fauna.

The Tribunal instead supported the applicant's evidence that the impact of the additional hours of use of the subject land on off-site fauna is minimal because most Place of worship noise is contained in a building and external lighting must be baffled. The building and car park are located at least 50 m from the Woodland. Having regard to existing and proposed roads, the member accepted that most traffic will be from the south to the subject land. Consequently, the increased risk of road kill is minimal, would not be significant to overall populations and could be minimised, in any event, by warning signs if the Council thought that necessary.

Traffic

The Tribunal accepted the proposition that the spray sealing of Harkness Road between the subject land to Hardys Lane will lower dust levels and reduce road noise. The following condition has therefore been imposed:

Before the use or occupation of the development starts, the constructed section of Harkness Road from the northern boundary of the Arnolds Creek estate to a point 10m north of the vehicle entrance to the subject land must be spray sealed in accordance with plans and specifications submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The spray seal must be maintained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Officer Comments

The establishment of urban type uses such as Places of Worship is becoming an issue for Council in the rural areas, particularly in the northern green wedge. This issue has been specifically identified in Council's adopted Western Plains North Green Wedge Management Plan.

The Management Plan recommends that a local policy be prepared and incorporated into the Planning Scheme that identifies preferred locations for such uses, types of uses and specific site design and environmental enhancement requirements. It is proposed that this policy be prepared in the next 12-18 months to assist Council in the assessment of these types of uses, and when included in the Scheme, the document will also be relevant to VCAT's consideration of any such proposals.

3. Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

1. Managing our Growth: A clear vision to connect and develop a sustainable City
 - 1.1 Strategically plan for a well designed and built City.

4. Financial Considerations

None.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Not applicable.

6. Risk Analysis

None.

7. Options

VCAT's decision is final unless Council considers that there has been an error in law, in which case an application for review can be made to the Supreme Court. This however is not considered the case here.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Locality Plan
2. VCAT decision

11.7 VCAT DECISION ON APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMIT No. PA2014/4444 - 2 GLENCAPEL COURT, HILLSIDE

Presenter: Bob Baggio- Manager Planning and Environment

Author: Bob Baggio- Manager Planning and Environment

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of a recent VCAT decision relating to a planning application for the construction of a second dwelling on land at 2 Glencapel Court, Hillside.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the VCAT decision.

Crs Carli/Bentley. That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

The subject site is located on the western side of Glencapel Court, north of Bramshaw Crescent in Hillside. The site contains a double storey brick dwelling and garage, and has a total area of approximately 900sqm.

In August 2014, Council refused a planning application for the construction of a second dwelling on the site essentially on the basis that the proposal was contrary to a single dwelling covenant affecting the site and that the proposal was out of character with the surrounding area. An earlier planning application to vary the covenant to facilitate a second dwelling was refused by Council after submission of objections from beneficiaries to the covenant.

In October 2014, VCAT determined that a permit would be issued for the variation of the covenant despite the two objections received. This enabled VCAT to also determine the subsequent application for the second dwelling which it did at a hearing on 23 April 2015. On 5 May 2015, the Tribunal directed that a permit be issued for the proposal.

2. Background/Issues

The site is located on the western side of Glencapel Court, north of Bramshaw Crescent in Hillside. The site has a slightly irregular shape, is relatively flat and contains a double storey brick dwelling and garage. The subject site has two frontages to Glencapel Court with the main frontage being on the eastern side of the site that has a total area of approximately 900sqm. The site is within an established residential area, characterised by single and double storey detached brick and rendered dwellings with garages, concrete and terracotta tiled hipped roof forms. The majority of the lots have large front and rear gardens and generous separation is in existence between some dwellings. However, other dwellings are built boundary to boundary.

Land to the north of the subject site is a Council recreation reserve and to the east on the opposite side of Glencapel Court is vacant residential lot. It is noted that the majority of the lots in the area vary between 815 to 1000sqm. The lots in this area are burdened by a covenant restricting construction of second dwellings however there are some smaller lots in the wider area.

Refer to **Appendix 1** for a copy of locality plan.

In August 2014, Council refused a planning application for the construction of a second dwelling on the site on the following grounds:

1. *The proposal fails to satisfy the tests outlined under Section 61(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 as it breaches the requirements of the restrictive covenant registered on the Certificate of Title for the subject land.*
2. *The proposal is contrary to Clause 43.01-1 of Melton Planning Scheme as the proposed development is not in accordance with any approved development plan for the subject land.*
3. *The proposal is inconsistent with the State and Local Planning Policy Framework in relation to Clause 16 (Housing), Clause 22.12 (Housing Diversity Strategy) and the objectives and standards of Res Code (Clause 55 of the Melton Planning Scheme) as it fails to respect or complement the established neighbourhood character of the area.*

An earlier planning application to vary the covenant to facilitate a second dwelling was refused by Council after submission of objections from beneficiaries to the covenant.

In October 2014, VCAT determined that a permit would be issued for the variation of the covenant despite the two objections received. This enabled VCAT to also determine the subsequent application for the second dwelling which it did at a hearing on 23 April 2015. On 5 May 2015, the Tribunal directed that a permit be issued for the proposal.

Refer **Appendix 2** for a copy of the VCAT decision.

Following is a summary of the VCAT decision:

- The development proposed is not so significant that it will change the current character of the neighbourhood.
- The addition of a small single storey dwelling attached at the garage of the adjacent two storey dwelling, is of a small scale and would not overwhelm or dominate the street and other dwellings in the street.
- The addition of one two bedroom dwelling with a garage, will not create traffic concerns in that it would probably generate an increase of one, possibly two cars to the cul-de-sac, which is of standard design.
- There is sufficient ability to park two vehicles if they are needed on the site and there is sufficient capacity within Glencapel Court that only contains 9 properties for any on street parking that could be generated by visitors to the site.
- The construction of a second dwelling meets Council's policy framework for housing.
- No off-site amenity impacts will be created by the second dwelling on the site, especially by overlooking, overshadowing, street integration, site coverage etc.

Officer Comments

There are a number of disappointing aspects to this VCAT decision.

Firstly, that the member who determined this proposal was the same member who determined the review for the variation of the covenant. It is considered that for the sake of transparency, it would have been more appropriate to have a different member – particularly

taking into account the members' support for the covenant variation which is affect facilitated the consideration for the second dwelling.

It is considered that in future, where a similar situation arises, Council should write to the Tribunal requesting that a different member hear the case.

Further, officers continue to remain of the view that the proposal is out of character with the surrounding area and poorly located at the edge of the existing urban area, some distance from an activity centre and community facilities.

It is important to note, that Council is currently in the process of preparing a Housing Character Assessment and Design Guidelines. It is expected that with the approval and incorporation of this document, that VCAT will give greater consideration to neighbourhood character issues within the established urban areas of the municipality.

3. Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

1. Managing our Growth: A clear vision to connect and develop a sustainable City
 - 1.1 *Strategically plan for a well designed and built City.*

4. Financial Considerations

None.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Not applicable.

6. Risk Analysis

None.

7. Options

VCAT's decision is final unless Council considers that there has been an error in law, in which case an application for review can be made to the Supreme Court. This however is not considered to be the case here.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Locality Plan
2. Site Plan
3. VCAT Decision

11.8 NATIONAL GROWTH AREAS ALLIANCE (NGAA) COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Author: Michael Tudball- Manager Economic Development and Advocacy

Presenter: Luke Shannon- General Manager Planning & Development

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To outline the National Growth Areas Alliance (NGAA) future direction and seek Council support to continue our membership and involvement for the next two years

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council join with the National Growth Areas Alliance (NGAA) in leading a national conversation which advocates a Federal Infrastructure Fund for Outer Metropolitan Growth Areas

Crs Majdlik/Turner. That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

In pursuing the Members goal of long term stable funding for infrastructure, NGAA commissioned Polling Research and development of a Strategy. These have now been completed, Member Councils briefed and subsequent discussions held.

It is proposed that Council join with the NGAA in leading a National Conversation which advocates a Federal infrastructure fund for outer growth areas. NGAA will be responsible for strategy, messaging, materials, media and Government Relations. Members will be provided with templates and artwork. Additional support will be available to Members undertaking aligned local campaigns and who opt for this assistance. Those Councils will also require an allocation of staff time to engage the community and to undertake communications activities. Support for state groups in advocating at state and national levels will also be provided.

The campaign is to be ran over two years seeking Federal Government support for Outer Metropolitan Growth Areas including Melton and a Members contribution of \$34,000 per year to cover costs associated with the campaign including staffing, collateral, member support, coordination and associated events.

Council has been intimately involved in the development of the campaign and approach, in particular the secondment of the Manager Economic Development & Advocacy to the NGAA for 2 days per week these past 7 months has ensured that Council's interests have been represented and more broadly considered in this proposed approach.

Success will be a Federal commitment to establishing the Infrastructure Fund that Melton City Council will be eligible to access for major infrastructure projects, to leverage both State and Local contributions for much needed infrastructure.

Melton City Council has achieved successes through the work of the NGAA including the Suburban Jobs Program \$14.62M Western BACE, Liveable Cities \$250K Toolern Train Station Feasibility and the former Regional & Local Infrastructure Program (RLCIP) as detailed below.

2. Background/Issues

Council has been a financial member of the National Growth Areas Alliance (NGAA) since formation and last year contributed to the development of the NGAA 2014-17 Strategic Plan along with attending and contributing to the 2014 NGAA Congress both of which highlighted the need to advocate for long term stable funding for infrastructure. Council's normal membership is \$17,000 per annum.

NGAA's key objectives, as outlined in successive Strategic Plans, have included, focussing predominantly at the Federal level:

- growth area issues reflected in Government policy
- fairer and more stable funding for growth area infrastructure
- NGAA would be the 'go-to' organisation on growth area issues.

These are achieved through:

- a solid research and evidence base
- a strong Membership which could learn from each other
- community engagement in presenting the strongest possible case to Government.

NGAA has been successful in achieving on a number of its objectives and outcomes through some specific Federal Grant programs and initiatives including:

Regional & Local Community Infrastructure Fund (RLCIP) with Melton City Council successful in a number of competitive smaller grants

Liveable Cities Program with Melton City Council successful in attracting \$125k towards the Toolern Train Station Feasibility Study project valued at \$250k

Suburban Jobs Program with Melton City Council receiving \$14.6M towards the \$21M Western Business Accelerator & Centre for Excellence (Western BACE)

Regional Development Australia Fund (RDAF)

National Stronger Regions Fund (NSRF) of which the Pride of Melton project was submitted seeking \$6M towards the \$13M project and whilst unsuccessful in Round One once feedback is received Council will be submitting projects for Round Two consideration during July 2015

NGAA has also influenced Federal Policy to focus on and support Outer Metropolitan Growth Areas through research, data analysis and advocacy including:

- National Urban Policy through the 2013 State of Australian Cities (SOAC) report
- Sustainable Australia report
- National Housing Council State of Supply reports.

Council would also be aware of the recent secondment of the Manager Economic Development & Advocacy to the NGAA for 2 days per week from November 2014 to May 2015 that has been key to establishing a Federal Government relationship for Melton City Council and also has ensured that Council's interests have been represented and more broadly considered in this proposed campaign and approach.

3. Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

2. A Well Governed and Leading Organisation: Operating with innovation, transparency, accountability and sustainability

2.5 Advocate in the best interests of our community and region

4. Financial Considerations

For full engagement as a Member Council a contribution of \$34,000 per year over two years (total \$68,000) is required in addition to the \$17,000 annual membership fee. Therefore this commits Council to \$51,000 in 2015/16 and \$34,000 in 2016/17 which is fully funded from Council's Advocacy budget.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Public submissions were not considered appropriate for this campaign proposal. Following extensive consultation with NGAA Member Councils through their Strategic Plan review a Member Briefing session was held as part of a national roadshow in May 2015 and then to the NGAA Executive to review the feedback, discuss with Member Councils and then finally resolved to forward to all Member Councils for endorsement and participation.

6. Risk Analysis

Risks are minimal if Council supports the recommendation, however there are no guarantees of success of a specific Melton City project being funded. Success is to be measured by the establishment of the fund and then projects supported through the fund will be merit-based.

If Council chooses not to be part of the campaign but retain membership of NGAA the outcomes of the campaign won't be necessarily be shared with non-contributors and if Council chooses not to be part of the campaign or NGAA there will be no outcomes specifically for Council.

7. Options

Options for Council to consider are:

- a) That Council join with the National Growth Areas Alliance (NGAA) in leading a national conversation which advocates a Federal Infrastructure Fund for Outer Metropolitan Growth Areas; or
- b) That Council show support for the campaign by retaining membership of NGAA but not contributing to the 2-year Campaign as outlined; or
- c) That Council ceases its involvement in the NGAA, therefore not supporting the Campaign or any future involvement in NGAA.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Nil

11.9 LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY 2015

Author: Kate Waters- Coordinator Social Planning and Wellbeing
Presenter: Kel Tori- Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of the results of the Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey 2015, coordinated by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning on behalf of Victorian Councils.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the results of the Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey 2015 and Council Officers make arrangements for a briefing to be provided by JWS Research representatives to assist Council in the interpretation of the results.

Crs Majdlik/Turner. That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

Council has received the research report in relation to the Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey 2015. This annual survey is coordinated and auspiced by Local Government Victoria on behalf of Local Governments. It provides a coordinated approach to cost effective surveying to gain an indication of the community's perception of the performance of Local Government authorities in the state. JWS Research is contracted to implement and analyse the survey.

Melton City Council has for some years been a participant in this survey and the results for 2015 have been strong, with significantly improved index scores on three core performance measures compared with 2014. General improvements have been made in the areas of 'Overall Performance', 'Advocacy', 'Community Consultation' and 'Making Community Decisions'.

Pleasingly 'Overall Performance' increased by four points (63), placing Council ahead of the Interface group average (62) and the state wide average (60). This year an additional question was included in relation to sealed local roads.

Council officers are further mining the data provided to better understand the messages coming out and in this regard it is proposed that the JWS Research, who conducted the survey, be invited to present to Council so Council might better understand the intricacies of the information provided.

2. Background/Issues

Each year Local Government Victoria on behalf of Victorian Councils undertake a state-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey. The Department of Environment, Land,

Water and Planning coordinated the survey, contracting JWS Research to implement and analyse it.

Each Local Government authority has the option of participating in the survey or commissioning their own individual survey to meet the requirements specified by the Department. Melton City Council has consistently chosen to participate. In 2015, 69 local governments participated in the survey.

In addition, Council opted to commission a Household Customer Satisfaction Survey 2014/2015. This survey provides comparable data and the opportunity to ask a wider breadth of questions. It also uses an alternate method (door to door interviewing) and has an increased sample size of 800 households (compared to 400). The results of the Household Customer Satisfaction Survey were presented at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 10 March 2015.

The results of the Household Customer Satisfaction Survey were presented at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 10 March 2015. Overall, the results were pleasing, including:

- Overall satisfaction with Council's performance was rated 6.84 (out of 10). This is above the western region (6.47) and metropolitan Melbourne (6.53) ratings.
- Satisfaction with Council's performance in seeking community opinion and feedback was rated at 6.72 (out of 10). This result is marginally higher than both the western region (6.63) and metropolitan Melbourne (6.51) averages.
- Satisfaction with Council's representation, lobbying and advocacy was rated at 6.72 (out of 10). This result is slightly higher than the western region average (6.55) and the metropolitan Melbourne average (6.28).
- Satisfaction with Council's performance maintaining the trust and confidence of the local community was rated at 6.70 (out of 10). This is also higher than both the western region (6.44) and metropolitan Melbourne (6.42) averages.
- Satisfaction with Council's customer service was rated 8.81 (out of 10). This is also higher than both the western region (7.73) and metropolitan Melbourne (7.73) averages.

Although some questions/themes do overlap between the Household Customer Satisfaction Survey 2014/2015 and the Community Satisfaction Survey 2015 direct comparisons should be made with caution. Generally, the results of the two surveys are on par – with the results of the Household Customer Satisfaction Survey slightly higher.

Methodology and Sampling

The objective of the Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey is to assess the community's perception of the performance of Council across a range of measures and to seek insight into ways to provide improved or more effective service delivery. The survey also provides Council with a means to fulfil some of its statutory reporting requirements as well as acting as a feedback mechanism to Local Government Victoria.

The survey is conducted by Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18 years and above within the City of Melton.

A survey sample matched to the demographic profile of the City of Melton, as determined by the most recent ABS population estimates, was purchased from an accredited supplier of publicly available phone records. This included up to 10% of mobile phone numbers to cater to the municipality's diversity of residents, particularly younger people.

The sample size for the survey was 400 and interviews were conducted during the period inclusive 1 February to 30 March 2015 (the sample size has remained the same each year).

Summary of Survey Results

A summary of the survey results are detailed in the below table (index scores out of 100):

Performance Measures	MCC 2012	MCC 2013	MCC 2014	MCC 2015	Interface 2015*	State 2015
Overall Performance	64	58	59	63	62	60
Community Consultation (Community consultation and engagement)	61	55	55	59	57	56
Advocacy (Lobbying on behalf of the community)	58	52	53	58	56	55
Making Community Decisions (Decisions made in the interest of the community)	n/a	n/a	57	60	58	55
Sealed Local Roads (Condition of sealed local roads)	n/a	n/a	n/a	62	60	55
Customer Service	74	67	73	70	72	70
Overall Council Direction	58	54	57	57	54	53

* Participating Interface local governments included Cardinia, Casey, Mornington Peninsula, Whittlesea and Yarra Ranges.

Key Findings

Key findings as detailed in the report forwarded to Council by JWS Research are (index scores out of 100):

- 1) Council's performance has been particularly strong over the last 12 months, with significantly improved index scores on three core performance measures as compared with 2014. In most cases the improvement can be attributed to much more favourable responses in 2015 from 18-34 year olds and residents living in the eastern corridor.
- 2) The **overall performance** index of 63 represents a four point increase on 2014 and the highest score since 2012. This lift in 2015 places Melton City Council ahead of the Interface group average (62) and well ahead of the State-wide average (60).
- 3) Council performance on **advocacy** has also improved significantly in 2015. The index score of 58 is a five point improvement on 2014 and is again ahead of Interface (56) and State-wide (55) averages.
- 4) On the issue of **community consultation**, Council has also achieved a significantly improved performance score. The index score of 59 in 2015 is a four point improvement on the 2014 result and is also ahead of Interface (57) and state-wide (56) averages.
- 5) **Making community decisions** is yet another area of improved performance, increasing three points to an index score of 60 in 2015 and is ahead of comparable council averages.
 - a. On this issue the improvement in 2015 is largely due to more favourable ratings from female residents (index score of 63, up five points).

- 6) Performance on **overall Council direction** is stable at 57 and unchanged from 2014.
 - a. While the majority of residents (64%) believe Council direction has stayed the same over the last 12 months, 22% perceive that Council direction has improved, a very similar result to 2014.
- 7) Measurement of performance on **sealed local roads** is a new core measure for 2015. The index score of 62 suggests residents are generally satisfied with Council performance in this area as it is well ahead of the State-wide average (55).
- 8) Council performs best on **customer service** with an index score of 70. While this is the strongest result for Council across the core measures, this result is three points lower than 2014 and is the only area where Council achieves a lower result than the Interface Council average (72).
 - a. It is worth noting that the proportion of residents making contact with Council over the last 12 months (54%) is significantly lower than the previous year (61%) and is in fact the lowest proportion since 2012.

JWS Research recommends Council further mine the survey data to better understand the profile of these over and under-performing demographic groups. Council officers have commenced the work of dissecting the information provided to better interpret the data detail.

3. Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

1. Managing our Growth: A clear vision to connect and develop a sustainable City

1.1 Strategically plan for a well designed and built City

A number of performance indicators detailed within the Council Plan 2013 - 2017 are directly derived from the Community Satisfaction Survey. As such, it is an important tool for Council in measuring, monitoring and reviewing the Council Plan.

4. Financial Considerations

Costs incurred to participate in the Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey is budgeted for within Council's annual recurrent budget.

The cost for participating in 2015 was \$9750 inclusive of GST.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

The community satisfaction survey is of itself a form of direct consultation with community. There is no proposal to seek public submissions in relation to the survey as it is qualitative data for Council assessment.

6. Risk Analysis

With any survey the risk of a false or misleading outcome increases as the sample size reduces. It is to be noted that this survey is based on a sample of 400 which is statistically significant; however greater certainty in terms of the survey's outcomes would be obtained by increasing the sample size. This however would come at an additional cost to Council.

7. Options

Council does have the option to continue both the Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey and the Council commissioned Household Customer Satisfaction Survey

- this would however come at considerable cost. Council may also choose to participate in one form of surveying. A number of municipalities have chosen to undertake more detailed surveys with larger sample sizes under their own direction rather than participating in the combined project run by the department.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Nil

11.10 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

Author: Kel Tori- Chief Executive Officer

Presenter: Peter Bean- General Manager Corporate Services

Having previously declared an interest in Item 5, Cr Ramsey removed herself from the Chair and left the Chamber with Mr Tori having also declared an interest. In the absence of the Deputy Mayor, Cr Ramsey nominated Cr Turner to assume the Chair. Cr Turner then assumed the Chair.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of an invitation received from UNESCO Institute of Lifelong Learning (UIL) to have a Melton City Council delegation attend the 2nd International Conference to be held in Mexico City, 28-30 September 2015.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council determine the appropriate delegation to represent Melton City at the 2nd International Conference on Learning Cities in Mexico City from 28-30 September 2015.

Motion

Crs Majdlik/Bentley

That Council approval be given for the Mayor, Cr Ramsey, CEO Kel Tori and Lifelong Learning Officer Peter Blunden to attend the Conference.

Cr Majdlik called for a division of Council

For:

Crs Bentley, Majdlik, Ramsey and Turner

Against:

Cr Carli

The Mayor declared the division CARRIED

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

Melton City Council is a partner City in the UNESCO Global Network learning Cities, and has received an invitation to send a delegation to the 2nd International Learning Conference in Mexico City in September 2015.

The conference agenda features a UIL case study on Melton and the ACELG framework which also features Melton. There is also a section in the agenda to promote collaboration amongst Mayors of Learning Communities, and given Mayor Cr Ramsey's role as chair of the Community Learning Board this would be of benefit.

2. Background/Issues

Melton was the first Victorian local authority to adopt a Community Learning Plan, and has been proactive in the "Lifelong Learning" space over an extended period. This includes

hosting the National Learning Communities Conference in 2012, the theme of which was "Learning for the New Economy".

In more recent times, the Melton Community Learning Board contributed significantly to the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Governments (ACELG) publication "Learning Community Framework and Measuring Impact Tool Kit", which is now available on the ACELG website.

The Measuring Impact Tool Kit has been designed as a practical resource, providing templates for planning, reporting and checklists and Australian examples of Community Learning Plans. The Official launch of the report will occur at the Conference in conjunction with the paper "Collective Impact Assessment Tool", authored by Dr Shanti Wong and Peter Blunden, Council's Lifelong Learning Coordinator, which is to be published on the UIL website, and is the subject of Mr Blunden's presentation to a Learning Conference in Korea June, 2015.

3. Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

1. Managing our Growth: A clear vision to connect and develop a sustainable City
 - 1.3 *Generate an innovative local economy that stimulates opportunities for investment, business and training*
1. Managing our Growth: A clear vision to connect and develop a sustainable City
 - 3.4 *Provide lifelong learning opportunities to build social connections and self development*

The Economic Development and Tourism Plan – Four Year Action Plan 2014-2017 references:

- 1.1 Promote and facilitate business activity and investment across the City to support the creation of a diverse range of local employment opportunities.
 - 1.1.3 *Host international delegations to promote local investment opportunities.*

4. Financial Considerations

The cost of attendance per person is estimated at:

Airfares	\$2,500.00 approximately
Accommodation	\$1,500.00
Meals	\$ 250.00
Transfers	\$ 200.00
TOTAL	\$4,450.00 per attendee

This cost would be accommodated within recurrent budget.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Attendance at the conference will build on relationships with member countries and can be used to begin a process of facilitating international business delegations sharing learning on sustainability and cultural exchanges. The Learning Cities movement is especially strong in Asia, and Melton is therefore well placed in the Asia Pacific region to take advantage of opportunities that can arise from participating in Global Learning Cities Network.

6. Risk Analysis

Not applicable.

7. Options

Council has the options to approve a delegation that best represents Council's level of engagement with the objectives of the UNESCO Global Learning Centre movement.

Options are:

- a) Decline to participate
- b) Approve Lifelong Learning Officer, Peter Blunden to attend
- c) Approve Mayor, Cr Ramsey and Lifelong Learning Officer, Mr Peter Blunden to attend
- d) Approve Mayor, Cr Ramsey, CEO Mr Kel Tori and Lifelong Learning Officer Mr Peter Blunden to attend the conference
- e) Other.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Nil

Cr Ramsey and Mr Tori returned the Chamber.

Cr Turner vacated the Chair and assumed his seat in Chamber, and Cr Ramsey assumed the Chair.

12. REPORTS FROM DELEGATES APPOINTED TO OTHER BODIES

Verbal reports were received from Crs Majdlik, Carli, Turner and Ramsey .

13. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**13.1 RECORD OF ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 80A(1) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989**

- 2 June 2015
- 9 June 2015
- 16 June 2015

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Record of Assembly of Councillors attached to this Agenda dated 2 June, 9 June and 16 June be received and noted.

Crs Majdlik/Carli That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Record of Assembly of Councillors 2 June 2015
2. Record of Assembly of Councillors 9 June 2015
3. Record of Assembly of Councillors 16 June 2015

13.2 PUBLIC ADDRESS BY EACH COUNCILLOR

Crs Majdlik, Carli, Bentley, Turner, and Ramsey addressed the chamber in respect of a variety of matters of significance.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.

15. COUNCILLOR'S QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil.

16. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Cr Carli

That at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council, a report be prepared with the full costs of holding every second Ordinary Council Meeting at the Caroline Springs Library/Civic Centre for the remainder of this council term.

17. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

18. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**Procedural Motion**

Crs Majdlik/Turner

That pursuant to Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act (1989) the meeting be closed to the public to consider the following reports, that are considered confidential for the reasons indicated:

18.1 2014-15 Community Grants Program

This report is confidential in accordance with s89(2)(h) as it relates to any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

18.2 Contract No. 15/045 - Provision of Information Technology Hosted Infrastructure Services (Cloud Services)

This report is confidential in accordance with s89(2)(d) as it relates to contractual matters.

18.3 Contract No 15/042 Fleet Fuel and Maintenance Card Services

This report is confidential in accordance with s89(2)(d) as it relates to contractual matters.

18.4 Appointment of Contract No. 15/013 for the Construction of the Bridge Road Sports Pavilion

This report is confidential in accordance with s89(2)(d) as it relates to contractual matters.

CARRIED

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Crs Majdlik/Carli. That the meeting be opened to the public.

CARRIED

19. CLOSE OF BUSINESS

The meeting closed at 9.03pm.

Confirmed

Dated this

.....CHAIRPERSON