



MELTON CITY COUNCIL

**Notice is hereby given that the Meeting of the
Melton City Council will be held in the
Council Chamber, Civic Centre,
232 High Street, Melton on
24 April 2023 at 7.00pm.**

**THIS AGENDA CONTAINS REPORTS TO BE DEALT
WITH AT A CLOSED MEETING OF COUNCIL**

**Roslyn Wai
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Visitors to the Gallery please note:

Proceedings at Council meetings are controlled by the Chairperson. The Chairperson is empowered to enforce the provision of Council's Governance Rules, which includes the following aspects:

- Members of the public do not have a right to address Council and may only do so with the consent of the Chair or by prior arrangement.
- Any member of the public addressing Council must extend due courtesy and respect to Council and the processes under which it operates and must take direction from the Chair whenever called on to do so.
- A member of the public present at a Council meeting must not disrupt the meeting.
- The Chair may order and cause the removal of any person, other than a Councillor, who disrupts any meeting or fails to comply with a direction given under sub-Rule 67.2.
- If the Chair is of the opinion that disorder at the Council table or in the gallery makes it desirable to adjourn the Council meeting, he or she may adjourn the meeting to a later time on the same day or to some later day as he or she thinks proper.
- The Chair may ask the Chief Executive Officer or a member of the Victoria Police to remove from the Chamber any person who acts in breach of the Governance Rules and whom the Chair has ordered to be removed from the gallery under Rule 68.
- Members of the public in the gallery must not operate **recording equipment** at a Council or Committee Meeting without the prior written consent of Council.
- **Question time** is available at every Scheduled Meeting to enable members of the public to address questions to Council. All questions must be received by the Chief Executive Officer or other person nominated for this purpose no later than 12pm on the day of the Scheduled Meeting by submitting questions into the receptacle designated for public questions at the Customer Service Desk, or via electronic medium as per Council website directions.

A person must not submit more than two (2) individual questions at a meeting, inclusive of all parts and variants as interpreted by the Chairperson or other person authorised for this purpose by the Chairperson.

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1. **OPENING PRAYER AND RECONCILIATION STATEMENT**

The Chairperson will read the opening prayer and reconciliation statement.

Prayer

‘Almighty God we humbly beseech Thee to vouchsafe Thy blessing upon this Council, direct and prosper its deliberations to the advancement of Thy glory and the welfare of the people whom we serve – Amen.’

Reconciliation Statement

Melton City Council acknowledges that the land it now occupies has a history that began with the Indigenous occupants, the Kulin Nation. Council pays its respects to the Kulin Nation people and their Elders and descendants past and present.

2. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The Chairperson will call for any apologies received from any Councillors who are unable to attend this meeting.

3. CHANGES TO THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

4. DEPUTATIONS

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

Pursuant to Part 6, Division 2 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Governance Rules, Councillors must declare any General Conflict of Interest or Material Conflict of Interest they have in any of the matters being considered at this meeting.

6. ADOPTION AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 27 March 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

7. SUMMARY OF INFORMAL MEETING OF COUNCILLORS

7.1 SUMMARY OF INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 6, RULE 1 OF THE COUNCIL'S GOVERNANCE RULES

- Monday 20 March 2023 Summary of Informal Meeting of Councillors
- Monday 27 March 2023 Summary of Informal Meeting of Councillors
- Wednesday 29 March 2023 Summary of Informal Meeting of Councillors
- Monday 3 April 2023 Summary of Informal Meeting of Councillors
- Wednesday 5 April 2023 Summary of Informal Meeting of Councillors

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Summaries of Informal Meetings of Councillors dated 20 March 2023, 27 March 2023, 29 March 2023, 3 April 2023 and 5 April 2023 provided as **Appendices 1 - 5** respectively to this report, be received and noted.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Summary of Informal Meeting of Councillors - 20 March 2023
2. Summary of Informal Meeting of Councillors - 27 March 2023
3. Summary of Informal Meeting of Councillors - 29 March 2023
4. Summary of Informal Meeting of Councillors - 3 April 2023
5. Summary of Informal Meeting of Councillors - 5 April 2023



INFORMAL MEETING OF COUNCILLORS

Chapter 6, Rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020

MEETING DETAILS:			
Meeting Name:	Briefing of Councillors		
Meeting Date:	Monday 20 March 2023	Time Opened:	6.14 pm
		Time Closed:	8.40 pm
Councillors present:	Cr L Carli (Mayor) Cr J Shannon (Deputy Mayor) Cr G Kesic Cr K Majdlik (arrived 6.25pm) Cr S Ramsey Cr B Turner Cr A Vandenberg		
Officers present:	R Wai Chief Executive Officer S Romaszko Director City Futures T Scoble Director City Life N Whiteside Director City Delivery P Leersen Director Organisational Performance L Shannon Executive Lead Strategic Initiatives B Baggio Manager Planning Services (departed 7.43pm) R Hodgson Governance Coordinator		
Guests	Nil		
Apologies	Cr S Abboushi Cr J Farrugia		
Matters discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillor Discussion <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Customer Action Requests - Service Standards b) Melton Civic Centre Internet Service c) Autism Awareness Day 2 April 2023 2. Council Meeting Agenda 3. Councillor Discussion <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Homelessness in the municipality 4. Officer Updates <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Youth Engagement Fund b) Community Members on Committees of Council c) Budget Update d) Recent Media Coverage and Confidentiality of Information provided to Councillors in emails e) Citizenship Ceremonies 		
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES:			
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No		
REPORT PRODUCED BY:			
Officer name:	Renee Hodgson	Date:	Monday 20 March 2023



INFORMAL MEETING OF COUNCILLORS

Chapter 6, Rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020

MEETING DETAILS:

Meeting Name:	Briefing of Councillors		
Meeting Date:	Monday 27 March 2023	Time Opened:	6.14 pm
		Time Closed:	6.58 pm
Councillors present:	Cr L Carli (Mayor) Cr J Shannon (Deputy Mayor) Cr S Abboushi Cr J Farrugia Cr G Kesic Cr K Majdlik Cr S Ramsey Cr B Turner Cr A Vandenberg		
Officers present:	R Wai Chief Executive Officer S Romaszko Director City Futures N Whiteside Director City Delivery P Leersen Director Organisational Performance L Shannon Executive Lead Strategic Initiatives C Crameri Manager Community Care B Baggio Manager Planning Services R Hodgson Governance Coordinator		
Guests	Nil		
Apologies	Nil		
Matters discussed:	1. Personal Interests Returns 2. Council Meeting Agenda		
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES:			
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No		
REPORT PRODUCED BY:			
Officer name:	Renee Hodgson	Date:	Monday 27 March 2023



INFORMAL MEETING OF COUNCILLORS

Chapter 6, Rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020

MEETING DETAILS:			
Meeting Name:	Briefing of Councillors		
Meeting Date:	Wednesday 29 March 2023	Time Opened:	6.10 pm
		Time Closed:	8.10 pm
Councillors present:	Cr L Carli (Mayor) Cr J Shannon (Deputy Mayor) Cr J Farrugia Cr G Kesic Cr K Majdlik Cr S Ramsey Cr B Turner Cr A Vandenberg		
Officers present:	R Wai	Chief Executive Officer	
	S Romaszko	Director City Futures	
	T Scoble	Director City Life	
	N Whiteside	Director City Delivery	
	P Leersen	Director Organisational Performance	
	L Shannon	Executive Lead Strategic Initiatives	
	N Marino	Manager Finance	
	C Nichols	Revenue Coordinator	
Guests	Nil		
Apologies	Cr S Abboushi		
Matters discussed:	Draft Budget 2023/24: - Budget Influences - Draft Operating Budget - Rating Information - Major Fee Variances.		
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES:			
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No		
REPORT PRODUCED BY:			
Officer name:	Roslyn Wai	Date:	29/03/2023



INFORMAL MEETING OF COUNCILLORS

Chapter 6, Rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020

MEETING DETAILS:			
Meeting Name:	Briefing of Councillors		
Meeting Date:	Monday 3 April 2023	Time Opened:	6.14 pm
		Time Closed:	9.20 pm
Councillors present:	Cr L Carli (Mayor) Cr J Shannon (Deputy Mayor) Cr S Abboushi Cr K Majdlik (arrived 6.19pm) Cr S Ramsey Cr B Turner Cr A Vandenberg		
Officers present:	R Wai Chief Executive Officer S Romaszko Director City Futures T Scoble Director City Life N Whiteside Director City Delivery P Leersen Director Organisational Performance (CFO) L Shannon Executive Lead Strategic Initiatives M Kruger Head of Governance (departed 8.26pm) S McManus Manager Engagement and Advocacy (departed 6.47pm) J Horne Manager Environment and Waste (departed 7.18pm) H Taylor Manager Arts, Events & Economic Development (departed 6.47pm) M Hutchinson Manager Engineering Services (departed 7.18pm) R Hodgson Governance Coordinator (departed 8.26pm)		
Guests	Nil		
Apologies	Cr G Kesic Cr J Farrugia		
Matters discussed:	1. Response to Notice of Motion 833 – Parking on Westcott Parade, Rockbank 2. Response to Notice of Motion 789 – Beautiful Nature Strip Competition 3. 2023 Events and Days of Significance 4. Update on Response to Notice of Motion 813 – Australian, Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, and Melton City Council Flags 5. Update on Troups Road South Project 6. Windfall Gains Tax Legislation 7. General Updates for Councillor Awareness 8. Draft Budget 2023/24 – Community Submissions		
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES:			
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?			Yes
Matter No.	Councillor making disclosure	Councillor left meeting	
Community Submissions	Cr Shannon	Yes	
REPORT PRODUCED BY:			
Officer name:	Renee Hodgson	Date:	Monday 3 April 2023



INFORMAL MEETING OF COUNCILLORS

Chapter 6, Rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020

MEETING DETAILS:			
Meeting Name:	Briefing of Councillors		
Meeting Date:	Wednesday 5 April 2023	Time Opened:	6.15 pm
		Time Closed:	9.21 pm
Councillors present:	Cr L Carli (Mayor) Cr J Shannon (Deputy Mayor) Cr S Abboushi Cr J Farrugia Cr G Kesic Cr K Majdlik Cr S Ramsey Cr B Turner Cr A Vandenberg		
Officers present:	R Wai Chief Executive Officer S Romaszko Director City Futures T Scoble Director City Life N Whiteside Director City Delivery P Leersen Director Organisational Performance L Shannon Executive Lead Strategic Initiatives N Marino Manager Finance M Courtney ePMO Manager		
Guests	Nil		
Apologies	Nil		
Matters discussed:	Draft Capital Budget 2023/24: a) Councillor Submissions b) Other Budget Submissions c) Draft 2023/24 Capital Plan		
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES:			
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No		
REPORT PRODUCED BY:			
Officer name:	Peter Leersen	Date:	13 April 2023

8. CORRESPONDENCE INWARD

8.1 PARLIAMENTARIAN AND DEPARTMENTAL LETTERS RECEIVED BY THE MAYOR

- The Hon. Melissa Horne MP – Minister for Local Government

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive and note the following Parliamentarian and Departmental letters, received by the Mayor, provided as **Appendix 1** to this report:

1. The Hon. Melissa Horne MP – Minister for Local Government – Acknowledgement of receipt of Melton City Council's 2023-2024 Victorian State Budget Submission.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. The Hon. Melissa Horne MP – Minister for Local Government dated 17 April 2023



Hon Melissa Horne MP

Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Ports and Freight
Minister for Roads and Road Safety

1 Spring Street
Melbourne, Victoria 3000 Australia
Telephone: +61 3 8392 8020

Ref: CMIN-2-23-19231

Cr Lara Carli
Mayor
Melton City Council
232 High Street
MELTON VIC 3337
lara.carli@melton.vic.gov.au

Dear Cr Carli

Thank you for your letter of 28 March 2023, regarding Melton City Council's 2023-2024 Victorian State Government Budget Submission.

I appreciate you taking the time and effort to write to me about this matter.

I note the identified priorities for government consideration and appreciate being made aware of the Melton City Council's key priorities ahead of the 2022-23 Victorian Budget deliberations.

It is important for Councils and government to continue working together and investing in projects that will support economic recovery and local employment. Your submission will be considered and subject to budget considerations ahead of the 2022-23 Victorian Budget.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to me

Yours sincerely

The Hon. Melissa Horne MP
Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Ports and Freight
Minister for Roads and Road Safety

Date: 17/04/2023

9. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

The Chief Executive will table any petitions and/or joint letters received prior to this meeting.

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

Nil.

11. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

12. PRESENTATION OF STAFF REPORTS

12.1 LEADWEST JOINT DELEGATED COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Author: Renee Hodgson - Governance Coordinator
Presenter: Megan Kruger - Head of Governance

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present the minutes of the LeadWest Joint Delegated Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the unconfirmed minutes of the LeadWest Joint Delegated Committee meeting held 29 March 2023, provided as **Appendix 1** to this report.

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

The purpose of the LeadWest Committee is to oversee the preparation and implementation of the LeadWest Strategic Plan and identified sub projects as adopted and agreed by member Councils.

The minutes attached to this report are the unconfirmed minutes of the LeadWest Joint Delegated Committee meeting held 29 March 2023.

2. Background/Issues

The LeadWest Committee was established as a Joint Delegated Committee pursuant to s64 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), with the Cities of Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Maribyrnong, Melton, and Wyndham, on and from 1 August 2021.

It has delegated powers and functions in an Instrument of Delegation and Schedule and has Terms of Reference that govern its operations, meeting, and reporting arrangements. These were both approved and adopted by Council on 28 June 2021.

Attached to this report are the unconfirmed minutes of the LeadWest Joint Delegated Committee meeting held 29 March 2023.

3. Council and Wellbeing Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2021-2025 Council and Wellbeing Plan references:

6. A high performing organisation that demonstrates civic leadership and organisational excellence
 - 6.3 *An organisation that demonstrates excellence in civic leadership and governance.*

4. Financial Considerations

The ongoing budget for the LeadWest Committee will include two components. Firstly, to deliver the projects in the four-year implementation plan, recommendations will be made to member Councils for consideration in each Council's annual budgeting process. Secondly, a payment of a base contribution to apply equally to all Councils.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

The LeadWest Committee provides a mechanism for a regional approach to advocacy and the delivery of a ten-year Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan is underpinned by a rolling four-year implementation plan which will be delivered by teams from across the six Councils implementing specific projects. This Plan was prepared following extensive consultation including a focus on engaging Councillors from the member Councils.

6. Risk Analysis

Nil.

7. Options

That Council note the minutes of the LeadWest Joint Delegated Committee as per the recommendation to this report.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. LeadWest Joint Delegated Committee Meeting Minutes - 29 March 2023

Minutes

LeadWest Joint Delegated Committee



Meeting Details

Title:	LeadWest Joint Delegated Committee	
Date:	29 March 2023	Time: 3:30pm – 4:40pm
Location:	Online via Teams	
Chairperson:	Cr Sophie Ramsey	
Attendees:	Brimbank City Council	CEO, Fiona Blair
	Hobsons Bay City Council	Cr Matt Tyler CEO, Aaron van Egmond
	Maribyrnong City Council	CEO, Celia Haddock
	Melton City Council	Cr Sophie Ramsey CEO, Roslyn Wai
	Wyndham City Council	Mayor, Cr Peter Maynard CEO, Stephen Wall
	Premier Strategy	Taryn Schultz, Team Leader - Advocacy & Communications Dina Jones, Secretariat Lead
Conflict of interest:	No conflicts of interest declared.	
Guests:	Georgie Hill, Director Advocacy Partnerships and Community Engagement	Brimbank City Council
	Elie Khalil, Senior Advisor, Strategic Advocacy & Engagement	Brimbank City Council
Apologies:	Mayor Cr Bruce Lancashire	Brimbank City Council
	Cr Virginia Tachos (proxy)	Brimbank City Council
	Deputy Mayor, Cr Cuc Lam	Maribyrnong City Council
Minute taker:	Dina Jones	Secretariat Lead

Meeting Items

No.	Topic	Key discussion points
1.	Welcome & Apologies	The Chair welcomed all in attendance and opened the meeting at 3:35pm.
2.	Conflicts of interest to be declared in accordance with the 'Local Government Act 2020'	No conflicts of interest were declared.
3.	Minutes from the meeting held 14 December 2022	The minutes from the meeting held 14 December 2022 were adopted without amendment. <i>Moved: Cr Peter Maynard</i> <i>Seconded: Celia Haddock</i>
4.	Matters arising from the meeting held 14 December 2022	The LeadWest Committee noted the completed matters arising. <i>Moved: Stephen Wall</i> <i>Seconded: Cr Matt Tyler</i>
5.	LeadWest advocacy update	Dina Jones gave a brief update on all advocacy activities over the past 12 months, as outlined in the briefing paper. The LeadWest Committee noted the update provided by Premier Strategy. <i>Moved: Cr Peter Maynard</i> <i>Seconded: Cr Matt Tyler</i>
6.	Parliament House event brief	<p>Elie Khalil provided an update on the planning for the MP event, as outlined in the briefing paper.</p> <p>The proposed invitation list was discussed and whether external stakeholders such as the WoMEDA board or VU board members should also be invited. It was discussed and agreed, that the Mayors, LW Delegates, CEOs and relevant Advocacy staff would attend, with at least two Councillors attending per council, where the delegate is also the Mayor. It was agreed that external stakeholders, ie WoMEDA and VU would not be invited.</p> <p>Cr Ramsey requested a regular update on RSVPs.</p> <p>It was also discussed and agreed to send out the event invitation imminently given that the invitation list has been confirmed, instead of an initial save the date invitation.</p> <p>It was agreed that Brimbank Council would finalise and approve the invitation, based on the draft invitation in the briefing.</p> <p>Action: CEOs to work with the Advocacy Officers to send out calendar invitations and manage the RSVPs.</p> <p>Cr Tyler raised the question whether the committee should meet prior to the event to discuss a strategic approach to the event based on outcomes to date and specific ask to government.</p> <p>Georgie confirmed that the Advocacy Officers were in the process of reviewing and analysing the status of the ask to government and would be able to share this before the event.</p> <p>It was discussed and agreed that all LW representatives attending the event should be briefed and be in a position to stay on message.</p> <p>It was discussed that the next LW delegate committee meeting would be brought forward to allow time to be briefed prior to the event.</p> <p>The LeadWest Committee:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted the update on the event planned at Parliament House on 21 June; Confirmed the modified invitation list, as per discussion; Endorsed the draft invitation. <p><i>Moved: Cr Peter Maynard</i> <i>Seconded: Cr Matt Tyler</i></p>
7. LeadWest model going forward	Taryn Schulz and Dina Jones left the meeting at this point. Therefore, there are no minutes for this agenda item.
8. Finance report	<p>Cr Maynard referred to the financial paper included in the agenda. Stephen Wall added that the committee is in a healthy position.</p> <p>It was noted that Cr Tyler has declined to accept the position of Deputy Chair of the Finance Subcommittee. Cr Ramsey nominated to be the deputy, should Cr Maynard as Chair need support.</p> <p>The LeadWest Committee noted the financial report.</p> <p><i>Moved: Cr Peter Maynard</i> <i>Seconded: Stephen Wall</i></p>
9. Other Business	<p>Cr Ramsey questioned the merit for LW to continue to attend the Sunshine Precinct Community Reference Group (CRG), to which the LW Chair gets invited. It is a ministerial appointment, however appointees require to sign a confidentiality agreement and can't share the minutes with LW. Brimbank representatives are also invited.</p> <p>Meetings are held on a Monday, however Cr Ramsey can't attend meetings on a Monday, so it was discussed and agreed, that Cr Maynard as the Deputy Chair would continue to be the LW representative, subject to this being acceptable, for the time being.</p> <p>The next meeting is on Monday 3rd April, however neither Cr Maynard nor Cr Ramsey can attend.</p> <p>It was resolved that Fiona Blair would forward both Cr Ramsey's and Cr Maynard's apologies to the chair.</p> <p>Cr Ramsey thanked Premier Strategy for their guidance over the last 12 months and looks forward to working with Premier Strategy in future.</p> <p>Cr Ramsey asked all CEOs to coordinate calendars to organise a meeting on or around the 7th June at Brimbank to discuss the event and to be briefed.</p>
10. Closure of meeting	The Chair thanked all in attendance and closed the meeting at 4:40pm.
Next meeting:	TBC – Brimbank to coordinate calendars and set the date and whether it will be online or in person.

12.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL - AGGREGATED MEETING MINUTES

Author: Renee Hodgson - Governance Coordinator
Presenter: Megan Kruger - Head of Governance

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present the aggregated minutes of Advisory Committee meetings yet to be considered by Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive the minutes of the following Advisory Committee meetings, provided as **Appendices 1 - 3** to this report, and adopt the recommendations arising within the respective Minutes:

- 1) Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee – 9 November 2022
 - 2) Preventing Family Violence Committee – 15 February 2023
 - 3) Intercultural Advisory Committee – 22 February 2023
-

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

Whilst not mentioned in the *Local Government Act 2020* (the 2020 Act), Council has the power to create Advisory Committees pursuant to its general power set out in section 10 of the 2020 Act.

The minutes of the Advisory Committees attached to this report form the written record of the committee meetings, including any matters considered and any conflicts of interest disclosed.

The minutes also serve as the advice/recommendations to Council for its consideration.

2. Background/Issues

An Advisory Committee is a committee established by Council to provide advice to it or its delegate. Whilst not mentioned in the 2020 Act, Council has the power to create Advisory Committees pursuant to its general power set out in section 10 of the 2020 Act.

All Advisory Committees are subject to their individual Terms of Reference. The membership varies depending upon the committee's specific role. Committee membership will generally comprise a Councillor(s), council staff and community representatives and may include key stakeholders, subject matter experts and/or community service providers and organisations.

Councillor representation on Advisory Committees is generally for one year and is reviewed annually. The composition of Advisory Committees for the 2022/23 municipal year was approved by Council at its Scheduled Meeting on 12 December 2022.

The minutes of the following Advisory Committees, attached to this report, form the written record of the committee meetings detailing matters considered and any conflicts of interest disclosed.

The minutes also serve as the advice/recommendations to Council.

Meeting Date	Advisory Committee	Attached
9 November 2022	Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee	Appendix 1
15 February 2023	Preventing Family Violence Committee	Appendix 2
22 February 2023	Intercultural Advisory Committee	Appendix 3

3. Council and Wellbeing Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2021-2025 Council and Wellbeing Plan references:

6. A high performing organisation that demonstrates civic leadership and organisational excellence

6.3 An organisation that demonstrates excellence in civic leadership and governance.

4. Financial Considerations

Advisory Committees are not responsible for operational expenditure and cannot direct Council officers to act without the consent of Council. Operational expenses and administrative actions arising from an Advisory Committee meeting are accommodated within Council's recurrent budgets, unless otherwise requested within the minutes of the meeting and detailed in a recommendation to Council for consideration.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Advisory Committees are one method of Council consulting and communicating with the community. Such a Committee may be established to provide strategic level input into a broad area of Council operations, such as community safety or arts and culture. An Advisory Committee may also be established for a specific time-limited project, such as a review of a Local Law.

6. Risk Analysis

With a mandatory responsibility to report to Council and being restricted to making recommendations for Council consideration, risks attached to Advisory Committee actions are substantially mitigated.

It is prudent for Council to carefully consider any and all recommendations arising from Advisory Committee minutes, as Advisory Committees may canvass significant issues and significant expenditure in their deliberations.

7. Options

Advisory Committees are a Committee of Council, therefore Council has the discretion to accept, reject, amend, or seek further information on any of the Committee minutes and/or recommendations.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee - 9 November 2022
2. Preventing Family Violence Committee - 15 February 2023
3. Intercultural Advisory Committee - 22 February 2023



MINUTES

Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee

held on **Wednesday 9 November 2022 at 6pm, in Caroline Springs Recreation Reserve Pavilion**

Present: Anthony Dyke, Committee Member
Jack Harris, Committee Member
Emily Attard, Committee Member
Terry Azzopardi, Committee Member
Jack Dugonjic, Committee Member
Cr Bob Turner, Councillor, City of Melton
Cr Lara Carli, Councillor, City of Melton
Aaron Biscan, Acting Manager, Recreation and Youth, City of Melton
Nic Willis, Acting Recreation Development Coordinator, City of Melton

Chairperson: Mayor Cr Lara Carli, Councillor, City of Melton

Minute Taker: Nic Willis, Acting Recreation Development Coordinator, City of Melton

1. Welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed all members. Jack Dugonjic introduced himself as this was his first meeting.

2. Apologies

Cr Steve Abboushi, Councillor, City of Melton
Sebastian Buccheri, Committee Member

3. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests

Nil

4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

Minutes from the 27 July 2022 meeting were noted at the 14 November 2022 Ordinary Council meeting.

5. Business Arising

Actions from July 27, 2022, meeting completed:

- N. Willis to send email to committee members asking for their feedback on the DRAFT AFL Strategy
- K.Carauna to send email to committee members a short survey to capture feedback to help develop the draft Sport and Recreation Facility policy.
- K.Carauna to provide a map of Plumpton PSP . Nic Willis sent to committee members on 3/11/2022

6. General Business

6.1 City of Melton DRAFT AFL and Cricket Strategies

A.Biscan provided a short presentation on the City of Melton Cricket Strategy and the City of Melton AFL Strategy.

It was noted that committee members had been provided with a copy of both strategies prior to the meeting for comment.

The strategies have been developed to plan for change, providing Council with a plan that is supported by evidence and flexible over time.

Feedback was received that development of new clubs may impact on the sustainability of existing clubs and that support should be provided to existing clubs as well as new clubs. This feedback was noted and advice provided that the strategies support the sustainable growth and development of all (existing and new) clubs. The strategies recognise the need to establish new clubs in new communities to help grow a diverse football and cricket community and address issues resulting from the emergence of super clubs.

- The committee were very supportive of both strategies.

The next steps to finalise the strategies were discussed. Engagement on both strategies will close early December. Both strategies will be presented at an Ordinary Meeting of Council. Recreation Officers will also meet with AFL and Cricket Victoria to discuss the implementation process in 2023.

6.2 City of Melton Tennis Strategy

A.Biscan informed the committee that the City of Melton Tennis Strategy is being developed. The Strategy will guide the future planning, development, governance and growth of tennis across the municipality for the next 10 years. The Tennis Strategy is being developed to plan for change, providing Council with a plan that is supported by evidence and flexible over time.

A.Biscan informed the committee that public access to tennis courts at venues where clubs are based has been identified as a key issue during stakeholder engagement. The



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committee was asked for feedback on tennis clubs locking courts and charging non-members for court hire.

T.Azzopardi was supportive of this approach as it's a means for tennis clubs to generate an income.

J. Harris commented that social tennis can take away from people joining tennis clubs.

J.Dugonjic was concerned that providing public access to tennis facilities could lead to damage. Understands it's a good way to make money for tennis clubs.

Cr Carli supporting a balance between of both.

A.Dyke asked how do we engage with clubs, together or separately. N.Willis replied that engagement in developing the strategy has occurred separately with Officers meeting with individual club committee members and Tennis Victoria representatives. Regular forums with all tennis clubs and Tennis Victoria are held each year as well and are a means for the tennis community to network and engage with each other.

6.3 Plumpton Aquatic Centre Update

A.Biscan presented a PSP to show the proposed location of the centre. Officers are working on a Business Case to present to Council.

6.4 Community Group Capital Works Contribution Policy

A.Biscan informed the committee that the current Community Group Capital Works Contribution Policy 2012 has expired and that this policy will be rescinded. A new Policy will be developed with engagement through the committee to occur.

6.5 Sports Awards Format

N. Willis presented the committee with the overview of the existing format and procedure for the City of Melton Sport Awards including award categories, format, costs, venue and attendance. The committee discussed as part of a review of the program, if it continues/how it could be part of a broader City of Melton Awards program.

Preference of the Committee was it is well supported by the community and supported Council to continue to hold the Sports Awards in its current format and not be combined with other award events.

T.Azzopardi added that we shouldn't combine the night as people only want to be there for sports awards and not sit through other awards.

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J.Harris commented that awards night has inspiring guest speakers to listen too.

Action

Committee made a recommendation to hold the Sports Awards Night independently from any other event/awards program.

N.Willis to send committee a short survey to explore awards categories

7. Other Business

Cr Carli thanked the committee so far and asked if meeting time could be extended to an hour and half next time to cater for discussions.

Committee agreed to change locations for meetings.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on March 8. Venue TBC

9. Close of Business

The meeting closed at 7.43pm.



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PREVENTING FAMILY VIOLENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on 15 February 2023 at 11:00am, Online. Microsoft Teams.

Present:

Cr Lara Carli	Mayor
Cr Julie Shannon	Deputy Mayor
Cr Sophie Ramsey	Councillor
Jayde McBurnie	Melton City Council (proxy)
Daisy Brundell	Melton City Council
Jessica Chaaban	Melton City Council
Lisa Prentice-Evans	Victoria Police
Josh Golumb	Victoria Police
Kelly Devlin	Brotherhood of St. Laurence (proxy)
Sarah Chong	MiCare (proxy)
Gehan Shehab	Department of Justice and Community Safety
Dylan Aldous	Western Health
Kristi Papp	MacKillop Family Services
Peter Webster	Kirrip Aboriginal Corporation
Colleen Keeffe	Elizabeth Morgan House
Lachlan Tom	Brimbank Melton Community Legal Services

Guests

Smeeta Singh	Orange Door
Mariam Deng	Australian Muslim Women's Centre for Human Rights
Karen Block	The University of Melbourne

Quorum: *Quorum for the committee will require attendance of a minimum of one (1) Councillor, one (1) Council Officer, and comprising 30% of external agency committee members.*

Chairperson: Cr Lara Carli, Mayor

Minute Taker: Jessica Chaaban, Free from Violence Officer

1. Welcome

Mayor Carli opened the meeting at 11:02am.

The Chairperson welcomed all attendees and proceeded with the Acknowledgment of Country. *'Melton City Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land, the people of the Kulin Nations, and pays respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.'*

Mayor Carli welcomed guest Smeeta Singh, Service System Navigator, and introduced Jess Chabaan who is coordinating the Committee on behalf of Council moving forward.

2. Apologies

Christine Levy	Melton City Council
Katie Keating	Victoria Police
Sue Scott	Hope Street Youth and Family Services
Susan Timmins	GenWest
Simone Shirkey	Department of Families, Fairness and Housing



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3. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests

Nil

4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the Preventing Family Violence Advisory Committee meeting held on 9 November 2022 were circulated to the Committee for ratification on 15 November 2022. The minutes were adopted at the 27 February 2023 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

5. Business Arising

5.1 Update on actions from previous meeting – Jessica Chaaban

J Chaaban provided an update on previous advisory committee meeting actions. J Chaaban reminded the group that three PFVAC direction setting questions were circulated at the last meeting, some responses were received, however they would be circulated to members again to allow for a final opportunity to respond. In response to a question from the Committee, J Chabaan confirmed she would re-circulate the presentation provided by J McBurnie at the previous meeting.

Action

J Chaaban to circulate presentation from J McBurnie.

J Chaaban to circulate questions to committee members.

6. General Business

6.1 Understanding Islam and Family Violence – Mariam Deng, Casework Services Manager at the Australian Muslim Women’s Centre for Human Rights

Presentation provided by Mariam Deng on “Responding Family Violence in Muslim Communities”, Discussion on the presentation followed with questions and clarifications asked by committee members. There were no actions from this discussion.

6.2 Strengthening service system responses to family violence affecting children from immigrant and refugee backgrounds – Associate Professor Karen Block, The University of Melbourne

Mayor Carli thanked K Block for joining the Committee. K Block thanked M Deng for the previous presentation.

K Block presented on ‘Strengthening Service System Responses to Family Violence Affecting Children from Immigrant and Refugee Backgrounds’, research project. K Block stated the University of Melbourne are looking for community organisations and service providers to partner on this project. K Block presented findings from a State Government-funded evaluation conducted by the University of Melbourne on the Family Violence Prevention Work Package initiative, where 80 community organisations undertook family violence prevention work, particularly supporting migrant, and refugee women.

K Block stated that migrant and refugee women experience significant barriers to accessing support. K Block explained that the current project will explore the impacts of exposure to domestic and family violence on children and young people from migrant and refugee families with the goal of informing service system responses.

Gehan Shebab left the meeting at 11:56am.

Sarah Chong left the meeting at 11:57am.

Cr Shannon asked, given that a barrier for women to report violence is fear of removal of children, has there been advocacy around the removal of the perpetrator. K Block stated there are Australian States that support this, however, this course of action has its own challenges.

Dylan Aldous left the meeting at 12:09pm.

Cr Shannon thanked K Block and asked if the findings from this research will be made available to local councils. K Block stated that the findings will be disseminated in different ways. K Block mentioned that she is happy to send the findings out to the group as they will be made public.

Mayor Carli thanked K Block for a great presentation.



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Cr Ramsey expressed that both guests presented exceptionally well. Cr Ramsey expressed gratitude for all the work performed by services represented on committee.

Action

J Chaaban to circulate presentations provided by M Deng and K Block to committee members.

J Chaaban to link K Block to committee members.

Dylan Aldous returned to the meeting at 12:30pm.

Karen Block and Mariam Deng left the meeting 12:30pm.

6.3 Member updates – All

Opportunity for members to provide updates.

J Chaaban mentioned Council staff attended intersectionality training delivered by the Multicultural Center for Women's Health as a part of the Free from Violence grant. J Chaaban shared the activities that Melton Council delivered and supported during the 16 days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence in November. J Chaaban provided an update on the Gender Equality Act and stated that Council will be participating in a consultation with the Commission for Gender Equality in the Public Sector.

Mayor Carli asked about the participation rate for the workshops that Council supported during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. D Brundell stated that Council is working to improve and increase participation rate.

L Prentice-Evans shared that 225 family violence incidents were reported to Victoria Police in August 2022. L Prentice-Evans highlighted that child-parent relationship accounted for 40 of the 225 reports. L Prentice-Evans highlighted that the number of incidents in Melton City Council is higher in comparison compared to metro Melbourne, per capita population.

Cr Ramsey asked how intervention orders play a role in providing a safety net. L Prentice-Evans stated that there are a number of discussions with family violence command, corrections Victoria and the Department of Justice and Community Safety to serve intervention orders efficiently as current legislation and policy outlines that it is the responsibility of Victoria Police.

Cr Shannon asked if Melton City Council ranks as number one among other Victorian states regarding number of incidents per capita population. L Prentice-Evans stated that Melton City Council ranks as number one for the number of family violence incidents reported per capita population compared to other local government areas.

D Aldous, Manager of Family Violence and Counselling at Western Health, noted the amalgamation of Djerrivarrh Health Services and Western Health. D Aldous is based at Melton Community Health Centre and delivers the men's behaviour change groups and counselling services for female victim survivors. D Aldous mentioned how Western Health is a partner agency in two Orange Door regions, operating as the specialist 'person using violence' service in Western Melbourne and Brimbank-Melton. D Aldous mentioned Western Health is planning a program for female victim survivors in March and that this service is not designed for women who continue to be in an abusive relationship or women who are in a high-risk situation.

Action

J Chaaban to circulate information on men's behaviour program that will be delivered by Western Health.

J Chaaban to circulate information on Western Health program designed to support female victim survivors.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 10 May 2023, commencing at 11:00am, held online via Microsoft Teams.

8. Close of Business

Mayor Carli closed the meeting at 12:44pm.



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INTERCULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on 22 Feb 2023 at 6.30 pm on Zoom and at Caroline Springs Library & Learning Hub

Present:

Cr Julie Shannon	Councillor
Cr Bob Turner	Councillor
Elena Raso	Community Service Organisation representative
Laura Di Pasquale	Community Service Organisation representative
Kubir Khanal	Local Intercultural Community representative
Gary Verma	Local Intercultural Community representative
Sana Zia	Local Intercultural Community representative
Dongling Ye	Local Intercultural Community representative
Altaf Ali Mohammed	Local Intercultural Community representative
Jodie Turner	Coordinator Community Capacity (Ex Officio)
Essan Dileri	Team Leader Diversity & Intercultural (Ex Officio)

In Attendance:

Reha Verma	Sri Durga Temple volunteer
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Quorum: *Quorum will consist of two (2) Councillors, one (1) Council Officer, plus six (6) Local Intercultural Group and Community Services Organisation representatives.*

Chairperson: Cr Julie Shannon

1. Welcome

The meeting commenced once the quorum was met. Cr Shannon welcomed all attendees to the meeting and opened the meeting with an Acknowledgment of Country followed by the introduction of meeting participants.

2. Apologies

Cr Steve Abboushi	Councillor
Cr Goran Kesic	Councillor
Vonivate Tawase Drui	Local Intercultural Community representative
Patrick Kariuki	Local Intercultural Community representative
Durba Dhiman	Local Intercultural Community representative
Madhvi Tandon	Local Intercultural Community representative
Christina Akon	Local Intercultural Community representative
George Oliapuram	Local Intercultural Community representative
Vera Mitrovskaja	Local Intercultural Community representative
Safiye Vurdu	Access & Support Officer (Ex Officio)

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3. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests

Nil

4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the previous Committee meeting held on 23 Nov 2022 will be presented to Council on 27 February 2023.

5. Business Arising

- Nil

6. General Business**6.1 Update on Actions from previous meetings**

- E Dileri to circulate flyers of the event when he receives them from Committee members. **Actioned**

6.2 Harmony Day 2023

E Dileri briefly talked about Council's Harmony Day 2023. The event will take place at the Willows Historical Park from 11am to 3pm with multicultural performances, food and drinks. He encouraged members to promote the event in their respective communities and contact him if they wanted to be involved in the event.

6.3 African Communities Working Group (ACWG)

E Dileri informed the Committee that the African Communities Working Group didn't have a meeting since IAC's last meeting. They will meet in March 2023.

6.4 Review of the IAC's current term

J Turner facilitated a conversation where IAC members had an opportunity to review the last two years of IAC. She asked questions about their experiences for the last two years focusing on

- using the IAC to promote events and programs,
- participating in community and Council events and programs promoted by IAC,
- using the IAC to collaborate with Council and other community groups to achieve better outcomes,
- reflections on guest speakers and how they shared learnings with their respective communities and
- key social themes/priorities IAC should focus on over the next two years.

Committee members considered IAC a safe and welcoming space where they could share and exchange information. They also mentioned that the IAC provided a platform for building relationship with other communities - acting as a bridge between communities and Council which helped in amplifying the issues/needs of community.

They enjoyed learning from Council and external guest speakers. They highlighted Fire Safety Victoria, Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission, Victorian Electoral Commission, Community Grants and Jobs Advocate presentations as the most engaging



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ones. They also talked about providing input into Council's community engagement processes for Intercultural Cities Strategy and New Learning Strategy, Growing and Thriving, and the Free From Violence Program.

They suggested that IAC focus on the needs of isolated community groups and help them connect with more active community groups. Hopefully, this will help new and isolated community groups with their overall development and recognition.

If members are interested in accessing a full list of comments collected, please contact E Dileri.

6.4 Updates from members

L D Pasquale talked about Empowering Communities project funded by the Department of Justice and Community Safety. She said that she would be in contact with IAC members to seek their support in implementing the project.

D Ye informed the Committee about their Community Partnership Program event which will take place on 1 March 2023 at 10am. She invited Committee members to join.

G Verma invited Committee members to join Sri Durga Temple's Holi event on 12 March 2023. The event will bring together thousands of people from across Melbourne.

J Turner talked about the Reconciliation Strategy and Action Plan community engagement process. She encouraged Committee members to complete the online survey and have their say in the process.

Action

E Dileri to send Reconciliation Strategy and Action Plan community engagement online survey to members.

E Dileri to circulate flyers of the event when he receives them from Committee members.

- **Next Meeting**

TBC after TORs and associated membership are reviewed

- **Close of Business**

The meeting closed at 7.57pm

12.3 RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION 800 (CR RAMSEY) - MEN'S HEALTH GAPS

Author: Elyse Rider - Manager Community Planning
Presenter: Troy Scoble - Director City Life

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To respond to Notice of Motion (NoM) 800 (Cr Ramsey) outlining the key health and wellbeing needs for younger men, currently available programs, and opportunities for enhancing existing programs to meet these needs.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the report responding to Notice of Motion 800 and that Officers will be implementing the noted no cost opportunities in the report to attract a greater number of younger men to the existing programs and services in the community.

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

This report provides a response to NoM 800 (Cr Ramsey) at the March 2022 Council Meeting of Council

“That Council:

- 1. Investigate community needs and gaps in health and wellbeing programs for men aged 18-40 years.*
- 2. Work with relevant organisations to promote and deliver responsive programs addressing important health, family, and justice issues impacting men in the community; and*
- 3. Refer the cost of any partner programs to the 2022/2023 budget for consideration.”*

The report responds to point 1 and 2 of this Notice of Motion, point 3 was considered as part of the 2022/23 budget process. It was agreed through that process with the information provided at the time that a further report relating to point 1 and 2 would be provided in 2022/23.

This report outlines existing health needs identified for Men aged 18-40, the current activities that Council is involved in for Men aged 18-40 years, any clearly identified gaps in service provision and provides some opportunities for Council to work with relevant organisation to promote exiting programs.

2. Background/Issues

At the Council Meeting dated 7 March 2022, Council resolved via Notice of Motion 800 (Cr Ramsey) as follows:

“That Council:

- 1. investigate community needs and gaps in health and wellbeing programs for men aged 18-40 years.*
- 2. work with relevant organisations to promote and deliver responsive programs addressing important health, family, and justice issues impacting men in the community; and*
- 3. refer the cost of any partner programs to the 2022/2023 budget for consideration.”*

Officers conducted a review of existing internal and external programs in the City of Melton, and evidence and research related to men’s health and wellbeing. This has identified opportunities to address the health and wellbeing needs of males between 18-40 years old in the City of Melton.

Research summary – health and wellbeing in men

Health and wellbeing is widely recognised as an area of concern for men in Australia. The average life expectancy for men is 79 years, five years shorter than women. This is further decreased for certain male population groups, such as men who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, migrants, people with disabilities and those from LGBTI communities (Department of Health, 2021).

Australian men visit the doctor less often than women, have shorter visits and often only attend when their illness is more severe (Department of Health, 2019). Younger men are less likely to have visited their GP in the last twelve months, frequency increases with age from 71 per cent for males aged 15-24, to 96 per cent for men over the age of 65 years (Department of Health, 2019). High levels of stress, troubling life experiences, social exclusion, working conditions and limited social supports have all been found as barriers for men accessing health services (Monaem et al, 2007).

Poor mental health is a persistent issue for young people. Twenty per cent of Australians aged 16-34 years experienced high or very high levels of psychological distress, more than twice the rate of those aged 65-85 years (ABS, 2022). One in three males aged 16-24 years, and one in five males aged 25-34 years also reported having experienced a mental health disorder (ABS, 2022).

Health and wellbeing data of young males shows that more needs to be done in the provision of programs and services to address health and wellbeing barriers. Nearly half of residents in the City of Melton are between the age of 18-49, highlighting the greater need for responses for this cohort (id. Community, 2021). Fortunately, there is evidence that many men want to take greater control of their health and wellbeing (Global action on men’s health, 2016). The provision of more opportunities and improved access for men and boys to engage in such initiatives is a need for the City of Melton community.

Current programming and interventions

There are currently several programs specifically for men available in the City of Melton including Men’s Sheds, and the Sons of the West (SOTW) Program delivered in partnership with the Western Bulldog’s Community Foundation (WBCF). Both programs have had proven success in providing opportunities for men to connect in a safe and inclusive environment and discuss issues relating to health and wellbeing. However, a review of the participants in these programs reveals that the average age for participants involved is 55 years old. Participation of males between 18-40 in Council’s other community programs is minimal.

Further to Council's initiatives, Kirrip Aboriginal Corporation hosts a fortnightly yarning circle targeting younger men from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to improve mental health. Jesuit Social Services have previously facilitated a program called 'Unpacking the Man Box' which works to improve emotional intelligence, bystander activation, and raise awareness about healthy masculinities.

It is acknowledged that there are a number of sporting clubs in the City of Melton which have a strong male representation from the 18-40 age group. Participation in physical activity is a positive indicator for health and wellbeing and Officers will continue to work with local sporting clubs to address health needs for men in this cohort. Local Leagues and Associations also provide health supports and information through the community sporting club environment.

Enhanced programming opportunities

Given the established success of the Sons of the West Program and the flexibility of the initiative to address existing and emerging needs, there is an opportunity for Council (and where appropriate, WBCF) to review the existing utilisation of this program and seek to better attract men between the age of 18-40.

A review of the existing program has revealed several no cost improvements that will be implemented to engage more young men in the program:

1. Review and change time and location of the sessions to allow for greater participation of men of working age
2. Updating weekly education sessions to address the needs of younger men
3. Running a shorter or one-off introductory program on mental wellness targeted to attract younger men to the longer-term program
4. A targeted approach to advertising that focuses on younger demographics:
 - Partnerships with local employers, universities, TAFEs, fitness centres and sporting clubs
 - Work with WBCF to adapt advertising to be more attractive to younger men
 - Highlighting free personal training in advertising.
5. Working with the Young Communities team to engage with men up to the age of 25 and as they age out of their programs.
6. Work with our local sporting community and their leagues and associations that currently offer a range of mental health and wellbeing programs to their membership. There may be an opportunity to enhance the existing promotion of existing activities that target men aged 18-40 associated with their activities.

Council could also have further discussions with the WBCF to determine if a dedicated stream targeting Men aged 18-40 would be viable as part of its program.

3. Council and Wellbeing Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2021-2025 Council and Wellbeing Plan references:

1. A safe City that is socially and culturally connected
 - 1.4 *A City that promotes positive public health and wellbeing outcomes to our community.*

4. Financial Considerations

There are no costs associated with this report. Point 3 was addressed as part of the Council budget process in 2022/23. The outcome was to provide a report to Council.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Local community organisations were consulted with about existing programs for men aged 18-40.

6. Risk Analysis

Nil risks to note.

7. Options

1. That Council note the report.
2. That Council Officers implement the noted no-cost recommendations to attract a greater number of younger men to the existing programs and services in the community.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Nil

12.4 RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION 834 (CR RAMSEY) - LOCAL LAW REVIEW

Author: Sian Rainford - Legal Officer
Presenter: Neil Whiteside - Director City Delivery

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To respond to Notice of Motion 834 in relation to review of Council's General Local Law and consideration of introducing an anti-hoon driving by law.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. Note the report responding to Notice of Motion 834 – Local Law Review.
2. Note the inclusion of a new anti-hoon driving Local Law can be considered as part of the creation of a new Local Law in 2025 when the current General Local Law sunsets.
3. Write to the Minister for Roads and Road Safety, the Hon. Melissa Horne MP to request an amendment to the current *Road Safety Act 1986* and/or associated Regulations to address hooning behaviour across the State to ensure a consistent approach to this community wide issue.

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

At the Council Meeting on 15 August 2022, Notice of Motion 834 was considered, and Council resolved the following:

'That Council request officers to prepare a report to Council on the timeframe for revision of Council's Local Laws and that consideration be given to inclusion of a 'Hooning' by law.'

This report responds to Notice of Motion 834 providing details on the timeframe for the revision of Council's General Local Law 2015 and options relating to consideration of inclusion of an anti-hoon Local Law as part of the review of Council's General Local Law 2015.

2. Background/Issues

Revision of Council's Local Laws 2020

Council's General Local Law 2015 has a sunset date of 12 October 2025, pursuant to (s71(6)) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

Officers intend to begin the review process of the General Local Law 2015, in the 2023-2024 financial year to ensure a new Local Law is in place prior to the sunset date of 12 October 2025.

Hooning Law

Currently, the provisions of the Act will apply to the making of a new Local Law.

The process to develop a new Local law should involve a 8-12 month adoption plan, which stipulates strict consultation requirements which aim to support uniform application of local laws across municipalities. The requirements also include a Local Law Community Impact Statement (LLCIS) in accordance with the Local Government Victoria 'Guidelines for Local Laws Manual'. Council must also comply with the requirements set forth in the Community Engagement Policy.

Prior to the adoption of any proposed Local Law, a suitably qualified Australian Legal Practitioner must provide a Compliance Certificate, stating the Local Law is consistent with section 72 of the *Act*, 'Local Law Requirements'. These requirements include, but are not limited to:

- a) A requirement to not be inconsistent with State legislation (as subordinate legislation); and
- b) A requirement to not be inconsistent with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities* 2006 (Charter).

The proposed Local Law will then be required to be publicly advertised through a Public Notice, which will outline the title of the proposed Local Law, and information relating to its objectives and effect. The Local Law must then be published in the Government Gazette and on Council's internet site.

3. Council and Wellbeing Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2021-2025 Council and Wellbeing Plan references:

1. A safe City that is socially and culturally connected
 - 1.2 *A safe community where people feel proud to live.*

4. Financial Considerations

- a) Legal costs in creating of the new local law; and,
- b) Community consultation costs.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Nil.

6. Risk Analysis

There is a potential reputational risk from Council adopting a Local Law specifically aimed at 'anti-hoon driving' and having that legislation overturned or deemed ultra vires by a Court.

7. Options

Local Law Review

1. Council Officers to commence review of Council's General Local Law 2015 in the 2023-2024 year, in advance of Council's General Local Law 2015 sunset date in October 2025.

Hooning Law

1. Council write to the Minister for Roads and Road Safety, the Hon. Melissa Horne MP to request the State Government introduce anti-hoon law legislation and/or regulations, which could be uniformly applied across Victoria, instead of by individual municipalities establishing individual local laws.

2. Council Officers to consider the introduction of an anti-hoon Local Law as part of the review of Council's General Local Law 2015 to commence in 2023/2024 year, in advance of Council's General Local Law 2015 sunset date in October 2025.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Nil.

12.5 RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION 837 (CR RAMSEY) - IDENTIFIED HEALTH GAPS IN THE CITY OF MELTON

Author: Elyse Rider - Manager Community Planning
Presenter: Troy Scoble - Director City Life

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide a response to Notice of Motion 837 (Cr Ramsey).

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the response to Notice of Motion 837.

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

This report provides a response to Notice of Motion 837 (Cr Ramsey) at the 15 August 2022 Council Meeting that Officers prepare a report to Council outlining identified gaps in health in the City of Melton and opportunities to explore key areas of collaboration including hosting a network breakfast for health-related professionals and businesses related to health.

Council Officers routinely review gaps for health and wellbeing in the City of Melton and this report outlines those, including how Officers are working closely with community organisations and service providers to increase local action for wellbeing in the City of Melton to address these gaps.

The report also outlines opportunities to host a networking breakfast as part of the existing Venture Melton Business Network Events Program that specifically relates to health and wellbeing. A contribution of approximately \$5,000 would be required to host an event.

2. Background/Issues

At the 15 August 2022 Council Meeting, Council resolved via Notice of Motion 837 (Cr Ramsey):

“That Council request officers prepare a report to Council, including costings, that outlines identified gaps in health for the City of Melton and opportunities to explore key areas for collaboration and advocacy, including consideration of Council hosting a networking breakfast for health professionals and businesses related to health.”

Identified health gaps in the City of Melton including opportunities for further collaboration including a network breakfast are outlined within the report below.

Identified Health Gaps in the City of Melton

To inform the development of the Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25, two documents were developed providing an assessment of health and social needs in the City of Melton, these were, the City of Melton Health and Wellbeing Profile, and the Covid-19 Social and Economic Impacts Report. These documents outline in depth the key social and health needs of the City of Melton, which are prioritised by the Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25 (the Council Plan), and direct Council action on health issues.

As per the Council Plan the priority health issues are:

- Family violence
- Mental wellbeing
- Physical activity
- Healthy eating
- Sexual and reproductive health
- Reducing harm caused by alcohol and other drugs.

The Council Plan also priorities these underlying drivers of the noted priority health issues:

- Discrimination and inequality
- Safety
- Service access
- Social isolation
- Built environments that promote wellbeing.

Further needs assessments are conducted on a case-by-case basis, identifying health needs for specific community cohorts or areas, for example as identified for children, young people, older adults, and people with disability through the development of Council's Growing and Thriving Strategy.

Council Officers monitor and report on health issues and needs through an annual review for the Victorian Department of Health on health and wellbeing areas of focus and gaps in the City of Melton under the Public Health and Wellbeing Act (2008). The 2022 review can be found at appendix 1.

The 2022 review articulated the areas of focus outlined in the Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25 and noted that all areas of focus have action taking place to progress outcomes relating to health and wellbeing in the City of Melton.

The City of Melton community remains overrepresented in health statistics compared to neighbouring local government areas, this relates to the underlying drivers of health outcomes (the social determinants of health) and their status in the City of Melton. Council's continued commitment to prioritise actions to address the health needs identified in the Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25 are important for the community.

Officers have undertaken a sector wide scan to identify areas in which existing work can be expanded on in collaboration with service providers and local community organisations, including current Victorian Government funding opportunities and focus areas. These include:

- Integrated health promotion planning funding to community health organisations has been reoriented to focus on smoking cessation, healthy eating, and active living initiatives. Organisations can draw on smaller percentages of their funding for initiatives to address family violence and mental wellbeing.
- There has been some new short-term local funding introduced for healthy eating and food security initiatives.
- An intention to provide new Victorian Government funding streams for local grassroots action for climate change and its impacts on health has been noted, however is not yet available.

- Victorian Government agencies and peak organisations funding for Local Government is currently modelled under the premise of Council as a connector (i.e., not a program deliverer). Examples of this model currently being delivered in Melton City include; Empowering Communities Program, VicHealth Partnership Program, and the Free from Violence Program.
- Council Officers will continue to work closely with community organisations and service providers to increase local action for Wellbeing in the City of Melton to address the gaps and trends outlined above and will report action through delivery under the Council Annual Action Plan. This support is inclusive of encouraging local organisations to engage with Councils grants program and annual budget submission process.
- Council engages with community health and human service organisations to support locally delivered services and programs through partnerships, grants, and facility development and activation, such as through the Cobblebank Community Services Hub development.

Consideration of hosting a networking event for health-related businesses

In 2023/24, the Venture Melton Business Network event programming, delivered by Council, has turned its focus on building smaller networks via precincts to foster greater connection and build precinct capacity. These events are currently being planned throughout the year, at various locations across the municipality.

Leveraging on this network calendar of events, the Economic Development team could facilitate a health specific event that would target its many health associated members, along with a more general call out for associated professionals that may not be part of the existing network. Following this event, participants will be invited to join a communication platform to keep building on those relationships after the event.

A health and wellbeing industry specific networking event is estimated to cost \$5000.

The format of this networking breakfast could potentially complement the format of other successful Venture Melton Business Network events.

3. Council and Wellbeing Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2021-2025 Council and Wellbeing Plan references:

1. A safe City that is socially and culturally connected

1.4 A City that promotes positive public health and wellbeing outcomes to our community.

4. Financial Considerations

The report outlines a cost of \$5,000 to facilitate a networking breakfast dedicated to health-related services. This is not currently budgeted in the 2022/23 Council budget.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Victorian government agencies, other Councils, community organisations and services were consulted to inform the preparation of this report.

6. Risk Analysis

There are no risks associated with this report noting the health gaps present in the City of Melton and the costings associated with hosting a network breakfast dedicated to Health professionals and businesses.

7. Options

That Council note the completion of the key components of this Notice of Motion. That Health Gaps have been identified and opportunity to host a business network breakfast addressed.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Council and Wellbeing Plan (Health & Wellbeing) Review - October 2022 - submitted to Department of Health

Melton City Council

Council and Wellbeing Plan – Annual (Health) Review

Prepared for submission to Department of Health– October 2022

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Purpose

The purpose of this document is to deliver on the obligation under the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 (the Act); to undertake an annual (health) review on the Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25.

Background

The Act identifies the function of Council is to seek to protect, improve and promote public health and specifies that Councils are legislated to deliver a Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan, in some cases Councils can request that this be integrated with the Council Plan.

The Melton City Council, Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25 is the vehicle in which Council sets the strategic direction for delivering on the obligation of Council to seek to protect, improve and promote public health. Its integration has been approved by the Department of Health (DoH).

Review

In this first year, the review of the Council and Wellbeing Plan (CWBP) was completed by mapping the health-related strategies (denoted with the heart symbol, [found in appendix 2](#)) against the following frameworks:

1. Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
2. the social determinants of health
3. local data reports (recently collected)
4. the Victorian Health and Wellbeing Outcomes Framework.

The intent of the review is to ascertain the extent that the current CWBP responds to the key health needs of the City of Melton community and aligns with the state documents.

Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023 alignment

The first stage of the CWBP review was completed by mapping the health-related strategies against the 10 priority areas of the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (VPHWBP). This enabled an assessment of overall alignment as well as salience of the priorities presented in the VPHWBP in the City of Melton. A simplified version of this comparison is presented in figure 1.

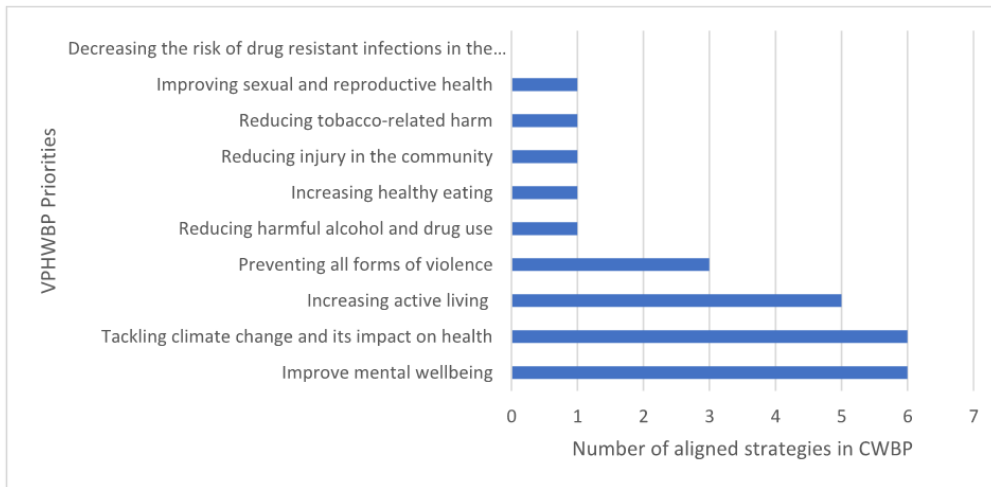


Figure 1 Number of CWBP strategies aligned with the 10 priority areas in the VPHWBP

The full alignment table can be located at [appendix 3](#) of this report.

Social Determinants of Health Framework alignment

Given the additional socioeconomic challenges faced by the City of Melton community, as identified in the Health and Wellbeing Profile (2021), the related strategies were also assessed against key areas in the Social Determinants of Health Framework. A simplified version of this comparison is presented in figure 2. A full explanation of each of the social determinants of health can be found at [appendix 1](#).

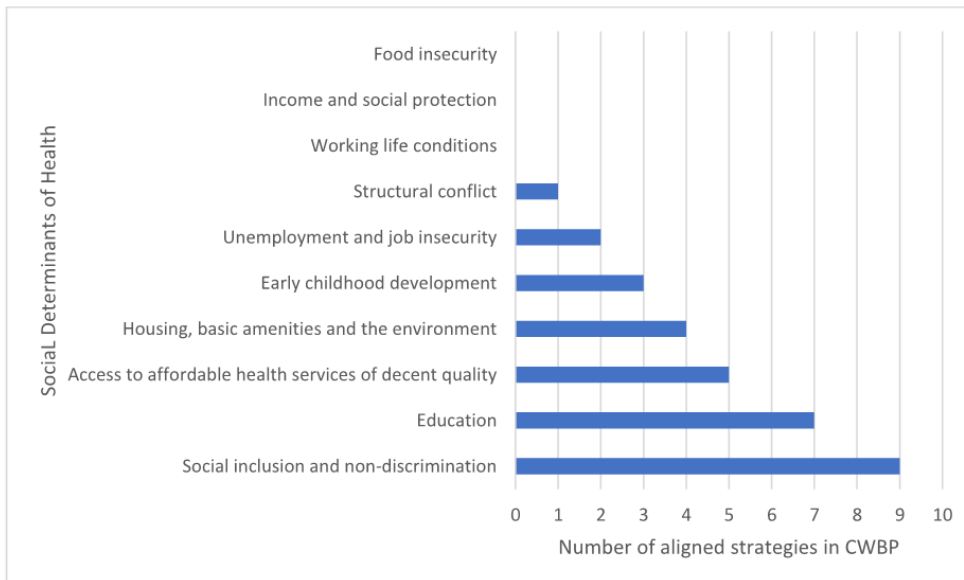


Figure 2 Number of CWBP strategies aligned with the social determinants of health framework

The full alignment table can be located at [appendix 3](#) of this report.

Localised data alignment

The strategies of the CWBP were compared with most recent data collection reports on localised social and health needs to identify if areas of community concern have the remit to be addressed in the current CWBP.

Health and Wellbeing Profile (2020)

[The Health and Wellbeing Profile](#) (the Profile) is developed every four years and contributes to Council's delivery of the obligation to 'prepare an examination of data about health status and health determinants in the municipal district' under the Act.

The Profile provided key learnings across six areas:

- demographics (4 learnings)
- social and economic conditions (10 learnings)
- health and behaviours (6 learnings)
- health conditions (5 learnings)
- disadvantage (7 learnings)
- climate change and health (6 learnings).

Analysis of the CWBP against these key learning areas is a complex task given the CWBP intends to address the tertiary issues identified in the Profile through primary prevention activities. However, Officers report that most areas appear well accounted for through linking primary drivers of the issues identified with strategies in the CWBP. Only two areas were revealed that may require further clarity (discussed later):

1. linkages to CWBP areas that respond to gambling harm
2. the extent to which discrimination/equity related strategies are interrelated with other strategies implementation to address the health equity concerns raised in the Profile.

City of Melton Recovery and Resilience Framework (2020)

To inform the development of the CWBP the '[Social and Economic Impacts of Covid-19 Report](#)' was developed that was intended to be utilised in partnership with the Health and Wellbeing Profile to encompass local data on community needs. The findings of the report were utilised in the development of the City of Melton Recovery and Resilience Framework (the recovery framework), to enable Council to address the systemic and environmental drivers of the impacts experienced as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and associated social distancing measures.

The key themes of the CWBP were compared with the pillars set out in the recovery framework. Table 2 shows strong alignment across the various pillars and themes.

Table 1 Comparison of CWBP themes and the recovery framework pillars

Council & Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025	City of Melton Recovery and Resilience Framework
Theme 1: A safe City that is socially and culturally connected	Pillar 3: Culturally rich and equal Pillar 4: Safe and well Pillar 5: Connected, inclusive and empowered
Theme 2: A vibrant and healthy natural and built environment	Pillar 1: Sustainable built and natural environments
Theme 3: A fast growing, innovative and well-planned City	Pillar 1: Sustainable built and natural environments

Theme 4: A City that promotes greater education and employment	Pillar 2: Dynamic and diverse local economy
Theme 5: A community that is actively engaged in the City	Pillar 5: Connected, inclusive and empowered
Theme 6: A high performing organisation that demonstrates civic leadership and organisational excellence	

The Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Outcomes Framework alignment

Given the need for Council to complete a health impact assessment in the final year of review, it is important to understand if the information that is being collected to assess the success of the CWBP (i.e. indicators) will lend itself to the health impact assessment. The performance indicators (which are currently routinely measured) were compared against the [Victorian Health and Wellbeing Outcomes Framework](#) (the outcomes framework) for alignment.

The following gaps in local measurement were identified in this component of the review:

- Victorians live free from abuse and violence
- Victorians participate in and contribute to the economy
- Victorians have good physical health
- Victorians have good mental health
- Victorians act to protect and promote health
- Victorians participate in learning and education
- Victorians have suitable and stable housing
- Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities.

It is integral to note these gaps are not reflective of gaps in the performance indicators of the CWBP itself, rather they relate to the need for alignment with State frameworks in the delivery of the latter health impact assessment. Most of these areas are featured in the data collected to deliver the Profile. Other areas are reliant on the delivery of the Victorian Population Health Survey. No changes to the CWBP are recommended in relation to these identified gaps.

Review findings

The CWBP directly responded to the majority of areas of concern identified in the Profile, the recovery framework, the VPHWBP and the social determinants of health framework.

As demonstrated in figure 1, the most salient of the priority areas represented in the VPHWBP were:

- improve mental wellbeing
- **tackling climate change and its impact on health**
- **increasing active living.**

Two of which (in bold) are focus areas identified in the VPHWBP. The further two focus areas (reducing tobacco-related harm, increasing healthy eating) were accounted for adequately in the CWBP, however less salient. The only priority area not accounted for was 'decreasing the risk of drug resistant infections in the community', Officers are comfortable with the exclusion of the pillar from the plan given evidence would indicate that this does not sit best with local government and may be more appropriately actioned by local community health organisations and services.

As demonstrated in figure 2 the areas of the social determinants most readily identifiable in the CWBP were:

- social inclusion and non-discrimination
- education
- access to affordable health services of decent quality.

The review revealed that the plan did not provide any strategic justification/direction for work in the priority areas of food insecurity, income, and social protection, and working life conditions. While these are integral areas, Officers are comfortable with the exclusion of income and social protection and working life conditions due to the nature of local government's role and sphere of influence. Further consideration should be given to how existing areas of the plan may support furthering work in addressing food insecurity in the City of Melton.

Across both frameworks social inclusion and non-discrimination (9) was the most salient area of action, which speaks to a strong focus by Council on health equity, this was closely followed by education (7), tackling climate change (6) and addressing mental wellbeing (6). The increased salience of these issues may be due to community sentiment that informed the plan and are aligned with local data that was utilised in the development of the CWBP.

It is important to note that the focus on some areas over others does not in any way represent a mis-alignment with state direction, rather a localisation of priorities to local community needs, and a contextualisation to the role and influence of local government.

Limitations

This review was conducted on the face value of the strategic areas identified in the CWBP. It is important to note that there can be variety in the interpretation of these strategies, and that implementation of actions from departments across Council may not always be best practice action nor focused on primary prevention. Further limitations include the practical operationalisation of health equity in the delivery of individual health related strategies despite the clear emphasis on non-discrimination. Both identified limitations will be focus on ongoing strengthening of the CWBP's implementation from an operational perspective.

Gaps and opportunities

Areas of focus

The following notable gaps were identified in the review:

- 1. Gambling harm reduction:**
Officers note that the [Gambling Harm Prevention and Reduction Policy](#) exists and provides an ongoing framework for gambling harm reduction and prevention, and as such don't perceive a need to address this omission in the CWBP. In relation to Council's current approach to gambling harm reduction and prevention through planning related to establishment of licenced venues in the area, links can clearly be made under theme three 'a fast growing, innovative and well planned City', which enables remit of action on gambling.
- 2. Addressing food insecurity:**
Officers identify that linkages can be made between strategies under theme one (a safe City that is socially and culturally connected), objective 1.4 (a City that promotes positive public health and wellbeing outcomes in the community), and as such don't perceive a need to make amendments to the CWBP. However, it is noted that no specific actions can be identified operationally that relate to addressing food insecurity, with the exception of the now concluded covid-19 related food relief program, and Council's current meals on wheels program. This area will be investigated to identify suitable opportunities moving forward.

Conclusion

Officers have a high level of comfort with the alignment of the adopted plan with the VPHWBP priority areas, social determinants of health, local health needs and the outcomes framework.

No amendments to CWBP are recommended as a result of this review.

Appendix 1: Description of social determinants of health

Social Determinant of Health	Description
Structural conflict	The social, political, and economic structure of a conflict situation when unequal power, domination and dependency are perpetuated.
Social inclusion and non-discrimination	Social connectedness and the degree to which individuals form close bonds with others outside the family. Social exclusion can occur through discrimination or stigmatisation.
Housing, basic amenities and the environment	Access to appropriate, affordable, and secure housing, as well as access to an environment and amenities which meets an individual's basic human needs.
Education	The connection between a person's access to education and its quality, and their health. This domain includes key issues such as graduating from high school, enrolment in higher education, educational attainment in general, language and literacy, and early
Early childhood development	The circumstances in which children are born and grow. Children's health, development and well-being can be compromised by a number of direct adverse experiences during the prenatal and postnatal periods including sustained poverty, recurrent abuse and neglect, parental alcohol or drug abuse, homelessness, and family violence.
Unemployment and job insecurity	The psychosocial stress caused by unemployment has a strong impact on physical and mental health and wellbeing. Once employed, participating in quality work helps to protect health, instilling self-esteem, and a positive sense of identity, while providing the opportunity for social interaction and personal development.
Income and social protection	The connection between the financial resources people have – income, cost of living, and socioeconomic status – and their health.
Working life conditions	The connection between an individual's working/employment conditions and their health.
Food insecurity	Access to nutritious food is a critical social determinant of health. Food insecurity, which means having limited or uncertain access to adequate food, is associated with poorer health outcomes and higher odds of chronic illness.
Access to affordable health services of decent quality	A person's access to healthcare and its quality. This includes key issues such as access to healthcare, access to primary care, health insurance coverage, and health literacy.

Appendix 2: Report of operations, Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25

CWBP health related objectives	CWBP health related strategies
Theme 1: a safe City that is socially and culturally connected	
Objective 1.1 A community that celebrates diversity and is inclusive of all	1.1.1 Drive initiatives that promote gender equity
	1.1.2 Contribute to a welcoming community which embraces diversity
	1.1.3 Contribute to reducing inequalities among people living with disability, seniors, diverse faith, and cultural groups, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities and LGBTIQ+ people, and contribute to strengthening respectful relationships between all
Objective 1.2 A safe community where people feel proud to live	1.2.1 Invest in initiatives that promote road and community safety
	1.2.2 Empower the community to strengthen civic pride, social cohesion, and a sense of belonging
	1.2.3 Work in partnership with emergency services
Objective 1.3 Local neighbourhoods where people feel safe and proud to live	1.3.1 Provide opportunities for participation and appreciation of the arts, and support local artists
	1.3.2 Facilitate opportunities for social connection
	1.3.3 Build community resilience through COVID recovery initiatives
	1.3.4 Support community programs delivered by local organisations and community groups
	1.3.5 Invest in festivals and celebrations in partnership with the community and local business
Objective 1.4 a City that promotes positive health and wellbeing outcomes for our community	1.4.1 Work in partnership with health and community service providers to deliver initiatives that meet the needs of the community
	1.4.2 Invest in the mental wellbeing, healthy eating, and physical activity of all our community with an emphasis on children and young people
	1.4.3 Improve community health and wellbeing outcomes related to sexual and reproductive health, and harm caused by tobacco, alcohol, and drug use
	1.4.4 Raise community awareness and deliver programs to prevent family violence
	1.4.5 Support children and young people to learn, develop and reach their full potential
Objective 1.5 A city that celebrates Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultures, knowledge and right to self determination	1.5.1 Provide and promote opportunities for the celebration and recognition of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander history and culture
	1.5.4 Provide leadership in reconciliation, build positive partnerships and community relationships, and support culturally appropriate activities, services, and places
Theme 2: A vibrant and health natural and built environment	

Objective 2.1: A city with healthy waterways, biodiversity, and ecosystems	2.1.1 Ensure that new waterways are developed in a way that balances biodiversity enhancement with education and leisure	
Objective 2.2: The community and infrastructure are resilient to the impacts of a changing environment	2.2.3 Support initiatives that promote cooling of the urban environment	
Objective 2.4 A city that mitigates and adapts to climate change and is environmentally aware	2.4.1 Educate and engage the community in local environmental and sustainability issues and decision making	
Theme 3: A fast growing, innovative and well-planned City		
Objective 3.1: A City of 20 minutes neighbourhoods	3.1.2 Investigate opportunities to enhance the connectivity and activity of existing urban areas	
	3.1.3 Appropriately plan for future development of greenfield land and ensure linkages to existing communities and assets	
	3.1.4 Undertake integrated open space planning to ensure all neighbourhoods have access to reserves, parks, gardens, heritage places and natural assets	
	3.1.5 Support local place making and buy local Initiatives	
	3.2.1 Advocate for and facilitate for the provision of health and community facilities to be within close proximity and safe access to public transport	
Objective 3.2: Health and community services are accessible locally	3.2.2 Plan and design Council facilities to accommodate health and community services	
	3.2.3 Advocate for and support the development and delivery of the Melton Hospital and associated services	
	3.2.4 Strengthen the health and community service system by working in partnership with providers and State Government to attract additional services and support the expansion of existing services	
	3.3.2 Advocate for and support the development of diverse and affordable housing options	
Objective 3.3: A City with accessible infrastructure that meets the needs of all	3.3.4 Design, build and maintain the public realm to enable the promotion of physical activity	
	3.4.2 Improve connectivity between existing and new communities	
Objective 3.4: an integrated transport network that enables people to move around	3.4.3 Ensure road networks are adequate, safe and contribute to the wellbeing of the community	
	3.4.4 Improve accessibility, comfort, and connectivity of key active transport routes	
	3.4.5 Support the creation of a connected and active community through the design and delivery of safe walking and cycling networks	
	Theme 4: A City that promotes greater education and employment	
	4.2.2 Maximise the use of existing Council facilities by external providers of educational programs	

Objective 4.2: A City with a variety of education facilities and accessible locally	4.2.4 Support local pathways between education, training, and employment
Objective 4.3: A City with a diversity of local job opportunities with an increasing number of residents locally employed	4.3.3 Partner with community organisations and the employment and education sectors to identify skill shortages and advocate for employment pathways
Objective 4.4: Lifelong learning opportunities that bring local communities together	4.4.1 Invest in programs and activities for all ages and stages of life that promote lifelong learning
	4.4.2 Help close the digital divide by improving the community's digital literacy
	4.4.3 Create a learning culture in the City through early engagement with and support for children, young people, and families
Theme 5: A community that is actively engaged in the City	
Objective 5.2: A range of platforms, including digital that cater for accessible community engagement and consultation	5.2.3 Provide opportunities for meaningful community engagement, especially with diverse faith and cultural groups
Objective 5.3: increased volunteerism in the City	5.3.1 Invest in establishing systems and structures to enable strong volunteerism in the City
	5.3.2 Establish partnerships to promote volunteerism
	5.3.3 Promote the benefits of volunteerism
Theme 6: A high performing organisation that demonstrates civic leadership and organisational excellence	
Objective 6.4: An organisation that celebrates diversity and inclusion	6.4.1 Build capacity of Council to ensure all programs and services are inclusive, accessible and consider intersectionality
	6.4.2 Strengthen the organisation's commitment to gender equity
	6.4.3 Build cultural competence to understand and promote Aboriginal self-determination
Objective 6.5: An organisation that tackles climate change	6.5.1 Build Council's capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate change
	6.5.2 Reduce Council's carbon emissions

Appendix 3: Review of alignment, Council and Wellbeing Plan strategies

Note bold areas indicate primary areas of impact utilised in final numbers mapping in figure 2.

CWBP health related strategies	Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan priority area	Social determinant of health (WHO)
1.1.1 Drive initiatives that promote gender equity	Preventing all forms of violence	Structural conflict
1.1.2 Contribute to a welcoming community which embraces diversity	Improve mental wellbeing	Structural conflict Social inclusion and non-discrimination
1.1.3 Contribute to reducing inequalities among people living with disability, seniors, diverse faith, and cultural groups, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities and LGBTIQ+ people, and contribute to strengthening respectful relationships between all	Improve mental wellbeing	Structural conflict Social inclusion and non-discrimination
1.2.1 Invest in initiatives that promote road and community safety	Reducing injury in the community Reducing harmful alcohol and drug use	
1.2.2 Empower the community to strengthen civic pride, social cohesion, and a sense of belonging	Improve mental wellbeing	Social inclusion and non-discrimination
1.2.3 Work in partnership with emergency services	Tackling climate change and its impact on health Reducing harmful alcohol and drug use Preventing all forms of violence	
1.3.1 Provide opportunities for participation and appreciation of the arts, and support local artists	Improving mental wellbeing	
1.3.2 Facilitate opportunities for social connection	Improving mental wellbeing Increasing active living	Social inclusion and non-discrimination
1.3.3 Build community resilience through COVID recovery initiatives	Improving mental wellbeing	
1.3.4 Support community programs delivered by local organisations and community groups	Improving mental wellbeing Increasing active living	Unemployment and job insecurity

1.3.5 Invest in festivals and celebrations in partnership with the community and local business	Improving mental wellbeing Increasing active living	Social inclusion and non-discrimination
1.4.1 Work in partnership with health and community service providers to deliver initiatives that meet the needs of the community	Improving mental wellbeing Increasing active living	Access to affordable health services of decent quality
1.4.2 Invest in the mental wellbeing, healthy eating, and physical activity of all our community with an emphasis on children and young people	Improving mental wellbeing Increasing healthy eating Increasing active living	Early childhood development
1.4.3 Improve community health and wellbeing outcomes related to sexual and reproductive health, and harm caused by tobacco, alcohol, and drug use	Improving sexual and reproductive health Reducing tobacco-related harm Reducing harmful alcohol and drug use	
1.4.4 Raise community awareness and deliver programs to prevent family violence	Preventing all forms of violence	Structural conflict
1.4.5 Support children and young people to learn, develop and reach their full potential	Improving mental wellbeing	Early childhood development
1.5.1 Provide and promote opportunities for the celebration and recognition of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander history and culture	Improving mental wellbeing	Social inclusion and non-discrimination
1.5.4 Provide leadership in reconciliation, build positive partnerships and community relationships, and support culturally appropriate activities, services, and places	Improving mental wellbeing	Social inclusion and non-discrimination
2.1.1 Ensure that new waterways are developed in a way that balances biodiversity enhancement with education and leisure	Tackling climate change and its impact on health Increasing active living	Education
2.2.3 Support initiatives that promote cooling of the urban environment	Tackling climate change and its impact on health	
2.4.1 Educate and engage the community in local environmental and sustainability issues and decision making	Tackling climate change and its impact on health	Housing, basic amenities and the environment

3.1.2 Investigate opportunities to enhance the connectivity and activity of existing urban areas	Increasing active living Improving mental wellbeing	
3.1.3 Appropriately plan for future development of greenfield land and ensure linkages to existing communities and assets	Tackling climate change and its impact on health	Housing, basic amenities and the environment
3.1.4 Undertake integrated open space planning to ensure all neighbourhoods have access to reserves, parks, gardens, heritage places and natural assets		Housing, basic amenities and the environment
3.1.5 Support local place making and buy local Initiatives		Housing, basic amenities and the environment
3.2.1 Advocate for and facilitate for the provision of health and community facilities to be within close proximity and safe access to public transport	Increasing active living Improving mental wellbeing	Access to affordable health services of decent quality
3.2.2 Plan and design Council facilities to accommodate health and community services		Access to affordable health services of decent quality
3.2.3 Advocate for and support the development and delivery of the Melton Hospital and associated services		Access to affordable health services of decent quality
3.2.4 Strengthen the health and community service system by working in partnership with providers and State Government to attract additional services and support the expansion of existing services		Access to affordable health services of decent quality
3.3.2 Advocate for and support the development of diverse and affordable housing options		Housing, basic amenities and the environment
3.3.4 Design, build and maintain the public realm to enable the promotion of physical activity	Increasing active living	

3.4.2 Improve connectivity between existing and new communities		Social inclusion and non-discrimination
3.4.3 Ensure road networks are adequate, safe and contribute to the wellbeing of the community		
3.4.4 Improve accessibility, comfort, and connectivity of key active transport routes		
3.4.5 Support the creation of a connected and active community through the design and delivery of safe walking and cycling networks	Increasing active living Reducing injury in the community	
4.2.2 Maximise the use of existing Council facilities by external providers of educational programs		Education
4.2.4 Support local pathways between education, training, and employment		Income and social protection Education Unemployment and job insecurity
4.3.3 Partner with community organisations and the employment and education sectors to identify skill shortages and advocate for employment pathways		Education Unemployment and job insecurity
4.4.1 Invest in programs and activities for all ages and stages of life that promote lifelong learning		Education
4.4.2 Help close the digital-divide by improving the community's digital literacy		Education
4.4.3 Create a learning culture in the City through early engagement with and support for children, young people, and families		Education Early childhood development
5.2.3 Provide opportunities for meaningful community engagement, especially with diverse faith and cultural groups		Social inclusion and non-discrimination

5.3.1 Invest in establishing systems and structures to enable strong volunteerism in the City		Social inclusion and non-discrimination
5.3.2 Establish partnerships to promote volunteerism		
5.3.3 Promote the benefits of volunteerism		
6.4.1 Build capacity of Council to ensure all programs and services are inclusive, accessible and consider intersectionality		Social inclusion and non-discrimination Structural conflict
6.4.2 Strengthen the organisation's commitment to gender equity	Preventing all forms of violence	Social inclusion and non-discrimination Structural conflict
6.4.3 Build cultural competence to understand and promote Aboriginal self-determination		Social inclusion and non-discrimination Structural conflict
6.5.1 Build Council's capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate change	Tackling climate change and its impact on health	Housing, basic amenities and the environment
6.5.2 Reduce Council's carbon emissions	Tackling climate change and its impact on health	Housing, basic amenities and the environment

Appendix 4: Review of outcomes alignment

CWBP health related objectives	CWBP Indicator (note alignment with objectives rather than strategies found in appendix 2)	CWBP Strategies	Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Outcomes Framework
Theme 1: a safe City that is socially and culturally connected	Outcome 1: A diverse, equitable, safe, and connected City that people are proud to be a part of		
Objective 1.1 A community that celebrates diversity and is inclusive of all	Community agreement that family violence is prevalent in our community (aligns to different objective)	1.1.1 Drive initiatives that promote gender equity	Victorians live free from abuse and violence
	Community agreement that the City of Melton is an age friendly community	1.1.2 Contribute to a welcoming community which embraces diversity	Victorians are socially engaged and live in inclusive communities
	Community agreement that the City of Melton is accessible and inclusive for people with a disability		Victorians can safely identify and connect with their culture and identity
	Community agreement that the City of Melton community is welcoming and supportive of people from diverse cultures and backgrounds	1.1.3 Contribute to reducing inequalities among people living with disability, seniors, diverse faith, and cultural groups, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities and LGBTIQ+ people, and contribute to strengthening respectful relationships between all	Victorians are socially engaged and live in inclusive communities
	Community agreement that the City of Melton is welcoming and supportive of the LGBTIQ+ community		Victorians can safely identify and connect with their culture and identity
Community satisfaction with culture and diversity representation in community events			
Objective 1.2 A safe community where people feel proud to live	Personal level of safety in public areas of the City of Melton during the day	1.2.1 Invest in initiatives that promote road and community safety	
	Personal level of safety in public areas of the City of Melton at night		
	Community agreement that the City of Melton community are proud of, connected to and enjoy their neighbourhoods	1.2.2 Empower the community to strengthen civic pride, social cohesion, and a sense of belonging	Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities

	Community agreement that the City of Melton is vibrant, accessible, and engaging		
	Nil	1.2.3 Work in partnership with emergency services	
Objective 1.3 Local neighbourhoods where people feel safe and proud to live	Community satisfaction with the provision of cultural and community events	1.3.1 Provide opportunities for participation and appreciation of the arts, and support local artists	Victorians are socially engaged and live in inclusive communities
	Community agreement that there are adequate opportunities to socialise and meet people in the local area	1.3.2 Facilitate opportunities for social connection	Victorians are socially engaged and live in inclusive communities
	Nil	1.3.3 Build community resilience through COVID recovery initiatives	Victorians participate in and contribute to the economy Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities
	Nil	1.3.4 Support community programs delivered by local organisations and community groups	Victorians participate in and contribute to the economy
	Community satisfaction with the provision of cultural and community events	1.3.5 Invest in festivals and celebrations in partnership with the community and local business	
Objective 1.4 a City that promotes positive health and wellbeing outcomes for our community	Personal level of satisfaction with support services	1.4.1 Work in partnership with health and community service providers to deliver initiatives that meet the needs of the community	
	Community agreement that there are opportunities to participate in recreational and leisure activities	1.4.2 Invest in the mental wellbeing, healthy eating, and physical activity of all our community with an emphasis on children and young people	Victorians have good physical health Victorians have good mental health
	Nil	1.4.3 Improve community health and wellbeing outcomes related to sexual and reproductive health, and	Victorians have good physical health Victorians act to protect and promote health

		harm caused by tobacco, alcohol, and drug use	
	Community agreement that family violence is prevalent in our community	1.4.4 Raise community awareness and deliver programs to prevent family violence	Victorians live free from abuse and violence
	Nil	1.4.5 Support children and young people to learn, develop and reach their full potential	Victorians have good mental health Victorians participate in learning and education
Objective 1.5 A city that celebrates Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultures, knowledge and right to self determination	Number of Council supported activities led by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community members	1.5.1 Provide and promote opportunities for the celebration and recognition of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander history and culture	Victorians can safely identify and connect with their culture and identity
	Consultations completed with Aboriginal Traditional Owners		
	Number of Council supported activities led by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community members	1.5.4 Provide leadership in reconciliation, build positive partnerships and community relationships, and support culturally appropriate activities, services, and places	Victorians have good mental health Victorians are socially engaged and live in inclusive communities Victorians can safely identify and connect with their culture and identity
Theme 2: A vibrant and health natural and built environment	Outcome 2: A city that protects and enhances its natural environment for future generations		
Objective 2.1: A city with healthy waterways, biodiversity, and ecosystems	Community satisfaction with Council responsibilities towards the environment	2.1.1 Ensure that new waterways are developed in a way that balances biodiversity enhancement with education and leisure	Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities Victorians have access to sustainable built and natural environments
Objective 2.2: The community and infrastructure are resilient to the impacts of a changing environment	Number of trees planted in the City Number of actions completed through the Climate Change Adaptation Plan	2.2.3 Support initiatives that promote cooling of the urban environment	Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities Victorians have access to sustainable built and natural environments

Objective 2.4 A city that mitigates and adapts to climate change and is environmentally aware	Number of Council led or supported environmental sustainability events	2.4.1 Educate and engage the community in local environmental and sustainability issues and decision making	Victorians participate in learning and education Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities Victorians have access to sustainable built and natural environments
Theme 3: A fast growing, innovative and well-planned City	Outcome 3: A city where growth and development occur in a strategic, fair, and sustainable way		
Objective 3.1: A City of 20 minutes neighbourhoods	Community agreement that Melton is a City that encourages and enables people to work, shop and spend time locally	3.1.2 Investigate opportunities to enhance the connectivity and activity of existing urban areas	Victorians are socially engaged and live in inclusive communities
	Community satisfaction with the provision of parks and gardens Dwellings within 800m of public open space	3.1.3 Appropriately plan for future development of greenfield land and ensure linkages to existing communities and assets	Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities Victorians have access to sustainable built and natural environments
	Community satisfaction with the provision of parks and gardens Dwellings within 800m of public open space	3.1.4 Undertake integrated open space planning to ensure all neighbourhoods have access to reserves, parks, gardens, heritage places and natural assets	Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities Victorians have access to sustainable built and natural environments
	Community agreement that Melton is a City that encourages and enables people to work, shop and spend time locally	3.1.5 Support local place making and buy local Initiatives	Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities Victorians participate in and contribute to the local economy
Objective 3.2: Health and community services are accessible locally	Community satisfaction with local health services Proximity to local community services	3.2.1 Advocate for and facilitate for the provision of health and community facilities to be within close proximity and safe access to public transport	
	Community satisfaction with local health services Proximity to local community services	3.2.2 Plan and design Council facilities to accommodate health and community services	

	Nil	3.2.3 Advocate for and support the development and delivery of the Melton Hospital and associated services	
	Community satisfaction with local health services	3.2.4 Strengthen the health and community service system by working in partnership with providers and State Government to attract additional services and support the expansion of existing services	
Objective 3.3: A City with accessible infrastructure that meets the needs of all	Nil	3.3.2 Advocate for and support the development of diverse and affordable housing options	Victorians have suitable and stable housing
	Community agreement that there are opportunities to participate in recreational and leisure activities (aligns to different objective)	3.3.4 Design, build and maintain the public realm to enable the promotion of physical activity	Victorians have good physical health Victorians act to protect and promote health
Objective 3.4: an integrated transport network that enables people to move around	Nil	3.4.2 Improve connectivity between existing and new communities	Victorians are socially engaged and live in inclusive communities
	Community satisfaction with sealed local roads	3.4.3 Ensure road networks are adequate, safe and contribute to the wellbeing of the community	Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities
	Community satisfaction with off road bike and/or walking paths		
	Community satisfaction with the public transport network		
	Number of kilometres of shared paths	3.4.4 Improve accessibility, comfort, and connectivity of key active transport routes	Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities
	Community satisfaction with sealed local roads		
Community satisfaction with off road bike and/or walking paths			
Community satisfaction with the public transport network			

	Number of kilometres of shared paths		
	Community satisfaction with off road bike and/or walking paths	3.4.5 Support the creation of a connected and active community through the design and delivery of safe walking and cycling networks	Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities
Theme 4: A City that promotes greater education and employment	Outcome 4: A City rich in local employment and education opportunities		
Objective 4.2: A City with a variety of education facilities and accessible locally	Community satisfaction with Council’s advocacy for education Usage of Council facilities for community learning Community satisfaction with accessibility to education facilities locally	4.2.2 Maximise the use of existing Council facilities by external providers of educational programs	Victorians participate in learning and education
	Community satisfaction with Council’s advocacy for education	4.2.4 Support local pathways between education, training, and employment	Victorians participate in learning and education Victorians participate in and contribute to the economy
Objective 4.3: A City with a diversity of local job opportunities with an increasing number of residents locally employed	Job vacancies in the City Ratio of industry types Community satisfaction with local job opportunities	4.3.3 Partner with community organisations and the employment and education sectors to identify skill shortages and advocate for employment pathways	Victorians participate in learning and education Victorians participate in and contribute to the economy
Objective 4.4: Lifelong learning opportunities that bring local communities together	Community satisfaction with local library services	4.4.1 Invest in programs and activities for all ages and stages of life that promote lifelong learning	Victorians participate in learning and education
	The rate of school leavers entering higher education, vocational education, or employment		
	Nil	4.4.2 Help close the digital-divide by improving the community’s digital literacy	Victorians participate in learning and education
	The rate of school leavers entering higher education, vocational education, or employment	4.4.3 Create a learning culture in the City through early engagement	Victorians participate in learning and education

		with and support for children, young people, and families	
Theme 5: A community that is actively engaged in the City	Outcome 5: A community that embraces volunteering and is encouraged and able to engage with Council		
Objective 5.2: A range of platforms, including digital that cater for accessible community engagement and consultation	Community satisfaction with consultation and engagement Community participation in engagement or consultation	5.2.3 Provide opportunities for meaningful community engagement, especially with diverse faith and cultural groups	Victorians are socially engaged and live in inclusive communities Victorians can safely identify and connect with their culture and identity
Objective 5.3: increased volunteerism in the City	Volunteering in Council activities, programs, or events Community volunteering	5.3.1 Invest in establishing systems and structures to enable strong volunteerism in the City	Victorians participate in and contribute to the economy
	Volunteering in Council activities, programs, or events Community volunteering	5.3.2 Establish partnerships to promote volunteerism	
	Volunteering in Council activities, programs, or events Community volunteering	5.3.3 Promote the benefits of volunteerism	
Theme 6: A high performing organisation that demonstrates civic leadership and organisational excellence	Outcome 6: An innovative, transparent, accountable, and sustainable organisation		
Objective 6.4: An organisation that celebrates diversity and inclusion	Number of events that promote diversity and inclusion Community agreement that Council respects, reflects and is inclusive of our diverse community	6.4.1 Build capacity of Council to ensure all programs and services are inclusive, accessible and consider intersectionality	Victorians are socially engaged and live in inclusive communities Victorians can safely identify and connect with their culture and identity
	Number of Gender Equality Plan actions completed	6.4.2 Strengthen the organisation's commitment to gender equity	Victorians live free from abuse and violence

	Nil	6.4.3 Build cultural competence to understand and promote Aboriginal self-determination	Victorians are socially engaged and live in inclusive communities Victorians can safely identify and connect with their culture and identity
Objective 6.5: An organisation that tackles climate change	Council's Carbon Emissions	6.5.1 Build Council's capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate change	Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities
	Progress towards overall carbon neutrality		Victorians have access to sustainable built and natural environments
	Percentage compliance with environmentally Sustainable Design plans for Council buildings		
	Council's Carbon Emissions	6.5.2 Reduce Council's carbon emissions	Victorians have access to sustainable built and natural environments

12.6 RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION 845 (CR ABBOUSHI) - ACTIVATION OF TAYLORS HILL YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Author: Samantha Sales - Acting Young Communities Coordinator

Presenter: Troy Scoble - Director City Life

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide a response to Notice of Motion 845 (Cr Abboushi).

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the contents of this report in response to Notice of Motion 845.

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

This report provides a response to Notice of Motion 845 (Cr Abboushi) which was endorsed at the Ordinary meeting of Council dated 10 October 2022, that Officers prepare a report to Council investigating opportunities in the future for activation of Taylors Hill Youth and Community Centre.

This report provides a response to Notice of Motion 845 and presents opportunities for consideration.

As outlined in this report, the Taylors Hill Youth and Community Centre is currently activated with existing presence from Council and external service providers. This report outlines the challenges associated with the activation of the facility and opportunities to further broaden the activation to increase patronage and increase youth engagement opportunities.

This report proposes that in addition to Council current activation strategies, that opportunities to partner specialised youth program and service providers over the next 12-month period be investigated.

2. Background/Issues

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council dated 10 October 2022, Council resolved via a Notice of Motion 845 (Cr Abboushi):

That Council request officers:

- 1. Investigate opportunities to increase activation of the Taylors Hill Youth and Community Centre with existing or new external youth-based organisations/agencies that can engage directly with and provide outreach and other support to City of Melton young people.*
- 2. Provide a report to Council outlining opportunities with recommendations that ultimately lead to a significant increase in youth engagement, and activation of the Taylors Hill Youth and Community Centre.*

Melton City Council's Young Communities service model was reviewed in 2018/19. A key recommendation of that review relevant to this report was the establishment of the Engagement and Activation team. This team specifically focuses on engaging with young people across the municipality and activating a diverse mix of community spaces.

The Taylors Hill Youth and Community Centre, is currently activated with the follow tenants and activities:

- Eight external agencies are hiring space at Taylors Hill Youth and Community Centre for a range of activities, programs and events.
- The Community Activation and Learning team have a number of regular programs and workshops held at the centre including (list example)
- Outreach is active every Saturday night in the Eastern corridor operating out of this facility.
- Odyssey House – licence agreement to lease 2 workspaces at the centre. They provide outreach services to young people and families requiring support with drug and alcohol related matters.
- Future Connect – permanent hirer, community group that specifically works with young people and facilitates workshops from THYC
- School Holiday Programs activities operated at the site.
- School engagement programs

Taylors Hill drop in space operates every Friday

- FREEZA events are held at the site.

It is acknowledged that whilst there are a number of programs and services provided at the facility, ongoing activation could be improved.

Several factors have contributed to comparatively lower levels of engagement at this centre by comparison to the Melton Youth Centre and other recreational venues suitable for young people available in the Eastern corridor. These factors include:

- a) Ease of accessibility to the centre for young people – public transport access and proximity to schools and local shopping centres impact young peoples' motivation and ease of attendance to the centre. Young people in the Eastern corridor prefer to engage with other spaces closer to the main shopping precincts library and schools.
- b) Availability of space – there are a number of community groups and external agencies currently accessing a range of spaces within the centre. These groups/agencies aren't specifically targeting young people, so times available do not always suit ideal times to engage with young people.
- c) Facility management – currently there is a limited presence of staff on site.
- d) The space itself, and facilities available not meeting the needs of young people – for example, the computers have not been functional within the computer room for some time.
- e) The preferences of young people regarding venues to recreate or engage in are at other sites. For example, iPlay is currently run at Caroline Springs Leisure Centre every Thursday (during school terms) with regular attendance of 125+ young people.

Whilst there are a number of activation programs being undertaken at the facility, it is considered that the site is currently activated at 55.5% of its full capacity.

Opportunities for Increased Engagement and Activation

Officers have investigated a number of engagement and activation opportunities for the facility. The proposed actions that would lead to future increased youth engagement at the Taylors Hill Youth and Community Centre are outlined below.

Planned additional activation opportunities

- An Environmental Awareness Workshop targeting young people will be held on World Environment Day – June 5th
- Structured, and regular presence of staff from across the Young Communities portfolio onsite at both Youth Centres
- Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) meeting locations to be shared between Melton and Eastern corridor
- Western Bulldogs Leadership Program to be delivered from both Melton and Eastern corridor locations
- Computer room at the Taylors Hill Youth and Community Centre is in the process of being upgraded (due to be completed July 2023). This will allow public computer access for young people.
- Pride Match to be held with sporting clubs in the Eastern corridor – opportunity for promotion of Taylors Hill Youth & Community Centre as a venue for various programs and activities.
- investigate and implement initiatives to replicate activation activities provided at the Melton Youth Facility with appropriate drop-in activities such as pool table tennis, activities to encourage more drop in by young people to utilise the Taylors hill Facility.

Future opportunities to be Considered

Upcoming future programs and services delivered by Council at the site will include:

- Graffiti wall at the centre to be stripped to enable Street Art program (partnership with VicPol and Council's Arts team).
- Activities during Children's Week (21 – 29 October 2023) to be held at the centre and promoted widely
- The Young Women's Leadership Program (YWLP) meeting locations to be shared between Melton and Eastern corridor

Other Opportunities to expand activation with External Service Providers

- Review tenancy arrangements of Taylors Hill Youth and Community Centre (together with the Community Activation & Learning team) to determine how high activation timeslots may be opened up for youth specific activation.
- Undertake an EOI for spaces available targeting specific organisations that engage with young people and provide activation programs and services.

This site, given proximity to other recreation infrastructure on site provides opportunity for further activation. A combination of Council programming and external service provider activation is proposed for further investigation.

3. Council and Wellbeing Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2021-2025 Council and Wellbeing Plan references:

1. A safe City that is socially and culturally connected

1.3 Local neighbourhoods are socially and culturally connected.

This report relates to a number of Council and Wellbeing Plan references and Policy References.

4. Financial Considerations

There are no financial considerations associated with this report. Any future tenancy opportunities will be managed consistently with Council's Facility and Access Policy.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Whilst there has been no specific consultation with young people associated with the development of this report, young people are actively engaged to influence programs and services provided at this facility. That engagement has informed the information provided.

6. Risk Analysis

Nil.

7. Options

Council has the option to support the Officers recommendations as presented in this report.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Nil

12.7 RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION 849 (CR VANDENBERG) - COUNCIL ADDRESSING THE ISSUE OF SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN GOING TO SCHOOL WITHOUT BREAKFAST WITHIN THE CITY OF MELTON.

**Author: Elyse Rider - Manager Community Planning
Presenter: Troy Scoble - Director City Life**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide a response to Notice of Motion 849 (Cr Vandenberg).

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the report findings in relation to Notice of Motion 849.

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

This report provides a response to Notice of Motion 849 (Cr Vandenberg) at the 22 December 2022 Ordinary Meeting of Council that Officers prepare a report to Council investigating the issue of school aged children going to school without breakfast within the City of Melton.

As outlined in this report, while the issue of school aged children going to school without breakfast or lunch exists in the City of Melton, a number of programs including State Government funded programs currently offer food relief available to address the issue.

The report identifies those programs and services that currently exist to support school age children that may be going to school without breakfast in the municipality.

2. Background/Issues

At the Council Meeting held 22 December 2022, Council resolved via Notice of Motion 849 (Cr Vandenberg):

That Council Officers investigate and provide a report to Council addressing the issue of school aged children going to school without breakfast within the City of Melton. The report to include an outline of:

- *The extent of the issue of school aged children going to school without breakfast or lunch in the City of Melton; and*
- *Current food relief programs supporting school aged children and young people in the City of Melton.*

The extent of the issue

The most recent Victorian Population Health Survey (2017) estimates that 3.1 per cent of the City of Melton population experience food insecurity. The health, educational and employment impacts of the pandemic, rising cost of living, and economic downturn have increased hardship in Melton City, and it is likely that figure is now much greater. This means that potentially more than 650 primary school students and 475 secondary school students may be experiencing food insecurity in their homes, which may result in their going to school without breakfast or lunch.

There are anecdotal reports of school aged children committing food theft at major shopping centres within the municipality. These reports indicate that theft is more likely to happen in the hours before school, suggesting a possible link to issues of food insecurity for these young people.

School uptake of programs outlined below indicate that there is likely an issue of school aged children going to school without breakfast or lunch in the City, however these programs are seeking to address it.

Current food relief programs

The Foodbank School Breakfast Program (funded by State Government) currently supports 24 City of Melton schools to deliver school breakfast programs, the names of these schools are not publicly available and can be found in the confidential report found at attachment 1. The aim of this program is to provide support to schools in the provision of nutritious food to children and young people who may be going without. While it is titled a breakfast program, it is inclusive of lunch offerings as well, the funded schools determine the nuances of the offerings. The State Government has funded this program since 2019.

This program currently reaches 55 per cent of schools in the City of Melton. Of the 20 schools that are not currently funded for this program, 18 did not apply for the program, Officers will continue to engage with the Victorian Government funders and local schools to understand if there is a support need in these schools. The two schools who are currently on the waitlist (also found at attachment 1) are due to the available funding having been expended, and they will remain on the waiting list until funded places become available.

Further funded programs available to schools to provide breakfast and lunch include the 'Eat Up' program (offering free lunches) and Foodbank. Some schools self-fund further initiatives such as Melton Specialist School who purchase bread loaves weekly for sandwiches.

Council's Young Communities team approach all secondary schools in the municipality to support them to meet identified needs of their students. When schools have expressed a need for food relief, Council have facilitated programs in the past to help meet this need. Examples include the implementation of a breakfast clubs in 2018, and healthy snacks to young people directly after school in partnership with Woodgrove Shopping Centre.

During the pandemic times Council offered responsive grants which could be applied to for food relief services and provided food hampers to residents in need via Councils community connector hubs. These programs are no longer operating.

Beyond school based and Council delivered programs the following food relief organisations are available to families in the City of Melton to access:

- Catholic Care
- Earth village Community
- Khalsa Shaouni Inc – Dal baba Bidhi Chand Ji Temple
- Kirrip Aboriginal Corporation
- Melton Combined Churches Caring
- ADRA community Care – Melton South Community Centre
- Sri Durga Temple
- St Vincent de Paul
- Sureway International Christian Ministries Australia.
- Amazing Church
- Enjoy Church

Community can access information on each of these agencies offerings on Council's website. Council Officers note that some of these organisations struggle to fund these programs and would benefit from increased external support for the continuation of these services.

Council Officers understand that with the existing programs on offer, and in light of the uptake of Council's own programs, there are several options for food relief to address the issue of children and young people going to school without breakfast and/or lunch.

3. Council and Wellbeing Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2021-2025 Council and Wellbeing Plan references:

1. A safe City that is socially and culturally connected

1.4 A City that promotes positive public health and wellbeing outcomes to our community.

4. Financial Considerations

Nil.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Local organisations delivering food relief including Foodbank, local schools, the local School principals' network and Victoria Police were consulted in the development of this report.

6. Risk Analysis

Nil.

7. Options

That Council note the completion of the report to address the Notice of Motion 849.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Attachment 1_Foodbank School Breakfast Club Program_Participating Schools_Confidential - **CONFIDENTIAL**

This attachment is considered to contain **confidential information** on the grounds provided in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* as indicated:
(k) information prescribed by the regulations to be confidential information for the purposes of this definition.

12.8 AMENDMENT C231 TO THE MELTON PLANNING SCHEME - CITY OF MELTON HERITAGE ASSESSMENT PROJECT 2020/21

Author: Tunc Ozlatif - Strategic Planner
Presenter: Sam Romaszko - Director City Futures

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider submissions received in response to Amendment C231 to the Melton Planning Scheme during the public exhibition period and to request that the Minister for Planning appoint an Independent Planning Panel to review submissions and the planning scheme amendment.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. Request the Minister for Planning establish an independent planning panel to consider unresolved submissions received in response to Amendment C231 in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and resolve issues that are raised during the independent planning panel process prior to Amendment C231 being reported back to Council for consideration.

REPORT

1. Executive Summary

Amendment C231 seeks to amend the Melton Planning Scheme to implement the recommendations of the '*City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21*' by Lovell-Chen Architects and Heritage Consultants. The Assessment was adopted by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 18 July 2022 and Council resolved to seek authorisation to prepare and exhibit a Planning Scheme Amendment to implement the findings of the assessment.

The '*City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21*' assessed 13 places identified in the '*Shire of Melton Heritage Study 2007*'. The Assessment determined that five out of 13 heritage places met the threshold for local significance and recommended they be included in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay within the *Melton Planning Scheme*.

Amendment C231 to the *Melton Planning Scheme*, proposes to implement the recommendations of the '*City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21*' by adding five places to the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay and the associated Heritage Overlay mapping.

Amendment C231 was publicly exhibited from 10 November – 12 December 2022. There were two submissions received in total during the public exhibition period. This followed pre-amendment consultation with each of the property owners.

It is recommended that Council request the Minister for Planning establish an independent planning panel to consider unresolved submissions received in response to Amendment C231 in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

2. Background/Issues

Local Councils play an important role in preserving local history by carrying out heritage studies and permanently protecting heritage through the Planning Scheme. All planning schemes in Victoria must implement and further the objectives to planning in Victoria. An objective of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* is to 'conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value'.

The City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 20/21

The City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21 (the assessment) was prepared by Lovell-Chen Architects and Heritage Consultants and involved the assessment of 13 places to determine whether they warrant protection and therefore inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay (Clause 43.01) within the *Melton Planning Scheme*.

The 13 places assessed were identified in the *Shire of Melton Heritage Study 2007* as 'Conservation Desirable' places for further investigation.

The adopted methodology for the assessment was in accordance with the processes and criteria outlined in the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance, known as the Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS, 2013). The assessment included:

- Historical research and analysis of the extant fabric in relation to documentary evidence
- Assessment of the significance of each site based on the research and the extant fabric
- Visual site inspections
- Preparation of physical description of each site
- Preparation of citations (statement of significance, history, and description) for those places warranting heritage protection, with reference to the Planning Practice Note 1.

The assessment was consistent with the Planning Policy Framework and Municipal Strategic Statement which is expanded on later in this report.

Of the 13 places assessed, Lovell-Chen Heritage Consultants found that five places met the threshold for local significance and should be protected via inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay within the Melton Planning Scheme. This included one precinct listing and one serial listing amongst the citations (refer to Appendix 4 for the citations).

The assessment was adopted by Council at its Ordinary Meeting on 18 July 2022. At this meeting, Council also resolved to seek authorisation to prepare and exhibit a Planning Scheme Amendment to implement the findings of the assessment (refer to Appendix 1 for the previous Council Minutes).

Planning Scheme Amendment C231

Following the Council adoption of the '*City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 20/21*' and resolution to proceed with an amendment to the *Melton Planning Scheme*, Council officers commenced preparation of Amendment C231 to achieve protection of the five heritage places. This is detailed in the Explanatory Report for the amendment at Appendix 2.

The amendment applies to the following properties:

Address	Heritage Place	Proposed HO
1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang	The Oaks Homestead	HO138
Unit 1-6, Unit 8-18, 19-115 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest	Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate	HO139
Minns Road Bridge over Toolern Creek, Kurunjang	Minns Road Timber Bridge	HO140
115-131 Napier Street, 480-580, 726-738, 740-794 & 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest	Soldier Settlement Housing	HO141
332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale	Hillview House	HO142

The amendment seeks to make the following changes to the *Melton Planning Scheme*:

- Amend the Schedule to Clause 43.01 to include the following heritage places on a permanent basis as follows:
- 1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang
- Unit 1-6, Unit 8-18, 19-115 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest
- Minns Road Bridge over Toolern Creek, Kurunjang
- 115-131 Napier Street, 480-580, 726-738, 740-794 & 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest
- 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale
- Amend Planning Scheme Maps as follows:
 - 1HO to include HO142
 - 2HO to include HO141 and delete part of HO60
 - 3HO to include HO139
 - 6HO to include HO138 and HO140

Amend the Schedule to Clause 72.04 to incorporate *Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate Heritage Design Guidelines and Permit Exemptions* and the following documents:

- Statement of Significance: 115 -131 Napier Street, 480 - 580, 726 -738, 740 - 794 and 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest “Mt Aitken Soldier Settlement Housing” June 2022
- Statement of Significance: Unit 1- 6, Unit 8 -18, 19 -115 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest, “Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate” June 2022
- Statement of Significance: 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale “Hillview” June 2022
- Statement of Significance: 1809 -1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang”, “The Oaks Homestead”, June 2022
- Statement of Significance: Bridge over Toolern Creek, Kurunjang, “Minns Road Timber Bridge”, June 2022

There is an existing Heritage Overlay (HO60) that protects the Mt. Aitken Site and Ruin at 740 - 794 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest. This is a heritage place that includes a semi-ruinous stone building and the archaeological remains of former structures including walls, tracks, and gardens.

HO60 currently applies to the whole property rather than the specific areas which have been identified as having archaeological potential. The Soldier Settlement Housing Serial Listing that is being proposed through this amendment includes the house at 740-794 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest, and an area around the house of 10 metres, in the southern section of the property.

This amendment proposes to delete a portion of HO60 to allow for the soldier settlement house and 10m curtilage to allow the house to be included in HO141. HO60 will be retained across the remainder of the property and there will be two distinct statements of significance which will explain the different values of each Heritage Overlay area. The property will be subject to controls from both HO60 and HO141.

Strategic assessment of Amendment C231

Amendment C231 will help Melton City Council to meet Objective 4(1)(d) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* which is 'to conserve and enhance those buildings, areas, other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historic interest, or otherwise of special cultural value'. It is State policy to ensure the conservation of heritage significant places. To do this, places, buildings, and objects must be identified, assessed, and documented as places of natural and cultural heritage significance, as a basis for their inclusion in Victorian planning schemes.

The Amendment is required to protect five heritage places outside the urban growth boundary that meet the threshold for local significance. Including these places in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay and incorporating the statements of significance will formally recognise the heritage value of the properties, and the impact that potential demolition or proposed development may have upon them, should Council receive any demolition requests or development proposals for the subject properties.

The Amendment will ensure that a planning permit is required for demolition and a range of buildings and works to ensure the heritage significance is protected. Any proposal will then be able to be assessed by Council having regard to the purpose and requirements of the Heritage Overlay at Schedule to Clause 43.01.

The amendment is consistent with the PPF, particularly with Clause 15.03-1S *Heritage Conservation* which seeks to 'ensure the conservation of places of heritage significance.' A relevant strategy at this clause is to 'identify, assess and document places of natural and cultural heritage significance as a basis for their inclusion in the planning scheme' of which Amendment C231 is seeking to achieve.

The amendment is consistent with the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS). This amendment is consistent with Objective 1 at Clause 21.07.3 (Heritage) to protect, conserve and enhance places of historic, aboriginal, and cultural significance.'

The Amendment is also supported by the *City of Melton Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025*, which commits Council to 'support the conservation and restoration of heritage places' (Strategy 2.3.4).

3. Council and Wellbeing Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2021-2025 Council and Wellbeing Plan references:

2. A vibrant and healthy natural and built environment

2.3 A City growing and developing sustainably.

4. Financial Considerations

The preparation of the 'City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21' was \$49,140 ex GST and included Council officer time and resources to prepare.

Council officer time and resources are involved in the preparation, public exhibition, and adoption of an amendment.

Council is required to pay the statutory fees associated with the amendment process including the cost of an independent panel where costs will be incurred for the Panel hearing, Council legal representation and Council's expert witness, Lovell-Chen Consultants.

The costs associated with Planning Scheme Amendments are covered by the recurrent budgets of City Design and Strategy and Legal and Governance.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Public Exhibition

Amendment C231 was exhibited from 10 November – 12 December 2022 and involved letters giving notice to affected landowners and occupiers of the affected properties, relevant State government bodies and agencies and prescribed Ministers. The amendment ordinance and documentation were also provided.

Notices we also placed:

- In the local newspaper, the Melton and Moorabool Star Weekly and Brimbank and Northwest Star Weekly.
- In the Government Gazette.
- On the Department of Transport and Planning's website.
- On Council's website.

Submissions

A total of two submissions were received in response to the amendment. The submissions and the submission table including a detailed summary of the submissions, and Council's response can be found at Appendix 3.

Following public exhibition, Council officers contacted submitters who sought clarification on issues and the process going forward.

A summary of the issues raised through the submissions to be considered by a Planning Panel are detailed below:

Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate (Proposed HO139)

- The Diggers Rest Army Housing units don't hold any standalone heritage significance or contribute to the heritage value of the Former Army Radio Station which has an existing HO49 applied.
- The units are in varying levels of disrepair, and over the years a series of alterations and additions have been undertaken which reduces any architectural heritage values or consistency they may have previously had.
- The Design Guidelines for the Diggers Rest Army Housing Precinct which are proposed to be incorporated in the Melton Planning Scheme are not supported and don't take proper consideration of the existing planning controls.

Soldier Settlement Housing (Proposed HO141)

- The Soldier Settlement houses do not intrinsically demonstrate the breakup of pastoral estates into smaller holdings.
- The comparative analysis presented is cursory and does not provide any convincing evidence that the Mt Aitken Estate Soldier Settlement Housing provides a better understanding of soldier settlement schemes compared to other soldier settlement housing in the municipality.
- The houses are generic and lack special or unique aesthetic qualities that distinguish them from many other places of the same era.

Council officers will continue to work through the submissions received with a view to resolving as many submissions as possible prior to the Directions Hearing pre-set for early May 2023 and Planning Panel pre-set for early June 2023.

6. Risk Analysis

Proceeding with an independent planning panel will provide submitters the opportunity to be heard by an independent third party and for Council to present their position on the issues referred to the panel in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Should Council choose to abandon the amendment, it would prevent the protection of significant heritage places. Council would not meet its obligations under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* regarding the conservation and enhancement of heritage places and the objectives and strategies of the Planning Policy Framework and Municipal Strategic Statement within the *Melton Planning Scheme*.

Furthermore, abandoning the amendment would undermine the Council adopted 'Shire of Melton Heritage Study 2007', *City of Melton Heritage Strategy 2017-2021*, 'City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21', and the amendment process undertaken to date.

7. Options

Council can resolve to either:

1. Request the Minister for Planning establish an Independent Planning Panel to consider unresolved submissions received in response to Amendment C231 in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and resolve issues that are raised during the independent planning panel process prior to Amendment C231 being reported back to Council for consideration.
2. Abandon Amendment C231 to the *Melton Planning Scheme*.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Appendix 1 - Minutes of Meeting of Council - Monday, 18 July 2022
2. Appendix 2 - Amendment C231 Explanatory Report
3. Appendix 3 - Submissions and Submission Table
4. Appendix 4 - Amendment C231 Statements of Significance (citations)

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12.3 AMENDMENT C231 TO THE MELTON PLANNING SCHEME - CITY OF MELTON HERITAGE ASSESSMENT PROJECT 2020/21

Author: Tunc Ozlatif - Strategic Planner
Presenter: Bob Baggio – Manager Planning Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider the *City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21* and the associated Planning Scheme Amendment C231 to the Melton Planning Scheme.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1) Adopt the findings of the *City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21* (**Appendix 1**)
- 2) Seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare Planning Scheme Amendment C231 to the Melton Planning Scheme to implement the findings of the *City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21*.
- 3) Upon receipt of authorisation, prepare and exhibit Amendment C231 to the Melton Planning Scheme in accordance with relevant requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.
- 4) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and resolve any issues that are raised during the authorisation and exhibition process prior to the amendment being reported back to Council for referral to a Planning Panel or adoption of the amendment.

Motion

Crs Ramsey/Turner.

That Council:

- 1) Adopt the findings of the *City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21* (**Appendix 1**)
- 2) Seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare Planning Scheme Amendment C231 to the Melton Planning Scheme to implement the findings of the *City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21*.
- 3) Upon receipt of authorisation, prepare and exhibit Amendment C231 to the Melton Planning Scheme in accordance with relevant requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.
- 4) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and resolve any issues that are raised during the authorisation and exhibition process prior to the amendment being reported back to Council for referral to a Planning Panel or adoption of the amendment.

CARRIED

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REPORT**1. Executive Summary**

The protection of local heritage is an important legislated role that Council's undertake in Victoria. Recognising unique heritage assets within the municipality, the *Shire of Melton Heritage Study* was completed in two stages from 2001 to 2007. This facilitated the subsequent protection of a range of heritage places through formal listing on the Heritage Overlay and simultaneously provided a list of 'conservation desirable' places to be assessed in the future.

As the City of Melton is growing and development has increased, so too has the pressure and risk placed on places of heritage significance. Consequently, a detailed investigation was commissioned by Council to assess the final 13 places in the list of 'conservation desirable' places derived from the *Shire of Melton Heritage Study* and to determine whether these are of sufficient heritage significance to warrant being added to the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay within the Melton Planning Scheme.

Amendment C231 proposes to implement the findings of this investigation, titled the *City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21 (Appendix 1)*, to add five places to the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay. From the 13 places, 8 were determined at different stages of the assessment to not meet the threshold for inclusion on the Heritage Overlay.

2. Background/Issues

Councils play an important role in preserving local history by carrying out heritage studies and permanently protecting heritage through a planning scheme. All planning schemes in Victoria must implement and further the objectives of planning in Victoria. One of the objectives of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* is to:

Conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value.

The *Shire of Melton Heritage Study* was completed in two stages from 2007-2007. One of the objectives of Stage 1 of the study was to identify all post-contact places of potential heritage significance.

Of the 650 places that were identified in Stage 1, 475 were identified as being 'Places of Potential Heritage Significance'. Of these 475 places, only 191 places were assessed in further detail in Stage 2 of the study. The following recommendations were made on these places as part of Stage 2:

- 109 places were recommended for inclusion in the Schedule of the Heritage Overlay of the Melton Planning Scheme, completed as part of Amendment C71 in 2007.
- 56 places were identified as "Conservation Desirable" – that is any place where a heritage assessment should be prepared prior to any development proposal might impact upon it.
- 22 sites were listed as places which might be considered worthy of heritage protection in a future study.

Places recommended for future investigation and potential protection have since been incrementally addressed (depending on priority) through a range of processes, such as the development of Precinct Structure Plans. As a result, 13 out of 56 places on the "Conservation Desirables" list were the last to be assessed to determine whether these were of sufficient significance to be added to the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay within the Melton Planning Scheme.

This specific investigation is supported by the *Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025*, which commits Council to 'support the conservation and restoration of heritage places (Strategy 2.3.4).

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City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21

The *City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21 (Appendix 1)*, involved the assessment of the 13 places to determine whether they warrant inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay within the Melton Planning Scheme. The study was undertaken by Lovell-Chen Heritage Consultants.

The 13 places assessed as part of the subject study were included in the *Shire of Melton Heritage Study 2007* under the 'Conservation Desirable's' list.

The adopted methodology for the assessment was in accordance with the processes and criteria outlined in the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance, known as the Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS, 2013). The key tasks included:

- Historical research and analysis of the extant fabric in relation to documentary evidence.
- Assessment of the significance of each site based on the research and the extant fabric.
- Visual site inspections.
- Preparation of physical description of each site.
- Preparation of citations (statement of significance, history and description) for those places warranting heritage protection, with reference to the Planning Practice Note 1.

Project findings

Of the 13 places assessed, Lovell-Chen Consultants found that five places meet the threshold for local significance and should be included in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay. This included one precinct listing and one serial listing.

The full assessment of the 13 places is detailed in **Appendix 1** with an overview of the assessment provided in Tables 1 & 2 below. **Appendix 2** shows the geographic locations of the five places recommended for inclusion, with Table 1 providing an overview of these places.

Table 1 – Places recommended for inclusion in the Heritage Overlay

ID No.	Place	Address	Description
34	Farm ruin	1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang	The farm ruin at 1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang, is the remains of a relatively large bluestone farm structure with remnant internal walls and window details. It is evidence of a relatively substantial farming operation within the property from the 1860s or 1870s.
80	Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate	Unit 1-6, Unit 8-18, 117 Diggers Rest- Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest	The Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate was established by the Australian military in the post-war period within the former Diggers Rest transmitting station site. The Former Army Radio Station (included as HO49 in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Melton Planning Scheme) dates from 1944 and is the only significant wartime building remaining at the Diggers Rest station. The housing estate is a group of detached single-storey residences constructed in the 1950s and 1960s on the south side of Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road and within

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			<p>the site to the north of the Former Army Radio Station to house married military personnel working at the station site.</p> <p>This is recommended to be included in the Heritage Overlay as a Precinct listing.</p>
222	Minns Road Bridge	Minns Road Bridge over Toolern Creek	<p>Minns Road timber bridge is a four span timber bridge which crosses Toolern Creek on the original alignment of Minns Road. Constructed in 1888, Minns Road timber bridge is comprised of three piers made up of four piles with transverse cross bracing and additional angled support piles to each side. Round timber stringers and substructure support a timber deck with a low timber balustrade extending partway along the length of the deck to both sides. Capped bluestone abutments support the east and west ends of the bridge.</p>
134,135,142,143	Soldier Settlement Housing	115-131 Napier Street, 480-580, 726-738, 740-794 & 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest	<p>The four soldier settlement houses on Mt Aitken Road and one on Napier Street, Diggers Rest are part the post-World War II farm settlement scheme for ex-servicemen. The small farming allotments were formerly part of the Mt Aitken pastoral estate and were acquired by the State Government in 1947. Five men who had served in various roles during World War II successfully applied to occupy the allotments – A1, A2, A3, A4 and A5. The farmhouses of this scheme were of a standard type, typically modest single-storey weatherboard construction, stepped frontages and entry porches. The subject residences are understood to have been constructed to the standard designs by architects Buchan, Laird and Buchan, and were constructed in the early 1950s. The five soldier settlement properties were acquired as freehold by ex-servicemen during the 1960s and 1970s, indicating the requirements of the scheme had been satisfied.</p> <p>This is recommended to be included in the Heritage Overlay as a Serial listing.</p>
01	House	332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale	<p>The property at 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale was established as a substantial farming property in the c.1870s by David Jenkins, comprising a timber house with iron roof, large wood stable and hay loft, stone dairy, cow shed, stockyards and garden. Photographs of c. 2001 and aerial images indicate that the property is currently comprised of a weatherboard residence, with c. 1980s alterations, and a complex of outbuildings in a rural landscaped setting.</p>

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Table 2 – Places not recommended for inclusion in the Heritage Overlay

ID No.	Place	Address	Description
23	Cottage (stone, relocated)	2310-2170-Diggers Rest Coimadai Road, Toolern Vale	<p>Relocated bluestone cottage understood to have originally been an outbuilding at the Royal Hotel, Melton. Original construction date is unknown. The bluestone outbuilding was demolished, with individual stones hand numbered, and relocated, reassembled, and restored on the subject site in 1971.</p> <p>Alterations to the relocated cottage include a change in materiality and form of the roof, non-original multipaned sash windows and addition of a verandah on square timber posts. As a result of its relocation, the cottage has been removed from its early setting and context, and the ability to understand its original use and presentation is limited. Furthermore, its ability to contribute to an understanding of Melton's early history has been diminished.</p>
57	House (Hilton Brae) including possible outstation	574-638 Ryans Lane, Toolern Vale	<p>The property comprises a weatherboard residence and (reportedly) a bluestone ruin which appears to have been part of a fireplace or kitchen. Much of the residence presents as having been constructed in the first half of the twentieth century, however it has been suggested that the residence comprises some early or nineteenth century fabric. The existence of extant built form which is associated with the early occupation of the site has not been confirmed.</p> <p>On the basis of the research undertaken for this assessment, the place is not recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Melton Planning Scheme. Further investigation, including a visual inspection and assessment of archaeological potential, may confirm if the place would meet Criterion A, C and/or D and may determine that a recommendation for inclusion is appropriate.</p>
122	House (Roseview)	1498-1620 Melton Highway, Plumpton	<p>Single-storey weatherboard farmhouse constructed in c. 1906-11, on land that was selected as part of the Overnewton Closer Settlement Estate.</p> <p>Comparative analysis confirmed there are other, more intact examples of farmhouses and farm complexes in the City of Melton, which better demonstrate the establishment of small farms as part of the Closer Settlement Scheme.</p>
123	House (Shirley)	1646 Melton Highway, Plumpton	The single-storey farmhouse at 1646 Melton Highway, Plumpton was

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			<p>constructed in c. 1907-09, on land that was selected as part of the Overnewton Closer Settlement Estate.</p> <p>The residence has been extensively altered externally and is not an intact example of a farming residence associated with the Closer Settlement Scheme.</p>
72	Former Tame Wire Fence Company	1376-1432 Calder Highway, Diggers Rest	<p>Former factory building constructed in c. 1940s by the Tame Wire Fence Company for the production of cyclone wire, galvanised tanks and other products likely utilised for fencing in the district.</p> <p>The former Tame Wire Fence Co. is of interest as an industry established in Diggers Rest in the mid-1940s, but it does not provide evidence of a key industry significant to the development of Melton. The Tame Wire Fence Co. does not appear to have been a high-profile company or of individual note in the municipality, and the existing built form does not provide clear evidence of the former use of the site.</p>
315	House	1232-1290 Beattys Road, Grangefields	<p>Single-storey weatherboard building with a corrugated sheet metal clad hipped roof dating from the c. late nineteenth or early twentieth century. To the south-east of the residence is a corrugated iron clad Nissen Hut.</p> <p>The residence derives some historical interest at a local level for its association with a locally prominent farming family, and as a demonstration of the break-up of large nineteenth century pastoral estates into smaller farming allotments. However, there are better examples in the municipality which have a clearer association with the historical theme of early twentieth century farming development, including those associated with the Closer Settlement Scheme. Likewise, the association with the local farming family is better demonstrated by other early buildings in Rockbank.</p>
453	House (Camelot Lodge)	230 Troups Road, Fieldstone	<p>Single-storey weatherboard residence constructed at the site in c. 1917 for farmer Robert Peacock, and possibly relocated to the location from Peacock's other property on the east side of Troups Road. Although there is some interest as associated with the growth in smaller scale farms, the subject site does not demonstrate the break-up of a major pastoral estate, an important phase of development in the Municipality.</p> <p>The relocation of weatherboard houses was also not uncommon in Melton in this period, and there are relatively high</p>

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			number of places in the municipality that are known to have been relocated.
275	House	570 Parwan-Exford Road, Parwan	<p>Single-storey weatherboard residence which presents as having been constructed in the c. 1910s and relocated to the subject site in the c. 1950s or 1960s.</p> <p>The subject site was not associated with the Closer or Soldier settlement schemes and does not appear to have been occupied as a farm residence until the post-war period. Although the farmhouse building likely dates from the c. 1910s, its provenance, including construction date and original location is unknown and it was not relocated to the subject property until the c. 1950s or 1960s.</p>

Planning Scheme Amendment C231 – Additions to the Heritage Overlay

To ensure ongoing protection of the five recommended heritage places, they must be listed under Clause 43.01 of the Melton Planning Scheme – the Heritage Overlay. To give effect to this change, a formal Planning Scheme Amendment is required. This is detailed in the Explanatory Report for the amendment, (**Appendix 3**).

Amendment C231 proposes to implement the findings of the *City of Melton Heritage Assessment 2020/21* into the Melton Planning Scheme by:

- Including five additional places in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay located at Clause 43.01 (as summarised in Table 1 of this report).
- Incorporating the statements of significance for each of these places as contained in **Appendix 1** into the Melton Planning Scheme.

Including these places in the schedule to the Heritage Overlay, and incorporating the statements of significance will allow an assessment of the heritage value of the properties, and the impact that proposed development may have upon them should Council receive any development proposals for the subject properties.

Strategic assessment

Ministerial Direction No 11 requires amendments to be assessed against a number of guidelines. This strategic assessment has been undertaken and it is considered that the amendment adequately addresses the guidelines.

One of the objectives of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* is to:

Conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value.

The City of Melton's *Municipal Strategic Statement* includes an objective 'to protect and enhance areas of environmental, historical and cultural significance and sensitivity'.

The purpose of Clause 43.01 – Heritage Overlay of the Melton Planning Scheme is as follows:

- To conserve and enhance heritage places of natural or cultural significance.
- To conserve and enhance those elements which contribute to the significance of heritage places.
- To ensure that development does not adversely affect the significance of heritage places.

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- To conserve specified heritage places by allowing a use that would otherwise be prohibited if this will demonstrably assist with the conservation of the significance of the heritage place.

As local historic assets are at risk, the Heritage Overlay is the most appropriate planning control available to ensure long term protection. This amendment will directly contribute towards Council's legislated obligation to conserve heritage within the municipality.

3. Council and Wellbeing Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2021-2025 Council and Wellbeing Plan references:

2. A vibrant and healthy natural and built environment
 - 2.3 A City growing and developing sustainably.

4. Financial Considerations

The *City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21* was undertaken by Lovell-Chen Heritage Consultants at a total cost of \$49,140 excl GST including a variation of \$2,000 excl. GST. Council officer time and resources are involved in the preparation of the amendment. Council is also required to pay the mandatory fees associated with the amendment process. Should the amendment proceed to Panel, costs will be incurred, including for potential legal representation. The costs associated with Planning Scheme Amendments are covered by the recurrent budget of City Design and Strategy.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21

Council sent three rounds of letters and sought to contact the property owners to arrange site access where necessary. Initial visual inspections were undertaken in January and February 2020, additional visual inspections were also undertaken in August and September 2021. The house on 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale was not visible from the road and a site inspection of this property was not possible, however, contact was made with the landowner regarding the assessment. As a result, the assessment of this place relied on earlier photographs. This approach is an accepted methodology for the inspection of heritage places.

Amendment C231

Planning scheme amendments are subject to an exhibition process in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. This includes direct notification to affected landowners, notification to government agencies and prescribed Ministers, a notice placed in a local newspaper, and a notice placed in the Government Gazette.

Council staff, including a Heritage Advisor will be available to meet with landowners and undertake site visits if requested during the consultation period. Any submissions received during the exhibition process will be assessed by Council officers who will seek to work with submitters to resolve issues where appropriate.

Once the exhibition period closes, a further report will be provided to Council summarising any submissions made to Amendment C231, the changes made to the amendment as a result of exhibition and recommending whether a Planning Panel is required.

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6. Risk Analysis

If Council chooses not to seek authorisation to prepare a Planning Scheme Amendment, it will prevent the protection of significant heritage places from demolition or future development.

Council would also risk not meeting its obligations under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* regarding the conservation and enhancement of heritage places.

7. Options

Council can resolve to either:

1. Adopt the findings of the *City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21* (**Appendix 1**) and seek authorisation to prepare and exhibit a Planning Scheme Amendment in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and authorise the General Manager Planning and Development and Manager City Design and Strategy to negotiate and resolve any issues; or
2. Not adopt the findings of the *City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21* (**Appendix 1**) and not proceed with the Planning Scheme Amendment.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21
2. Geographic locations of recommendations (January 2022)
3. Explanatory Report

Planning and Environment Act 1987

MELTON PLANNING SCHEME

AMENDMENT C231MELT

EXPLANATORY REPORT

Who is the planning authority?

This amendment has been prepared by the Melton City Council which is the planning authority for this amendment.

The Amendment has been made at the request of Melton City Council.

Land affected by the amendment

The amendment applies to the following properties:

- 1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang
- Unit 1-6, Unit 8-18, 117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest
- Minns Road Bridge over Toolern Creek, Kurunjang
- 115-131 Napier Street, 480-580, 726-738, 740-794 & 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest
- 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale

A mapping reference table is attached at Attachment 1 to this Explanatory Report.

What the amendment does

The Amendment proposes to implement the findings of the *City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21* by adding five places to the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay and the associated Heritage Overlay mapping and incorporating the statements of significance for each of these places and an incorporated plan into the Melton Planning Scheme.

The Amendment will:

1. Amend the Schedule to Clause 43.01 to include the following heritage places on a permanent basis as follows:
 - HO138 – The Oaks Homestead at 1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang
 - HO139 – Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate at Unit 1-6, Unit 8-18, 117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest
 - HO140 – Minns Road Bridge over Toolern Creek, Kurunjang
 - HO141 – Soldier Settlement Housing at 115-131 Napier Street, 480-580, 726-738, 740-794 & 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest
 - HO142 – Hillview house at 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale
2. Amend Planning Scheme Maps as follows:
 - 1HO to include HO142
 - 2HO to include HO141 and delete part of HO60
 - 3HO to include HO139
 - 6HO to include HO138 and HO140
3. Amend the Schedule to Clause 72.04 to incorporate *Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate Heritage Design Guidelines and Permit Exemptions* and the following documents:

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- Statement of Significance: 115-131 Napier Street, 480-580, 726-738, 740-794 and 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest "Mt Aitken Soldier Settlement Housing" June 2022
- Statement of Significance: Unit 1-6, Unit 1-18, 117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest, "Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate" June 2022
- Statement of Significance: 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale "Hillview" June 2022
- Statement of Significance: 1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang, "The Oaks Homestead", June 2022
- Statement of Significance: Bridge over Toolern Creek, Kurunjang, "Minns Road Timber Bridge", June 2022

The existing HO60 protects the Mt. Aitken Site & Ruin at 740-794 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest. This is a heritage place that includes a semi-ruinous stone building and the archaeological remains of former structures including walls, tracks, and gardens.

HO60 currently applies to the whole property rather than the specific areas which have been identified as having archaeological potential. The Soldier Settlement Housing Serial Listing that is being proposed through this amendment includes the house at 740-794 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest and an area around the house of 10 metres, in the southern section of the property.

This amendment proposes to delete a portion of HO60 to allow for the soldier settlement house and 10m curtilage to allow the house to be included in HO141. HO60 will be retained across the remainder of the property and there will be two distinct statements of significance which will explain the different values of each Heritage Overlay area. The property will be subject to controls from both HO60 and HO141.

Strategic assessment of the amendment

Why is the amendment required?

Amendment C231 will help Melton City Council to meet Objective 4(1)(d) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* which is 'to conserve and enhance those buildings, areas, other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historic interest, or otherwise of special cultural value'. It is State policy to ensure the conservation of heritage significant places. To do this, places, buildings, and objects must be identified, assessed, and documented as places of natural and cultural heritage significance, as a basis for their inclusion in Victorian planning schemes.

The Amendment is required to protect five heritage places outside the urban growth boundary that meet the threshold for local significance. Including these places in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay and incorporating the statements of significance will formally recognise the heritage value of the properties, and the impact that potential demolition or proposed development may have upon them, should Council receive any demolition requests or development proposals for the subject properties.

The Amendment will ensure that a planning permit is required for demolition and a range of buildings and works to ensure the heritage significance is protected. Any proposal will then be able to be assessed by Council having regard to the purpose and requirements of the Heritage Overlay at Schedule to Clause 43.01.

How does the amendment implement the objectives of planning in Victoria?

The Amendment implements the following objectives for planning in Victoria as outlined in section 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*:

- *To provide for the fair, orderly, economic, and sustainable use, and development of land.*
- *To conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value.*
- *To balance the present and future interests of all Victorians.*
- *To secure a pleasant, efficient, and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Victorians and visitors to Victoria*

- *To facilitate development in accordance with the objectives outlined above.*

The Amendment implements these objectives by applying the Heritage Overlay to the five places to protect the significant heritage in the City of Melton.

How does the amendment address any environmental, social, and economic effects?

Conservation of the heritage places is critical towards maintaining and protecting a sense of character that they provide in the mostly rural communities they are located within.

The Amendment will have a positive social impact on the municipality, as the community values local heritage and it plays an important role in defining local identity and a sense of place.

The Amendment is not expected to have any adverse environmental or economic effects. The application of the Heritage Overlay will enable landowners to apply for the Heritage Assistance Fund which will assist with offsetting costs associated with maintenance, repair, or conservation of a heritage place.

Does the amendment address relevant bushfire risk?

The affected land is not subject to bushfire risk.

Does the amendment comply with the requirements of any Minister's Direction applicable to the amendment?

Ministerial Direction No.9 – Metropolitan Strategy

The Amendment is consistent with the Metropolitan Strategy, *Plan Melbourne*, particularly Direction 4.4 to 'respect Melbourne's heritage as we build for the future' and its Policy 4.4.1 which recognises the 'value of heritage when managing growth and change.'

Ministerial Direction No.11 – Strategic Assessment of Amendments

The requirements of this direction have been followed in the preparation of this Amendment.

Ministerial Direction – The Form and Content of Planning Schemes

The Amendment is consistent with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes under Section 12(2)(a) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

How does the amendment support or implement the Planning Policy Framework and any adopted State policy?

The Amendment supports the Planning Policy Framework at Clause 15 (Built Environment and Heritage) and Clause 15.03-1S (Heritage Conservation).

Objective

- *To ensure the conservation of places of heritage significance.*

Strategies

- *Identify, assess, and document places of natural and cultural heritage significance as a basis for their inclusion in the planning scheme.*
- *Provide for the conservation and enhancement of those places that are of aesthetic, archaeological, architectural, cultural, scientific, or social significance.*
- *Encourage appropriate development that respects places with identified heritage values.*
- *Retain those elements that contribute to the importance of the heritage place.*

- *Encourage the conservation and restoration of contributory elements of a heritage place. Ensure an appropriate setting and context for heritage places is maintained or enhanced*

In particular, the Amendment supports the objective 'to ensure the conservation of places of heritage significance' and responds to its strategy to 'identify, assess and document places of natural and cultural heritage significance as a basis for their inclusion in the planning scheme.'

How does the amendment support or implement the Local Planning Policy Framework, and specifically the Municipal Strategic Statement?

Clause 21.01 of the Melton Planning Scheme sets out Council's Planning Outcomes to be achieved via the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS). The MSS outlines a number of Visions, Themes, and Outcomes for the municipality, in particular Clause 21.07.3 'Heritage' sets out Objectives and Strategies which respond to key issues. The Amendment is consistent with this Objective 1 which is 'to protect, conserve and enhance places of historic, aboriginal, and cultural significance' as it is seeking to protect structures which form an important part of the City of Melton's historical development.

The Amendment is also supported by the *City of Melton Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025*, which commits Council to 'support the conservation and restoration of heritage places' (Strategy 2.3.4).

Does the amendment make proper use of the Victoria Planning Provisions?

The Amendment makes proper use of the Victorian Planning Provisions through the schedule to the Heritage Overlay at Clause 43.01. The Heritage Overlay is the most appropriate tool to 'conserve and enhance heritage places of natural or cultural significance' and to 'ensure that development does not adversely affect the significance of heritage places.'

The purpose of Clause 43.01 – Heritage Overlay of the Melton Planning Scheme is as follows:

- To conserve and enhance heritage places of natural or cultural significance.
- To conserve and enhance those elements which contribute to the significance of heritage places.
- To ensure that development does not adversely affect the significance of heritage places.
- To conserve specified heritage places by allowing a use that would otherwise be prohibited if this will demonstrably assist with the conservation of the significance of the heritage place.

How does the amendment address the views of any relevant agency?

Views of relevant agencies will be considered through the public exhibition stage of the Amendment process.

Does the amendment address relevant requirements of the Transport Integration Act 2010?

The amendment will not have a significant impact on the transport system, as defined by Part 2 of the Transport Integration Act 2010.

Resource and administrative costs

The Amendment will increase the number of sites subject to the provisions of the Heritage Overlay, therefore potentially resulting in more planning applications. The anticipated increase in planning applications is not expected to have a significant impact on resourcing and administrative costs.

Where you may inspect this amendment

The amendment can be inspected free of charge at the following place:

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Melton Civic Centre
232 High Street
Melton

The Amendment can also be inspected free of charge at the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning website at www.planning.vic.gov.au/public-inspection.

Submissions

Any person who may be affected by the amendment may make a submission to the planning authority. Submissions about the amendment must be received by 12 December 2022.

A submission must be sent to:

Manager City Design and Strategy
Melton City Council
PO Box 21
Melton VIC 3337

Panel hearing dates

In accordance with clause 4(2) of Ministerial Direction No.15 the following panel hearing dates have been set for this amendment:

- directions hearing: May 2023
- panel hearing: June 2023

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ATTACHMENT 1 - Mapping reference table

Address	Land /Area Affected	Mapping Reference
1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang	None.	Melton C231 001hoMap Exhibition
Unit 1-6, Unit 8-18, 117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest	None.	Melton C231 002hoMap03 Exhibition
Minns Road Bridge over Toolern Creek, Kurunjang	None.	Melton C231 001hoMap06 Exhibition
115-131 Napier Street, 480-580, 726-738, 740-794 and 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest	None.	Melton C231 001Map06 Exhibition Melton C231 003hoMap02 Exhibition Melton C231 004hoMap02 Exhibition Melton C231 005hoMap02 Exhibition
332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale	None.	Melton C231 006hoMap01 Exhibition
740-794 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest	None.	Melton C231 007d-hoMap02 Exhibition

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12 December 2022

Darren Rudd
Manager City Design and Strategy
Melton City Council
PO Box 21
Melton VIC 3337

Submission to Amendment C231melt: 117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest

Insight Planning Consultants act on behalf of Prime Equity Group, who are the landowners of 117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road in Diggers Rest (Lot 1, TP334591W).

I refer to Amendment C231 of the Melton Planning Scheme which “proposes to implement the findings of the City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/2021 by adding five places to the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay and the associated Heritage Overlay mapping and incorporating the statements of significance for each of these places and an incorporated plan into the Melton Planning Scheme’.

Specifically in relation to our client’s land at 117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd, the Amendment will:

1. Amend the Schedule to Clause 43.01 to include the following heritage places on a permanent basis as follows:
 - HO139 – Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate at Unit 1-6, Unit 8-18, 117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest
2. Amend Planning Scheme Maps as follows:
 - 3HO to include HO139
3. Amend the Schedule to Clause 72.04 to incorporate the City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21: Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate Heritage Design Guidelines and Permit Exemptions and the following documents:
 - Statement of Significance: Unit 1-6, Unit 8-18, 117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest. ‘Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate’ June 2022

Firstly, it appears that the land address has been incorrectly referenced as 117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd, when the land that it should apply to is referenced as 107-207 Plumpton Rd (Lot 1, TP552504C). Our client owns this land also.

The inclusion of the units into the heritage overlay has come as a complete surprise to our client, particularly as there has been an entire incorporated document outlining guidelines for the future development and subdivision of the site and they have not been contacted or consulted about this to date.

We do not agree that these units hold any standalone heritage significance nor do they significantly contribute to the heritage value of the Former Army Radio Station, which has an existing HO49 applied. The units are in varying levels of disrepair, and over the years a series of alterations and additions have been undertaken on the units, which reduce any architectural heritage values or consistency they may have previously had.



The proposed Heritage Overlay (HO139) over the units only seeks to impose external paint controls. As previously outlined, the units have undergone various alterations in the past and are not currently consistent in their facades or external paint schemes, or any other significant feature that would warrant such a control imposed.

The Development Guidelines which are also proposed to be incorporated into the Scheme as part of this amendment are also not supported by our client. No consultation has been undertaken with our client in relation to the proposed document, and the guidelines outlined within it are considered excessive and unnecessary given that we do not agree that the units hold any contributing heritage significance.

Specifically, the guidelines encourage preservation of the front facades in particular and common architectural features, when the alterations that have occurred on the units result in non-consistent facades, colours, and even materials. Given the poor condition that many of the units are in, it is not appropriate to require the retention and preservation of these, given that they are not considered to significantly contribute to the existing heritage place nor have significant heritage value on their own.

Furthermore, the guidelines do not seem to take proper consideration of the existing planning controls which apply to the site and its location with the Green Wedge Zone (GWZ). The GWZ does not currently permit the construction of any additional dwellings on the site, so having guidelines that encourage infill development to occur on the 'vacant lots' is not only inaccurate in relation to the titling of the site, but also is not in accordance with the existing planning control which apply to the site. This indicates that the proposed design guidelines have not been sufficiently considered.

As such, we wish to lodge a submission objecting to the proposed heritage listing (HO139) on our client's land. However, due to the busy Christmas period and the need to seek specialised heritage advice, we reserve our rights to make further submissions in relation to this Amendment once this specialist advice is received.

I trust the above appropriately outlines our request however please don't hesitate to contact me on 0433 410 449 if you require further clarification.

Sincerely,

Jason Black
Managing Director
Insight Planning Consultants

RIGBY COOKE LAWYERS

Our ref: **20090878**
Your ref:

Direct dial: 03 9321 7832
Direct email: randerson@rigbycooke.com.au
Page: 1/2

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9 December 2022

The Manager City Design and Strategy
Melton City Council
PO Box 21
MELTON VIC 3337

By email: citysupport@melton.vic.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

**740-794 and 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest
Objection to Amendment C231 to the Melton Planning Scheme**

We act on behalf of the G. Adams Enterprises Aust. Pty Ltd (ACN: 006 823 936) (**Owner**), the owner of land at 740-794 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest (**East Lot**) and 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest (**West Lot**) or (collectively, the **Land**).

Amendment C231 proposes to apply HO141 to portions of land at the southern end of both the East Lot and the West Lot.

It also proposes to delete a portion of HO60, which presently applies to the entirety of the East Lot, to allow for the soldier settlement house and a 10m curtilage at the southern end of the East Lot to be included in HO141. The West Lot is not currently affected by any Heritage Overlay.

We object on the following basis:

1. **Criterion A** - Lack of nexus between the place to be protected and purported Statement of Significance.

The proposed Statement of Significance attributes historical significance under Criterion A, stating that the place demonstrates "...the break-up of large nineteenth century pastoral estates in the municipality, and the twentieth century shift to small farm holdings..".

However, the proposed Heritage Overlay is to apply only to the settlement housing structures and a small curtilage, representing a planning control that is spatially much smaller than the respective broader landholdings on which they are sited. In other words, the Overlay appears to be crafted with the objective of protecting the physical fabric of the residences. While it is agreed that the residences are evidence of post-war soldier settlement housing in Melton, we do not agree that the structures intrinsically demonstrate the breakup of large pastoral estates into smaller holdings. This is evidenced by the fact the houses were of a 'standard type' and constructed well after the subdivision of the land.

2. **Criterion B** – inadequate comparative analysis and lack of evidence to demonstrate rarity

RIGBY COOKE LAWYERS

Our ref: **20090878**
Your ref:

Letter to: Melton City Council
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The comparative analysis presented in the Heritage Assessment (Lovell Chen, January 2022) is cursory; and does not provide any convincing evidence that the Mount Aitken Estate Soldier Settlement Housing provides a better understanding of soldier settlement schemes compared to other soldier settlement housing in the municipality.

Under Criterion B the Heritage Assessment states:

"There are a number of examples of earlier soldier settlement schemes in Melton, but the Mt Aitken Estate Soldier Settlement Housing is one of a small number of examples of post-war soldier settlement in the municipality. It has not been established that other examples of post-war soldier settlement residences remain extant and intact in the municipality; however, it appears likely that this group is a rare example and as such satisfies this criterion at a local level".

We do not agree that any conclusions can be made about the relative significance of the Mt Aitken Estate Soldier Settlement Housing based on the above statement and submit there is insufficient evidence to substantiate that the place meets Criterion B.

Further, and importantly, the lack of any site inspection and limited visibility of the residences from the public domain indicates that there has not been a robust process to address this Criterion.

The residences on the Land have limited visibility from the public domain. We therefore consider that their ability to be appreciated by the community of Melton to be restricted, and in such instances one would hope that only the highest and best, and the most intact, examples would warrant the introduction of heritage controls.

3. Criterion D – generic characteristics do not sufficiently demonstrate class of place

We consider that the descriptors for the residences as "...modest, single-storey weatherboard construction, often double or triple fronted, and with verandahs and brick chimneys" to be generic, and demonstrative that the residences lack special or unique aesthetic qualities that distinguish them from many other places of the same era. This description could equally apply to any non-settlement 1950's houses across the municipality, as well as the broader metropolitan region. Accordingly, we do not consider that the residences adequately demonstrate a class of place being soldier settlement housing.

Our client reserves the right to amend or further elaborate on these objections at a later date.

Should you have any queries regarding this objection, please do not hesitate to contact Rhodie Anderson on 9321 7832.

Yours faithfully



Rigby Cooke Lawyers

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		Submission	Response
1	<p>Name: Submitter 1</p> <p>Address: Unit 1-6, Unit 8-18, 19-115 Diggers Rest- Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest</p> <p>Received: 12 December 2022</p> <p>RE: Proposed HO139</p>	<p>1. The submitter has noted that the land address has been incorrectly referenced as 117 Diggers-Rest Coimadai Road, when it should be referenced as 107-207 Plumpton Road which Prime Equity Group also owns.</p> <p>2. The submitter has stated that the inclusion of the units into the Heritage Overlay has come as a complete surprise to them, particularly as there has been an Incorporated Document outlining guidelines for the future development. They have stated that they have not been contacted or consulted about this to date.</p> <p>3. The submitter has stated that they do not agree that the units hold any standalone heritage significance, nor do they significantly contribute to the heritage value of the Former Army Radio Station which has an existing HO49 applied. The submitter has stated that the units are in varying levels of disrepair, and over the years a series of alteration and addition have been undertaken which reduces any architectural heritage values or consistency they may have previously had.</p>	<p>It is recommended that Council officers update the address of the Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate in the amendment documentation as Unit 1-6, Unit 8-18, 19-115 Diggers Rest- Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest.</p> <p>On the 4 December 2019, Council Officers sent letters to the owner and occupiers informing them of the commencement of the Heritage Assessment of the property. The letters also requested access to the property for the qualified heritage consultants to undertake their assessment. Permission was provided by the caretaker at the time and a site visit was undertaken by Council officers and a consultant from Lovell-Chen on 21 August 2021.</p> <p>The Statement of Significance states that the Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate is associated with the Radio Station building, although it is not proposed to amend the existing HO49. This proposed precinct adds to the story of the army radio station building which further demonstrates how the Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate was used and occupied.</p> <p>The Statement of Significance applies HERCON Criterion A and D which demonstrate historical significance and architectural representativeness. Representativeness is when a place demonstrates certain characteristics of a type or class of place and in this case the class of place is post-war defence housing.</p>

		<p>4. The submitter has stated that the proposed Heritage Overlay (HO139) over the units only seeks to impose external paint controls. As previously outlined, the units have undergone various alterations in the past and are not currently consistent in their facades or external paint schemes, or any other significant feature that would warrant such a control imposed.</p>	<p>The key features/elements of the precinct (the 17 houses, the open grassed quadrangle, driveway entrance, internal roadway and visual connection between the housing estate and Former Army Radio Station, HO49) are extant. These elements are evident in the 1971 aerial image that is included in the citation and remain evident today. The external building/roof forms of the houses are also consistent with the 1971 aerial.</p> <p>The majority of the houses have seen minor changes, but the overall planning and setbacks have been retained, and no visible additions within the front setback or to the rear of the houses have been introduced. The alterations that have occurred are reflected in the 'contributory' (as opposed to 'significant' grading). Therefore, the citation has adequately demonstrated the architectural representativeness of the precinct.</p> <p>Although there has been a limited amount of change, a degree of variation within the style of the houses is acceptable and, in this case, is part of the original design of the housing development. The condition of the houses is immaterial to the assessment of significance and in fact the condition and intactness of the precinct overall is high. The integrity of the precinct is of a level that satisfies the application of the Heritage Overlay.</p>
		<p>5. The submitter has stated that the Development Guidelines which are proposed to be incorporated into the Scheme as part of this amendment are also not supported by Prime Equity Group. The submitter states that no consultation has been undertaken with their client in relation to the proposed document, and the guidelines outlined within it are considered excessive and unnecessary given that they do not agree that the units hold any contributing heritage significance.</p> <p>Specifically, as the guidelines encourage preservation of the front facades in particular and common architectural features, when the alterations that have occurred on the units result in non-consistent facades, colours, and materials. Given the poor condition that many of the units are in, it is not appropriate to require the retention and preservation of these, given that they are not considered to significantly contribute to the existing heritage place nor have significant heritage value on their own.</p>	<p>The citation notes that as constructed, the residences were not identical but were uniformly single-storey and featured common architectural characteristics (Including materiality) which demonstrate the characteristics of post-war defence housing, and these remain evident.</p> <p>The Heritage Design Guidelines for the precinct are specific to the place and the content follows the form and guidelines typical of other HO places in Victoria. They are not considered to be excessive and were prepared to ensure works within the place will retain and protect the elements that contribute to the significance of the place.</p> <p>Further comparative analysis will be undertaken to confirm there are no other surviving examples of post-war defence housing in Melton, but the place is considered to satisfy Criteria A and D at a local level.</p>
		<p>6. The submitter has stated that the guidelines do not seem to take proper consideration of the existing planning controls which apply to the site and its location within the Green Wedge Zone (GWZ). The GWZ does not currently permit the construction of any additional dwellings on the site, so having guidelines that encourage infill development to occur on the 'vacant lots' is not only inaccurate in relation to the titling of the site, but also not in accordance with the existing planning control which applies to the site.</p>	<p>Council acknowledges that under the existing planning controls any additional dwellings would be prohibited. These Design Guidelines have been developed that if prohibited uses were to be allowed, if rezoning were to occur or if the Urban Growth Boundary were to change there would be a level of guidance in relation to the precinct.</p>

2	<p>Name: Submitter 2</p> <p>Address: 740-794 and 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest, VIC, 3427 (two out of the five Soldier Settlement Housing)</p> <p>Received: 12 December 2022</p> <p>RE: Proposed HO141</p>	<p><i>1. Criterion A: Lack of nexus between the place to be protected and purported Statement of Significance</i></p> <p>The submitter has stated that the proposed Heritage Overlay is to apply only to the settlement housing structures and a small curtilage, representing a planning control that is spatially much smaller than the respective broader landholdings on which they are sited. In other words, the Overlay appears to be crafted with the objective of protecting the physical fabric of the residences. While it is agreed that the residences are evidence of post-war soldier settlement housing in Melton, they do not agree that the structures intrinsically demonstrate the breakup of large pastoral estates into smaller holdings. This is evidenced by the fact the houses were of a 'standard type' and constructed well after the subdivision of the land.</p>	<p>Criterion A states that the place demonstrates the breakup of the larger pastoral estates and the C20th shift to small farm holdings. The fact that the land was subdivided into the Mt Aitken Estate Soldier Settlement subdivision in the late 1940s, is evidence of the breakup of larger properties.</p> <p>The soldier settlement houses are also of historical significance as they are the most tangible illustration of the post-war soldier settlement scheme. The fact that the houses are of a standard type that were provided to soldier settlers is why they are of historical significance.</p>
	<p><i>2. Criterion B: Inadequate comparative analysis and lack of evidence to demonstrate rarity</i></p> <p>The submitter has stated that the comparative analysis presented in the Heritage Assessment (Lovell Chen, January 2022) is cursory; and does not provide any convincing evidence that the Mount Aitken Estate Soldier Settlement Housing provides a better understanding of soldier settlement schemes compared to other soldier settlement housing in the municipality.</p> <p>Under Criterion B the Heritage Assessment states: <i>"There are a number of examples of earlier soldier settlement schemes in Melton, but the Mt Aitken Estate Soldier Settlement Housing is one of a small number of examples of post-war soldier settlement in the municipality. It has not been established that other examples of post-war soldier settlement residences remain extant and intact in the municipality; however, it appears likely that this group is a rare example and as such satisfies this criterion at a local level"</i>.</p> <p>The submitter has stated they do not agree that any conclusions can be made about the relative significance of the Mt Aitken Estate Soldier Settlement Housing based on the above statement and submit there is insufficient evidence to substantiate that the place meets Criterion B.</p> <p>The submitter also states that further, and importantly, the lack of any site inspection and limited visibility of the residences from the public domain indicates that there has not been a robust process to address this Criterion.</p> <p>The residences on the Land have limited visibility from the public domain. We therefore consider that their ability to be appreciated by the community of Melton to be restricted, and in such instances, one would hope that only the highest and best, and the most intact, examples would warrant the introduction of heritage controls.</p>	<p>Criterion B relates to the rarity of the place in the municipality. Council acknowledges that the comparative analysis is not lengthy, because no other post second world war soldier settlement scheme houses could be located.</p> <p>The mapped extent of the HO curtilage retains the evidence of the place from which significance is derived as outlined in the Statement of Significance. This is consistent with Planning Practice Note 1 (Aug 2018). The inclusion of additional land is not considered necessary to retain the evidence of the breakup of larger pastoral estates as part of the soldier settlement scheme.</p> <p>Places already included on the heritage overlay in the Melton Planning Scheme include places which were subdivided for soldier settlement around Melton Park, after the First World War, not the Second World War. The Criterion B relates to the houses being rare examples of post-Second World War Soldier Settlement Houses. The other houses from earlier soldier settlement schemes are all examples where housing already existed and was not built as part of the settlement scheme.</p> <p>Further comparative analysis will be undertaken to address other surviving examples of post-World War II Soldier Settlement Housing in the City of Melton, and to confirm that the place is considered to satisfy Criterion B at a local level.</p> <p>On 5 December 2019, Council Officers requested a site inspection of the properties via letter to the owners and occupiers. On 24 January 2020, Rigby Cooke Lawyers representing the landowner of 740-794 and 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest informed Council Officers that access was denied. More recently on 21 December 2022 Council Officers again requested access in response to Submission 2. At the time of writing this summary, Council Officers have had no response.</p> <p>It is recommended that further comparative analysis will be undertaken by Council's consultants to address other surviving examples of post-World War II Soldier Settlement housing in the City of Melton and to confirm that the place is considered to satisfy Criterion B at a local level.</p>	

		<p>3. <i>Criterion D: Generic characteristics do not sufficiently demonstrate class of place</i></p> <p>The submitter states that the descriptors for the residences as “<i>modest, single-storey weatherboard construction, often double or triple fronted, and with verandahs and brick chimneys</i>” to be generic, and demonstrative that the residences lack special or unique aesthetic qualities that distinguish them from many other places of the same era. This description could equally apply to any non-settlement 1950’s houses across the municipality, as well as the broader metropolitan region. Accordingly, we do not consider that the residences adequately demonstrate a class of place being soldier settlement housing.</p>	<p>Criterion D relates to the architectural representativeness of a type or class of place, not to any unique or special architectural features of the place. In this case, the type of place is Post-war Soldier Settlement Housing.</p> <p>The fact that the houses are all a generic type is why they meet this criterion as they demonstrate the modest double or triple fronted weatherboard houses built by the Soldier Settlement Scheme.</p> <p>The 1952 image from the Soldier Settlement Commission Annual Report as included in the citation confirms that the stepped frontage evident in three of the five residences is representative of this scheme, albeit that one includes an addition to the front. This consistency of form and materials and grouping of the residences as visible from Mt Aitken Road also demonstrates the relationship of the buildings to each other and to the Soldier Settlement Scheme.</p>
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MELTON PLANNING SCHEME

Statement of Significance: 115-131 Napier Street, 480-580, 726-738, 740-794 and 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest “Mt Aitken Soldier Settlement Housing”, June 2022

Heritage Place:	Housing 115-131 Napier Street, 480-580, 726-738, 740-794 and 796-830 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest	PS ref no:	HO141
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Note: the property at 740-794 Mt Aitken Road, Diggers Rest is included in the Heritage Overlay of the Melton Planning Scheme as HO60 – Mount Aitken Site and Ruin. This citation relates only to the Soldier Settlement house on this property. No assessment has been undertaken of the former Mt Aitken remains.

What is significant?

The four soldier settlement houses on Mt Aitken Road and one on Napier Street, Diggers Rest are part the post-World War II farm settlement scheme for ex-servicemen. The small farming allotments were formerly part of the Mt Aitken pastoral estate and were acquired by the State Government in 1947. Five men who had served in various roles during World War II successfully applied to occupy the allotments – A1, A2, A3, A4 and A5. The farmhouses of this scheme were of a standard type, typically modest single-storey weatherboard construction, stepped frontages and entry porches. The subject residences are understood to have been constructed to the standard designs by architects Buchan, Laird and Buchan, and were constructed in the early 1950s. The five soldier settlement properties were acquired as freehold by ex-servicemen during the 1960s and 1970s, indicating the requirements of the scheme had been satisfied.

How is it significant?

Mt Aitken Estate Soldier Settlement Housing is of local historical, rarity and representative significance at a local level to the City of Melton.

Why is it significant?

The Mt Aitken Estate Soldier Settlement Housing is of local historical significance demonstrating the break-up of large nineteenth century pastoral estates in the municipality, and the twentieth century shift to small farm holdings. The soldier settlement houses are also of historical significance, illustrating post-war soldier settlement schemes in Melton (Criterion A).

The five soldier settlement houses constructed in the early 1950s on Mt Aitken Road and Napier Street are of local significance for their rarity as one of a small number of remaining examples of post-war soldier settlement in the municipality (Criterion B).

The five soldier settlement houses on Mt Aitken Road and Napier Street are of local representative significance for their demonstration of the key characteristics of standard soldier settlement housing. This includes their modest, single-storey weatherboard construction, often double or triple fronted, and with verandahs and brick chimneys. The designs were provided by the architects Buchan, Laird and Buchan for the Soldier Settlement Commission (Criterion D).

Primary source

City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21: Findings, Lovell Chen

This document is an incorporated document in the Melton Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*

MELTON PLANNING SCHEME

Statement of Significance: 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale “Hillview” June 2022

Heritage Place:	Private residence 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale	PS ref no:	HO142
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No site inspection undertaken; the residence and outbuildings are not visible from the public domain.

What is significant?

The property at 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale was established as a substantial farming property in the c. 1870s by David Jenkins, comprising a timber house with iron roof, large wood stable and hay loft, stone dairy, cow shed, stockyards and garden. Photographs of c. 2001 and aerial images indicate that the property is currently comprised of a weatherboard residence, with c. 1980s alterations, and a complex of outbuildings in a rural landscaped setting.

How is it significant?

The property at 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale is of local historical significance to the City of Melton.

Why is it significant?

The property at 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale, is of local historical significance as an early example of a farming complex in Toolern Vale, dating from the c. 1870s. It is of historical interest as a nineteenth century property which appears to have survived the damaging bushfires of the twentieth century. (Criterion A) Further investigation, including a visual inspection, is required to confirm whether the extant structures within the property are illustrative of the original farming operations within the place.

Primary source

City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21: Findings, Lovell Chen

This document is an incorporated document in the Melton Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*

MELTON PLANNING SCHEME

Statement of Significance: 1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang, “The Oaks Homestead”, June 2022

Heritage Place:	Bluestone ruin 1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang	PS ref no:	HO138
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**What is significant?**

The farm ruin at 1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang, is the remains of a relatively large bluestone farm structure with remnant internal walls and window details. It is evidence of a relatively substantial farming operation within the property from the 1860s or 1870s.

The corrugated iron gabled roof farm building is not of significance.

How is it significant?

The farm ruin at 1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang is of local historical significance to the City of Melton.

Why is it significant?

The farm ruin at 1809-1859 Gisborne-Melton Road, Kurunjang is of historical significance to the City of Melton. Although it is unclear whether the now ruinous bluestone farm building was associated with Frederick Newnham's Hope Farm property, or was constructed during the ownership of the property by Henry George Minns from the early 1870s, the ruin survives as evidence and a remnant survivor of a relatively substantial farming operation in the area dating from the 1860s-70s. The property, known in the early twentieth century as The Oaks, was in the possession of the locally prominent Minns family for more than a century, from the early 1870s until the early 1980s (Criterion A).

Primary source

City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21: Findings, Lovell Chen

This document is an incorporated document in the Melton Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*

MELTON PLANNING SCHEME

Statement of Significance: Bridge over Toolern Creek, Kurunjang, “Minns Road Timber Bridge”, June 2022

Heritage Place:	Bridge Over Toolern Creek, Kurunjang	PS ref no:	HO140
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**What is significant?**

Minns Road timber bridge is a four span timber bridge which crosses Toolern Creek on the original alignment of Minns Road. Constructed in 1888, Minns Road timber bridge is comprised of three piers made up of four piles with transverse cross bracing and additional angled support piles to each side. Round timber stringers and substructure support a timber deck with a low timber balustrade extending partway along the length of the deck to both sides. Capped bluestone abutments support the east and west ends of the bridge.

How is it significant?

Minns Road timber bridge is of local historical, rarity and representative significance to the City of Melton.

Why is it significant?

Minns Road timber bridge is historically significant as a timber road bridge constructed in the late 1880s on the original alignment of Minns Road. This thoroughfare, dating from the mid-1850s, was named after the locally important Minns family. The timber bridge was built to provide local access over Toolern Creek and demonstrates the growth of the community at the time and the need to provide reliable transport connections for local residences and farming communities (Criterion A). The bridge also has associations with the locally prominent Minns family, who were well known in Melton community having owned a significant amount of land from the 1860s, as well as operated the Minns Hotel in Melton and sat on Melton Shire Council across several generations. (Criterion A) Minns Road timber bridge is a relatively rare example of a late 1880s timber road bridge constructed to provide local access, unrelated to major transport routes through Melton. It is a simple utilitarian structure which is representative of the characteristics of a late nineteenth century local access road bridge. (Criteria B and D).

Primary source

City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21: Findings, Lovell Chen

This document is an incorporated document in the Melton Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*

MELTON PLANNING SCHEME

Statement of Significance: Unit 1-6, Unit 8-18, 117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest, “Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate”, June 2022

Heritage Place:	Housing Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate Unit 1-6, Unit 8-18, 117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road, Diggers Rest	PS ref no:	HO139
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What is significant?

The Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate was established by the Australian military in the post-war period within the former Diggers Rest transmitting station site. The Former Army Radio Station (included as HO49 in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Melton Planning Scheme) dates from 1944 and is the only significant wartime building remaining at the Diggers Rest station. The housing estate is a group of detached single-storey residences constructed in the 1950s and 1960s on the south side of Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road and within the site to the north of the Former Army Radio Station to house married military personnel working at the station site.

How is it significant?

The Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate is of local historical and representative significance to the City of Melton.

Why is it significant?

Together with the Former Army Radio Station (HO49), the Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate is historically significant for its association with the Australian military use of the Diggers Rest transmitting station in the post war period. The Diggers Rest radio transmitting station and Rockbank receiving station were established in 1942 for the US military command and transferred to the Australian Army in 1943. The Former Army Radio Station (HO49) is the last remaining wartime building at the Diggers Rest site. In the post-war period, the Diggers Rest site was used for international communications by the Australian military as well as during the 1956 Olympic Games. The Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate was constructed to house married military personnel working within the site. Housing was also constructed in the early 1960s for military personnel associated with the Rockbank receiving station, however these buildings no longer survive. The Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate is a unique example in the municipality demonstrating the importance and development of defence housing in Australia in the immediate post war period. (Criterion A).

The Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate is a predominantly intact group of residences dating from the late 1950s and early 1960s which clearly demonstrate the characteristics of post-war defence housing. The housing estate is a consistent group of residences with common features and details. In connection with the Former Army Radio Station (HO49) located immediately south of the housing estate, the residences provide clear evidence of the post-war development of the Diggers Rest radio transmitting station in the context of the development of defence housing in Australia in the immediate post-war period. (Criterion D).

On this basis, the following places within the Diggers Rest Army Housing Estate contribute to the significance of the precinct:

- 1-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 2-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 3-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 4-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 5-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 6-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 8-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 9-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 10-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 11-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 12-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 13-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 14-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 15-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 16-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 17-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory
- 18-117 Diggers Rest-Coimadai Rd Contributory

The open grassed quadrangle, driveway entrance/internal roadway and visual connection between the housing estate and Former Army Radio Station (HO49) also contribute to the significance of the place. No other buildings, structures or landscape elements are contributory to the site.

Primary source

City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21: Findings, Lovell Chen

This document is an incorporated document in the Melton Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*

13. REPORTS FROM DELEGATES APPOINTED TO OTHER BODIES AND COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Reports on external Committees and external Representative Bodies for which Councillors have been appointed by Council.

Address from Councillors in relation to matters of civic leadership and community representation, including acknowledgement of community groups and individuals, information arising from internal Committees, advocacy on behalf of constituents and other topics of significance.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION**14.1 NOTICE OF MOTION 864 (CR CARLI)****Councillor: Lara Carli**

I hereby give notice of my intention to move the following motion at the Scheduled Meeting of Council to be held on 24 April 2023.

MOTION:

That Council officers investigate and report to Councillors on the introduction of Auslan Interpreter Services to support Melton City Council's commitment to inclusion across Council's various major Community and Civic events, meetings, and community engagement both in person and online. Examples may include, but are not limited to: Lakeside Alive, Djerriwarrh Festival, Carols by Candlelight, Council and Wellbeing Plan Community Engagement, Citizenship Ceremonies, and Council Meetings.

OFFICER'S COMMENTS:

Council officers will action in accordance with the Notice of Motion, subject to Council decision.

15. COUNCILLOR'S QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

16. URGENT BUSINESS

17. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Recommended Procedural Motion

That pursuant to section 66(1) and (2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* the meeting be closed to the public to consider the following reports that are considered to contain **confidential information** on the grounds provided in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* as indicated:

17.1 Troups Road South, Mount Cottrell Project Update

(g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—

(i) relates to trade secrets; or

(ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

17.2 Caroline Springs George Cross Football Club - Lease variation request

(h) as it relates to Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released; AND confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a).

17.3 CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee Meeting - 22 March 2023

(f) as it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.

18. CLOSE OF BUSINESS