MELTON CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
Melton City Council

1 September 2015

PUBLIC COPY

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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MELTON CITY
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, 232
HIGH STREET, MELTON ON 1 SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 5.30PM

Present: Cr N Dunn (Deputy Mayor)(Chairperson)
Cr M Bentley
Cr R Cugliari
Cr K Majdlik
Cr B Turner

Mr K Tori, Chief Executive Officer
Mr P Bean, General Manager Corporate Services
Mr D Hogan, Manager Customer Engagement

1.   APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Crs Ramsey and Carli.

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

Nil.

3.   PRESENTATION OF STAFF REPORTS

3.1   2015 ELECTORAL REPRESENTATION REVIEW

<div align="right">

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

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PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present for Council consideration a draft preliminary submission to the Victorian Electoral Commission in respect of the 2015 Melton City Council Electoral Representation Review

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt and submit the draft 'preliminary' submission to the Victorian Electoral Commission.

Motion

Crs Majdlik/Turner.

That Council adopt and submit the draft 'preliminary' submission to the Victorian Electoral Commission with an additional clause included in Councils submission; '*This option also benefits the municipality in a rate capped environment by avoiding adding costs associated with increased Councillor numbers*'.

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CARRIED

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Cr Majdlik called for a division of Council

For:

Crs Cugliari, Dunn, Majdlik and Turner

Against:

Cr Bentley

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The Chair declared the division CARRIED

</div>

REPORT

1.   Executive Summary

In accordance with Part 10, Division 2 of the *Local Government Act* 1989 (the Act) the Victorian Electoral Commission is to undertake Electoral Representation Reviews.

A notice appeared in the local newspapers advising of the commencement of the Representation Review for Melton City Council inviting preliminary submissions to reach the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) by 5.00pm on Wednesday 2 September 2015.

A draft submission has been prepared at **Appendix 2** with Council's preferred option being to retain the current electoral structure of seven (7) Councillors elected from one three-councillor ward and two two-councillor wards with adjustments to the existing ward boundaries to maintain average voter numbers ± 10% of the average number for each councillor.

2.   Background/Issues

The *Local Government Act* 1989 requires the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) to conduct a representation review of each municipality in Victoria before every third council general election which is approximately every 12 years. Representation Reviews are a key mechanism to ensure that all voters within a particular municipality have their concerns and interests fairly and equitably represented. The review aims to ensure the principle of 'one vote one value' applies across a municipality. The Representation Review examines;

- The appropriate number of Councillors

- Whether the structure of the municipality should be subdivided into wards or un subdivided and;

- If subdivided, the number of wards, ward boundaries, the number of Councillors per ward and the possible ward names.

Input from members of the public and other stakeholders is sought by the Victorian Electoral Commission who provide three principal opportunities for involvement, these being;

- A preliminary Public Submission, a response submission to the Preliminary Report, and the opportunity to present at a Public Hearing.

- Key timelines for the City of Melton Electoral Representation Review are/were;

  4 August 2015 – Public Notices appeared in local newspapers

  13 August 2015 – Public Information Sessions, held at Melton Library and Learning Hub and Caroline Springs Library and Civic Centre

  Wednesday 2 September 2015 – Preliminary Submissions close at 5pm

  Wednesday 30 September 2015 – Preliminary Report released by the Victorian Electoral Commission

  Wednesday 28 October 2015 - Public Response Submissions close at 5pm

  Wednesday 4 November 2015 – Public Hearing at Melton Library and Learning Hub 3.30pm

  Wednesday 25 November 2015 – Release of Final Report

A guide for submissions has been produced by the Victorian Electoral Commission which was circulated to all Councillors, see **Appendix 1.**

A briefing/workshop was held with Councillors on 25 August 2015 in relation to the Electoral Representation Review, detailing the impact of growth in the municipality, population estimates and options to consider. Councillors provided staff with direction which enabled the draft submission to be prepared and presented to Council, attached at **Appendix 2.**

A preliminary report will be released by the VEC on 30 September 2015 at which time Council has the opportunity to submit a 'response' submission responding to the recommendations contained in the preliminary report. Should Council wish to be heard at the public hearing on Wednesday, 4 November 2015 to expand on their views, it must nominate to do so in the preliminary report response.

3.   Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

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

   2.6 Ensure timely compliance with statutory and regulatory obligations

4. Financial Considerations

Nil.

5. Consultation/Public Submissions

As this process is being conducted by the Victorian Electoral Commission, they are responsible for public consultation.

6. Risk Analysis

Nil.

7. Options

Council can choose to not make a preliminary submission on the Electoral Representation Review, however officers strongly recommend that Council do make a submission.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. 2015 Melton City Council Electoral Representation Review - Guide for Submissions
2. Submission to the VEC - Electoral Representation Review

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2015 Melton City Council Electoral Representation Review

August 2015

Victorian Electoral Commission

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1 SEPTEMBER 2015
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Guide for Submissions: 2015 Melton City Council Electoral Representation Review

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Guide for Submissions: 2015 Melton City Council Electoral Representation Review

One vote, one value: why the review matters

The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) is committed to the principle of 'one vote, one value', which is enshrined in the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act). This means that every person's vote counts equally. The Act requires the VEC to conduct electoral representation reviews before every third council election, approximately every 12 years. Unscheduled reviews can also take place when required.

Representation reviews are a key mechanism to ensure that all voters in a municipality have their concerns and interests fairly and equitably represented. The electoral representation review will examine:

- the number of councillors
- whether the structure of the municipality should be subdivided into wards or unsubdivided, and
- if subdivided:
    - the number of wards
    - what the ward boundaries should be
    - the name of each ward and
    - how many councillors should be elected for each ward.

Input from members of the public is a valued part of the review process. There are three main opportunities for you to have your say:

1. in a preliminary public submission
2. in a response submission to the preliminary report and
3. if you have requested to speak in your response submission, at a public hearing to be held in your local area.

This guide outlines the review process and the opportunities for public input, and provides important information about the issues that submissions may address. It also includes specific information about Melton City Council and sample submissions to help you prepare your own submission.

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Review timeline

This timeline shows the major milestones in the review process. The opportunities for you to have your say have been highlighted in **bold**.

Wednesday 5 August	**Preliminary public submissions open** The VEC accepts **written submissions from the public** at the start of the review. All submissions are carefully considered and taken into account before the preliminary report is prepared. Advertisements are also placed in the *Herald Sun* and local newspapers notifying the public of the review.
Thursday 13 August	**Public information sessions** A public information session will be held on Thursday 13 August at: • 5.00 pm in the Balam Balam Seminar Room, Melton Library and Learning Hub, McKenzie Street, Melton. • 6.30 pm in Meeting Rooms 3 & 4, Caroline Springs Civic Centre Library, 193–201 Caroline Springs Boulevard, Caroline Springs. Anyone interested in making a submission or with questions about the review process is urged to attend.
Wednesday 2 September	**Closing date for preliminary submissions** Preliminary submissions must reach the VEC by 5.00 pm on this date.
Wednesday 30 September	**Preliminary report released** The preliminary report outlines the options which provide fair and equitable representation. The report includes consideration of preliminary public submissions. The report is publicly available from the VEC by visiting vec.vic.gov.au or calling 131 832 and also for inspection at Council offices. **Response submissions open** The VEC accepts **written submissions from the public that respond to the recommendations contained in the preliminary report**. You can also nominate to discuss your response submission at a local public hearing.
Wednesday 28 October	**Closing date for response submissions** Response submissions must reach the VEC by 5.00 pm on this date.
Wednesday 4 November	**Public hearing** A public hearing is scheduled to be held at 3.30 pm on Wednesday 4 November in the Balam Balam Seminar Room, Melton Library & Learning Hub, McKenzie Street, Melton. Members of the public who have nominated to discuss their response submission will be given **the opportunity to expand on their views** for up to 10 minutes. The hearing will not be held if there are no requests to speak.
Wednesday 25 November	**Final report published** Following the public hearing, the VEC considers all the evidence it has gathered and publishes a final report for the Minister for Local Government containing a recommended electoral structure. The report is publicly available from the VEC by visiting vec.vic.gov.au or calling 131 832, and also for inspection at Council offices. If the VEC's recommendation is accepted, it will take effect at the next general election in October 2016.

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Types of submission

Any person or group, including the Council itself, can make a submission to the VEC.

The VEC accepts submissions at two stages of the review process:

Stage one: preliminary submissions

Preliminary submissions should address the number of councillors and the electoral structure of Melton City Council. At this stage, the VEC welcomes suggested models that consider the issues outlined in the 'Issues to consider in your submission' section of this guide.

Stage two: response submissions

Response submissions must address the models proposed by the VEC in the preliminary report. Generally, other models will not be considered at this stage.

Examples of public submissions made in previous reviews can be found in Annex 2 of this guide. However, it is important to note that your submission can be in any format and address any of the relevant issues in the proposed options.

Public hearing

Response submissions should indicate whether the person making the submission wishes to speak at a public hearing in support of their submission. At this hearing, those who have nominated to discuss their submission will be given 10 minutes to speak. The hearing will not be held if there are no requests to speak.

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How to make a submission

All submissions, including those sent by post, must be received at the VEC by 5.00 pm on the day of the submission deadline, as detailed in the 'Review timeline' above.

The VEC can only accept submissions that include a full name, address and contact number.

All submissions will be published on the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au and made available for public inspection at the VEC office (Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne). The VEC will remove personal information such as address, contact number, and signature, if applicable, from all public copies. However, the full name and locality of submitters will be displayed.

See the 'Submission checklist' on the next page for a quick guide to the possible content of a submission.

Submission methods

Submissions can be made via:

The online submission form at vec.vic.gov.au

Email at melton.review@vec.vic.gov.au

Post to
Victorian Electoral Commission
Level 11, 530 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Fax to (03) 9629 8632

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Submission checklist

This checklist provides you with an idea of the range of issues you might consider in your submission. See the 'Issues to consider on your submission' section on the next page for an explanation of these steps.

Before you send your submission: ✓

Have you included your full name, address and a contact number?	
Do you understand that your submission will be made public, including your full name and locality?	

*If you are making a submission about the **number of councillors** (see page 9)*

Does your submission suggest a number of councillors between 5 and 12?	
If the number of councillors you have suggested varies substantially from numbers in similar municipalities, have you explained why?	

*If you are making a submission about the **electoral structure** (see page 11)*

Have you indicated whether you want the municipality to be subdivided or unsubdivided?	
Have you explained why your preferred structure would best suit the municipality?	

*If you think that the municipality should be **subdivided into wards** (see page 12)*

Have you indicated whether you want single-councillor wards, multi-councillor wards or a combination of both?	
Have you indicated where the ward boundaries should be located and provided reasons for these proposed boundaries?	
Have you considered the number of voters in the proposed wards?	
If you have suggested ward names, have you given reasons for those names?	

*If you are making a **response submission** to the preliminary report*

Does your submission address the options recommended in the preliminary report?	
Have you indicated whether or not you would like to speak about your submission at the public hearing?	

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Issues to consider in your submission

Your submission may address one or both of the following issues:

- the number of councillors (between 5 and 12), and

- the structure of the electorate (subdivided or unsubdivided).

You may make a submission in support of the current structure in the municipality, or in support of a different electoral structure and/or number of councillors. It is important that your submission provides reasons for your preferences.

This section provides an overview of issues for you to consider before making your submission.

Number of councillors

When making a submission about the number of councillors, there are three important guidelines that the VEC follows that you need to bear in mind. These are that:

1. **The number of councillors is between 5 and 12.**

The Act allows for a municipality to have between 5 and 12 councillors. As the number of voters in each municipality varies significantly, and as populations change over time, the VEC applies the requirements for fairness and equity in a logical way—those municipalities that have a larger number of voters generally have a higher number of councillors.

2. **The number of voters represented by each councillor is fair and equitable across the municipality.**

If the municipality is divided into wards, the number of voters represented by each councillor must be within 10% of the average number of voters per councillor across the municipality. This is called the 'legislative equality requirement', which ensures the principle of 'one vote, one value'.

> *EXAMPLE 1:* A subdivided municipality has 100,000 people eligible to vote and a total of 10 councillors. The ward boundaries for this municipality should be structured to ensure that each councillor represents the equivalent number of voters, approximately 10,000 (plus or minus 10%).

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> *EXAMPLE 2:* A municipality is subdivided into two wards, with 21,000 people eligible to vote and a total of seven councillors. Ward A has a voting population of 12,000 and Ward B has a voting population of 9,000. On this basis, Ward A should have four councillors, and Ward B should have three councillors. Each councillor then represents the equivalent number of voters (3,000).

The VEC also takes into account likely population changes to ensure ward boundaries provide equitable representation until the next review is conducted (reviews take place approximately every 12 years). Population and development forecasts for the municipality are provided in the 'Melton City Council at a glance' section of this guide.

3. **A consistent, State-wide approach is taken to the total number of councillors.**

When reviewing a council, the VEC is guided by its comparisons with municipalities of a similar size and category (metropolitan; metropolitan-rural fringe; regional urban; and rural). Please see the tables in Annex 1 for relevant data on the City of Melton and similar municipalities.

The VEC also considers any special circumstances that may warrant the municipality having more or fewer councillors than similar municipalities. These might include:

- significant population growth within the municipality

- an especially mobile or transient population

- cultural and linguistic diversity within the community

- socio-economic disparities

- a large proportion of older residents who may have special interests and needs

- the number of non-residents and company nominees

- a wide geographic distribution of voters within a large municipality

- a large number of communities of interest (see 'Communities of interest' section).

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Structure of the municipality

Your submission may also address the structure of Melton City Council, which can be:

- **unsubdivided**, with all councillors elected 'at large' by all of the voters in the municipality, or

- **subdivided into wards**, with one or more councillors elected by the voters in each ward.
  If the municipality is subdivided, your submission may also address:
  - the number of wards
  - what the ward boundaries should be
  - the name of each ward and
  - how many councillors should be elected for each ward.

This section provides information about these different electoral structures.

Unsubdivided councils

More positive features	Less positive features
Promotes the concept of a municipality-wide focus with councillors being elected by, and concerned for, the municipality as a whole, rather than parochial interests.	May lead to significant communities of interest and points of view being unrepresented.
Gives residents and ratepayers a choice of councillors to approach with their concerns.	May lead to confusion of responsibilities and duplication of effort on the part of councillors.
Each voter has the opportunity to express a preference for every candidate for the Council election.	Large numbers of candidates might be confusing for voters.
Removes the need to define internal ward boundaries.	May lead to councillors being relatively inaccessible for residents in parts of the municipality.
If a councillor resigns or is unable to complete their term, a replacement councillor is elected through a countback system, negating the need for a by-election.	May be difficult for voters to assess the performance of individual councillors.
	If only a few candidates contest the general election, the countback system may elect a candidate who only polled a small percentage of the vote.

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Subdivided councils

There are three ways to divide a council into wards:

- single-councillor wards with just one councillor representing the ward

- multi-councillor wards with several councillors

- combinations of the two.

Single-councillor wards

More positive features	Less positive features
Councillors are more likely to be truly local representatives, easily accessible to residents and aware of local issues.	Councillors may be elected on minor or parochial issues and lack a municipality-wide perspective.
Major geographical communities of interest are likely to be represented.	Ward boundaries may divide communities of interest and may be difficult to define.
	Voters may have a restricted choice of candidates in elections for individual wards.
	Small populations in each ward may make ward boundaries more susceptible to change as a result of population growth or decline.
	Where major groups support candidates in multiple wards, it is possible that one group can dominate the council.

Multi-councillor wards

More positive features	Less positive features
Can accommodate a large community of interest.	Groups may form within the council leading to possible division between councillors.
Focus on issues may be broader than in single councillor wards (though councillors may have a more local focus than in an unsubdivided municipality).	Very specific local issues may not be addressed.
Councillors may be more accessible than in an unsubdivided municipality. Electors have a choice of councillors.	In very large wards, councillors may not be accessible for residents in parts of the ward.
Councillors may share workloads more effectively.	Duplication may occur if councillors do not communicate or share their workloads.
Ward boundaries should be easy to identify and less susceptible to change as a result of population growth or decline than in single councillor wards.	

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A combination of multi-councillor and single-councillor wards

More positive features	Less positive features
A large community of interest can be included within a multi-councillor ward and a smaller community of interest can be included within a single-councillor ward. This structure accommodates differences in population across a municipality, and allows small communities to be separately represented.	Electors in single-councillor wards may expect their councillors will be more influential than their numbers suggest.
Clear ward boundaries are more likely.	Different vote counting systems within the same municipality may seem inconsistent.

Electoral structures and vote counting

According to law, the structure of the council determines the vote counting system. You may wish to consider the impact of these counting systems in making your submission.

In single-councillor wards, the preferential system applies, which means a candidate must achieve an absolute majority (50% plus one) of the formal votes to be elected, otherwise the outcome will be determined based on preferences.

In multi-councillor wards or in unsubdivided municipalities, proportional representation applies, and candidates are elected in proportion to their support within the electorate. The required quota of votes is reached by dividing the total number of formal votes by the number of vacancies plus one. Therefore, unlike the preferential vote counting system where only the candidate with the majority of votes is elected, other candidates representing groups or issues that have significant minority support may also be elected.

> EXAMPLE: An unsubdivided municipality has seven councillor positions and therefore uses proportional representation. In this municipality, any candidate achieving greater than 12.5% of the vote will be elected.

Visit the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au/Elections/CountingTheVotes.html for more detailed information on the preferential and proportional counting systems.

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Communities of interest

Communities of interest are groups of people who share a range of common concerns or aspirations. They are different from 'interest groups' or 'pressure groups' that identify themselves based on a limited number of issues.

Communities of interest may occur where people are linked with each other geographically (e.g. a town or valley) or economically (e.g. people working in similar industries or mutually-dependent industries). Communities of interest may also appear where people share a number of special needs because of similar circumstances, such as new immigrants (who may not have strong English language skills, and require assistance with housing and finding employment); particular ethnic groups; retirees; or job seekers.

Communities of interest are an important consideration in electoral representation reviews as they have particular needs from their local council. In such cases, it is important the communities of interest have the opportunity to be fairly represented by their council. There are a number of ways to take account of communities of interest, depending on how they are distributed geographically.

If a community of interest…	Then fair representation may be achieved by:
is in the same geographic area (e.g. a town)	creating a ward with boundaries reflecting that community of interest.
is widespread across the municipality (e.g. job seekers)	creating multi-councillor wards with proportional representation.
is one of a number of small communities of interest	combining the communities of interest via an unsubdivided structure, so that any elected councillor would be responsible to all of these groups.

Ward boundaries

Ward boundaries must ensure that the statutory equality requirement is met—the number of voters represented by each councillor must be plus or minus 10% of the average number of voters per councillor across the municipality.

Because representation reviews are scheduled approximately every 12 years, population growth areas often need to be spread across a number of wards to ensure that the voter-councillor ratios remain acceptable during this time. Fewer wards mean a larger average number of voters per ward and a greater tolerance to population changes.

Boundaries should always take into account communities of interest and should follow clear lines (major roads, rivers, significant landmarks and existing locality boundaries where possible).

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Ward names

The VEC welcomes suggestions for ward names. The names must be relevant and specific to the ward to avoid any possible confusion with other wards. Some popular approaches include using:

- place names
- compass directions
- historic buildings
- natural features present in the ward
- names of pioneers and former prominent citizens
- Aboriginal names
- native flora or fauna.

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How recommendations are formed

The VEC is an impartial statutory authority and conducts the reviews independently of councils and the State Government.

Public submissions are an important part of the review process, but there are several other important considerations. The recommendation is not based on a 'straw poll' of the number of submissions supporting a particular option, but holistically takes into account:

- internal research specifically relating to the municipality under review

- the VEC's experience conducting previous electoral representation reviews of local councils and similar reviews for State elections

- the VEC's expertise in mapping, demography and local government

- careful consideration of all input from the public in written and verbal submissions received during the review and

- advice from consultants with extensive experience in local government.

Limitations of the review

It is important to note that an electoral representation review cannot deal with the external boundaries of a municipality or decide whether a municipality should be divided or amalgamated with other municipalities.

In addition, a review cannot consider the vote counting system used in local council elections. The counting system is determined by the structure of the municipality—in single-councillor wards, the preferential system applies, and in multi-councillor wards or in unsubdivided municipalities, proportional representation applies. See the 'Electoral structures and vote counting' section above.

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Summary of 2008 review of Melton City Council

The last electoral representation review for Melton City Council[1] took place in 2007–08.

Following the review, the VEC recommended that the electoral structure of the municipality change from seven single-councillor wards to seven councillors elected from one three-councillor ward and two two-councillor wards. Public submissions contained diverse opinions regarding an appropriate electoral structure for the municipality.

The VEC considered seven councillors was appropriate for the municipality, with the voter-to-councillor ratio remaining viable. The VEC also recommended moving from single-councillor to multi-councillor wards, with the view that a three ward structure would better represent the three geographic communities of interest in the municipality (the Melton area in the west of the municipality, the urban east and the rural balance), while providing greater longevity of the electoral structure by managing population growth.

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[1] The municipality was previously named 'Melton Shire Council'. It was restyled 'Melton City Council' by an Order in Council on 6 September 2012.

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Map: current boundaries and voter numbers

The map below details the current boundaries and voter numbers as at 6 May 2015. Visit the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au/reviews/meltonrr.html to access more detailed maps and a copy of the 2008 review final report.

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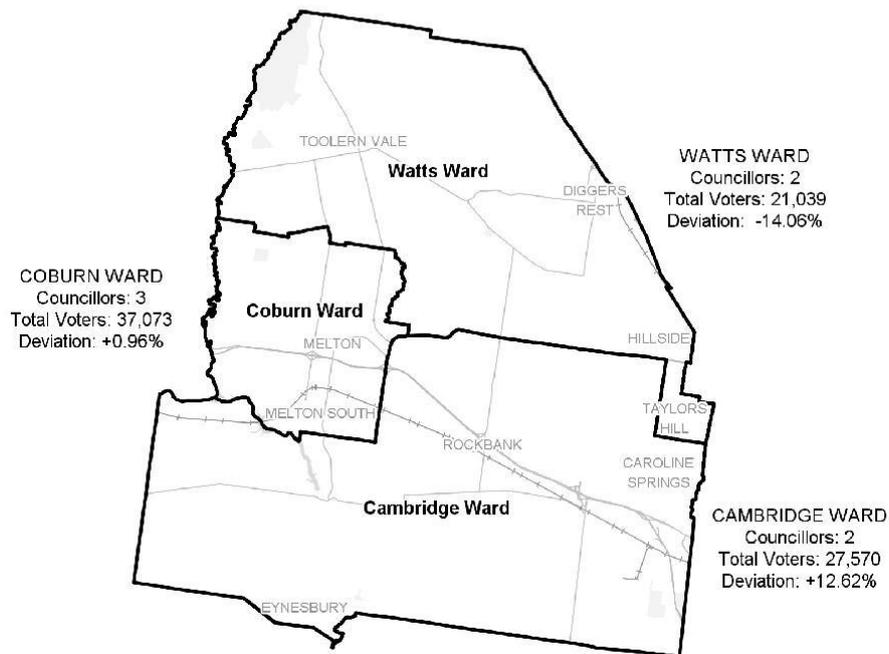
Melton City Council at a glance

The City of Melton is approximately 40 kilometres from the centre of Melbourne and covers 528 square kilometres. It is located on the western fringe of Melbourne and adjoins the fast growing municipalities of Brimbank, Hume and Wyndham. The population is generally dispersed across three areas in the municipality, with the largest population area situated along the eastern boundary of the municipality, including the suburbs of Caroline Springs (which takes in a master-planned residential community), Taylors Hill, Burnside Heights and part of Burnside. This area is generally considered part of the outer fringe of Melbourne.

The second largest population area is in the west of the municipality, and includes the suburbs of Melton, Melton West, Melton South and Kurunjang. It is separated from the fast growing eastern area by the rural and semi-rural areas of Rockbank and Mount Cottrell, which are comprised of low density, rural and semi-rural properties.

Current population estimates in major suburbs[2]	
Caroline Springs	20,366
Melton	7,593
Melton West	14,171
Melton South	8,916
Kurunjang	9,228
Taylors Hill	11,785
Burnside Heights	5,000
Diggers Rest	2,275
Hillside	16,326
Brookfield	6,104

The City of Melton is one of the fastest growing municipalities in Victoria; the population grew by 4% between 2013 and 2014 (4,860 people). This reflects the overall forecast trend of significant population growth for the municipality, with approximately 254,000 people expected to reside in the City of Melton by 2031, representing a 4.3% average annual growth rate.[3]

Demographically, the City of Melton has a younger population compared to the Greater Melbourne average, with those under 18 years of age comprising 28.8% of the population. The percentage of people aged 50 years or over at 21.5% is significantly lower than the Greater Melbourne average of 30.3%.

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[2] Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2011 Census: State Suburbs.
[3] Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure, *Victoria in Future 2014*, 2014.

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Social diversity is comparable to the Greater Melbourne average, with 26.4% of people speaking a language other than English at home and 29.3% of people born overseas—predominantly from the United Kingdom (3.4%), India (2.8%), Philippines (2.8%), New Zealand (2%) and Malta (1.9%).

The 2011 Census data also indicates that 0.75% of the population of Melton identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, which is slightly higher than the Greater Melbourne average. The municipality is traditionally part of the Kulin Nation, a confederacy of five indigenous language groups covering municipalities in the western region of Greater Melbourne.[4]

Overall, the majority of employing industries are labour based. Major industries in the City of Melton include manufacturing (18%), construction (16.8%) and transport, postal and warehousing (14.2%), all of which employ a significantly higher percentage of the workforce compared to the Greater Melbourne average. Professional, technical and scientific services employ 4.5% of the population, half the Greater Melbourne average.

According to the 2011 Census, the workforce participation rate in the City of Melton was 69.2% and the unemployment rate was 4.2%. However, the unemployment rate across the municipality is not uniform, with pockets in the areas of Melton, Melton South, Melton West, Rockbank and Burnside having unemployment rates around 14%. Correspondingly, there were fewer high income earners (3% earning more than $1,500 per week) than the Greater Melbourne average, and a comparable number of low income earners (37.8% earning less than $399 per week).

Resident mobility in the municipality is quite high, with 50% of the population indicating they had moved residences in the five years between 2006 and 2011. In the suburbs of Exford, outer Melton West, Burnside Heights and Taylors Hill, 65 to 87% of the population had moved residence in a five year period.

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[4] Melton City Council, *Reconciliation Plan 2010-2014.*

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Statistical profile

	the City of Melton	Greater Melbourne*
Size		
Area (km^2)	528	9,990
Population[#]	127,677	4,169,400
Population density (people/km^2)	242	417.4
*Forecast population annual growth rate 2011-2031 (%)^*	4.2	1.8
*Forecast population 2031^*	254,899	7,826,000
Voters[†]		
Current estimate of voters	84,699	3,168,938
Voter density (voters/km^2)	160	317.2
Average number of voters per councillor	12,100	11,020
Population profile		
Born overseas (%)	29.3	31.4
Language other than English spoken at home (%)	26.4	29.1
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (%)	0.75	0.5
Residents who moved between 2006 and 2011 (%)	45.2	39.4
Median age	32	36.1
Age groups (% of total population)		
0-17 years	28.8	22.2
18-34 years	26.4	25.5
35-49 years	23.3	22.0
50-69 years	17.4	21.1
70+ years	4.1	9.2
Economic profile		
Workforce participation (% of population aged 15+)	69.2	62.5
Unemployment rate (% of workforce)	4.2	5.5
High income earners—$1,500 gross or more per week (%)	9.5	12.9
Low income earners—$399 gross or less per week (%)	37.8	35.9
Major industries (% of workforce)		
Manufacturing	18	10.8
Construction	16.8	8.2
Transport, postal and warehousing	14.2	4.8
Professional, technical and scientific services	4.5	8.9

All data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2011 Census unless indicated.
* 'Greater Melbourne' is an ABS statistical geographic area incorporating 31 metropolitan and metropolitan-fringe local government areas.
[#] ABS, *Estimated Resident Population*, 2013.
^ Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure, *Victoria in Future 2014*, 2014.
† Data derived by Victorian Electoral Commission from State and Council voter rolls (as at January 2015).

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Annex 1: Electoral structures of all Victorian councils

The tables below are sorted by current estimates of voters in descending order for each category (metropolitan; metropolitan rural/fringe; regional urban; and rural areas).

Metropolitan

Municipality	Area (km^2)	Population (2011 Census)	Number of voters at last review	Current estimate of voters#	Number of councillors	Number of voters per councillor	Electoral structure
Brimbank	123	182,735	127,157	130,919	11	11,902	3 x three-councillor wards / 1 x two-councillor ward
Boroondara	60	159,184	121,009	124,670	10	12,467	10 x single-councillor wards
Monash	82	169,280	120,779	121,963	11	11,088	1 x two-councillor ward / 3 x three-councillor wards
Moreland	51	147,421	109,744	117,830	11	10,712	2 x four-councillor wards / 1 x three-councillor ward
Knox*	114	149,300	108,716	115,518	9	12,835	9 x single-councillor wards
Kingston	91	142,425	105,316	114,844	9	12,760	3 x three-councillor wards
Melbourne	37	93,627	104,929	114,656	9^	12,740	Unsubdivided
Whitehorse	64	151,334	111,384	113,729	10	11,373	5 x two-councillor wards
Darebin	54	136,474	96,334	105,532	9	11,726	3 x three-councillor wards
Frankston	130	126,458	95,979	101,894	9	11,322	3 x three-councillor wards
Glen Eira	39	131,013	97,582	100,887	9	11,210	3 x three-councillor wards
Greater Dandenong	130	135,605	93,970	98,219	11	8,929	3 x three-councillor wards / 1 x two-councillor ward
Banyule	63	118,306	90,094	94,043	7	13,435	7 x single-councillor wards
Moonee Valley*	43	107,443	80,507	87,392	9	9,710	3 x three-councillor wards

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Metropolitan cont.

Municipality	Area (km²)	Population (2011 Census)	Number of voters at last review	Current estimate of voters#	Number of councillors	Number of voters per councillor	Electoral structure
Manningham	113	111,300	85,748	87,039	9	9,671	3 x three-councillor wards
Stonnington	26	93,145	77,494	84,207	9	9,356	3 x three-councillor wards
Port Phillip*	21	91,372	69,718	83,629	7	11,947	7 x single-councillor wards
Maroondah	61	103,839	77,739	82,917	9	9,213	3 x three-councillor wards
Bayside	37	90,476	67,702	73,333	7	10,476	2 x two-councillor wards / 1 x three-councillor ward
Yarra	19	74,090	65,512	71,291	9	7,921	3 x three-councillor wards
Hobsons Bay	64	83,868	63,363	65,547	7	9,364	2 x two-councillor wards / 1 x three-councillor ward
Maribyrnong	31	71,635	52,543	57,610	7	8,230	2 x two-councillor wards / 1 x three-councillor ward

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Metropolitan/rural fringe

Municipality	Area (km^2)	Population (2011 Census)	Number of voters at last review	Current estimate of voters#	Number of councillors	Number of voters per councillor	Electoral structure
Casey	409	252,382	165,057	183,392	11	16,672	5 x two-councillor wards / 1 x single-councillor ward
Mornington Peninsula	724	144,608	144,733	150,891	11	13,717	3 x single-councillor wards / 2 x three-councillor wards / 1 x two-councillor ward
Wyndham	542	161,575	104,278	128,254	11	11,659	2 x four-councillor wards / 1 x three-councillor ward
Whittlesea	490	154,880	110,011	128,052	11	11,641	2 x four-councillor wards / 1 x three-councillor ward
Hume*	504	167,562	112,157	123,512	11	11,228	1 x three-councillor ward / 2 x four-councillor wards
Yarra Ranges*	2,466	144,541	103,926	112,200	9	12,467	9 x single-councillor wards
Melton*	528	109,259	60,054	84,699	7	12,100	1 x three-councillor ward / 2 x two-councillor wards
Cardinia	1,282	74,176	53,794	63,201	9	7,022	1 x two-councillor ward / 1 x three-councillor ward / 1 x four-councillor ward
Nillumbik	432	60,342	45,659	47,068	7	6,724	7 x single-councillor wards

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Regional urban

Municipality	Area (km²)	Population (2011 Census)	Number of voters at last review	Current estimate of voters#	Number of councillors	Number of voters per councillor	Electoral structure
Greater Geelong*	1,248	210,875	159,993	177,363	12†	14,780	12 x single-councillor wards
Greater Bendigo	3,000	100,617	78,399	83,641	9	9,293	3 x three-councillor wards
Ballarat*	739	93,501	64,361	76,304	9	8,478	3 x three-councillor wards
Latrobe	1,426	72,396	53,817	55,234	9	6,137	2 x two-councillor wards / 1 x four-councillor ward / 1 x single-councillor ward
Greater Shepparton*	2422	60,449	40,176	44,309	7	6,330	Unsubdivided
Mildura*	22,083	50,979	34,944	39,120	9	4,347	Unsubdivided
Wodonga*	433	35,519	24,094	28,574	7	4,082	Unsubdivided
Warrnambool*	121	32,029	24,274	25,850	7	3,693	Unsubdivided
Wangaratta*	3,645	26,815	20,274	22,122	7	3,160	Unsubdivided
Horsham*	4,267	19,279	14,610	15,863	7	2,266	Unsubdivided
Benalla	2,353	13,647	10,937	11,558	7	1,651	Unsubdivided
Ararat	4,211	11,183	9,141	9,103	7	1,300	Unsubdivided

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Rural

Municipality	Area (km²)	Population (2011 Census)	Number of voters at last review	Current estimate of voters#	Number of councillors	Number of voters per councillor	Electoral structure
Bass Coast*	865	29,614	38,488	42,595	7	6,085	7 x single-councillor wards
Wellington*	10,817	41,440	37,914	42,533	9	4,726	Unsubdivided
East Gippsland	20,940	42,196	38,318	40,819	9	4,535	Unsubdivided
Baw Baw*	4,031	42,864	29,772	37,107	9	4,123	3 x two-councillor wards / 1 x three-councillor ward
Macedon Ranges	1,748	41,860	33,175	35,611	9	3,957	3 x three-councillor wards
Surf Coast	1,553	25,870	29,535	31,582	9	3,509	2 x two-councillor wards / 1 x single-councillor ward / 1 x four-councillor ward
Mitchell	2,862	34,637	26,057	29,402	9	3,267	3 x three-councillor wards
Campaspe	4,519	36,365	28,118	29,363	9	3,263	2 x three-councillor wards / 3 x single-councillor wards
South Gippsland	3,297	27,208	27,654	28,249	9	3,139	3 x three-councillor wards
Moorabool	2,111	28,124	21,487	25,005	7	3,572	3 x single-councillor wards / 1 x four-councillor ward
Moira	4,047	28,124	22,307	23,910	9	2,657	Unsubdivided
Colac Otway	3,438	20,345	19,198	19,919	7	2,846	Unsubdivided
Golden Plains	2,703	18,770	14,228	17,231	7	2,462	Unsubdivided
Glenelg	6,218	19,575	16,333	16,899	7	2,414	Unsubdivided
Mount Alexander	1,530	17,591	15,410	16,044	7	2,292	4 x single-councillor wards / 1 x three-councillor ward
Hepburn	1,473	14,367	13,649	15,131	7	2,162	2 x two-councillor wards / 3 x single-councillor wards

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Rural cont.

Municipality	Area (km²)	Population (2011 Census)	Number of voters at last review	Current estimate of voters#	Number of councillors	Number of voters per councillor	Electoral structure
Swan Hill	6,115	20,449	14,386	14,518	7	2,074	1 x four-councillor ward 3 x single-councillor wards
Moyne	5,482	15,955	12,420	14,299	7	2,043	Unsubdivided
Murrindindi	3,879	13,058	13,727	14,091	7	2,013	7 x single-councillor wards
Corangamite*	4,408	16,376	13,985	13,267	7	1,895	4 x single-councillor wards 1 x three-councillor ward
Southern Grampians	6,655	16,359	13,151	13,213	7	1,888	Unsubdivided
Indigo*	2,040	15,178	11,553	13,032	7	1,862	Unsubdivided
Alpine*	4,788	11,881	11,198	11,569	7	1,653	Unsubdivided
Central Goldfields	1,533	12,496	11,017	11,114	7	1,588	3 x single-councillor wards 1 x four-councillor ward
Northern Grampians	5,728	11,845	10,540	10,925	7	1,561	2 x single-councillor wards 1 x two-councillor ward 1 x three-councillor ward
Mansfield	3,844	7,893	9,429	10,363	5	2,073	3 x single-councillor wards 1 x two-councillor ward
Strathbogie	3,303	9,486	9,268	9,628	7	1,375	3 x single-councillor wards 2 x two-councillor wards
Gannawarra*	3,735	10,336	9,263	8,996	7	1,285	2 x single-councillor wards 1 x two-councillor ward 1 x three-councillor ward
Loddon	6,696	7,459	7,669	7,567	5	1,513	5 x single-councillor wards
Pyrenees	3,435	6,669	7,120	7,264	5	1,453	5 x single-councillor wards

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Rural cont.

Municipality	Area (km²)	Population (2011 Census)	Number of voters at last review	Current estimate of voters#	Number of councillors	Number of voters per councillor	Electoral structure
Yarriambiack*	7,326	7,088	6,998	6,116	7	874	2 x two-councillor wards 1 x three-councillor ward
Buloke	8,000	6,384	6,149	5,887	7	841	2 x two-councillor wards 1 x three-councillor ward
Towong*	6,675	5,891	5,482	5,520	5	1,104	Unsubdivided
Hindmarsh*	7,524	5,798	5,306	5,003	6	834	3 x two-councillor wards
Queenscliffe	9	3,000	4,245	4,237	5	847	Unsubdivided
West Wimmera*	9,108	4,251	4,279	3,917	5	783	Unsubdivided

* The municipality is undergoing an electoral representation review by the VEC during 2015–16.
# Voter estimate calculated after the January 2015 merge of the State electoral roll and Council-only electors as at the 2012 council elections.
^ Councillors other than the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor.
† Councillors other than the Mayor.

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Annex 2: Sample submissions

Any person or group can make a submission to the VEC. There are many matters to be considered when determining the electoral structure of a municipality and you might like to take all issues into account or just focus on one issue you wish to bring to the attention of the review.

The sample submissions below should be considered as examples only to assist you in preparing your own submission. Submissions discussing or proposing ward boundaries can include maps or diagrams, but this is not required. Remember, there are no right or wrong ways to develop your submissions—just be sure your submission is limited to the scope of the review and includes reasons for your preferences.

Stage one: preliminary submission samples

Sample 1

The current number of councillors is appropriate for the council under review, and is sufficient to provide fair and equitable representation for locals. The number of councillors is consistent with comparable regional municipalities, and there are no major forecasts in population growth or increased communities of interest that would justify more councillors.

In terms of electoral structure, I strongly support the continuation of the unsubdivided structure. In 2004, before the Council was unsubdivided, there were seven single-member wards. One of the key issues with this structure was a tendency toward there not being a whole-of-Shire development agenda. Having five councillors who look after the needs of the entire Shire has greatly improved strategic planning and development for all areas of the Shire.

Sample 2

The council currently has five councillors, which is not enough to serve the current population—increasing to seven councillors would be more representative. Similarly, an electoral structure that includes multi-wards or is unsubdivided would allow for greater representation for the public. The current structure comprises five single-councillor wards. My experience has been that when a councillor is overworked or not interested in an issue, going to a councillor outside the ward is the only option.

There are also a significant number of communities of interest that exist across the council area, including residents engaged in environmental issues, planning and development and public transport access. A proposed ward structure is included with my submission.

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Stage two: response submission samples

Sample 1

I support the preferred option outlined in the preliminary report that recommends increasing the number of councillors from seven to nine, and changes the electoral structure to include three wards, each with three councillors. This electoral structure reflects the growing population of the council area, and the three wards will ensure that all voters are fairly represented in the electorate. I don't wish to propose ward name changes. I don't wish to speak at the public hearing.

Sample 2

I do not agree with the preferred option outlined in the preliminary report, which recommends creating two two-councillor wards and one three-councillor ward—rather than the current seven single-councillor wards. I believe this does not accurately reflect the communities of interest in the council area, which are determined largely by location. Each ward represents a unique part of the council area and voters know which councillor to go to. I believe this would be lost under the proposed structure. I would like to speak at the public hearing in support of my submission.

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Victorian Electoral Commission

Level 11, 530 Collins Street

Melbourne VIC 3000

131 832

melton.review@vec.vic.gov.au

The Electoral Commissioner
Victorian Electoral Commission
Level 11, 530 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

2 September 2015

Submission by email to: melton.review@vec.vic.gov.au

Dear Electoral Commissioner

This submission is made on behalf of the Councillors of the Melton City Council in relation to the 2015 Electoral Representation Review of the City of Melton.

Council acknowledges that 'representation reviews are a key mechanism to ensure that all voters in a municipality have their concerns and interest fairly and equitably represented'.

Accordingly, Melton City Council respond and submit as follows:

1.   **Number of Councillors.**

Option 1 (preferred) – The existing structure of seven (7) councillors elected from one three-councillor ward and two two-councillor wards be maintained as the most appropriate electoral structure for the community with a current voter ratio of 1:12,100.

Council believe that they have the capacity to fully service the needs of current and future populations within the municipality with seven (7) councillors, whilst continuing to provide high levels of engagement and representation.

Option 2 (least preferred) – The number of councillors be increased from seven (7) councillors to nine (9) councillors elected from one four-councillor ward, one three-councillor ward and one two-councillor ward with a 2015 voter ratio of approximately 1:9,500.

In comparison with like Councils (voter per councillor ratio) and taking into consideration Councillor workloads and the geographic areas of representation, Melton City Council consider that **option 1** with seven (7) councillors is still appropriate and is the preferred option, maintaining consistency with the current electoral structure.

2.   **Structure of the municipality**

To support **option 1** electoral structure it is recommended that the current ward boundaries be realigned to maintain average voter numbers ± 10% of the average number. Council recommends the following ward structure areas:

- **Coburn Ward (3 councillors)** – inclusive of Melton West, Brookfield, Parwan, Exford, Eynesbury, Kurunjang, Melton South and part Mount Cottrell, Melton and Toolern Vale.

- **Cambridge Ward (2 councillors)** – inclusive of Rockbank, Burnside, Burnside Heights, Ravenhall, Truganina, and part Plumpton, Caroline Springs, Mount Cottrell and Rockbank.

- **Watts Ward (2 councillors)** – inclusive of Diggers Rest, Hillside, Taylors Hill and part Melton, Plumpton, Rockbank and Caroline Springs.

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To support **option 2** electoral structure it is recommended that the current ward boundaries be realigned to maintain average voter numbers ± 10% of the average number. Council recommends the following ward structure areas:

- **Coburn Ward (4 councillors)** – inclusive of Melton West, Brookfield, Parwan, Exford, Eynesbury, Kurunjang, Melton South and part Mount Cottrell, Melton and Toolern Vale.

- **Cambridge Ward (3 councillors)** – inclusive of Rockbank, Burnside, Burnside Heights, Ravenhall, Truganina and part Plumpton, Caroline Springs, Mount Cottrell, and Rockbank.

- **Watts Ward (2 councillors)** – inclusive of Diggers Rest, Hillside, Taylors Hill and part Melton, Plumpton, Rockbank and Caroline Springs.

In support of Council's position on the number of councillors and the structure of the municipality, the following should be noted:

- The current electoral model, with adjusted ward boundaries to support fair and equitable voter representation, has successfully and effectively represented the community since the 2008 review.

- Melton City Council is operationally and logistically set up to accommodate and support a seven councillor structure. **Option 1** (preferred) will enable Council to continue to be immediately effective and can be supported within the existing annual budget. Any increase to the number of councillors (**option 2**) will require additional resources and budget investment.

- Melton City Council's population is forecast to grow to 216,395[1] (voter population of 143,291) over the next twelve years. The major growth areas in the municipality are represented in all three wards which will support a more sustainable electoral model and maintain distribution of voter population within the ± 10% criteria.

- A three-ward electoral model supports the concept that fewer wards mean a larger average of voters per ward and a greater tolerance to population changes.

- The current ward names of Coburn, Watts and Cambridge are considered appropriate for the preferred ward structure proposal.

Communities of Interest

- **Distinct population centres.** The three-ward structure generally recognises the municipality's major geographic communities of interest that currently exist within the municipality; the Melton township area to the west, the urban extension of greater metropolitan Melbourne in the east, and emerging urban growth corridor between the two existing communities.

- **New/emerging residential areas.** The City of Melton has a significant number of growth areas, many of which are still to emerge. These areas are considered a distinct community of interest for representation in terms of new infrastructure and community facilities for young families. Over time, these will be equally represented in all three wards.

- **Established Residential areas.** The major established township west of the municipality is semi-rural in character and history, fully developed with in-fill development pressures and renewal of assets and infrastructure a priority.

- **Rural areas/small townships.** In addition to the major growth areas within the urban growth corridor, smaller townships on the fringe of the municipality continue to experience growth and challenges with the blending of existing residential areas with new/emerging ones.

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[1] Population and household forecasts, 2011 to 2036, prepared by .id, the populations experts, December 2014.

Special circumstances

Council has given due regard to the following factors in its deliberation of its preferred electoral structure (**option 1**).

- **Significant population growth.** The City of Melton is the fourth[2] fastest growing municipality in Victoria with the distribution of population growth set to increase significantly in the urban growth area (between the Melton township and Eastern metropolitan area). Smaller townships such as Eynesbury, Rockbank and Diggers Rest are also forecast to more than treble in population over the next 12 years.

- **Areas of relative disadvantage.** The City of Melton was ranked 31 in the 2011 Social and Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) with a index of 1002.1. There are distinct pockets of disadvantage within the municipality including Melton, Melton South, Melton West, Kurunjang and the smaller outer hamlet of Diggers Rest. Council's preferred recommendation (**option 1**) predominantly encapsulates this community of interest within a single ward.

- **Fire risk rural/residential areas.** Toolern Vale and parts of Diggers Rest along the northern rural area of the municipality, and Eynesbury along the southern boundary of the municipality are subject to bushfire and grassfire threats during fire danger periods.

- **Significant areas of first home buyers.** The City of Melton is experiencing significant growth and with house and land affordability, attracts greater number of young families and first home buyers. The community needs of first home buyers and families for infrastructure, community facilities and support services are generally greater in these areas.

- **11 new suburb areas.** Melton City Council has recently undertaken a significant suburb naming project and are awaiting the approval and gazettal by the Office of Geographic Place Names[3] of 11 new suburb areas within the municipality, refer Appendix 1 and 2.

In summary, the current three ward structure introduced after the 2008 review is considered the most appropriate option to meet the fair and equitable representation of the City of Melton residents, based on communities of interest, Councillor workloads and special consideration of the communities within.

Melton City Council look forward to receiving the VEC Preliminary Review report on 30 September 2015.

Yours sincerely

Kelvin Tori
Chief Executive Officer

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[2] Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2013/2014 (as at 30 march 2015) Regional Population Growth, Australia
[3] Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)

Appendix 1

11.15 SUBURB NAMING PROJECT

Author: Daniel Hogan- Manager Customer Engagement
Presenter: Peter Bean- General Manager Corporate Services

Cr Dunn having declared a conflict of interest in this matter in item 5 in the agenda removed herself from the chamber prior to any discussion taking place.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Council of community and Advisory Committee feedback in relation to the establishment of eleven new suburbs within the municipality, and to seek Council's final determination of the proposed boundaries and names of each respective suburb for submission to the Office of Geographic Names.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council;

1) note and accept the recommendations contained within the unconfirmed minutes of the Suburb Naming Advisory Committee Meeting of Wednesday 1 October, 2014 **(Appendix 1)**, with particular reference to boundary establishment and recommended suburb names;

   Suburb 1   Harkness
   Suburb 2   Weir Views
   Suburb 3   Cobblebank
   Suburb 4   Strathtulloh
   Suburb 5   Thornhill Park
   Suburb 6   Grangefields
   Suburb 7   Bonnie Brook
   Suburb 8   Aintree
   Suburb 9   Fieldstone
   Suburb 10   Fraser Rise
   Suburb 11   Deanside

2) direct Council Officers to take all necessary steps to apply to the Office of Geographic Names, Department of Transport, Planning & Local Infrastructure, for the establishment of the additional suburbs as defined.

Crs Ramsey/Carli. That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

Cr Turner called for a division of Council.

For:

Crs Carli, Cugliari, Majdlik, Matalewski, Ramsey and Turner.

Against:

Nil.

The Mayor declared the division CARRIED

REPORT

1. **Executive Summary**

    Exceptional ongoing urban growth in the City of Melton has created a need for several new suburbs.

    At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 20 September 2012, Council directed that Officers begin the process of establishing 11 new suburbs within the municipality, as informed by boundaries recommended by the Property Development Advisory Committee (PDAC) in July 2012.

    Council further directed that the process be accompanied by an extensive community engagement strategy to develop naming proposals and receive alternative boundary alignments.

    At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 5 March 2013, Council established the Suburb Naming Advisory Committee, featuring significant community and key stakeholder representation, in order to develop a naming shortlist in alignment with Office of Geographic Names (OGN) Guidelines for Geographic Naming.

    An extensive community engagement campaign promoting naming options and proposed boundaries was conducted from early August 2014 through to September 2014, encouraging the community to vote for their preferred suburb names. Across a variety of mediums, 16,000 votes were cast.

    On 1 October 2014, the Suburb Naming Advisory Committee considered all community and stakeholder feedback, and made a series of recommendations for Council's consideration as contained within the unconfirmed minutes, attached as **Appendix 1**.

    Council is now required to make a final determination of boundaries and names for each of 11 new suburbs for submission to the OGN, operating under the Department of Transport, Planning & Local Infrastructure, for approval and establishment.

2. **Background/Issues**

    The Guidelines for Geographic Names 2010 (**Appendix 2**) state that, "Municipal Councils play an important role in ensuring that localities in all areas of Victoria are properly defined and named. With increases in the Victorian population there are new residential and business areas being developed on a regular basis. Councils should ensure that they regularly review their locality boundaries and assess whether they adequately define the existing situation. If major developments considered to be unique to an area are proposed, for example a set of subdivisions readily distinguishable from the surrounding landscape, municipal councils should consider creating a new locality. The benefits of creating a new locality relate to allowing the area's residents and businesses to use a unique name for addressing purposes."

    It is clear that these conditions for action currently exist in Melton City, which will continue to experience significant growth over the next 20 years. Several established or planned Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs) will see significant residential development with Principal Activity Centre's (PACs) and Major Activity Centre's (MACs) to the north and south of Melton township, the Rockbank and Plumpton areas.

    Process

    Councils are permitted as a naming authority to submit an application for the formation of new localities (suburbs) to the Department of Transport, Planning & Local Infrastructure under s.5 of the Geographic Place Names Act 1998. Council must follow the formally established Guidelines for Geographic Naming (**Appendix 2**) as set down by the Office of Geographic Names (OGN).

The formal proposal process is set out in great detail in the guidelines, and the key principles for consideration, inclusion or exclusion of any suburb names are; Language, Public interest, Public safety, Duplication, Directional naming, Assignation, Linking name to place, Commemoration, Commercial interests, Discrimination, and Indigenous recognition.

Particularly important in the process is the appropriate engagement of the local community and key stakeholders to alert them of the proposal, allow time to receive objections, and to inform the eventual boundaries and naming of the newly established suburbs.

Boundary development

In establishing suburban boundaries, the following factors were taken into account;

- Neighbourhood character should be a defining element for any new locality;
- Suburbs should be based on an ultimate population of between 10,000 – 20,000;
- Existing suburbs localities and names should predominantly be retained;
- Logical and obvious boundaries should be adopted where possible;
- Each suburb should have an activity centre of some description, either planned or delivered and at Neighbourhood, Major or Principal level which may include a train station;
- Consideration will be given to existing communities of interest, historic naming, localities and heritage issues;
- Existing suburb boundaries that remain untouched will retain their current name.

Guided by those critical success factors, large scale map overlays of existing suburb boundaries, significant topographical features, cadastral fabric, planned and established Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs) and the Melbourne West Growth corridor were the primary tools used to establish the proposed suburb boundaries.

Given the passage of time between the first draft boundaries drawn and current day, changes to long term strategic planning and PSP layouts have made necessary the redrawing of two boundaries. The boundaries as recommended by the advisory Committee are considered up-to-date with the latest planning proposals and respond to stakeholder submissions identifying the same boundary issues during the consultation phase.

Suburb Naming

The Suburb Naming Advisory Committee was formed with the express intention to assist in the development of a naming shortlist for Council consideration for wider distribution and community feedback. Membership included;

Wurundjeri Council x 1

Wathaurong Aboriginal Corporation x 1

Urban Development Institute of Australia x 1

Greater Melton Chamber of Commerce Inc. x 1

Melton Historical Society x 1

Melton Family History Group x 1

Community Members x 2

Melton City Councillors x 4

Melton City Council Officers

Committee members, applying their expertise and canvassing members and constituents, developed a list of 172 names for deliberation. Names were debated and 35 shortlisted for the consideration of the public through the community engagement campaign. (**Appendix 3**)

<u>Community Engagement</u>

Considered by the guidelines as an essential requirement, a significant community engagement campaign was conceived (**Appendix 4**). This included the development of a purpose-built website, town-hall meetings, direct mail voting forms, social media, print advertising, letter writing, outdoor advertising and more.

Calling for the community to vote for their preferred suburb names, provide original submissions and to consider the impacts of boundary changes, a total of 16,000 votes were received by Council (**Appendix 4**). These votes were tallied and considered by the Committee, pursuant recommendations as attached within **Appendix 1**.

Further information will be sent to those residents and ratepayers affected by the proposal, informing them of any submission to the OGN, and of any eventual change should the proposal be accepted by the State. Additionally, more than 1,000 residents have requested to be kept informed of the process.

<u>Submission</u>

Once a submission is made to the OGN, "the Registrar will check that the new name and boundaries conform to all the principles of the guidelines, in particular that the name is not duplicated and that the creation of the new locality can be considered to be in the long-term interests of the community. If the Registrar deems that the proposal conforms to the guidelines, the Registrar will proceed to gazette the proposal."

"If the Registrar deems that the proposal does not conform to these guidelines, the proposal will be returned to the naming authority with either a request for further information or advice that the proposal be redesigned so that it might be acceptable for future consideration and registration."

"Once a name has been approved by the Registrar for registration, a notice will be published in the Victoria Government Gazette notifying registration of the name. The gazette notice acts as an official notification that the proposal will be registered in VICNAMES. The gazettal date will be recorded as the official date of registration."

3.   **Council Plan Reference and Policy Reference**

The Melton City Council 2013-2017 Council Plan references:

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

   1.1 Strategically plan for a well designed and built City

4.   **Financial Considerations**

There is no requirement for further financial investment from Council in order to pursue an application to the OGN for the establishment of additional suburbs.

5.   **Consultation/Public Submissions**

Extensive public consultation is necessary under the Guidelines. Council conducted a wide ranging community engagement campaign **(Appendix 4)** to ensure that all residents and ratepayers were informed of Council's intentions and encouraged to participate in the selection of suburb names. Submissions were also encouraged to inform the establishment of suburban boundaries. More than 16,000 votes were received through a range of feedback options.

6.   **Risk Analysis**

Should Council accept the recommendations as put, no significant risks apply, notwithstanding the fact that the subjective nature of suburb naming will result in some objections being received. Formal objections will be sought and received by the OGN, not Council.

Should Council reject the recommendations as put, and seek to establish alternative suburb names, again, no significant risks apply outside complaints received as a consequence of individual naming preferences and subjective judgements which are unavoidable. Council is well within its statutory and moral rights to elect alternative suburb names for submission, as the Committee was formed with the express terms of reference to be advisory in capacity only, and it's recommendations should only be considered as such.

However, selecting a significant number of names that have not previously been considered by the Committee or been publically canvassed does carry the risk that the OGN may reject the application, as it may be considered that a public engagement process has not occurred. In this instance, Council would be required to repeat the significant effort to seek community feedback of the new names.

Establishing alternative boundaries also carries more significant risk, as the proposed boundaries are established upon a range of strategic documents and planning at a local, state and federal level. Changes to this may result in damaging, if unintended, consequences.

7.   **Options**

Council may choose;

1) to reject the premise of the report and not pursue the establishment of additional suburbs to maintain current geographical arrangements,

2) accept the boundary and suburb naming recommendations of the advisory Committee in full for application to the OGN, or

3) note the recommendations of the advisory Committee in relation to either or both suburb boundaries or names, and determine alternatives for application to the OGN.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1.   Suburb Naming Advisory Committee Minutes 1 October 2014

2.   Office of Geographic Names Guidelines

3.   Suburb Naming Advisory Committee Border and Naming Recommendations

4.   Suburb Naming Project Community Engagement Campaign

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Appendix 1 Suburb Naming Advisory Committee Minutes 1
October 2014

Suburb Naming Advisory Committee

held on 01 October 2014 at 6.30pm in Civic Room 2

Present: Cr Bob Turner, Mayor
Cr Sophie Ramsey, Deputy Mayor
Cr Lara Carli, Councillor
Mr Dan Hogan, Manager Customer Engagement
Mr Alan Perry, Melton Historical Society
Ms Judith Bilszta, Community member
Mr Karl Sass, Community member

Chairperson: Cr Bob Turner

1. **Welcome**

   The Chair welcomed all present for the Suburb Naming Advisory Committee.

2. **Apologies**

   Cr Nola Dunn
   Mr Tony De Domenico, Urban Development Institute of Australia
   Ms Ricki Hersburgh, Urban Development Institute of Australia
   Mr Tom Dickson, Greater Melton Chamber of Commerce Inc.
   Ms Deb Slattery, Melton Family History Group
   Mr Ron Jones, Wurundjeri Council
   Mr Byron Powell, Wathaurong Aboriginal Cooperative

3. **Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests**

   Nil.

4. **Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting**

   Cr Ramsey / Bilszta

   That the Committee adopt the minutes of the Suburb Naming Advisory Committee held on 4 December 2013.

   CARRIED

5. **Results of Community Consultation**

   Mr. Daniel Hogan presented campaign data including voter numbers and suburb naming votes received by website, community meetings, direct mail slips and individual submissions. Key stakeholder submissions and boundary applications were also presented for consideration.

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6.   **Final suburb naming recommendations to Council**

   6.1   **Boundary changes**

   Recommendation

   Perry / Sass

   That application be made to the Department of Transport, Planning & Local Infrastructure to establish revised and additional suburb boundaries as at **Appendix 1**.

                                                              CARRIED

   6.2   **Suburb names**

   Recommendation

   Perry / Bilszta

   That application be made to the Department of Transport, Planning & Local Infrastructure to name proposed suburbs as at **Appendix 1**.

                                                              CARRIED

   Recommendation

   Perry / Sass

   That;

   1) suburb name 'Mt. Atkinson' be reserved for any future suburb established within Truganina as a consequence of the development of the Mt. Atkinson Public Precinct Plan (PSP), and

   2) Truganina be preserved as a suburb name within any future boundary or suburb naming process.

                                                              CARRIED

7.   **Other Business**

   Nil.

8.   **Next Meeting**

   Should another meeting be required for procedural or administrative purposes, date to be advised.

9.   **Close of Business**

   The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

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APPENDIX 1

REVISED PROPOSED SUBURB BOUNDARIES
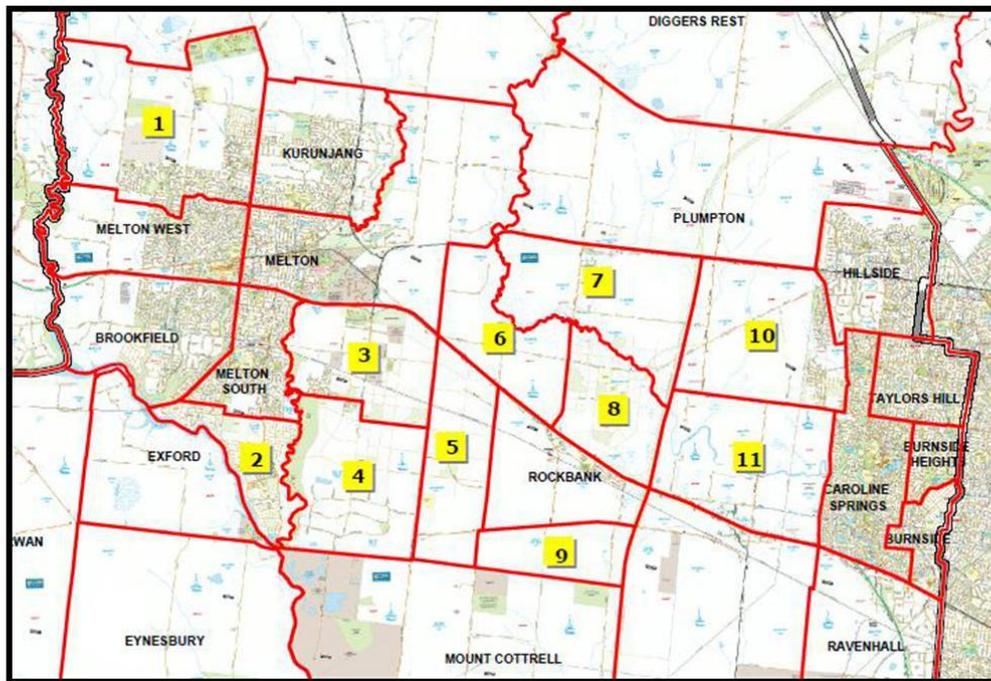
PROPOSED SUBURB NAMES

Suburb	Name	Rationale
1	Harkness	Community feedback.
2	Weir Views	Community feedback.
3	Cobblebank	Robinson Rise has some similarities nationally, potentially contrary to OGN guidelines.
4	Strathtulloh	Community feedback.
5	Thornhill Park	Community feedback with representative Committee addition of 'Park' to enhance name.
6	Grangefields	Community feedback.
7	Bonnie Brook	Greater historical significance than alternative, aligning with OGN guidelines.
8	Aintree	Representative Committee feedback.
9	Fieldstone	Newly established Mt.Atkinson PSP established in Truganina, Mt. Atkinson suburb name reserved.
10	Fraser Rise	Greater historical significance than alternative, aligning

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		with OGN guidelines.
11	Deanside	Community feedback.

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APPENDIX 3

Suburb Naming Advisory Committee Naming and Border Information

Extended Suburb Names List

Names developed or submitted by advisory Committee for short listing.

Suburb Area	Proposed Name	Origin/Historical Context
8	Aintree	Old Rockbank Inn/Beatty's Bridge/Kororoit Creek/ Commonwealth land. Area long associated with horse breeding and horse agistment 1845+. Yuille settler 1843 'Peeping Tom' Argus reporter (racing reports). Established Horse Bazaar in Bourke Street. Gray, Brown hotel and land 1856+. Henry Minns - Shire and Clydesdales – Ostrich stallion and bloodlines. Gidney – Indian remounts agistment. Keating's racecourse east bank Kororoit Creek. Very successful race meetings 5-6 years. Big crowds from Melbourne – to Keilor Road railway station, then coach or drag
Any	Albay	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Attard	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Aurora	Common Names by Ancestry
3	Aydon (old English for hayfield)	Originally Melton Farmers common, not sold until the 1860's. Relatively free of stone and with good soil used for dairy farming and hay making. Throughout the recorded history of the district subjected to horrific grass fires with much loss of property.
Any	Bandon	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Barton	After Australias first Prime Minister
Any	Bayou	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Bearsden	Common Names by Ancestry
8	Beatty Crossing, Ford	Beatty Family occupied Rockbank Inn late 19th Century, early 20th century
7	Bonnie Brook	From the name of Historic house Bonniedoon on Kororoit creek
Any	Bontoc	Common Names by Ancestry
3	Brooklyn Park (23)	
Any	Bulacan	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Bulen-Bulen	English meaning: Lyre-bird
Any	Calapan	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Caldera	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Calhoun	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Cambridge Views	
Any	Carolina Bay	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Caruso	Common Names by Ancestry
5	Casuarina Plains (Wurundjeri Title)	This particular area retains the only remaining stand of Casuarina trees native to Melton/Mountt Cottrell district. Once to be found along the river/creek escarpments, clearing and fire have reduced their number to

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		just a hand full.
8	Chamois Ponds	1st Homestead of the Pinkerton Family on the Koroit Creek Sinclair Road Area. James Pinkerton arrived in Port Phillip in 1839. He held a grazing licence in the Kororoit Creek area in 1840-41, and occupied 8,444 acres from September 1845, having purchased the licence to the Chamois Ponds or Chain of Ponds run on Kororoit Creek. Destroyed by fire 1840's. Kororoit Creek Rockbank 1841- James Pinkerton. The home station was located on the banks of Kororoit Creek about half way between Anderson's and Yuille's Runs. No buildings survive on the site but early maps show structures marked shearing sheds on the north side of the creek at roughly Grid Ref CU015205, and huts further west at Grid Ref. BU995209.
8	Chamois Ponds	The homestead was of wattle and daub lined with hessian of green baize in the better rooms. It was said to have been erected by unskilled labour. The site was one frequented by Aborigines who were given boiled rice with sugar by the Pinkertons, in a quart pot usually used for sheep dip but which was cleaned for the occasion. The house burnt down in 1848 and the family moved to "Yaloke" on the Werribee River. However, Pinkerton had purchased only the 640 acre pre-emptive right on Kororoit Creek (Section 27 lot 1) in the land sales in the Parish of Derrimut and much of his leased land was absorbed by Clarke's Grass Right which he was due from the rights of his Special Survey.Even Pinkerton's 640 acres of freehold were eventually sold to Clarke Pastoral Properties Grazing on the Keilor – Werribee Plains Gary Vines 1993
8	Clydesdale	
Any	Cobblebank	
Any	Coburn	Famous family in the area
Any	Colchester	Common Names by Ancestry
7	Comerford	Boundary rider John Comerford from Rockbank Station survived after eating Poisonous Mushrooms possible now know as Death Caps. Wife and two small daughters also Joseph Williamson shepherd found dead the next day June 1866. Went on to remarry and live and died in Melton
8	Comerford	Boundary rider John Comerford from Rockbank Station survived after eating Poisonous Mushrooms possible now know as Death Caps. Wife and two small daughters also Joseph Williamson shepherd found dead the next day June 1866. Went on to remarry and live and died in Melton
6	Comerford	Boundary rider John Comerford from Rockbank Station survived after eating Poisonous Mushrooms possible now know as Death Caps. Wife and two small daughters also Joseph Williamson shepherd found dead the next day June 1866. Went on to remarry and live and died in Melton
Any	Conley	Common Names by Ancestry
3	Cooper	
Any	Coppola	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Cotabato	Common Names by Ancestry

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Any	Cottrell Green	Cottrell form Mt Cottrell which is a blast shield volcano just outside of Melton and Green due to the Greenfield land that surrounds Melton at the moment and hopefully when developing sub divisions they will incorporate green areas for future generations
Any	Cove	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Cumbernauld	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Daleb	English meaning: Milk thistle
Any	Danag	English meaning: Billy-can
11	Deanside 'Dean' meaning; Little Valley	Deanside Shearing Shed within suburb area. State listed site VHR H810
Any	Dell	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Did-Did	English meaning: Birds call
Any	Djilbi-djilbi	English meaning: Black faced cuckoo-shrike or blue jay
Any	Djingun	English meaning: Sassafrasm leaves of this plant used to make tea
Any	Djinid-djinid	English meaning: Bird, the tawny frog-mouth
Any	Donegal	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Drogheda	Common Names by Ancestry
11	Dunbar Ponds	Originally taken up by settlers by 1841. The vagaries of flood, drought and economic depression forced most to depart. By mid 1850's Clarke had acquired all these farms and more. In 1861 he had 170,000 acres. Dunbar of Mt Cottrell, first recorded manager, began process of draining the low-lying swamp land in this area.
Any	Dunboyne	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Dungarvan	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Dunvegan	A bluestone cottage of four rooms, which had been erected as the Melton Police Station in Smith St, Melton in 1875. Later the home of Mrs M McPherson. After 1937 was purchased by Mr GH Dodds, owner fo the Golden Fleece Hote and became the Mechanics Institute Library, then a dwelling house, then a Civil Defence Headquarters before being removed to the Willows Historical Park.
Any	Eastbourne	Common Names by Ancestry
3	Edwards	
Any	Esker	Common Names by Ancestry
2	Exeton	From 'exe' the original name of Werribee River and 'ton' meaning farm or hamlet also ending of 'staughton'
2	Exeviews	From river exe and views from the area over the river
2	Exford Run	Exford Homestead plus 'run'
2	Exstead	From 'exe' and from 'stead' meaning place
Any	Farrelly ?	John Farrell brought Melton Park and farmed sheep, hay & Oats. Land was later sold to the government for soldiers settlement.
9	Fieldstone^	In the 1850's the area was surveyed for township sites, however the rocky terrain did not encourage successful subdivision. Contractors engaged in the road making and stone wallers carted away large quantity of surface rock the area was then used for grazing. Post WW2 subdivision for small farming was successful.

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Any	Fossy	William Fossy was the Manager of Sir W J Clarkes Rockbank station. Married to daughter of Mr V Quail.
10	Fraser Rise	Part Taylor's Overnewton/part Rockbank estates. Crawford Harvie's Union Inn was relocated to the eastern boundary of the area following the opening of the railway 1859 to accommodate Melton farmers forwarding butter to Melbourne. Overnewton Subdivision sale opened up area to influx of farmers engaged in hay making and cropping – among the first being the Fraser family whose son Hector achieved international renown as the World Champion Trap Shooter at the age of 19 years.
6	Fulham	Dairy country. In early years of 20th century developed as Fulham Park bacon and eggs production by J. Cockbill & Sons – first commercial (large scale industry) in the district, following erection of chaff mills. Employed local people. Subsequent fires destroyed the buildings although manager's house still stands. Cactus and prickly pear mark location of works.
6	Fulham Park	Small bluestone cottage at 1267 Beatty's Road
Any	Gargridj	English meaning: Sugar or sweet in general
1	Garrong (Black Wattle)	Originally designated as Melton Bank. Area under review taken up by George Pung Slater and Alex McDonald mid 1850's. Small acreage farms which went over escarpment to valley floor where settlers planted vegetables and fruit trees after clearing area. Evidence of those settlers remains in iris, fruit trees etc. in spring time bloom. Former strawberry farm here 1920's. John Campbell Miles, discoverer of Mt Isa born and occasionally lived there. Gold mining and native flint making sites to be found in creek valley north and south of highway. Prolific wattle blooms.
7	Gillespie	
Any	Graingrum	English meaning: Large grub found in wattles, edible.
Any	Grangefields	
Any	Grangemouth	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Gunmel	English meaning: Snake
Any	Hall	Samuel Hall leased the dairy property of Strathtulloh. His son in law John Charles Whiteside. Drowned in the creek opposite Exford Station.
Any	Harkness	William Scott Harkness born Roxburghshire, Scotland 1839. Arrived Melbourne 1852 (Port Phillip). Manager of Strathtulloh & farmer. Died 1908.
3	Henderson (ANZAC)	Edward Henry George.Western Front.Born in Melton. Married to Mary Magdalene Henderson at Orbost, Gippsland.Enlisted on 13 August 1915 aged 45 years. Occupation listed as coach driver, religiom as Presnyterian and NOK as wife.Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria onm Board HMAT A32 Themistocles on 28 July 1916.Returned to Australia 9 December 1918.
Any	Houdini Views	

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Any	Hubert/Opperman (31?)	Famous cyclist and politician who won the Tour De France. Believed to live around the Bulmans road area for some time.
Any	Huddersfield	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Iklin (Eyeklin)	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Jalgi	English meaning: Tea, European introduction
Any	Jeranin	English meaning: Dog (tame)
Any	Julendj	English meaning: Sense, intelligence
Any	Kalibo	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Kalinga	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Kalkara	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Kildare	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Kilmarnock	Common Names by Ancestry
1	Kippenross	From historic property on Bulmans Road
Any	Kitson	Samuel Kitson came out from Ireland. He was a Sea Capain settled in Melton had a farm in Toolern Rd. Had 9 sons and 2 daughters.
6	Kororoit	Creek runs through here for some extent
Any	Lanarkshire	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Latina	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Lavaka	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Learmonth	George Learmonth was a horse dealer buying for the Indian market.
Any	Liddle	Robert Liddle was a dairy man of Melton Park. Had his home and yards next to Benjamin Mawsons property later owned by George Coburn
Any	Lucena	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Mackintosh	Donald Macintosh from Rockbank was Australias first Olympic Champion. Historical information attached. Won the first Australian Gold Medal in shooting, a feat that took 90yrs to be recognised. He won at the Paris 1900 game shooting event, but confusion at the time as to what events were included. Eventually acknowledged that MackintoSh won the game shoorting event, and finished third in the live pigeon shooting (next medal in Shooting not won until LA 1984).
5	*Maltese Origin* (Welcome Home, Place of Arrival)	Reflects the dominance of Maltese settlement in area late 20th century
Any	Marawi	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Mariwan	English meaning: Spear thrower
Any	Marsala	Common Names by Ancestry
5	Massey Plains (Field)	Massey derived from the Massey Ferguson Stump Jump Plough that may have well been used in ploughing fields of the past.
Any	McLeod	John McLeod had a farm next to William Harkness having come from Rosshire, Scotland. His widow married John McKenzie.
Any	Messina	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Micallef	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Monaghan	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Moncalieri	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Monza	Common Names by Ancestry

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9	Mount Atkinson	Named for Volcanic feature in area
Any	Mowbray	
7	Mt Kororoit	This area appears to include the Mount Kororoit and much of the southern portion of the Moylan 'Mt Kororoit' estate
Any	Mulla Mulla Plains or just Mulla Mulla14/16 Mt Cottrell?	Mulla Mulla Grasslands (Bush's Paddock) is located in the City of Melton on the western slope of Mo Cottrell. It forms part of the Victorian Volcanic Plains bio – region and contains the ecological vegetation classes of plains grassland, plains grassy woodland. The average rainfall is 450mm focusing on Mt Cottrell (height 204 metres)
Any	Namadjidj	English meaning: White man
Any	Nangenala	English meaning: To sit, rest
Any	Nared	English meaning: Frog
Any	Novara	Common Names by Ancestry
3	Parklea	Parklea property on the Toolern Creek
5	Paynes Place	Mark Payne early settlers, Paynes Road names for him
11	Pinkerton	Historical Note: James and Margaret Pinkerton & Family left Glasgow, Scotland on 8 July 1839 - sailing from Greenock on the Barque "Superb". They arrived at Port Phillip on 4 December 1839. In 1840 they settled in the Keilor District on a property called "Chamois Ponds". In 1848 the property was burnt-out and the family moved to the Werribee River, settling on the new property "Yaloke". In 1855 Margaret Pinkerton died & was buried in Pinkerton Forest. Between 1857 & 1860 4 grandchildren died (aged 9,8,1 & 2 years) and were also buried in the forest. A cairn was erected over the graves in 1931. After adverse times W J Clarke ("Big Clarke") acquired the property in 1862 and James Pinkerton retired to Bacchus Marsh where he died in 1869.
Any	Portelli	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Quezon	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Raleigh	Two local sisters born lived and died Bullman Lane. Run dress making business High Street for 30years .
Any	Rivera	Common Names by Ancestry
3	Robinson Run / Rise	Foundations of a small hutsurrounded by ruined dry stone walled stock pens have been identified on the north sideof the creek at Grid Ref. CU010207.
8	Rockbank Bridge	Site of Rockbank Inn and significant 19th Crossing over Kororoit Creek
8	Rockbank Crossing	Site of Rockbank Inn and significant 19th Crossing over Kororoit Creek
8	Rockbank Ford	Site of Rockbank Inn and significant Ford over Kororoit Creek
8	Rockfield 'Field' means land with no trees	Combination of the names Rock and Field
6	Rockfield 'Field' means land with no trees	Combination of the names Rock and Field
8	Rockleigh 'Leigh' means clearing	Combination of the names Rockbank and Leigh

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6	Rockleigh 'Leigh' means clearing	Combination of the names Rockbank and Leigh
8	Rockmere 'Mere' means pond	Combination of the names Rock and Mere
6	Rockmere 'Mere' means pond	Combination of the names Rock and Mere
Any	Roscrea	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Salt Marsh	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Sandur	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Sardinia	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Seamount	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Serra	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Southwark	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Stansford	
Any	Staughton (Ville) Vale)	
2	Staughton Rise/ Run	Original Exford run. Purchased 1905 for subdivision by Closer Settlement Board. At lowest reach of valley Dr Watton established a run in 1839. Sold to Staughton's agent in 1843. Ruins of Watton's building still visible, along with two very aged blossom trees to early 1980's . No sign of ruins today.
2	Staughton Run	From Staughton family and run meaning land holding
11	Stoneleigh^	Property on Sinclairs Road called Stoneleigh
10	Stoneleigh^	Property on Sinclairs Road called Stoneleigh
4	Strathtulloh	From historic property on Greigs Road
Any	Tabuk	Common Names by Ancestry
7	Tarleton	From Tarletons Road. Tarleton family resided at Rockbank from 1871
Any	Thornhill	
Any	Thurles	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Tramore	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Tullow	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Tuscan Hills	
Any	Tuscany	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Tuya	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Valletta	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Veneto	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Villanueva	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Waled	English meaning: Silver-grey possum
Any	Wangin	English meaning: Boomerang
Any	Warendj	English meaning: Wombat
Any	Watford	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Watts	Hannah "Grannie" Watts was a midwife who ran Melton's first hospital and delivered 400+ local plus babies.
2	Weir Views	
Any	Wexford	Common Names by Ancestry
Any	Wicklow	Common Names by Ancestry

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2	Wurundjeri translation of 'Greybox'	Gully north to Melton South has remnants of original vegetation (grey box). Escarpment generally intact.
4	*Yaloake or Yallok or Yalock (being a Wurundjeri name)(means Creek)*	Strathtulloh lands. Settled in the 1850's. Associated with Henty family. Opposite "Yaloake "Pinkerton property on the Werribee River circa 1847.
2	Yaloake/ Yallok/ Yalock (being a Wurundjeri name) (Means Creek)	Strathtulloh lands. Settled in the 1850's. Associated with Henty family. Opposite "Yaloake "Pinkerton property on the Werribee River circa 1847.
Any	Yardang	Common Names by Ancestry
8	Yuille	

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Shortlisted Suburb Names List

Names shortlisted for community consultation by advisory Committee.

Suburb Area	Proposed Suburb Name	Meaning
11	Deanside	Deanside Shearing Shed within suburb area. State listed site VHR H810 – Victorian Heritage Register Melton Heritage Study
	Dunbar Ponds	Originally taken up by settlers by 1841. The vagaries of flood, drought and economic depression forced most to depart. By mid 1850's Clarke had acquired all these farms and more. In 1861 he had 170,000 acres. Dunbar of Mt Cottrell, first recorded manager, began process of draining the low-lying swamp land in this area.
	Pinkerton	Historical Note: James and Margaret Pinkerton and family left Glasgow, Scotland on 8 July 1839 - sailing from Greenock on the Barque 'Superb'. They arrived at Port Phillip on 4 December 1839, and in 1840 they settled in the Keilor District on a property called 'Chamois Ponds'. In 1848 the property was burnt-out and the family moved to the Werribee River, settling on the new property 'Yaloke'. In 1855 Margaret Pinkerton died & was buried in Pinkerton Forest. Between 1857 & 1860 4 grandchildren died (aged 1, 2, 8 & 9 years) and were also buried in the forest. A cairn was erected over the graves in 1931. After adverse times W J Clarke ("Big Clarke") acquired the property in 1862 and James Pinkerton retired to Bacchus Marsh where he died in 1869.
10	Aurora	Common Names by Ancestry, Phillipines
	Dungarvan	Common Names by Ancestry, Ireland

Suburb Area	Proposed Suburb Name	Meaning
	Fraser Rise	Part Taylor's Overnewton/part Rockbank estates. Crawford Harvie's Union Inn was relocated to the eastern boundary of the area following the opening of the railway 1859 to accommodate Melton farmers forwarding butter to Melbourne. Overnewton Subdivision sale opened up area to influx of farmers engaged in hay making and cropping – among the first being the Fraser family whose son Hector achieved international renown as the World Champion Trap Shooter at the age of 19 years.
7	Bonnie Brook	From the name of Historic house Bonniedoon on Kororoit creek Melton Heritage Study HO 117
	Cambridge Views	-
	Lucena	Common Names by Ancestry, Phillipine
8	Aintree	Old Rockbank Inn/Beatty's Bridge/Kororoit Creek/ Commonwealth land. Area long associated with horse breeding and horse agistment 1845+. Yuille settler 1843 'Peeping Tom' Argus reporter (racing reports). Established Horse Bazaar in Bourke Street. Gray, Brown hotel and land 1856+. Henry Minns - Shire and Clydesdales – Ostrich stallion and bloodlines. Gidney – Indian remounts agistment. Keating's racecourse east bank Kororoit Creek. Very successful race meetings 5-6 years. Big crowds from Melbourne – to Keilor Road railway station, then coach or drag

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Suburb Area	Proposed Suburb Name	Meaning
	Chamois Ponds	1st Homestead of the Pinkerton Family on the Kororoit Creek, Sinclair Road Area. James Pinkerton arrived in Port Phillip in 1839. He held a grazing licence in the Kororoit Creek area in 1840-41, and occupied 8,444 acres from September 1845, having purchased the licence to the Chamois Ponds or Chain of Ponds run on Kororoit Creek. Destroyed by fire 1840's. Kororoit Creek Rockbank 1841- James Pinkerton. The home station was located on the banks of Kororoit Creek about half way between Anderson's and Yuille's Runs. No buildings survive on the site but early maps show structures marked shearing sheds on the north side of the creek at roughly Grid Ref CU015205, and huts further west at Grid Ref. BU995209. (Pastoral Properties and Grazing on the Keilor Plains By Gary Vines 1993).
	Stansford	-
9	Fieldstone	In the 1850's the area was surveyed for township sites, however the rocky terrain did not encourage successful subdivision. Contractors engaged in the road making and stone wallers carted away large quantity of surface rock the area was then used for grazing. Post WW2 subdivision for small farming was successful.
	Kalkara	Common Names by Ancestry,Malta
	Mount Atkinson	Melton Dry Stone Wall Study
5	Mackintosh	Donald Macintosh from Rockbank was Australias first Olympic Champion. Historical information available). Won the first Australian Gold Medal in shooting, a feat that took 90yrs to be recognised. He won at the Paris 1900 game shooting event, but there was confusion at the time as to what events were included. Eventually acknowledged that Mackintosh won the game shooting event, and finished third in the live pigeon shooting (next medal in Shooting not won until LA 1984). (International trap shooting champion, born at Rockbank September 1866. Family lived east side of Toolern Creek and afterwards his father moved to Rockbank. All that remains of 'Oak Park' site on Mount Cottrell Road is some old pine and pepper trees.)

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Ordinary Meeting of Council   21 October 2014
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Appendix 3   Suburb Naming Advisory Committee Border and Naming Recommendations

Suburb Area	Proposed Suburb Name	Meaning
	Nangenala	Indigenous Name - English meaning: To sit, rest
	Rivera	Common Names by Ancestry, Phillipines
	Thornhill	-
6	Grangefields	-
	Jeranin	Indigenous Name - English meaning: Dog (tame)
	Farrelly	John Farrell brought Melton Park and farmed sheep, hay & Oats. Land was later sold to the government for soldiers settlement.
3	Cobblebank	-
	Wangin	Indigenous Name - English meaning: Boomerang
	Robinson Rise	Foundations of a small huts surrounded by ruined dry stone walled stock pens have been identified on the north side of the creek at Grid Ref. CU010207.
4	Gunmel	Indigenous Name - English meaning: Snake
	Kilmarnock	Common Names by Ancestry, Scotland
	Strathtulloh	From historic property on Greigs Road Melton Heritage Study HO 03 Victorian Heritage Register H317
2	Caldera	Mountain and Glacial Landforms
	Weir Views	-
	Yaloake	(being a Wurundjeri name) (Means Strathtulloh lands. Settled in the 1850's). Associated with Henty family. Opposite 'Yaloake Pinkerton' property on the Werribee River circa 1847.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL   1 SEPTEMBER 2015

Item 3.1   2015 Electoral Representation Review
Appendix 2   Submission to the VEC - Electoral Representation
Review

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL   21 OCTOBER 2014

Item 11.15   Suburb Naming Project
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Suburb Area	Proposed Suburb Name	Meaning
1	Garrong	Originally designated as Melton Bank. Area under review taken up by George Pung Slater and Alex McDonald mid 1850's. Small acreage farms which went over escarpment to valley floor where settlers planted vegetables and fruit trees after clearing area. Evidence of those settlers remains in iris, fruit trees etc. in spring time bloom. Former strawberry farm here 1920's. John Campbell Miles, discoverer of Mt Isa born and occasionally lived there. Gold mining and native flint making sites to be found in creek valley north and south of highway. Prolific wattle blooms.
	Harkness	William Scott Harkness born Roxburghshire, Scotland 1839. Arrived Melbourne 1852 (Port Phillip). Manager of Strathtulloh and farmer. Died 1908.
	Kippenross	From historic property on Bulmans Road, Melton heritage study HO 68.
	Watts	Hannah 'Grannie' Watts was a midwife who ran Melton's first hospital and delivered 400+ local plus babies. Multiple sources (Hannah Watts park named after her).

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Proposed suburb borders

Borders originally developed and proposed for community consultation.
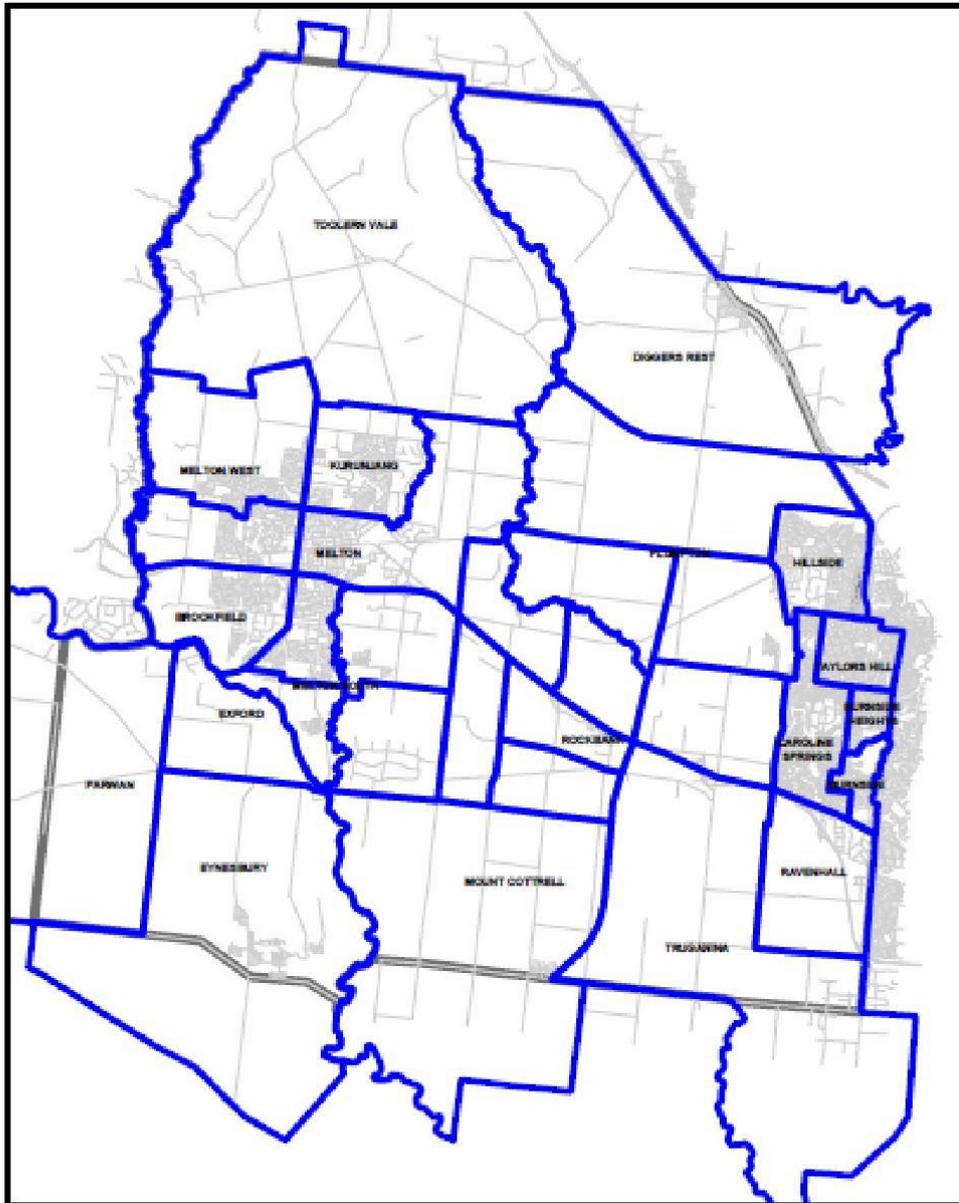
APPENDIX 4

Suburb Naming Project Community Engagement Campaign & Response

Campaign

"Got a better suburb name?"
Seeking to inform the community of the suburb naming project and to encourage participation in the selection of names and boundaries, Council pursued a humorous campaign in which people were encourage to suggest "a better suburb name". Investment in strong creative and design was deemed necessary to ensure awareness and response.
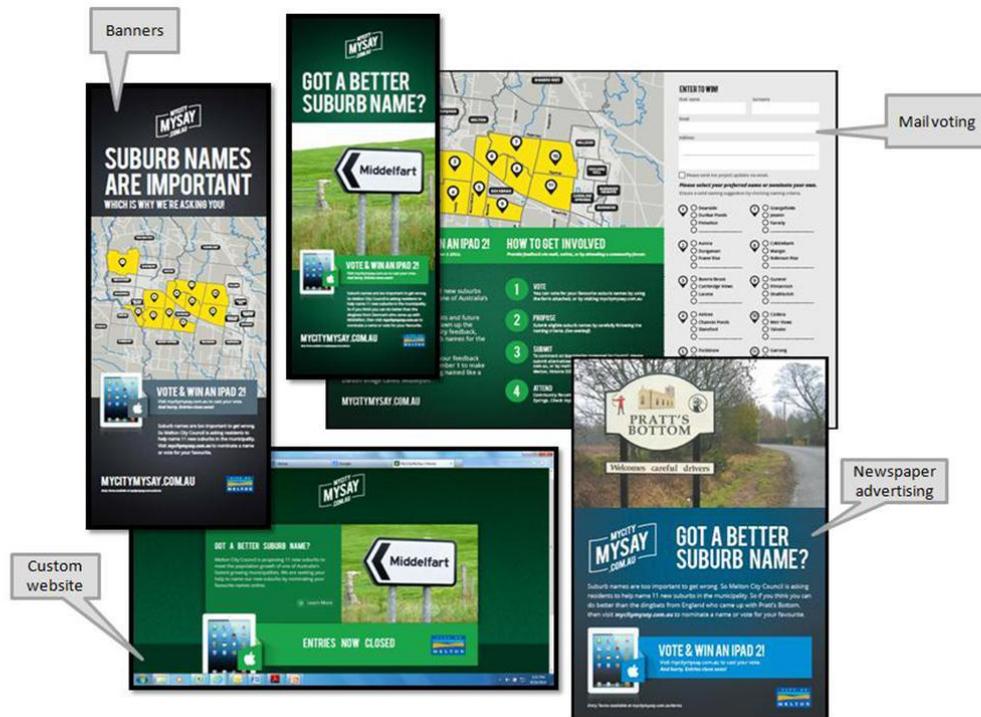
Promotional schedule

Engagement method	Description
Addressed mail out	Personally addressed Council letter to 'directly affected' ratepayers and residents
Key stakeholder letter	Formal Council letter to developers & key stakeholders
Information posts	Static displays at major shopping centres
Unaddressed mail out	DL sized information flyer & free postage voting slip to 'non-affected' households
Public meeting	Community hall meetings for discrete communities x 7
Rates notice insert	DL sized information flyer & free postage voting slip in all rate notices
Moving Ahead magazine	Article within quarterly Council newsletter to all residents
Council website presence	Homepage link to further information and news pages including online comments
Facebook advertising	Facebook advertising to Melton and surrounding suburb users

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Appendix 4   Suburb Naming Project Community Engagement Campaign

Press Release	Campaign launch to local newspapers x3 – media pick up strong
Posters	Promotional posters for all public civic buildings
Newspaper advertising	1/2 page ads in all local papers over 4 weeks
Customer Service Team	Information to all inbound phone inquiries

Community response

Method	Number
Session Attendees	134
DL Respondents	1,319
Website Registrants	1,240
Mail Respondents	16
Total	2,709

Suburb	Proposed	Online Votes	DL Votes	Session Votes	Mail subs	Total Votes	Diff
1	Harkness	127	317	55	-	499	
	Watts	141	222	32	-	395	104
	Kippenross	109	248	17	-	374	21
	Garrong	83	174	19	-	276	98
2	Weir Views	185	480	52	-	717	
	Caldera	175	294	15	-	484	233
	Yaloake	66	125	25	-	216	268
3	Robinson Rise	235	460	30	-	725	
	Cobblebank	160	378	38	-	576	149
	Wangin	50	79	33	-	162	414
4	Strathtulloh	182	357	27	9	575	
	Kilmarnock	140	303	33	-	476	99
	Gunmel	91	217	19	-	327	149
5	Thornhill	139	390	23	-	552	
	Rivera	141	275	9	-	425	127
	Mackintosh	99	149	13	-	261	164
	Nangenala	57	95	22	-	174	87
6	Grangefields	254	603	24	-	881	
	Farrelly	120	185	26	-	331	550
	Jeranin	62	114	10	-	186	145
7	Cambridge Views	199	410	22	-	631	
	Bonnie Brook	186	384	53	-	623	8
	Lucena	108	126	7	3	244	379
8	Stansford	220	477	36	1	734	
	Aintree	141	275	23	-	439	295
	Chamois Ponds	103	145	1	-	249	190
9	Mount Atkinson	172	424	63	-	659	
	Fieldstone	188	326	33	-	547	112

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	Kalkara	84	177	4	-	265	282
10	Aurora	285	442	19	-	746	
	Fraser Rise	201	378	40	-	619	127
	Dungarvan	49	134	16	-	199	420
11	Deanside	214	429	28	-	671	
	Pinkerton	144	243	44	-	431	240
	Dunbar Ponds	92	211	28	-	331	100
		5,002	10,046	939	13	16,000	
		31%	63%	6%	0.08%	100%	

Appendix 2

Map Produced: 6/09/2012

Data Source:
Melton City Council, Canberra Vicmap
information, ID The State of Victoria,

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Project br: GDA1994, MGA z55

**Suburb Naming
Project**

4. CLOSE OF BUSINESS

The meeting closed at 5.43pm.

Confirmed

Dated this

....CHAIRPERSON