



Ararat Rural City

# AGENDA

## COUNCIL MEETING

**Tuesday 29 November 2022**

To be held in the Council Chambers, Shire Offices  
(Livestreamed)

Commencing at 6.00pm

Council:

Cr Jo Armstrong (Mayor)

Cr Gwenda Allgood

Cr Rob Armstrong

Cr Peter Beales

Cr Henry Burridge

Cr Bob Sanders

Cr Bill Waterston



Ararat Rural City

A recording of this meeting is being made for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of the minutes of the Council Meeting.

The recording is being streamed live via Facebook, to improve transparency between council and the community and give more people the opportunity to view what decisions are being made. You do not require a Facebook account to watch the live broadcast, simply enter [www.facebook.com/aratruralcitycouncil](http://www.facebook.com/aratruralcitycouncil) into your address bar.

Recordings of Council Meetings (excluding closed sessions) are made available on Council's website.

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## SECTION 1 – PROCEDURAL MATTERS

### 1.1 LIVE STREAMING

Council is keen to engage with members of the community and live streams the formal Council Meetings to make them accessible. The stream is available to view on Council's Facebook page from 6pm and on Council's website following the Council Meeting.

### 1.2 TRADITIONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT/OPENING PRAYER/COUNCILLORS PLEDGE

#### *Traditional acknowledgement*

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we meet today, and pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging.

#### *Opening Prayer*

Almighty God, we humbly ask you to help us, as elected Councillors of the Ararat Rural City Council. Guide our deliberations. Prosper what is your will for us, to your honour and glory and for the welfare and benefit of the people whom we serve in the Ararat Rural City.

#### *Councillors Pledge*

We will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions invested in us under the *Local Government Act 2020* and any other Act to the best of our skill and judgement.

### 1.3 APOLOGIES

#### RECOMMENDATION (if required)

That the apology of Cr be accepted.

### 1.4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on 25 October 2022 and 08 November 2022 be confirmed.

## 1.5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A Councillor who has a conflict of interest in a matter being considered at a *Council meeting* at which he or she:

- 1 is present must disclose that conflict of interest by explaining the nature of the conflict of interest to those present at the *Council meeting* immediately before the matter is considered; or
- 2 intends to be present must disclose that conflict of interest by providing to the *Chief Executive Officer* before the *Council meeting* commences a written notice:
  - (a) advising of the conflict of interest;
  - (b) explaining the nature of the conflict of interest; and
  - (c) detailing, if the nature of the conflict of interest involves a Councillor's relationship with or a gift from another person, the:
    - name of the other person;
    - nature of the relationship with that other person or the date of receipt, value and type of gift received from the other person; and
    - nature of that other person's interest in the matter,and then immediately before the matter is considered at the meeting announcing to those present that he or she has a conflict of interest and that a written notice has been given to the *Chief Executive Officer* under this sub-Rule.

The Councillor must, in either event, leave the *Council meeting* immediately after giving the explanation or making the announcement (as the case may be) and not return to the meeting until after the matter has been disposed of.

## SECTION 2 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

### 2.1 PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

- 1 Unless *Council* determines to consider it as an item of urgent business, no motion (other than a motion to receive the same) may be made on any petition, joint letter, memorial or other like application until the next *Council meeting* after that at which it has been presented.
- 2 It is incumbent on every Councillor presenting a petition or joint letter to acquaint himself or herself with the contents of that petition or joint letter, and to ascertain that it does not contain language disrespectful to *Council*.
- 3 Every Councillor presenting a petition or joint letter to *Council* must:
  - write or otherwise record his or her name at the beginning of the petition or joint letter; and
  - confine himself or herself to a statement of the persons from whom it comes, the number of signatories to it, the material matters expressed in it and the text of the prayer or request.
- 4 Every petition or joint letter presented to *Council* must be in *writing* (other than pencil), typing or printing, contain the request of the petitioners or signatories and be signed by at least 12 people.
- 5 Every petition or joint letter must be signed by the persons whose names are appended to it by their names or marks, and, except in cases of incapacity or sickness, by no one else and the address of every petitioner or signatory must be clearly stated.
- 6 Any signature appearing on a page which does not bear the text of the whole of the petition or request may not be considered by *Council*.
- 7 Every page of a petition or joint letter must be a single page of paper and not be posted, stapled, pinned or otherwise affixed or attached to any piece of paper other than another page of the petition or joint letter.
- 8 If a petition, joint letter, memorial or other like application relates to an operational matter, *Council* must refer it to the *Chief Executive Officer* for consideration.

## SECTION 3 – REPORTS REQUIRING COUNCIL DECISION

### 3.1 REVIEW OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANT SCHEME AND SPONSORSHIP OF EVENTS

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
DEPARTMENT: CEO'S OFFICE  
REFERENCE: 7510

#### OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO) tabled a report to the Victorian Parliament on 11 May 2022 into *Fraud Control Over Local Government Grants*. The report provided nine recommendations to all Victorian Councils to improve management of Council grant programs. These recommendations fell into two categories: improving fraud control and improving guidance and training.

It was recommended at the 25 June 2022 Council Meeting that Council review its current processes, policy, and practice to reflect the recommended practices outlined in the VAGO report and present this to the September 2022 Council Meeting.

This report outlines the proposed changes that will be implemented into the Community Grants Scheme process, to ensure Ararat Rural City Council are compliant with current best practice.

#### DISCUSSION

The VAGO report was based on an audit of Council grant programs at six Victorian Councils. The audits raised issues around current practices in management of conflict of interest, assessment of applications against established criteria, documenting decisions, acquittal of funds and evaluation of grant outcomes. It was believed that the practices observed increased the risk of fraud and did not provide adequate transparency around the process.

VAGO made nine recommendations to assist Victorian Councils improve current practices. The first six relate directly to improving fraud controls and the latter three to improving guidance and training. There was an additional recommendation directed specifically at one of the audited Councils. This was recommendation seven and has been deleted from this report as it does not apply to the general recommendations provided by VAGO to Councils.

Council has previously reviewed its approach to community grants, adopting a revised model at the 15 December 2020 Council meeting. This was following recommendations arising from the Victorian Local Government Inspectorate inquiry, *Protecting Integrity: Yarriambiak Shire Council Report*. This revision made a number of changes very similar to some of those outlined in the recommendations of the VAGO report. It is important for Council to ensure compliance with current best practice and the existing community grants process needs to be reviewed to ensure that this occurs.

The revised model adopted at the 15 December 2020 Council Meeting is as follows:

### **Community Support Grant Scheme**

Requests for Community Support Grant Scheme funding are made through the approved form and assessed in the timeframes provided below. All Community Support Grant Scheme grants are funded on a 1:2 basis, where every dollar provided by the applicant organisation will be matched by two from Council.

Applicants under the Community Event strand are advised within three weeks of receipt of the application and applicants under the Community Infrastructure and Project Funding strands are advised within four weeks of the close of applications.

The decision makers in relation to all Community Support Grant Scheme applications will be a community panel. This is based on current best practice advice from the Local Government Directorate. Members of the community panel will be recruited via an Expression of Interest process.

<b>Type of grant</b>	<b>Maximum funding amount</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
<i>Community Event</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>Rolling funding model</i>
<i>Community Infrastructure</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>Four funding rounds per year</i>
<i>Project Funding</i>	<i>\$3,000</i>	<i>Four funding rounds per year</i>

### **Proposed changes:**

<b>VAGO Recommendation</b>	<b>Current process</b>	<b>Proposed change</b>
<p>1. improve their conflict-of-interest processes by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>requiring staff and councillors to declare conflicts of interest for each grant application they assess or approve</li> <li>documenting how the council manages declared conflicts of interest</li> </ul>	<p>Community panel members verbally declare any conflict of interests they have, prior to the meeting commencing</p> <p>There isn't currently a formal documenting process surrounding these declarations</p>	<p>A Conflict of Interest form will be created and circulated to the community panel prior to the meeting</p> <p>The Conflict of Interest forms will then be kept with the application forms</p>
<p>2. Develop eligibility and assessment criteria for all their grant programs and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>assess and document each application against them</li> <li>communicate assessment outcomes and reasons to unsuccessful applicants</li> </ul>	<p>There is currently eligibility criteria in place for the grants program, this will continue to determine the outcome of applicants success</p> <p>Letters of success/unsuccess are sent to applicants, however, the unsuccessful letters aren't specific as to why the applicant wasn't granted funds</p>	<p>Letters of unsuccess will continue to be sent to applicants, however, they will now include reasoning as to why they weren't granted funds and how they could have better met the eligibility criteria</p>
<p>3. Exclude councillors from assessing and making recommendations on grant applications</p>	<p>Councillors are not currently involved in any aspect of the Community Grants decision making process</p>	<p>Councillors will continue to remain uninvolved in the decision-making process surrounding Community Grants</p>
<p>4. Verify that all grant recipients use grant funds for their intended purpose</p>	<p>There is currently no acquittal process in place</p>	<p>An acquittal form will be created that successful grant applicants will be required to complete at the completion of their project/event</p>



<p>5. Evaluate the benefits of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recurring grants and require recipients to seek future funding through existing competitive grant programs</li> <li>non-recurring grants (if appropriate) and consider their risks and value</li> </ul>	<p>Council currently encourages community groups to apply for applicable competitive grants. Assisting with the grant writing process when needed.</p> <p>The community grants panel ensure that the funds are dispersed fairly amongst the community groups that apply, ensuring that the same community group isn't receiving funds each round, regardless of meeting the eligibility criteria.</p>	<p>Council will continue to assist community groups in their search for funding (through both Council and external funding bodies), as well as dispersing funds evenly to as many community groups as possible throughout the process.</p>
<p>6. Document all funding decisions in a consistent and structured way within a centralised system to ensure their decision making is transparent, including by recording:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the names of individuals involved in assessing or approving grant applications</li> <li>if applicants met the eligibility criteria</li> <li>how assessors and approvers scored applicants against the assessment criteria</li> <li>what assessors and approvers considered to determine funding amounts</li> <li>reasons why any funding decisions do not align with assessments</li> </ul>	<p>Currently all applications and outcomes are stored in a central folder online.</p>	<p>A template will be created for each application to outline who was involved in the process, whether the applicant met the eligibility criteria and any additional notes that the panel would like included.</p> <p>This form will then be attached to each application and stored online</p>
<p>7. Develop their own overarching grant policy that details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>when and why the council uses grants to achieve its strategy</li> <li>how the council will administer grant programs across their life cycle</li> <li>the risk-based approach the council uses to determine if it will evaluate each grant program</li> </ul>	<p>Council currently has a Community Support Grants guidelines document in place that outlines the process</p>	<p>The Community Support Grants guidelines document will be reviewed in March 2023, as well as the current application form</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• staff and councillors' roles in managing grants</li> <li>• relevant council policies and procedures, including policies and procedures for declaring conflicts of interest</li> </ul>		
<p>8. Include grant-related fraud risks in their risk management and fraud and corruption plans and assign responsibility for managing these risks</p>	<p>Community Grant risks are not currently included in these plans</p>	<p>Grant-related fraud will be included in Councils risk management plans moving forward. The officer responsible for administrating the grants will work with the Governance &amp; Risk Lead to implement these risks into Council plans.</p> <p>The Council Officer currently in charge of administrating the grants will take responsibility for managing the risks identified in the plan.</p>
<p>9. Develop mandatory training for staff and councillors that covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• declaring and managing conflicts of interest</li> <li>• fraud risks specific to grant programs</li> <li>• the council's relevant policies and procedures (see Section 2.4).</li> </ul>	<p>Councillors currently undergo training that covers the declaration of conflict of interests</p> <p>Councillors are provided with copies of all relevant policies and procedures via Microsoft Teams</p>	<p>The current training will continue to remain mandatory for Councillors.</p>

It is recommended that the proposed changes to the Community Support Grant Scheme be adopted in order to clarify this process and ensure best practice.

## KEY CONSIDERATIONS

### *Alignment to Council Plan Strategic Objectives*

6 Strong and Effective Governance

### *Budget Implications*

There are no budget implications in implementing this item.

### *Policy/Relevant Law*

Review of the community grants program based on the VAGO recommendations relates to a number of requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 including, community accountability, financial management and service performance.

### *Sustainability Implications*

None identified.

***Risk Assessment***

There is significant reputational, fraud and integrity risk to Council in failure to adequately address the recommendation of the VAGO report.

***Innovation and Continuous Improvement***

Reviewing the current Council grants program provides an opportunity to ensure processes are moving towards current best practice.

***Stakeholder Collaboration and Community Engagement***

Once the new community grants process has been adopted and implemented by Council feedback from grant applicants will be sought from successful and unsuccessful applicants and non-applicant community organisations on the use and effectiveness of the process.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council endorse the revised approach to managing the Community Support Grants Scheme funding model.

**ATTACHMENTS**

The Victorian Auditor General's Office report *Fraud Control Over Local Government Grants* is provided at Attachment 3.1

### 3.2 TELSTRA INNOVATION PARTNER

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
DEPARTMENT: CEO'S OFFICE  
REFERENCE: 7527

#### OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a conflict of interest requiring disclosure.

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ararat Council have cultivated a successful relationship with Telstra as a telecommunications provider for many years, in recent times partnering with them on several successful projects exploring connectivity and Smart Cities technologies.

Looking to the future, as part of Council's vision to enhance and grow our municipality by developing innovative solutions, it is evident that this partnership with Telstra is key to working towards leading edge tech solutions in the Smart Cities space.

This partnership also makes sense due to connectivity mediums at a local level. Telstra remain the only telecommunications provider who guarantee narrowband coverage that encompasses our whole municipality in terms of connectivity, via their Telstra Pty Ltd NB-IoT low frequency networks.

The aim of this partnership is to produce outcomes that drive innovation not just for our municipality but within the areas of Smart cities, and Internet of Things technologies in the Local Government sector. The economies of scale that a partnership with Telstra would enable are great and would be aiming to solve problems where a solution is not already available on the open market.

#### DISCUSSION

The last three years have seen Ararat Rural City and Telstra collaborate on several key projects that have delivered excellent results to our organisation and our community. These include:

- The rollout of 4G and 5G mid-band in Ararat and the announcement that Telstra are building a new \$1.1 million mobile base station in Maroona.
- Telstra and Council collaborating on a successful joint design proposal for a Public Wi-Fi network, to deliver public WiFi in the townships of Ararat and Lake Bolac.
- Delivery and commissioning of the Ararat Public Wi-Fi network including
  - o Digital Connectivity via Telstra Air Enterprise
  - o An Open Roaming Pilot in partnership with Federation University and Aarnet
  - o An IoT Pilot that has delivered drain sensor technology, smart bin sensor technology and leading-edge camera analytics technology
- Commencement of the Rural Roads Project. Using bridge sensor technology, to enable the monitoring and measurement of bridge degradation, leading to greater accuracy in asset renewal.
- Commencement of the Ararat Spotlight Digital Twin Project, focused on shared data intelligence and community information in collaboration with Digital Twin Victoria. Deliverables for this project include
  - o Delivery of a real time weather monitoring network across the Ararat municipality.
  - o Development of natural disaster/early detection system and alerts for emergency response using shared data.
  - o Supporting identified on-farm use cases of IoT technology working with Fed Uni program at Ararat Jobs and Technology Precinct.

- The development of Ararat's 'Smart City' digital future, including key network and sensor technology and connectivity,

Throughout the delivery of these projects, Council has had a unique opportunity to connect with the 'right people' within Telstra and develop ongoing relationships where problem solving and solutions to specific challenges can be discussed. It is this environment where mutual new opportunities are born and working with Telstra as our ongoing innovation partner allows unique access to skills, personnel, resources and experience that an organisation Telstra's size can bring to the table.

This fact, coupled with the fact that Telstra remain the only telecommunications provider who guarantees the narrowband coverage provided for connectivity is why we are recommending this partnership is formalised going forward.

## KEY CONSIDERATIONS

### *Alignment to Council Plan Strategic Objectives*

Partnering with Telstra will open new opportunities for leading innovation around connectivity within our community and the Smart Cities space, will allow local businesses opportunities to trial new technology, and also Council around asset management and renewal activities.

This aligns with Council plan objectives:

2. Building Robust Local Economies
4. Developing and Maintaining Key Enabling Infrastructure
5. Enhancing Community Life

### *Budget Implications*

Nil

### *Policy/Relevant Law*

This agenda item relates to Council's Procurement Policy, specifically sections:

2.11.2 Exemptions from Market Engagement

2.15 Exemption from Tendering

Appendix 4-Exemptions

### *Sustainability Implications*

Nil

### *Risk Assessment*

The Telstra network has the highest coverage within our municipality across all connectivity mediums. Utilising the Telstra network reduces the risk of IoT technology failing when it comes to a reliable connection. Utilising pre-existing vendor partnerships through our extended relationship with Telstra gives council greater confidence in selecting fit for purpose solutions that meet quality standards for IoT devices.

### *Innovation and Continuous Improvement*

The aim of this partnership is to produce outcomes that drive innovation not just for our municipality but within the areas of connectivity, smart cities, and Internet of Things technologies. The economies of scale that a partnership with Telstra would enable are great and would be aiming to solve problems where a solution is not already available on the open market.

*Stakeholder Collaboration and Community Engagement*

Nil

**RECOMMENDATION**

That:

- 1 Council endorse Telstra Pty Ltd as Ararat Rural City Councils 'Innovation Partner' specific to the execution of council projects that require the procurement and implementation of technology including IoT technology where there is a core requirement to connect using a 3<sup>rd</sup> party network through a telecommunications provider.
- 2 Council endorse a procurement exemption that recognises Telstra Pty Ltd as a preferred supplier of internet connectivity to technology via the following mediums.
  - Telstra Pty Ltd NB-IoT low frequency networks.
- 3 Council endorse an exemption on the procurement of IoT technology where the IoT hardware supplier is pre-accredited and recommended for use by Telstra Pty Ltd for use within the extended Telstra network.
- 4 Council recognise 'internet connectivity' as a Utility within councils existing procurement policy.
- 5 Council agree that the term of the proposed recommendations within this document expire at the completion of the current council term and will be subsequently revisited on expiry.

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments in relation to this item.

## SECTION 4 – INFORMATION REPORTS

### 4.1 GORDON STREET RECREATION RESERVE REDEVELOPMENT – CONSTRUCTION OF SPORTS PAVILION AND INSTALLATION OF SPORTS LIGHTING

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** CONTRACTS & PROCUREMENT OFFICER/CIVIL ENGINEER  
**DEPARTMENT:** CEO'S DEPARTMENT  
**REFERENCE:** 5252

#### **OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT CONFLICT OF INTEREST:**

Officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a conflict of interest requiring disclosure.

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Gordon Street Recreation Reserve Redevelopment is the most significant building project for Ararat Rural City Council in the 2022/2023 financial year. The development of the precinct is expected to stimulate the local economy, respond to local demand for new participation opportunities and improve diversity and inclusion within disadvantaged communities and underrepresented groups identified in Active Victoria.

The construction of a multi-use sports precinct centers around the development and construction of a new pavilion with AFLW changerooms, shared Cricket/Football (Soccer) changerooms, a large social space with kitchen and bar facilities, player, umpire, and public amenities, with all works to be completed by 15 June 2023.

This report provides a progress update on the project to November 2022 for Council and the community.

#### **DISCUSSION**

At the March 2022 Council meeting Council approved the AFLW and Soccer Sports Lighting purchase and installation, and at the April 2022 meeting Council approved the construction contract for the sports pavilion at the Gordon Street Recreation Reserve.

Progress is good in all areas of the redevelopment, with the project still scheduled for completion in May 2023.

Construction of the new sports pavilion is continuing at the site, with continual interruptions from the weather. To date works on the slab and framing have been completed and the blockwork, storm water connections, door and window frames currently being undertaken. It is expected that the blockwork will be complete, and most of the roofing trusses will be delivered to site before Christmas.

The 35m AFLW Sports lighting poles have been delivered to site in October and the luminaires and control systems are currently being put together for installation. Again, the wet weather has been a large factor in the delay for the installation of the footing and poles at the site. The contractor is ready to commence footing works as soon as there is a string of warm weather to allow for this to occur.

In meeting with the funding milestones, the civil works on the carpark works was approved under delegation by the CEO in September 2022 and will be undertaken by Mintern Civil Pty Ltd. This month the CEO has approved the drainage and irrigation works under delegation, these works will be undertaken by Wimmera Aquatrail, and will commence in the new year

Procurement is currently being undertaken for sports ground fencing, installation of a new turf cricket pitch, field seeding works and installation of little athletics infrastructure. Tenders were called in August for the

complete scope of field works, which received one submission and was significantly over budget and negotiations with the supplier did not yield the required savings, therefore the works have been broken down into specialised areas of work.

### **Budget**

The budget for the project is \$4,500,000 including contributions from the State and Federal governments, and Council, at the date of this report committed expenditure stands at \$4,127,262 with the project operating within the allocated budget. The remaining budget for the works to be completed is \$372,738.

The project is entering the seventh month of a twelve-month program and the various contractors, architect Davidson Architecture and Council officers are working together to ensure the vision of a superior regional sports precinct is delivered in line with community expectations.









## KEY CONSIDERATIONS

### *Alignment to Council Plan Strategic Objectives*

#### **4. *Developing and Maintaining Key Enabling Infrastructure.***

- Ensure Asset development and renewal during the planning period matches that identified in Council's Asset Plan 2021-2031.
- Deliver infrastructure outcomes that support economic growth, promote community wellbeing and safety, and align with Council's financial sustainability.

### *Budget Implications*

Council has a revised budget of \$4,500,000 for the completion of works.

The initial budget was \$3,100,000 made up of: \$2,550,000 from the Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, \$400,000 from Local Road, Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Phase 1 funding and a contribution from Council of \$150,000,

Following receipt of tenders for pavilion works, the revised budget was increased by \$1,400,000, allocated from LRCI Phase 3A funding.

The project will be delivered within the revised budget of \$4,500,000.

### *Policy/Relevant Law*

- Ararat Rural City Council Procurement Policy
- Local Government Act 2020
- Victorian Building Regulations – Building Permit Conditions

### *Sustainability Implications*

- Environmental assessment has been undertaken as part of the design process.
- Sustainable products have been specified as part of the design process.

### *Risk Assessment*

High Risk – Risks will be managed through significant project planning and management procedures and high-level contract administration, with a dedicated project manager.

### *Innovation and Continuous Improvement*

New or alternative processes will be considered in line with the strategic direction of council's asset management plan and financial, time and quality implications to council on the expected outcomes of the project.

### *Stakeholder Collaboration and Community Engagement*

- Internal stakeholder collaboration has occurred through the budget process.
- External stakeholder collaboration has occurred through community consultation through the design process.
- Ongoing Project Control Meetings through the life of the project with external stakeholders and the funding bodies.
- Council works directly with asset users to manage and develop new and existing assets, ensuring works are completed within the asset plan period of 2021-2031.

## RECOMMENDATION

That the Gordon Street Recreation Reserve Redevelopment Project update be received.

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments relating to this item.

#### 4.2 COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 YEAR 2 ACTION PLAN UPDATE (NOVEMBER 2022)

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
DEPARTMENT: CEO'S OFFICE  
REFERENCE: 7521

#### OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a conflict of interest requiring disclosure.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council Plan 2021-2025 contains actions to be undertaken during the 2022/2023 (Year 2) financial year under the strategic objectives:

1. Growing our place
2. Building robust local economies
3. Preserving the environment
4. Developing and maintaining key enabling infrastructure
5. Enhancing community life; and
6. Strong and effective governance

The Council Plan 2021-2025 Year 2 Action Plan is presented to Council and highlights the actions identified against the strategic objectives.

#### DISCUSSION

This report outlines the actions to be undertaken for Year 2 of the Council Plan 2021-2025 and as of 24 November 2022 Council Officer updates.

The Council Plan for 2022/2023 (Year 2) contains 60 actions, which the following table outlines:

Council Plan Objective	Action	Officer Update	Progress
1.1 Develop a new planning scheme for Ararat Rural City that is clear in its intention, supports growth and builds confidence and certainty around land use.	Complete key strategic reports and reviews.	Strategic reviews and reports are underway. Council is currently onboarding a senior strategic planner to manage the process. The environmental study is underway and will be complete in March 2023.	In progress 0-50%
	Recruit and implement community reference group.	The community reference group will be recruited and inducted by February 2023. There have been some delays due to changes in planning personnel and flooding impacts.	Not started
	Complete draft zoning review for broad public and stakeholder consultation.	This is a key element of the project. It will be completed following completion of all	In progress 0-50%

Council Plan Objective	Action	Officer Update	Progress
		strategic reports and reviews.	
	Complete the economic and social development study for the Aradale site.	The Aradale Study has been completed and will be presented to the November 2022 Council meeting.	Complete
	Develop a population growth model for ARCC based on lead measures.	A report by Value Advisory Partners and Databank Australia has been completed. It will be presented to Council during September 2022.	Complete
1.2 Support innovative housing models that work to overcome market failure and create the capacity to increase the population of Ararat Rural City.	Sign an agreement for first tranche of housing under the Transitional Worker Housing program.	Agreement has been reached on the first tranche of 16 beds of Transitional Worker Housing with developers. A Legal agreement is yet to be finalized, but will be in place by 31/12/2022. Negotiation for construction of a further 40 beds is currently underway with another developer.	In progress 51-99%
	Complete negotiations with potential investors around implementation of a beneficial enterprise to support affordable housing development.	A beneficial enterprise has been formed to support development of affordable housing in Ararat.	Complete
	Continue to work with Development Victoria to explore opportunities for development of state-owned land, including opportunities identified through the economic and social development strategy for Aradale.	The Aradale consultant's report has been completed and will be presented to Council at its November Council Meeting. Substantial work has been undertaken with Development Victoria for development of a crown land site for affordable housing.	Complete
	Complete construction of McLellan Street extension to provide alternate access to the Ararat East Development Zone.	Given delays in commencing works due to unseasonal wet weather the project has been contracted out. Construction work will commence once favourable weather conditional allow. Regional Development	In progress 0-50%

Council Plan Objective	Action	Officer Update	Progress
		Victoria (RDV) have extended the funding contract with Council until 30/05/2023 to facilitate the extended construction period.	
1.3 Work with other levels of government, business, and not-for-profits to develop programs to increase in-migration to Ararat Rural City to grow our population.	Extend the RDV funded Workforce Pilot Program, based on existing funding sources, until 30/06/2022 to enhance project outcomes.	Discussions with RDV have progressed well and a model for extending the Workforce Pilot program until 30/06/2023 has been developed.	In progress 51-99%
	Develop a model to continue to support the in-migration work of the Workforce Pilot Program into 2023/2024, drawing on resources from Jobs Victoria, RDV and ARCC.	A model to extend the in-migration project beyond 30/06/2023 is being developed with key stakeholders.	In progress 0-50%
2.1 Partner with Federation University Australia to deliver the Ararat Jobs and Technology Precinct.	Work with Federation University Australia to refit the Laby Street site as a joint use location.	Refit works at the Federation University Australia location have commenced and due to be completed in mid-January 2023.	In progress 51-99%
	Recruit an additional two PhD and one masters candidate to join the AJTP.	Recruitment of PhD and masters students is under way with three PhD and one masters student are already recruited. IBM has funded an additional PhD place bringing the total to 4 PhD and 2 masters places.	Complete
	Implement the Digital Twin Ararat project.	The digital twin project has been funded at \$2.2mill. Work has commenced on developing the project plan and implementing key outcomes.	In progress 0-50%
	Develop a Council Economic Development and Innovation Strategy.	The draft Economic Development and Innovation Strategy will be adopted for consultation at the January 2023 Council meeting.	In progress 51-99%
	Develop and implement a model for embedding research students in local industry through internship programs.	The model will be fully developed once the AJTP becomes fully operational.	In progress 0-50%

Council Plan Objective	Action	Officer Update	Progress
2.2 Work with other levels of government, local business, and private investors to develop a business park within Ararat Rural City, focused on agricultural value adding and advanced manufacturing, potentially leveraging “behind the meter” power.	Seek funding from State and Federal Governments and/or private sector partnerships, to develop an industrial park based on renewable energy and agricultural value adding.	Council was unsuccessful in obtaining an election promise in regard to development of an energy park. Council will continue to lobby for funding through the State and Federal budget processes in 2023.	In progress 0-50%
	Continue to support the development of biomass power facility.	The Grampians Gas project continues to progress well. There is significant local agri-business buy in and the project continues to move through engineering and financing gates.	In progress 0-50%
2.3 Engage with Grampians Tourism and local businesses to drive growth in high yield tourist outcomes.	Work with Grampians Tourism, investors and local operators to leverage outcomes of the Grampians Strategic Investment Strategy.	The Grampians Strategic Investment Plan has been completed. Potential investors are being engaged to develop projects in the ARCC footprint.	Complete
	Seek opportunities to attract a four-star accommodation option to ARCC.	Discussions with potential investors continue to be held.	Ongoing
3.1 Position Ararat Rural City Council as a prime mover in driving circular economy policy in waste management, including local processing and management of recyclables, and in use of renewable energy for Council purposes.	Fully implement four bin materials collection system for ARCC.	The four-bin model has been rolled out.	Complete
	In partnership with Gaia Enviro Tech implement local organics processing capability for household materials collection.	The Gaia Enviro Tech local organics processing units are in place and operational.	Complete
	Implement local processing of the glass materials stream and explore uses of it in civil construction.	Glass crusher is operational. High value uses for the crushed glass product are being explored. Currently the crushed glass uses are limited to lower value sand substitutes.	Complete
	Undertake a staged implementation of the energy saving initiatives identified from EcoSave's report on Council owned assets.	EcoSave's report has been completed and discussion around potential energy saving projects will commence early in 2023.	In progress 51-99%
3.2 Develop innovative energy solutions utilising locally produced waste.	Support the ongoing development of the Grampians Gas project.	The Grampians Gas project continues to progress well. There is significant local agri-	In progress 0-50%



Council Plan Objective	Action	Officer Update	Progress
		business buy in and the project continues to move through engineering and financing gates.	
	Support Pomonal Power to implement community-based energy solutions for the community.	ARCC will provide ongoing support to community power concepts.	Ongoing
3.3 Partner with local organisations and scientific experts to develop an appropriate and pragmatic local government Environment Strategy, focussed on the circular economy, emission reduction through renewable energy and management of Council assets.	Working with the Environment Working Group, develop Environment Strategy 2022-2032.	Two meetings of the Environment Working Group have been held and a review of Council's previous Environment Strategy is being undertaken.	In progress 0-50%
	Develop an implementation plan for Council's Environment Strategy.	A review of the previous plan has been completed and this will form the basis for the work of the Environment Working Group.	In progress 0-50%
	Produce an annual scorecard outlining Council's progress on environmental outcomes.	This will be completed in the second quarter 2023.	Not started
4.1 Ensure that asset development and renewal during the planning period matches that identified in Council's Asset Plan 2021-2031.	Develop an Asset Plan 2022-2032 Implementation Plan 2022/2023.	The asset plans have been completed and adopted by Council.	Complete
	Complete preliminary planning for the North-South Heavy Vehicle Route.	This is a key element of Council's State election advocacy program.	In progress 0-50%
	Complete 2022/2023 Capital Works Program.	The Council Capital Works program process and first tranches by asset class have been adopted by Council. Implementation of some projects has been impacted by storm and flood events.	In progress 0-50%
	Plan and complete the 2022/2023 Urban Drainage Upgrade program.	The urban drainage program has been adopted by Council at the August 2022 Council meeting.	In progress 0-50%
	Complete the 2022/2023 footpath and cycleway maintenance program.	Planning has commenced. The program will be completed during 2022/2023.	In progress 0-50%
4.2 Work directly with asset users to manage and develop new and existing assets.	Develop 10-year Capital Works Strategy to inform 2023/2024 Budget.	This work will be undertaken as an element of the implementation of the 2022/2023 Assets plan.	In progress 0-50%

Council Plan Objective	Action	Officer Update	Progress
	Develop a detailed two-year Capital Works Plan 2023/2024-2024/2025 to inform 2023/2024 Budget.	This work will be undertaken as an element of the implementation of the 2022/2023 Assets plan.	In progress 0-50%
	Working with Fitness Centre stakeholders refine a four-year development plan to implement key recommendations of the Ararat Fitness Centre Feasibility Study.	The Fitness Centre Feasibility Study has been completed, this includes preliminary plans and costings.	In progress 0-50%
	Complete works to basketball courts, indoor swimming pool, gymnasium floor and drainage/ventilation identified as Stage 0 of Fitness Centre works.	Basketball Court replaced, drainage and ventilation works are complete and gymnastics floor has been replaced.. Roofing works have been identified and the heated swimming pool will be painted in summer 2022/2023.	In progress 51-99%
4.3 Deliver infrastructure outcomes that support economic growth, promote community wellbeing and safety, and align with Council's financial sustainability.	Deliver key outcomes from Council's Asset Plan 2022-2032 during the planning period.	Council has adopted an Asset plan 2022/2023 as an element of implementing the Asset Plan 2022-2032.	In progress 0-50%
	Complete the Ararat Free Wi-Fi Project	The Ararat Free Wi-Fi project is complete. Implementation of additional IoT opportunities is currently underway.	Complete
	Complete Stage 1 of Pomonal Tunnel Track Linkage Plan.	This project has experienced some significant challenges around planning. part of the track has been constructed.	In progress 51-99%
	Complete Gordon Street Recreation Reserve Redevelopment.	The project is progressing with some rain delays in construction.	In progress 0-50%
	Undertake renovation and extension of the Buangor Recreation Reserve kitchen.	Due to pricing volatility this project has been placed on hold for 2022/2023	Ongoing
	Complete renovation of the Lake Bolac Complex kitchen.	Design and engagement work on this project is complete.	In progress 0-50%
5.1 Open up Council's arts and culture assets to greater community participation, ownership	Continue to support the Friends of Gum San during the first full year of operating Gum San.	The transition to management of the site by the Friends of Gum San is complete.	Complete

Council Plan Objective	Action	Officer Update	Progress
and engagement in decision-making.	Implement a Council funded Digital Literacy function at the Ararat Library.	Council funded this role in the 2022/2023 budget and it continues to be well received in the community.	Complete
5.2 Develop models of volunteering that recognise, support and properly utilise the skills that community volunteers bring to community life.	Promote the benefits and achievements of volunteers to encourage participation.	This will continue to be a focus of Council.	Ongoing
	Undertake community research on motivations for volunteering.	This will be finalised in early 2023.	In progress 0-50%
	Facilitate networks/partnerships with community groups.	Not started.	Not started
5.3 Partner with community groups, not-for-profits, and traditional owner organisations to develop Ararat Rural City as a more inclusive and diverse community.	Engage with key stakeholders to redevelop Council's Access and Inclusion Policy.	A working group will be established to progress this work by 31/10/2022	In progress 0-50%
	Develop a Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.	Work will commence in November 2022	Not started
	Commence a process of establishing respectful and productive relationships with traditional owner organisations.	This is an increasingly important goal for Council and it will become a whole of organisation priority.	Ongoing
6.1 Deliver responsible budget outcomes, linked to strategy, that deliver value, innovation and rating fairness.	Develop a 2023/2024 Council Budget that delivers public value and returns dividends to the community where appropriate.	This will be completed by 31/05/2023	In progress 0-50%
	Develop a set of underpinning financial management principles that drive Council's financial strategy.	Council adopted the underpinning financial management principles at its July 2022 Council meeting.	Complete
	Council completes a project to develop and implement a performance dashboard providing reporting to the CEO, Council and Community.	The final elements of developing the three required portals are underway.	In progress 51-99%
6.2 Ensure appropriate risk management is applied to Council and organisational decisions. Council's internal audit function is applied to areas of perceived risk.	Undertake an annual review of Council's Business Continuity Plan and Disaster Recovery Plan	This will be completed by 31/12/2022	In progress 0-50%
	Undertake an Annual review of Council's Risk Management Policy and Framework	This will be completed by 31/05/2023	In progress 0-50%
	Respond to all issues raised through Council's Internal Audit function	Each internal audit report is responded to by management and an improvement plan put in place.	Ongoing
6.3 Continuously improve Council's community engagement process and practices in line with deliberative engagement practices, while acknowledging the need	Build a new Council website that provides easy navigation, promotes community engagement and access to key information	A new website is in development using Symphony9 software.	In progress 51-99%
	Implement the Community Engagement Policy to support and	New models of community engagement will be developed and	Ongoing

Council Plan Objective	Action	Officer Update	Progress
for a range of different techniques to ensure effective engagement.	development Council's strategies and projects.	implemented on an ongoing basis.	

Further reports will be presented to Council in January, April and June outlining the progress of the Council Plan 2021-2025 Year 2 actions.

## KEY CONSIDERATIONS

### *Alignment to Council Plan Strategic Objectives*

- 1.1 Develop a new planning scheme for Ararat Rural City that is clear in its intention, supports growth and builds confidence and certainty around land use.
- 1.2 Support innovative housing models that work to overcome market failure and create the capacity to increase the population of Ararat Rural City.
- 1.3 Work with other levels of government, business, and not-for-for profits to develop programs to increase immigration to Ararat Rural City to grow our population.
- 2.1 Partner with Federation University Australia to deliver the Ararat Jobs and Technology Precinct.
- 2.2 Work with other levels of government, local business, and private investors to develop a business park within Ararat Rural City, focused on agricultural value adding and advanced manufacturing, potentially leveraging "behind the meter" power.
- 2.3 Engage with Grampians Tourism and local businesses to drive growth in high yield tourist outcomes.
- 3.1 Position Ararat Rural City Council as a prime mover in driving circular economy policy in waste management, including local processing and management of recyclables, and in use of renewable energy for Council purposes.
- 3.2 Develop innovative energy solutions utilising locally produced waste.
- 3.3 Partner with local organisations and scientific experts to develop an appropriate and pragmatic local government Environment Strategy, focussed on the circular economy, emission reduction through renewable energy and management of Council assets.
- 4.1 Ensure that asset development and renewal during the planning period matches that identified in Council's Asset Plan 2021-2031.
- 4.2 Work directly with asset users to manage and develop new and existing assets.
- 4.3 Deliver infrastructure outcomes that support economic growth, promote community wellbeing and safety, and align with Council's financial sustainability.
- 5.1 Open up Council's arts and culture assets to greater community participation, ownership and engagement in decision-making. 5.2 Develop models of volunteering that recognise, support and properly utilise the skills that community volunteers bring to community life.
- 5.3 Partner with community groups, not-for-profits, and traditional owner organisations to develop Ararat Rural City as a more inclusive and diverse community.
- 6.1 Deliver responsible budget outcomes, linked to strategy, that deliver value, innovation and rating fairness.
- 6.2 Ensure appropriate risk management is applied to Council and organisational decisions. Council's internal function is applied to areas of perceived risk.
- 6.3 Continuously improve Council's community engagement process and practices in line with deliberative engagement practices, while acknowledging the need for a range of different techniques to ensure effective engagement.

### *Budget Implications*

Initiatives and projects listed in the Council Plan Action Plan have an allocation in the 2022/2023 Budget.

***Policy/Relevant Law***

The Local Government Performance Reporting Framework – Governance and Management Checklist No 17 – Council Plan Reporting - Report reviewing the performance of the Council against the Council Plan including the results in relation to the strategic indicators for the first six months of the financial year.

Where Council has a report, it must also provide details of the report, where Council has no report, it must provide a reason.

***Sustainability Implications***

None identified for this report.

***Risk Assessment***

Not meeting the requirements of the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework will result in negative feedback on the Know Your Council website.

***Innovation and Continuous Improvement***

The list presented to Council shows the innovation and continuous improvement that Council is providing both the organisation and the community.

***Stakeholder Collaboration and Community Engagement***

The Chief Executive Officer along with relevant officers will continue to work to ensure that Council Plan actions meet expected milestones and timeframes where possible.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Council Plan 2021-2025 Year 2 Action Plan Update Report be received.**

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments in relation to this item.

### 4.3 THE ARADALE SOLUTION – ECONOMIC & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
DEPARTMENT: CEO'S OFFICE  
REFERENCE: 7509

#### OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a conflict of interest requiring disclosure.

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide information for Councillors and the public about the process to develop the Aradale Economic and Social Development Strategy.

In August 2021, Council submitted what was ultimately a successful funding application to the Victorian Government's Investment Fast-Track Fund, with the Minister for Regional Development, the Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP, announcing on 08 December 2021 that Ararat Rural City Council had been awarded \$500,000 to deliver the project. Ararat Rural City Council have committed a further \$125,000 to the project.

The Ararat Rural City Council invited tenders to develop the Aradale Solution - Economic and Social Development Strategy.

#### DISCUSSION

In May 2022, Ararat Rural City Council launched a public procurement process seeking suitably qualified planning consultants to provide a quotation that offers practical and innovative approaches to unlock the planning complexity and deliver an economic vision that will attract investment to fully activate the Aradale site.

Following the close of tenders, one (1) submission was received from Tract Consultants and was approved by Council at its meeting on 14 June 2022.

Central to this work is the delivery of a comprehensive highest and best use analysis and market-ready development prospectus that identifies feasible development and land use opportunities for the entire Aradale site. Demand for housing in Ararat has increased in recent years, in part because of the impacts of the pandemic due to lockdowns in metropolitan Melbourne, a shift in lifestyle preferences, the ability to work remotely, record low interest rates and housing stimulus.

The prominent heritage precinct of the Aradale site is concentrated on 22 hectares, leaving over 75 hectares of premium and largely unprogrammed land, with the project offering the Grampians region's largest premium mixed commercial development opportunity.

Aradale's strategic location to the east of town and within the Ararat East Development Area, means there is likely scope for Aradale to perform a housing role in the medium term as a future greenfield subdivision, leveraging and complementing the growth of the Ararat East Development Area.

There is also opportunity to consider how the site can assist in addressing rental supply challenges, provide housing for key workers, and smaller dwellings / units for smaller households and to cater to an ageing population (e.g. longer term opportunities for retirement living / aged care).

The final reports have been provided to the funding body at Regional Development Victoria for their information as well as acquittal of the grant with a complete audit opinion as required.

Any further developments to this project will be at the discretion of the State Government as the owner of the land.

## KEY CONSIDERATIONS

### *Alignment to Council Plan Strategic Objectives*

- 1 *Developing and Maintaining Key Enabling Infrastructure*  
We will ensure that we plan, fund and develop new infrastructure in ways that delivers strong public value. Existing infrastructure will be managed, renewed, and maintained to ensure that it continues to serve identified public needs.
  
- 2 *Enhancing Community Life*  
We will work with the communities of Ararat Rural City to maintain social cohesion, support community activity and cultural life, and enhance safety.

Delivery of this project is a key measure of success of the Ararat Rural City Council, Council Plan 2021-2025 under the category of Developing and Maintaining Enabling Infrastructure *"Aradale planning project funded and completed by 30 June 2023."*

### *Budget Implications*

Council has allocated \$625,000 in its budget. The amount comprises \$500,000 from the Regional Development Victoria Investment Fast Track Fund and Council's contribution of \$125,000. The awarded tender and associated project costs are to be achieved within this budget.

### *Policy/Relevant Law*

- Ararat Rural City Council Procurement Policy
- Local Government Act 2020
- Planning regulations

### *Sustainability Implications*

This project will undertake economic, social, heritage, cultural and financial assessments for works recommended at the Aradale Site.

### *Risk Assessment*

Low Risk – Risks will be managed through project planning and management procedures and contract administration.

### *Innovation and Continuous Improvement*

New or alternative processes will be considered in line with the strategic direction provided within the final report.

### *Stakeholder Collaboration and Community Engagement*

Extensive Stakeholder engagement will occur as a part of the development of the Aradale Solution - Economic and Social Development Strategy. Project meetings and the provision of a stakeholder engagement plan will be delivered by the consultants as a part of the project.

## RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1 The Aradale Solution – Economic & Social Development Strategy report be received; and
- 2 The Chief Executive Officer develops an advocacy plan and works with the relevant funding bodies to determine the best use of the Aradale site.

**ATTACHMENTS**

The Aradale Solution- Economic & Social Development masterplan is provided as Attachment **4.3**



## SECTION 5– INFORMAL MEETINGS

### 5.1 INFORMAL MEETINGS

**AUTHOR'S TITLE:** CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
**DEPARTMENT:** CEO'S OFFICE  
**REFERENCE:** 13039074

#### OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a conflict of interest requiring disclosure.

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Governance Rules state that if there is a meeting of Councillors that:

- 1 is scheduled or planned for the purpose of discussing the business of *Council* or briefing Councillors;
- 2 is attended by at least one member of Council staff; and
- 3 is not a *Council meeting*, *Delegated Committee* meeting or *Community Asset Committee* meeting, the *Chief Executive Officer* must ensure that a summary of the matters discussed at the meeting

are:

- a) tabled at the next convenient *Council meeting*; and
- b) recorded in the minutes of that *Council meeting*.

#### DISCUSSION

As a requirement of the Governance Rules, a summary of matters discussed at the Council Briefings held since the last Council Meeting are presented to Council and will be recorded in the minutes.

INFORMAL MEETINGS
Council Briefing held on 22 November 2022

#### Issues discussed at the briefing:

- MAV regional groupings
- VCAT appeal
- Council papers distribution
- Ongoing flood update
- Lake Bolac Community Information Centre
- Heavy Plant review and 3-year and 10-year replacement plans
- Significant economic development opportunities
- Helendoite Road bridge replacement
- Contracts/leases for Council Meeting
- Staffing update

#### KEY CONSIDERATIONS

##### *Alignment to Council Plan Strategic Objectives*

The report supports the strategic objective of the Council Plan 2021-2025:

- 6.3** Continuously improve Council's community engagement process and practices in line with deliberative engagement practices, while acknowledging the need for a range of different techniques to ensure effective engagement.

***Financial***

There are no financial impacts for the receiving of Informal Meetings of Councillors.

***Policy/Relevant Law***

Reporting of Informal Meetings is in line with the requirements of the Governance Rules.

***Risk Assessment***

Following the requirements of the Governance Rules will ensure that Council meets its legislative requirements.

***Stakeholder Collaboration and Community Engagement***

A summary of matters discussed at the Council Briefings are presented for community information.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Informal Meetings of Councillors Report be received.**

**ATTACHMENTS**

The Summary of Council Briefings are provided as Attachment 5.1.

## SECTION 6 – NOTICES OF MOTION

*A notice of motion* must be in writing signed by a Councillor and be lodged with or sent to the *Chief Executive Officer* no later than 12.00pm (noon) and at least six (6) days prior to the Council Meeting to allow sufficient time for the *Chief Executive Officer* to include the *notice of motion* in agenda papers for a *Council meeting*.

## SECTION 7– URGENT BUSINESS

Items cannot be admitted as urgent business other than by resolution of *Council* and only then if it:

- 1 relates to or arises out of a matter which has arisen since distribution of the *agenda*; and
- 2 cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next *Council meeting*.

## SECTION 8 – CLOSE SESSION (CONFIDENTIAL)

In accordance with section 66(2)(a), 3(1) *Confidential Information* (a) of the Local Government Act 2020, the following agenda items are listed for consideration in the confidential section:

- Item 8.1- Contract No. 701 - Panel Supply Contract- Professional Planning Manager
- Item 8.2- Contract No. 664 - Panel Supply Contract- Professional Engineering Consultancy and Reporting
- Item 8.3- Contract No. 694- Panel Supply Contract- Provision of Roadside Slashing & Spraying
- Item 8.4- Contract No 700- Roadside Weed and Pest Program
- Item 8.5- Contract No. F07/2022- Supply and Delivery of one new Waste Truck by 60 Month Lease

## CLOSURE OF COUNCIL MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

The Open Council Meeting will now be closed, but members of the public are welcome to rejoin the Council Meeting following the recommencement of the meeting.

### RECOMMENDATION

That the meeting be closed to members of the public pursuant to section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 to consider confidential reports.

## OPEN COUNCIL MEETING RECOMMENCEMENT

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Open Council Meeting recommence.

Gallery invited to return to Council Chamber.

## LIFTING OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTIONS

### RECOMMENDATION

That the:

- 1 Confidentiality of the report and decision in relation to 8.1, 8.2, 8.3 and 8.4 be lifted on adoption of the motion; and
- 2 Confidentiality of the report and decision in relation to 8.5 not be lifted on adoption of the motion.

