



Merri-bek
City Council

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday 11 February 2026

Commencing 6.30 PM

Bunjil (Council Chamber), Merri-bek Civic Centre,
90 Bell Street, Coburg

Language Link

This is the Agenda for the Council meeting.
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Acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of the City of Merri-bek

Merri-bek City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways in the area now known as Merri-bek, and pays respect to their elders past, present, and emerging, as well as to all First Nations communities who significantly contribute to the life of the area.

Information about Council Meetings

These notes have been developed to help people better understand Council meetings. All meetings are conducted in accordance with Council's Governance Rules.

WELCOME The Mayor, who chairs the meeting, formally opens the meeting.

APOLOGIES Where a Councillor is not present, their absence is noted in the minutes of the meeting. Council may also approve leaves of absence in this part of the meeting.

DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS INTERESTS A Councillor has a duty to disclose any direct or indirect financial or other interests, they may have in any matter to be considered by Council that evening.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES The minutes of the previous meeting are put before Council to confirm the accuracy and completeness of the record.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND OTHER MATTERS At each Council Meeting provision of 10 minutes will be made in the Agenda for the Mayor and Councillors to acknowledge and recognise achievements of local individuals and organisations; and raise matters considered important to Council.

PETITIONS Council receives petitions from citizens on various issues. Council formally accepts petitions at Council meetings.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME This is an opportunity (30 minutes), for citizens of Merri-bek to raise questions with Councillors.

COUNCIL REPORTS Council officers prepare detailed reports, which are considered by Councillors and a Council position is adopted on the matters considered. The Mayor can invite firstly Councillors, secondly Officers, and then citizens in attendance to identify Council reports which should be given priority by the meeting and considered in the early part of the meeting.

NOTICES OF MOTION A motion which has been submitted to the Chief Executive Officer no later than 12 pm (noon) 10 business days prior to the meeting which is intended to be included in the agenda. The motion should outline the policy, financial and resourcing implications.

NOTICE OF RESCISSION A Councillor may propose a motion to rescind a resolution of the Council, provided the previous resolution has not been acted on, and a notice is delivered to the CEO or delegate setting out the resolution to be rescinded and the meeting and date when the resolution was carried. If a motion for rescission is lost, a similar motion may not be put before the Council for at least one month from the date it was last lost, unless the Council resolves that the notice of motion be re-listed at a future meeting.

FORESHADOWED ITEMS This is an opportunity for Councillors to raise items proposed to be submitted as Notices of Motion at future meetings.

URGENT BUSINESS The Chief Executive Officer or Councillors, with the approval of the meeting, may submit items of Urgent Business (being a matter not listed on the agenda) but requiring a prompt decision by Council.

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS Whilst all Council meetings of Council are open to the public, Council has the power under the *Local Government Act 2020* to close its meeting to the public in certain circumstances which are noted where appropriate on the Council Agenda. Where this occurs, members of the public leave the Council Chamber or Meeting room while the matter is being discussed.

CLOSE OF MEETING The Mayor will formally close the meeting and thank all present.

NEXT MEETING DATE The next Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 March 2026 commencing at 6.30 pm, in the Bunjil (Council Chamber), Merri-bek Civic Centre, 90 Bell Street, Coburg. The next Planning and Related Matters meeting will be held on Wednesday 25 February 2026 commencing at 6.30 pm.

WELCOME

1. APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

2. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

3. MINUTE CONFIRMATION

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 December 2025 and the Special Meeting held 17 December 2025 be confirmed.

4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND OTHER MATTERS

5. PETITIONS

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

7. COUNCIL REPORTS

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9. NOTICE OF RESCISSION

Nil

10. FORESHADOWED ITEMS

11. URGENT BUSINESS

12. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

12.1 CONTRACT AWARD: EOI-2025-2 - DESIGN CONSULTANT SERVICES

Pursuant to section 3(1)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 this report has been designated as confidential because it relates to Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

12.2 CONTRACT AWARD: RFT-2025-25 - SYSTEM IMPLEMENTER

Pursuant to section 3(1)(g)(ii) of the Local Government Act 2020 this report has been designated as confidential because it relates to private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

12.3 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

Pursuant to section 3(1)(f) of the Local Government Act 2020 this report has been designated as confidential because it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.

7. COUNCIL REPORTS

7.1 PRIDE CIVIC ARTWORK

Director Place and Environment, Pene Winslade

City Design and Economy

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the outcomes of community and stakeholder engagement regarding the painting of intersex inclusive pride flag.
2. Endorses the painting of an intersex inclusive pride flag on the footpath adjacent to Michelle Guglielmo Park at 260 Sydney Road Brunswick.
3. Refers to the next Quarterly Budget Review the installation cost of up to \$20,000 for the installation of the intersex inclusive pride flag as per point 2 above.
4. Endorses further exploration of Glenroy Community Hub as the potential location for a second future pride artwork, for potential incorporation in Council's public art program.

REPORT

Executive summary

In April 2025, Council resolved to consult the community on their preferences for the painting of Intersex inclusive progress pride flags at potential locations in both the north and south of the municipality.

Formal community engagement ran in June and July 2025. This included a survey asking respondents for their preferences for two locations. Targeted stakeholder engagement was undertaken with community service providers and user groups in and around the proposed locations.

From the survey responses and stakeholder feedback, a location in the Brunswick Town Hall precinct is recommended. Balancing site requirements with technical constraints and sensitivity to the heritage precinct, the ideal site is recommended on the footpath adjacent to Michelle Guglielmo park. In the north, the Glenroy Community Hub precinct is recommended as the preferred location for a potential future pride artwork installation. This would be determined over time working collaboratively with local communities towards a place-based outcome.

Previous Council decisions

Rainbow Crossings – Sites for Consultation – 9 April 2025

That Council:

1. *Endorses the eight identified locations listed below for community engagement to help select two sites and designs for the installation of pride flags on Council roads or footpaths:*
 - *Piera Street, Brunswick East*
 - *Howarth Street, Brunswick (adjacent to Yubup Park)*
 - *West Street, Brunswick (adjacent to Bulleke-bek Park)*
 - *Brunswick Town Hall*
 - *Waterloo Road and Snell Grove intersection, Oak Park*
 - *Glenroy Community Hub (in forecourt)*

- *Victoria Street, Coburg (outside Coburg Library)*
 - *CB Smith Reserve (outside Fawkner Leisure Centre)*
2. *Notes that any site that is trafficable will be subject to a road safety audit and recommendations from an audit could add to the cost, between \$3,500 and \$20,000 per site. This applies to Piera Street, Howarth Street and Waterloo Road / Snell Grove.*
 3. *Includes in the community engagement the following:*
 - *information about the relative environmental impacts of the materials considered in the report for the application of the rainbow crossings*
 - *information about sites where additional costs may arise resulting from road safety audits and the range of possible costs*
 - *specific consideration of the needs of vision-impaired people in the design of the rainbow crossings.*
 4. *Acknowledges that of the two sites to be selected, one is to be in the municipal area north of Bell Street and one in the municipal area south of Bell Street.*
 5. *Refers the installation of two rainbow crossings (progressive pride flags) on Council roads or footpaths at a total cost of \$45,000 to the 2025/2026 Council budget process for consideration, noting that if the selected site/s require additional investment resulting from a road safety audit, that these additional costs will be referred to the final budget before adoption or a quarterly budget update. Insert resolution here (italics)*

One community, proudly diverse: Rainbow crossings for Merri-bek – 12 February 2025

That Council seeks a report by April 2025 that:

1. *Identifies suitable locations on Council roads or footpaths with high levels of pedestrian activity within Merri-bek to paint a progressive pride flag as a symbol of inclusivity and welcome for LGBTIQ+ people with the aim of installing this design on two roads or footpaths - one in the north of the municipality and one in the south.*
2. *Provides an estimated cost for these installations to consider in upcoming budgets.*
3. *Recommends an approach to community engagement to select the sites and final designs.*

1. Policy context

Council Plan 2025 – 2029

The proposed installation of pride murals aligns with the 'Healthy and Inclusive Merri-bek' strategic objective and Council's Community Vision that 'Merri-bek leads, and leaves no-one behind'.

LGBTIQ+ Action Plan 2023 – 2026

Council's LGBTIQ+ Action Plan includes actions to deliver projects that increase signs of support towards LGBTIQ+ communities in Council buildings and infrastructure across Merri-bek.

2. Background

Merri-bek has a large and diverse LGBTIQ+ population across all parts of the municipality. LGBTIQ+ people have played a key role in the historical, social, creative and economic vibrancy of the city.

Pride flag installations or "crossings" are a creative way of celebrating LGBTIQ+ communities. Pride flags have been painted around the world in locations that hold social or historical connection to LGBTIQ+ communities. Examples include Peel Street in Collingwood, Jackson Street in St Kilda, and Taylor Square in Darlinghurst.

Pride flags have also been painted as a call to action and celebration of inclusion in other locations – recent examples include the Footscray Library and Altona Theatre.

Merri-bek Council has also commissioned a public mural to celebrate LGBTIQ+ history through its Renuwall program at 105 Sydney Road (Wilson Avenue). *Rainbow Warriors* by artist David Lee Pereira features images from the Australian Queer Archives.

The proposed Michelle Guglielmo Park pride flag installation would celebrate both the social and historical connections to the LGBTIQ+ communities in Brunswick. A future potential installation (eg, footpath or public art) would be considered in consultation with emerging LGBTIQ+ communities in Glenroy.

3. Issues

The installation of the pride flag will have a positive community impact and demonstrate Council's continued support for LGBTIQ+ communities across the municipality.

Human rights consideration

The implications of this report have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities. The proposal supports Section 8 of the Human Rights Charter which relate to recognition and equality before the law.

4. Community consultation and engagement

Formal community engagement was open between 4 June and 2 July 2025. A Conversations Merri-bek website outlined the initiative and an online survey asked respondents about their location preferences to the north and south of Bell Street. Survey respondents were asked to indicate a preference for both north and south locations, and could provide comments.

Further targeted stakeholder engagement occurred with community service providers, user groups, young people, local school leaders and health providers around the proposed locations. These conversations provided further information about existing and future needs to support LGBTIQ+ people and the pride flag installation.

A total of 180 people completed the survey. 167 respondents live in Merri-bek, and 33 work or study in Merri-bek (28 of these respondents also live in Merri-bek).

Brunswick Town Hall was by far the most popular location, with 90 respondents selecting it, with strong support also for Victoria Street.

In the north, CB Smith Reserve in Fawkner, the Glenroy Community Hub and Waterloo Road / Snell Grove were popular with respondents.

The southern site (Brunswick Town Hall precinct)

Community feedback celebrated the central, visible and high traffic location on Sydney Road, and the strong social and historical connections Brunswick has with LGBTIQ+ communities. Careful consideration was given to the heritage precinct, as well as the scale and design of the pride installation proposed.

It is recommended that the pride flag installation be painted on the footpath adjacent to Michelle Guglielmo Park (260 Sydney Road) – directly opposite Brunswick Town Hall.

The footpath adjacent to Michelle Guglielmo Park on Sydney Road has increased visibility with a large amount of foot traffic, while also meeting the technical requirements of the project. This location will be relatively straightforward to install, requiring footpath but not road closures. Litter bins can be relocated.

Michelle Guglielmo Park is used for a variety of events and community gatherings from diverse groups. The recommended location offers a possible meeting spot or place of connection before using the park or visiting the local retail strip.

The northern site (Glenroy Hub)

Several northern locations received positive feedback, including CB Smith Reserve in Fawkner, the Glenroy Hub and Waterloo Road / Snell Grove. Working through a range of feedback the Glenroy Hub is recommended.

Council heard from a diverse group of LGBTIQ+ community members living in the Glenroy area or using the Glenroy Hub. The location is seen as a safe space that celebrates our LGBTIQ+ communities through social events, library collections and displays.

There was general support from stakeholders at the Glenroy Hub site for the flag. Any design would need to respond to the local community and diverse users in a sensitive manner. It is proposed that a potential Glenroy installation celebrating the local LGBTIQ+ community continues to be explored with stakeholders on the design, scale, location and timing. This would be delivered through Council's annual public art program.

Affected persons rights and interests

Before making a decision that affects a person's rights, Council must identify whose rights may be directly affected and provide an opportunity for that person (or persons) to convey those views regarding the effect on their rights and consider those views.

5. Officer declaration of Conflict of Interest

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

6. Financial and resources implications

Should Council proceed with the Brunswick site at Michelle Guglielmo, it is estimated to cost up to \$20,000, subject to final design and construction requirements.

This will be referred to the next Quarterly Budget Review.

Proactive maintenance of the flag will be incorporated into Council's regular maintenance service program.

7. Implementation

Following a decision from Council, officers will prepare tender documents for a contractor to finalise designs and construct the mural, aiming for late summer 2026.

Attachment/s

There are no attachments for this report.

7.2 MOVING AROUND MERRI-BEK ACTION PLAN 2025-2029: ADOPTION OF FINAL PLAN

Director Place and Environment, Pene Winslade

City Design and Economy

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Adopts the Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029 (Attachment 1) as Council's four-year implementation program for transport.
2. Notes the outcomes of community engagement undertaken during October, November and December 2025, as detailed in the Community Engagement Report (Attachment 2).
3. Notes that implementation of the Action Plan will be staged across the 2025-2029 period and delivered through Council's annual Capital Works Program, operational budgets, and advocacy to other levels of government.
4. Notes that progress on the Action Plan will be reported to Council on an annual basis.

REPORT

Executive summary

This report seeks Council's adoption of the Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029, following completion of community engagement on the draft Action Plan.

The Action Plan is the four-year implementation program for Council's Moving Around Merri-bek Transport Strategy (2024). It sets out the actions Council will take to improve our community's ability to move around and experience life in Merri-bek, aligned with the Strategy's six values: Safe, Accessible, Sustainable, Healthy, Liveable and Inclusive.

Actions are grouped into three categories: infrastructure, plans and programs, and policy and advocacy, with flagship and supporting actions. Core programs are intended to be delivered continuously over the life of the plan.

There was strong overall support for Council's proposed direction, particularly for safer streets, improved access to schools and local destinations, and continued investment in walking, cycling and place-based street improvements. Feedback has informed refinements to the final Action Plan.

There are no new budget implications arising from adoption of the Action Plan. All actions will be delivered through existing Capital Works Program allocations, operational budgets, and external funding opportunities, with priorities considered through annual budget processes.

Adoption of the Action Plan provides Council with a clear, transparent and flexible framework to guide transport investment and advocacy through to 2029.

Previous Council decisions

Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan: Draft for Consultation – 8 October 2025

That Council:

1. *Adopts the draft Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025–2029 at Attachment 1 for community consultation, to be undertaken from Friday 24 October to Sunday 23 November 2025.*

2. *Notes that community engagement will include the publication of the draft Action Plan on Council's Conversations Merri-bek website, as well as in-person engagement via pop-up sessions hosted across Merri-bek.*
3. *Inserts a new section into the Action Plan, at the bottom of page 3 of the Action Plan (page 379 of the Council Agenda), as follows:*

Access for elderly and vulnerable residents

An important consideration of the Action Plan will be ensuring sufficient parking to meet the needs of the vulnerable, the elderly, local business and the broader community.

On page 11 of the Action Plan (page 387 of the Council Agenda), in item 2.4 (relating to kerbside space), insert the words "and parking" to the Action description, as follows:

- *"Review how council manages kerbside space and parking, and develop..."*

4. *Receives a further report in early 2026 detailing the outcomes of consultation and seeking adoption of the final Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029.*

Moving Around Merri-bek – Final Transport Strategy for Adoption – 13 March 2024

That Council:

1. *Endorses as final the Transport Strategy Moving Around Merri-bek (Attachment 1) and associated Action Plan (Attachment 2) with the following changes:*
 - a) *Attachment 1 on page 5 delete the following sentence "We will continue to make sure those who need to drive are able to reach their destinations" and replace it with "We will make sure that trips not suited to walking, riding or public transport can still be made."*
 - b) *Attachment 1 on page 39, amend "It is a key local door to door transport service that support people who are unable to drive or use public transport." To read "It is a key local door to door transport service that support people who are unable to travel to local destinations independently."*
 - c) *Attachment 1 on page 40 truncate the sentence "We need to make sure our driving network is safe for all road users and ensure that those who need to use a car, for personal use or freight delivery, are able to." So that it reads "We need to make sure our driving network is safe and accessible for all road users."*
 - d) *Attachment 1 on page 42, delete the dot point "People who need to use their car are supported" and replace with "The transport needs of businesses for freight consignment and deliveries are met" and add a new point "The access needs of people who experience transport disadvantage are met."*
 - e) *Attachment 1 on page 39, add to "Improve bus services in Fawkner" the extra words "and the Newlands area of Coburg North"*
2. *Refers to the 2024/25 Budget Process funding requests for the following two Action Plan items:*
 - a) *\$50,000 for expert advice to prepare a business case for pedestrian operated signals;*
 - b) *\$130,000 for development of a Streets for People plan.*

...

1. Policy context

Council Plan 2025-2029

The Council Plan 2025–2029 sets out Council’s strategic direction for delivering on the Community Vision: “*Merri-bek leads, and leaves no one behind*”. Transport is addressed under the Beautiful and Liveable City theme, which aims to ensure streets and public spaces are safe, pleasant, and easy to use so everyone can enjoy and be proud of where they live.

Key actions that align with this report include:

- Keeping public places and streets well-maintained, safe, and inviting for community use.
- Fixing and improving streets and footpaths to make them more friendly for walking and riding.
- Encouraging walking, cycling, and scooting – especially for getting to school.
- Making it easier and safer to use public transport to move around.

The Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan is a key mechanism to deliver on these outcomes and ensure that transport investments reflect the priorities of the Merri-bek community.

Moving Around Merri-bek Transport Strategy

Moving Around Merri-bek is Council’s long-term Transport Strategy, adopted in 2024. It sets the vision for a safe, accessible, sustainable, healthy, liveable, and inclusive transport system across the city.

The Strategy responds to local and global challenges including climate change, cost of living, public health, and population growth. It emphasises the need to shift away from car dependency and create a more balanced, people-focused transport system that works for everyone.

The Strategy introduces new tools and frameworks to guide Council’s work, including the Streets for People approach and the use of Movement and Place and Healthy Streets assessments to guide future investment.

The 2025-2029 Action Plan sits alongside the Strategy and outlines the specific infrastructure programs, projects, and advocacy efforts that Council will deliver to achieve its vision for transport.

Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2024-2025

The Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2024-2025 was the first implementation plan developed under Council’s refreshed Transport Strategy. It provided a 12-month roadmap for delivering early actions aligned to the Strategy’s six values: Safe, Accessible, Sustainable, Healthy, Liveable, and Inclusive.

The 2024-2025 Action Plan focused on foundational projects and initiatives, including:

- Embedding the Streets for People approach into transport project planning and delivery.
- Progressing advocacy work on road safety issues and public transport improvements.
- Strengthening walking and cycling infrastructure delivery.
- Introducing Healthy Streets assessments to inform streetscape upgrades.
- Supporting behaviour change through Ride & Stride, Biketober, and community education initiatives.

The 2025-2029 Action Plan builds on this foundation, taking a more strategic and long-term approach.

Zero Carbon Merri-bek

Council's Zero Carbon Merri-bek 2040 Framework outlines the community vision and strategic directions for the transition to zero carbon in Merri-bek by 2040. In 2019-20, transport was recorded to contribute 17 per cent of all carbon emissions in the Merri-bek local government area and the majority of this (13 per cent of total emissions) were from private motor vehicles. The 2040 vision for Sustainable Transport aims that:

- Most people choose to walk or cycle to get around locally because its healthy, free, safe and convenient.
- Merri-bek is known for its pedestrian and cycle-friendly streetscapes.

This overarching Framework informed 5-yearly action plans to drive the transition to zero emissions including:

- Investing in infrastructure to support active travel and public transport.
- Reallocate space used for private vehicle travel and parking to support sustainable transport use and other purposes.

In addition, Council resolved in December 2021 to adopt an interim target towards the Zero Carbon by 2040 goal of a reduction of emissions by 75 per cent by 2030.

Community Engagement Policy

The engagement approach for the Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan was undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy, which outlines Council's commitment to genuinely involving the community in decision-making on matters that impact or interest them. Consistent with the Policy, engagement was planned, proportionate to the scope and impact of the Action Plan, and designed to provide the community with clear information about the purpose of engagement, what could and could not be influenced, and how feedback would be used.

Community engagement on the Action Plan combined accessible online and in-person methods, had regard to inclusivity and potential barriers to participation, and ensured feedback was documented, analysed, and reported back to the community and Council. The outcomes of this engagement, and how community input informed the final Action Plan, are detailed in the Community Engagement Report (**Attachment 2**).

2. Background

The Moving Around Merri-bek Transport Strategy was adopted in March 2024 and establishes a long-term vision for a people-focused, safe and sustainable transport system.

The 2025-2029 Action Plan is Council's first full-term implementation plan under the Strategy. It builds on the initial 2024-2025 Action Plan and shifts the focus from piloting new approaches to scaling up delivery and embedding best practice.

The 2025-2029 Action Plan adopts a new structure compared to the initial 2024-25 plan. Actions are now organised into three focus areas – Infrastructure, Plans & Programs, and Policy & Advocacy – with flagship and supporting actions within each. This structure provides greater clarity for the community about Council's strategic priorities while maintaining flexibility to respond to emerging opportunities and funding availability over the four-year period.

The first year of implementation (2024-25) delivered significant achievements including completion of projects on Albert and Victoria Streets (Brunswick) and Carlisle Street (Coburg), rollout of 40 km/h speed limits across all local roads, launch of the Merri-bek E-Bike Library, and expanded Ride & Stride and Wheel Sisters programs.

The Action Plan is deliberately strategic and outcome focused. It provides direction for prioritisation, coordination and advocacy over the four-year period, while allowing flexibility to respond to emerging needs, funding opportunities and partnerships.

Following endorsement of the draft Action Plan for community engagement by Council in October 2025, community engagement was undertaken between 24 October and 1 December 2025. Feedback from this engagement has informed refinements to the final Action Plan presented in **Attachment 1**. A full report documenting what we heard from the community during the engagement process is included in **Attachment 2**.

3. Issues

Community impact

The Action Plan responds to priorities consistently raised by the community through transport strategy engagement and ongoing feedback. Community engagement on the draft Action Plan (24 October – 1 December 2025) demonstrated strong support for the proposed direction:

- 52% of survey respondents rated the overall plan as 'good' or 'very good'
- Six key themes of feedback emerged:
 1. Road safety and speed management,
 2. Support for walking and cycling infrastructure via localised approaches,
 3. Equitable approaches to behaviour change across all suburbs,
 4. Focus on access to schools and children's safety,
 5. Advocacy for public transport improvements,
 6. and a desire for clearer prioritisation, more equitable and measurable outcomes, and transparent reporting on progress.

The Action Plan addresses these priorities through safer streets and crossings, improved access to schools and local destinations, better walking and cycling infrastructure, and strengthened advocacy to State Government for public transport and road safety improvements on state-managed roads.

Feedback informed refinements to the final Action Plan, including clearer local examples, stronger emphasis on road safety and equity considerations, and enhanced monitoring and accountability frameworks.

By focusing on strategic actions rather than exhaustive project lists, the Action Plan supports coordinated delivery while remaining responsive to community needs.

State government planning reforms

The State government has been announcing and delivering a substantial program of reform to planning settings over the last twelve months. A number of new State reforms were announced and unfolding in parallel with the Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan engagement. The implications of these reforms, including any implications for Moving Around Merri-bek, are still being worked through.

Climate emergency and environmental sustainability implications

Council declared a climate emergency in 2018 and is committed to urgent action. Transport is a significant contributor to local greenhouse gas emissions.

The Action Plan supports Council's climate commitments through actions that encourage mode shift, reduce vehicle speeds, support active and sustainable travel, and advocate for improved public transport and climate-aligned investment by other levels of government.

Economic sustainability implications

The Action Plan promotes more efficient and affordable transport options that can reduce household transport costs, improve access to local businesses, and support activity centre vitality and local employment.

Legal and risk considerations

There are no direct legal risks associated with adoption of the Action Plan. Legal, regulatory and safety considerations for individual projects will be addressed through established project governance and delivery processes.

Human Rights consideration

The implications of this report have been assessed in accordance with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006. The Action Plan directly supports Section 12 (Freedom of movement) by removing barriers to safe, accessible and equitable mobility for all people across Merri-bek, improving infrastructure that enables independent travel regardless of age, ability or income, and advocating for expanded public transport access.

Community consultation confirmed the importance of safer streets, equitable investment across all suburbs, and removing barriers that prevent children, elderly residents and people with disability from travelling independently.

Under the Gender Equality Act 2020, Council has a duty to promote gender equality in policies, programs and services with direct and significant impact on the community. A gender and equity lens will be applied to relevant actions in this Plan during implementation, ensuring that projects and programs meet the needs of people of different genders, address gender inequality, and promote gender equality. This will be embedded in project design and delivery, particularly for Streets for People projects, school precinct improvements, and behaviour change programs.

4. Community consultation and engagement

Community and stakeholder engagement on the draft Action Plan was undertaken between 24 October and 1 December 2025.

Engagement included:

- A dedicated Conversations Merri-bek webpage with the draft Action Plan and online survey
- In-person pop-up sessions across Merri-bek
- Targeted outreach to stakeholder and community groups
- Promotion through Council communication channels

Participation included:

- 62 people completed the online survey on Conversations Merri-bek.
- Three pop-up sessions were delivered (Glenroy Library, Fawkner Leisure Centre, Fleming Park), engaging approximately 80 people.
- Four written submissions were received from community groups and individuals.

Engagement outcomes and how feedback informed the final Action Plan are detailed in the Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan – Community Engagement Report (**Attachment 2**).

Affected persons rights and interests

The Action Plan affects people who live, travel through, work, spend time, or operate businesses in Merri-bek. Engagement provided opportunities for affected persons to express their views, which were considered in finalising the Action Plan.

Communications

Following adoption, the Action Plan and engagement outcomes will be communicated through Council channels. Key messages include:

- The Action Plan sets Council's transport priorities through to 2029
- It responds to community-identified needs
- Progress will be reported annually to Council and the community

5. Officer declaration of Conflict of Interest

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

6. Financial and resources implications

No new funding is sought through adoption of this Action Plan. Several actions are identified in the Action Plan as 'Core Programs – Continuous', signalling areas where sustained annual investment is expected to be considered through future budget processes rather than as one-off project funding.

Actions will be delivered through:

- Council's annual Capital Works Program (with actions categorised as High, Medium, or Low capital cost in the Action Plan).
- Existing operational budgets across relevant Council units.
- External funding opportunities (State and Federal grants).
- Advocacy to the State Government for infrastructure and service delivery.

Individual actions will be considered through established budget planning processes, with priorities assessed against available funding, community needs, and strategic alignment. High-priority actions such as Streets for People corridor delivery and school precinct improvements are flagged as 'Core Programs – Continuous' in the Action Plan and will require sustained annual investment.

7. Implementation

Subject to Council's decision, Council officers will:

- Publish the adopted Action Plan and Community Engagement Report.
- Integrate actions into relevant capital works, operational planning and advocacy programs.
- Deliver actions in line with available funding and priorities.
- Report annually to Council on progress and outcome.

Attachment/s

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------|
| 1 | Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-29 | D26/28451 |
| 2 | Engagement Report Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-29 | D26/28440 |



Merri-bek
City Council

Moving Around Merri-bek

Action Plan 2025-2029



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Introduction

Purpose of this document

The Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029 is an accompanying document to the Moving Around Merri-bek Transport Strategy, adopted by Council in 2024. It is a successor document to the initial 2024-2025 Action Plan.

The Moving Around Merri-bek Transport Strategy sets a long-term vision for a safer, more sustainable and accessible transport system across all parts of the network – including walking, cycling, public transport and driving. It outlines a clear direction to improve the experience of moving around our city, and apply a Streets for People approach to enhance the amenity of our streets. This Action Plan translates that strategic direction into a practical, time-bound program of work.

The Action Plan sets out how Merri-bek will deliver on the Transport Strategy's vision over the next four years. It moves us from piloting new approaches to scaling up delivery – embedding fairness, sustainability, and sense of place in how we move around and experience life in our city.

The actions in this plan are grouped into three focus areas:

- **Infrastructure** – designing and delivering transformative streetscape projects
- **Plans & Programs** – building evidence, shaping behaviours, and planning for long-term change
- **Policy & Advocacy** – setting the standards locally and pressing for change from the State and Federal Governments

Each of these three focus areas include actions that deliver on the six values which guide Council's approach to mobility: Safe, Accessible, Sustainable, Healthy, Liveable, and Inclusive.

How this document works

This document follows a similar structure as the Moving Around Merri-bek Transport Strategy. This allows the reader to compare between each of the sections in the Strategy and this Action Plan, clearly showing how we are working to achieve the community's transport vision.

The Action Plan begins with a summary of what we heard from the community during consultation on the draft plan, and how this feedback changed the final version you're reading here. It then talks about how this plan fits into Council's broader Community Vision, outlines what was achieved in the first year of implementing the Moving Around Merri-bek Transport Strategy (2024-2025), and then sets out the forward program for 2025-2029. Each action area is introduced with context and rationale, followed by tables detailing the specific actions, the values they deliver, the parts of the transport network they affect, and when and how they will be delivered.

The Action Plan concludes with an overview of how progress will be evaluated and reported, and how the Streets for People approach – introduced in the Transport Strategy – will continue to guide the design and delivery of infrastructure projects across Merri-bek.

The Action Plan on a page

Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029



Infrastructure 	Plans & Programs 	Policy & Advocacy 
<p>Actions that make physical changes to our streets and surrounding spaces to create places that are safe, green, accessible and enjoyable to use</p> <p>Flagship Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and deliver Streets for People high priority corridors Deliver infrastructure that supports safer school zones, in collaboration with Ride & Stride schools Install road safety improvements and safer speed limits <p>Supporting Actions e.g. upgrade walking facilities with improvements such as public seating, pram ramps, and crossings</p>	<p>Actions that work towards long-term change via planning, partnership and behaviour change</p> <p>Flagship Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Road Safety Plan that outlines Council's priorities for improving road safety Run innovative community programs that encourage active and sustainable travel Expand and strengthen Council's Ride & Stride program, with a focus on increasing the number of participating schools <p>Supporting Actions e.g. review and update our approach to managing kerbside space and parking as demand changes in and around activity centres</p>	<p>Actions to create stronger local policies and advocate to external organisations for changes that Merri-bek can't achieve alone</p> <p>Flagship Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Transport Advocacy Strategy that brings Council's existing transport advocacy priorities into a single document Work with the State Government to deliver place-based mobility and parking outcomes for activity centres in Brunswick, Coburg, and Glenroy Develop a community vision for revitalising Sydney Road and other key tram routes <p>Supporting Actions e.g. update Merri-bek's Public Lighting Policy for street lighting installation</p>
<p>Flagship Actions Strategic, high-level initiatives that set direction and drive major change</p>		<p>Supporting Actions Targeted initiatives that underpin and enable the flagship work</p>
<p>Our Values Actions in this plan are guided by the 6 values of Council's Moving Around Merri-bek transport strategy:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> Sustainable</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Liveable</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Inclusive</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Safe</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Accessible</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Healthy</div> </div>		

What we heard from the community

Between 23 October and 1 December 2025, we asked the community: Is the draft Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029 heading in the right direction? We invited people to review the draft Action Plan and share feedback on the proposed actions through an online survey and three in-person pop-up sessions.

What you told us

Across all feedback, six key themes emerged. These themes summarise what we heard most consistently, and they directly informed how we refined the final Action Plan. The themes are summarised below:

1. Road safety and speed management are front and centre

Safer speeds, traffic calming, and better crossings were raised more than any other issue. People want 30 km/h zones, raised crossings, and Council to push the State Government harder on safety improvements to major roads.

2. Strong support for walking and cycling – with a call for local detail

People back the focus on active transport but want to know what it means for their street, their school, their shops through clearer examples in the final plan.

3. Equitable, place-responsive mobility solutions matter – including for driving and parking

Fawkner is not Brunswick. One size doesn't fit all. People told us that their mobility needs – including driving and parking – vary significantly by location. Northern suburbs often have fewer alternatives and longer trips, while southern suburbs face different pressures as density increases. Respondents supported improving walking, cycling and public transport, but emphasised that decisions about driving and parking must respond to local conditions, growth patterns, and existing reliance, so that outcomes are equitable and practical in everyday life.

4. Schools and child-friendly mobility are a powerful call to action

Safe routes to school and Ride & Stride received overwhelmingly positive feedback. People see this as where change can be most visible and meaningful – but only if behaviour change programs are backed by safer infrastructure.

5. Advocacy for public transport improvements and other big-ticket items really matter

Upfield line duplication, better buses, accessible tram stops, safer state-managed roads – people want Council to be loud, specific, and persistent in pushing the State Government for improvements that genuinely give people alternatives to driving.

6. Show us the results – accountability matters

Don't just write another plan. Set clear targets, measure what matters, and report back annually on what's actually changed.

Overall message: Merri-bek is ready for change – as long as it is equitable, measurable, and visible in everyday life.

How this feedback shaped the final Action Plan

You spoke. We listened. Here's what we've changed in this final version of the Action Plan:

Making local implications clearer through examples

Many people told us they wanted a better sense of what the Action Plan means for their own neighbourhood. In response, the final Action Plan includes examples of how high-level actions guide on-the-ground projects through annual capital works, programs, and partnerships, while still allowing for flexibility to respond to local needs and funding opportunities.

Stronger focus on road safety and speed management

There was consistent and widespread support for safer speeds, traffic calming, and better pedestrian crossings. The final Action Plan places stronger emphasis on road safety and speed management, including clearer links to the development of Council's Road Safety Plan and the rollout of lower-speed environments and supporting infrastructure.

Addressing equity across all suburbs

Feedback highlighted the importance of ensuring transport improvements are equitable and reach all parts of Merri-bek, particularly areas with fewer alternatives to driving. The final Action Plan more clearly explains how equity considerations will guide monitoring and prioritisation, so investment benefits communities across the whole municipality.

Putting children and schools front and centre

Strong support was expressed for actions that help children travel safely and independently. The final Action Plan strengthens the role of school-focused initiatives, showing how programs like Ride & Stride, safer crossings and traffic management around schools work together.

Strengthening advocacy for public transport and other State-led projects

Many people urged Council to be louder and more specific in pushing for better public transport and safer state-managed roads. The final Action Plan strengthens how we describe advocacy priorities and the role of the forthcoming Transport Advocacy Strategy.

Improving monitoring and accountability

Many respondents were interested in how progress will be tracked. The final Action Plan includes a strengthened monitoring section, with clearer information about how actions will be measured and reported on over time.

Together, these changes helped ensure the final Action Plan reflects community priorities, is easier to relate to at a local level, and provides a clear framework for turning shared goals into action across Merri-bek.

Community Vision 2025-2035

This Action Plan is shaped by the community's aspirations for the future of Merri-bek. In 2025, the Council Plan 2025-2029 was adopted. It formalised a new 10-year Community Vision:

"Merri-bek leads, and leaves no one behind."

This vision guides how we plan, deliver, and advocate for improvements across our community – including improvements to how we move around and experience life in Merri-bek.

As part of defining this vision, community members laid out the following aspirations to describe the Merri-bek they want to see in 2035:

- We are a welcoming, safe and thriving community
- We are sustainable and our environment is respected
- Our community is engaged and informed
- Our streets are full of life
- One community, proudly diverse

Transport and the Council Plan

Transport plays a vital role in achieving the Community Vision. It sits within the 'Beautiful and Liveable City' theme of the Council Plan, which focuses on:

- Keeping public spaces safe, clean and inviting
- Fixing and improving streets and footpaths
- Encouraging walking, bike riding and scooting – especially for school trips
- Supporting safer and more accessible public transport use

This Action Plan helps deliver on that goal – making Merri-bek's streets safer, more inclusive, and easier to use, no matter how you get around.

Access for elderly and vulnerable residents

An important consideration of the Action Plan will be ensuring sufficient parking to meet the needs of the vulnerable, the elderly, local business and the broader community.



What we achieved in 2024-2025

The 2024-2025 financial year marked the first year of delivering the Moving Around Merri-bek Transport Strategy, adopted by Council in March 2024. Alongside adoption of the Streets for People Plan, Council delivered several major street transformation projects, behaviour change programs, and transport advocacy wins – laying solid foundations for the 2025-2029 Action Plan.

Highlights of achievements

Streets for People

- Finalised development of the Streets for People Plan, translating high-level transport strategy into practical street-level delivery frameworks and project prioritisation.
- Delivered shared zones on Albert and Victoria Streets, Brunswick East – creating safer, more accessible public spaces with widened footpaths, landscaping, seating, and places to spend time.



Public realm improvements

- Completed permanent streetscape upgrades on Carlisle Street, Coburg, including tree planting, traffic calming, shared zones, improved footpaths, and drainage. The corridor now supports vibrant walking and cycling connections and contributes to local greening.

Concept design and community consultation

- Co-designed concept plans for Harding-Munro Street, Coburg with the community, improving accessibility, safety, and greening for walking, cycling and public transport.
- Advanced design of bike lane extension and crossings on O’Hea Street, which will strengthen a key east-west active transport link in Coburg.



Roll out of safer speed zones

- Council completed the roll-out of 40 km/h safer speed limits on all local roads across Merri-bek, reducing crash risk and making streets safer for walking and cycling.
- Approval was secured for 30 km/h speed limit trials in parts of Brunswick and Coburg, to test even safer conditions in busy local centres and work to make them more vibrant places.

Sustainable transport

- The Merri-bek E-bike Library was launched in September 2024, providing access to four shared e-bikes (two standard and two cargo) hosted at two neighbourhood houses – Sussex and Fawkner.
- Over the first 18 months of operation (September 2024 to December 2025), more than 100 residents borrowed an e-bike, using the two-week loans to trial e-biking for commuting, shopping, and family trips. The program helps to reduce cost barriers of trying new ways to get around and encourages more people to travel sustainably.
- Continued roll-out of publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure, aligned with Council’s climate targets and zero-carbon ambitions.



Strengthening local community programs

- Scaled up the Ride & Stride program with local schools, delivering innovative behaviour-change activities to support walking and riding for children and their families.
- Expanded the Wheel Sisters program from Fawkner to Glenroy, enabling women – particularly from culturally diverse backgrounds – to gain cycling confidence, independence, and new social connections.



Advocacy and collaboration

- Council partnered with the Northern Councils Alliance to launch the Connect Melbourne’s North campaign – a united call for better transport investment across Melbourne’s north.
- The campaign highlights urgent needs such as more frequent and reliable public transport, safer walking and cycling links, and improved connections to jobs, education, and homes.

A new structure for 2025-2029

The 2024-2025 Action Plan grouped actions under twelve categories drawn from our values, network layers, and the Streets for People program. While comprehensive, this approach proved difficult to track and sometimes duplicated work across categories. It also listed more actions than could reasonably be delivered in a single year, which made it harder for the community to see where Council's biggest moves were being made.

For 2025-29, we are taking a future-focused, strategic approach. Actions are now grouped by what they deliver:

1. **Infrastructure**
2. **Plans & Programs**
3. **Policy & Advocacy**

Within each category, actions are organised as either

- **Flagship Actions** – strategic, high-level initiatives that set direction and drive major change
- **Supporting Actions** – targeted initiatives that underpin and enable the flagship work

This sharper structure is designed to make it easier for the average community member to understand where we are focusing effort, while leaving space for new opportunities over the next four years. It also makes accountability clearer, as progress can be reported meaningfully and publicly, beyond simply counting numbers of projects or kilometres of upgrades delivered.

Importantly, if a specific project or program isn't explicitly listed in an action, it does not mean Council isn't doing it. Many ongoing priorities – such as routine road safety upgrades, footpath improvements, and other smaller-scale works – continue to be delivered through Council's Capital Works Program, Customer Request System, and other business-as-usual programs, each with their own governance and reporting processes. This Action Plan is deliberately high-level and strategic: it sets our direction for the future while ensuring that our current commitments remain firmly on track.

Community engagement on the Action Plan also highlighted the importance of equitable, place-responsive investment – with solutions tailored to local contexts so improvements are effective and responsive to the diversity of places across Merri-bek. The higher-level, strategic nature of the Action Plan enables Council to apply changes more thoughtfully – using local context, trials and evaluations where appropriate, and ongoing engagement with affected communities as projects are scoped, designed, and delivered.

Overall, the new structure in this Action Plan provides:

- **Clarity** – the community can see and easily understand the big moves Council is making
- **Transparency** – reporting that focuses on meaningful outcomes, not just lists of projects
- **Flexibility** – space to add new priorities as they emerge across the plan's four-year horizon
- **Impact** – resources targeted to initiatives that truly change how people move around and experience life in Merri-bek

By reshaping how we define and group actions, this Action Plan sets Merri-bek up for the years ahead – delivering streets and surrounding spaces that are easier to move through, more inviting to spend time in, and central to the vibrancy and fairness of everyday life.

Actions for 2025-2029

Infrastructure

Delivering safer streets where they are needed most

We will transform our streets and surrounding spaces into places that are safer, greener, and more enjoyable. Infrastructure actions are about delivering physical improvements to the spaces our community sees and uses every day.

Community feedback showed strong support for Council investing in more people-focused streets – with safety consistently identified as the foundation for all other outcomes. Infrastructure actions in this Action Plan focus on delivering visible, practical changes to streets and public spaces, including safer speeds, safer crossings, traffic calming, and streetscape improvements that support walking, cycling and enhanced amenity to support everyday activities.

Rather than listing every individual project, the Action Plan sets out clear priorities and decision-making principles that guide how projects are identified and delivered through annual capital works programs, grant funding and partnerships. This approach helps make local implications clearer, while still allowing flexibility to respond to emerging safety risks, community feedback, and funding opportunities.

Infrastructure delivery will be prioritised based on:

- Road safety risk and crash history
- The presence of children and other vulnerable community groups, particularly around schools
- Equity considerations and place-responsive needs
- The role of streets as local places, including activity centres and neighbourhood hubs

This means that while treatments will differ from place to place, the intent is consistent: to make Merri-bek’s streets safer, more accessible, and more welcoming for everyone.

What this can look like at the local level: Streets for People

One of the flagship Infrastructure Actions is to design and deliver Streets for People high priority corridors. Our Streets for People plan includes guidelines on how potential design elements should change based on local context, specific needs of the area, and the people who use the street. This place-responsive approach will inform how we design and deliver high priority Streets for People corridors.

<p>Local Streets ●</p> <p>Low Movement and Low Place Function Changes would be to improve make these streets quiet and safer for residents and people walking and riding.</p> <p>City Places ●</p> <p>Low Movement and High Place Function. Improvements would improve amenity and make these places nicer to visit.</p>	<p>Activity Streets and Boulevards ●</p> <p>High Movement and High Place Function Improvements would balance the competing needs of these Streets.</p> <p>Connectors ●</p> <p>High Movement and Low Place Function. Improvements would seek to separate transport modes and improve safety.</p>	
 <p>Shared zones ● ●</p>	 <p>Slow points ● ●</p>	 <p>One-way filter ● ●</p>
 <p>Outdoor Dining ● ●</p>	 <p>Protected bike lanes ● ●</p>	 <p>Shared paths ● ●</p>

List of Infrastructure Actions for 2025-2029

	Action Number	Action Description	Values	Timeframe	Commencing Year	Capital Cost	Operational Cost
Flagship Actions	1.1	Design and deliver Streets for People high priority corridors, as outlined in Council's Streets for People Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Accessible • Healthy • Liveable • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	High	High
	1.2	Build on the Ride & Stride behaviour change program by delivering safer school zone infrastructure, in collaboration with Ride & Stride schools and their school communities. This will include infrastructure interventions at the school precinct level, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer school crossings • Designated school zone asphalt treatments • Lower speed limits in school zones • Modal filters and traffic calming infrastructure • Tactical urbanism and placemaking infrastructure • Tree planting to create cool routes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Accessible • Healthy • Liveable • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	High	High
	1.3	Deliver road safety infrastructure improvements alongside safer speed limits on local streets, guided by Council's forthcoming Road Safety Plan. This will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rolling out 30 km/h speed limits in priority areas such as on or around school and childcare precincts, Streets for People corridors, aged care facilities, local shopping strips, and community venues • Progressively introducing safer speed limits and supporting traffic calming infrastructure on all council-managed roads • Continue delivering road safety infrastructure such as new pedestrian crossings, improved street lighting, improved visibility at junctions, slip lane closures, and more in priority areas • Continue to prioritise road safety infrastructure in areas of high need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Liveable 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	High	High

Supporting Actions	1.4	<p>Improve walking facilities and amenity through infrastructure upgrades, such as pram ramps, public seating and new or improved crossings, focused on or around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streets for People corridors • Principle Pedestrian Network corridors • Streets that carry higher numbers of vulnerable road users, such as those near childcare centres, schools, or aged care facilities • Activity centres, neighbourhood centres, and local shopping strips • Train stations and public transport stops • Parks, leisure centres, and other key destinations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Accessible • Healthy • Liveable • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	Medium	Medium
	1.5	<p>Improve cycling facilities and amenity through small scale infrastructure upgrades, focused on or around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streets for People corridors • The State Government’s Strategic Cycling Corridors network • Streets that carry higher numbers of vulnerable road users, such as those near childcare centres, schools, or aged care facilities • Activity centres, neighbourhood centres, and local shopping strips • Train stations and public transport stops • Parks, leisure centres, and other key destinations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Accessible • Healthy • Liveable • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	Medium	Medium
	1.6	<p>Deliver improvements to existing shared paths across Merri-bek, addressing issues with surface quality, safety, and accessibility gaps.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Accessible • Healthy • Liveable • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	Medium	Medium
	1.7	<p>Trial and evaluate on-street secure bike parking in select locations, with a focus on areas with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High density • High mix of apartments • Council owned community facilities • Limited access to secure off-street parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy • Liveable • Sustainable 	Short Term: 1-2 Years	25/26	Low	High

Plans & Programs

Building confidence, capability, and the groundwork for long-term change

We will shape long-term outcomes through evidence, partnerships, and behaviour change. Plans & Programs Actions for 2024-2029 build the knowledge, habits, and planning frameworks for the future.

Community feedback consistently highlighted the importance of clear investment prioritisation, behaviour change, and follow-through, particularly when it comes to children's travel and road safety.

Our Plans & Programs actions are designed to provide that bridge between strategy and delivery. They shape how priorities are set, how projects are sequenced, and how Council works with schools, communities, and other delivery partners to build the groundwork for long-term change.

There is a strong focus on road safety and speed management in this group of actions. Development of Council's first Road Safety Plan is a key commitment, responding directly to community support for safer speeds, traffic calming, and better crossings. The Road Safety Plan will guide future investment, align safety actions across the municipality, and strengthen Council's advocacy on state-managed roads.

Children and schools are also placed front and centre. Community feedback showed strong support for building on our efforts to support children traveling safely and independently – with a clear message that encouragement and education must be backed by safer environments. Plans and programs bring together Ride & Stride, school precinct planning, safer crossings, speed management, and engagement into a coordinated, place-based approach.

What this can look like at the local level: Ride & Stride

One of the flagship Plans & Programs actions is to expand and strengthen the Ride & Stride program across Merri-bek. Ride & Stride supports schools and families to shift how children travel to school through behaviour change activities, community-led initiatives and school partnerships that build confidence to walk, ride and scoot.

To date, Ride & Stride has focused on helping school communities trial and normalise active travel – laying important groundwork for long-term change. The Action Plan builds on this success by expanding the number of schools participating in Ride & Stride, particularly in areas with lower rates of active travel, and for the first time pairing the program with dedicated, place-based infrastructure improvements.



List of Plans & Programs Actions for 2025-2029

	Action Number	Action Description	Values	Timeframe	Commencing Year	Capital Cost	Operational Cost
Flagship Actions	2.1	Develop a Road Safety Plan that outlines Council's priorities for addressing road safety across the municipality and informs future capital works planning. The Plan will identify priority locations for interventions such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer speed limits • Traffic calming infrastructure • Traffic management measures • Safer crossings • Safer intersections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Liveable 	Short Term: 1-2 Years	25/26	Low	High
	2.2	Design and deliver innovative programs and initiatives to support active and sustainable travel, prioritising initiatives that target: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short, local trips • Areas with existing or planned walking or riding infrastructure • Demographic groups with low levels of active travel equity or uptake • Schools, kindergartens, and childcare centres not involved in Ride & Stride 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Healthy • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	Low	High
	2.3	Expand and strengthen Council's flagship Ride & Stride program, focusing on increasing the number of schools participating. Continue to scale our innovative, holistic, and collaborative interventions with engaged Ride & Stride primary schools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Healthy • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	Low	High

Supporting Actions	2.4	Review and update our approach to manage kerbside space and parking. Work toward a place-based approach that responds to growth, increased density in and around activity centres, and changing demand for on-street parking. This will balance access, movement and place priorities, and support fair, transparent decisions as travel patterns and parking needs evolve over time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible • Liveable • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Short Term: 1-2 Years	26/27	Low	High
	2.5	Embed the Healthy Streets Framework across relevant Council works, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using Healthy Streets Design Checks for identification and delivery of all street related projects - including road reconstruction and streetscape improvement programs • Upskilling Council staff in application of Healthy Streets through Healthy Streets training and refreshers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Accessible • Healthy • Liveable • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	Low	Medium
	2.6	Deliver and evaluate a program for shared e-bikes with a designated parking zone approach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy • Liveable • Sustainable 	Short Term: 1-2 Years	25/26	Low	Medium
	2.7	Support expansion of a renewably-powered Electric Vehicle charging network across Merri-bek by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping to facilitate the roll out of on-street EV charging options • Promoting EV charging infrastructure within or adjacent to new private developments through the planning process and advocacy. • Collaborating with 'car share' businesses to accelerate their transition to electric vehicles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	Medium	High

Policy & Advocacy

Being clear, consistent, and louder where Council can't act alone

We will set stronger local policy and advocate to higher levels of government for the changes Merri-bek can't achieve alone.

Many of the transport issues raised during engagement sit beyond Council's direct control. Community members were clear they want Council to be more vocal, more specific, and more persistent in pushing for better public transport, safer state-managed roads, and stronger outcomes from major projects.

Policy & Advocacy actions respond directly to that call. They clarify Council's role in setting expectations locally, building partnerships, and advocating for action from the State and Federal Governments.

A key commitment is the development of a Transport Advocacy Strategy. This will turn community priorities into a clear and coordinated advocacy agenda – setting out what Council is asking for, why it matters for Merri-bek, and how advocacy efforts will be sustained over time. This includes advocacy for:

- Safer speeds, crossings, and designs on state-managed roads
- Better and more accessible public transport, particularly in areas with few alternatives to driving
- High-quality place outcomes for state-led projects in activity centres and along major corridors

Strengthening advocacy also means being honest about where Council can and cannot act. This Action Plan makes those boundaries clearer, while committing to stronger, more transparent advocacy on the issues the community has told us matter most.

What this can look like at the local level: Advocacy for the Upfield Line

The Upfield Line has long been one of the poorest-performing train lines in Melbourne in terms of frequency and reliability, making its duplication and the removal of level crossings enduring advocacy priorities for Merri-bek. Council's advocacy has already contributed to tangible progress along the corridor, including delivery of the Coburg level crossing removals and ongoing work with the State Government to progress the Brunswick level crossing removals – both critical precursors to future duplication. Improving train service frequency and reliability, alongside safer and more liveable conditions for communities in Brunswick, Coburg, Fawkner and Glenroy, remains central to this work.

While rail infrastructure is owned and delivered by the State Government and major projects can take many years to achieve, the Action Plan commits Council to continuing clear, specific and persistent advocacy to help move these priorities forward.

An example of how we will do this is Council's collaboration with neighbouring councils via the Northern Councils Alliance, allowing Merri-bek to speak with a unified regional voice. By combining local evidence, community priorities and coordinated advocacy, Council is working to ensure the State Government understands both the transport and place-based benefits of Upfield Line duplication – including better access to jobs, education and services, and safer, more liveable communities along the corridor.



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List of Policy & Advocacy Actions for 2025-2029

	Action Number	Action Description	Values	Timeframe	Commencing Year	Capital Cost	Operational Cost
Flagship Actions	3.1	Develop a Transport Advocacy Strategy to formalise Council’s continued advocacy to the State Government for the advancement of key transport priorities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved safety on state-managed roads • More frequent and accessible public transport • Increased investment in active transport, including shared use paths that travel between council areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Accessible • Healthy • Liveable • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	Low	High
	3.2	Work with the State Government to deliver well-designed, place-based mobility and parking outcomes for the Brunswick and Coburg Activity Centres that support high-quality housing, sustainable travel options, and a functional public realm. This includes advocating for a coordinated approach to changes in car parking requirements, managing impacts on local streets and access. Advocate for similar, locally appropriate outcomes in Glenroy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Accessible • Healthy • Liveable • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	Low	High
	3.3	Develop a clear and shared community vision for the revitalisation of Sydney Road and other key tram activity corridors across Merri-bek, and advocate to the State Government to fund and deliver that vision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Accessible • Healthy • Liveable • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Core Program - Continuous	25/26	Low	High

Supporting Actions	3.4	Advocate to the State Government to update legislation relating to Council authority to deliver changes supporting safe and sustainable transport outcomes on Council-managed streets, with a focus on regulatory processes related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic management on local roads • Traffic filtering on local roads • Safer speed limit mandates on local roads, particularly in priority areas such as school zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Healthy • Liveable 	Medium Term: 2-4 Years	25/26	Low	Medium
	3.5	Update Merri-bek's Public Lighting Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Accessible • Inclusive 	Short Term: 1-2 Years	25/26	Low	Low
	3.6	Prepare a report on the future of bus stop asset ownership and advertising, and implement Council's decision on the bus shelter contract and long-term ownership model.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible 	Short Term: 1-2 Years	26/27	Low	Low
	3.7	Develop a Streetscape & Public Realm Design Manual to guide design policy for all street improvement projects in Merri-bek, and serve as a companion document to technical notes. Design guidance provided within the manual will be linked to Movement & Place street types, Healthy Streets principles, and support other Council policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe • Accessible • Healthy • Liveable • Sustainable • Inclusive 	Medium Term: 2-4 Years	27/28	Low	High

Monitoring progress and building on the momentum

This Action Plan is not a “set and forget” document. Council is committed to annual public reporting throughout 2025-2029, with a focus on whether our actions are delivering outcomes that matter to the community – not just counting projects delivered.

What we will monitor

Reporting won't only be about kilometres of bike lanes or numbers of crossings delivered. Instead, we will measure and communicate outcomes that matter to people, structured around the six values of the Moving Around Merri-bek Transport Strategy: Safe, Accessible, Healthy, Liveable, Sustainable, and Inclusive. These values provide a clear, consistent lens for understanding how transport investment is improving everyday life across Merri-bek.

Council will track a set of indicators for each value, drawing on established datasets and targeted evaluation tools. This approach will allow us to understand both the scale of change and who is benefiting. The metrics and data sources we will use in our annual reporting are outlined below:

Value	What monitoring will focus on	Primary data sources
Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trends in road trauma and crash severity Exposure to vehicle speeds and conflict Community perceptions of safety when walking, cycling, and using public transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VicRoads CrashStats Speed and traffic volume data Community surveys and project evaluations
Accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to reach daily needs without a car Quality and continuity of walking, cycling and public transport access Barriers experienced by people living with a disability, older people, and carers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Census and VISTA Accessibility audits Equity and access mapping
Healthy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levels of active travel for local trips Opportunities for physical activity in streets and public spaces Exposure to air and noise pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VISTA Local counts and surveys Environmental and traffic datasets
Liveable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streetscape amenity outcomes Use of streets and public spaces Greening, shade, and comfort along key routes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy Streets assessments Project-level evaluations Urban greening and public realm data
Sustainable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport-related greenhouse gas emissions Mode shift to walking, cycling and public transport Climate resilience of streets and infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council emissions inventories VISTA and Census Climate Emergency Action Plan reporting
Inclusive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribution of benefits across neighbourhoods Outcomes for priority communities Participation in engagement and programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equity mapping tools Program participation data Engagement reporting

How we will report back

Council will develop and maintain a Measurement and Evaluation Framework that brings these indicators together in a consistent and transparent way. Where possible, we will align with existing Council reporting – including on the Climate Emergency Action Plan – to ensure consistency and avoid duplication.

Each year, Council will publish a public Progress Report that reports against these six values. The report will be designed so with community in mind, so that you can read, use and challenge us on our progress – closing the loop, holding ourselves accountable, and ensuring that the voices of Merri-bek continue to guide our journey.

By reporting through the Strategy's six values, the Action Plan will continue to evolve with the community, demonstrating year by year how our collective choices are shaping safer streets, fairer access, healthier environments, and more vibrant neighbourhoods.



Moving forward, together

At its heart, the Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029 brings the Community Vision to life: Merri-bek leads – and leaves no one behind. Over the next four years, it will help ensure our streets and surrounding spaces are full of life, welcoming people to move, connect and thrive.

Engagement on this plan showed a community that:

- Wants safer, calmer, and more pleasant streets to move through and spend time along
- Wants better walking, cycling and public transport – but expects place-responsive solutions
- Understands change takes time, but wants accountability and visible progress
- Believes Merri-bek can lead on creating streets that work for everyone

Your expectations are clear: Don't just write another plan. Make it happen. Report on it. And bring the whole community along. That's exactly what we'll do.



Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029 Engagement Report





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Acknowledgement of Country

Merri-bek City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways in the area now known as Merri-bek. We pay respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging, as well as to all First Nations communities, who significantly contribute to the life of the area.



Executive summary

Consultation Process	Platforms Used
<p>Between 23 October and 1 December 2025, Merri-bek City Council asked the community: Is the draft Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029 heading in the right direction?</p> <p>We invited people to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the draft Action Plan 2. Share feedback on the proposed actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online survey • In person pop-up sessions



What you told us

Overall, the community supports the direction of the Action Plan – with clear expectations for how we deliver it. 52% of respondents rated the draft Action Plan as good or very good. Across all feedback, six key themes emerged:

- 1. Road safety and speed management are front and centre**
 - Safer speeds, traffic calming and better crossings were raised more than any other issue. People want 30 km/h zones, raised crossings, and Council to push the State Government harder on safety improvements to major roads.
- 2. Strong support for walking and cycling – with a call for local detail**
 - People back the focus on active transport but want to know what it means for their street, their school, or their shops through clearer examples in the final plan.
- 3. Equitable, place-responsive mobility solutions matter – including for driving and parking**
 - People told us that their mobility needs vary significantly by location. Northern suburbs often have fewer alternatives to driving and longer trips, while southern suburbs face different pressures as density increases. Respondents from across Merri-bek supported improving walking, cycling and public transport, but emphasised that decisions about driving and parking must respond to local conditions, growth patterns, and existing reliance, so that outcomes are equitable and practical in everyday life.
- 4. Schools and child-friendly mobility are a powerful call to action**
 - Safe routes to school and Ride & Stride received overwhelmingly positive feedback. People see this as where change can be most visible and meaningful – but only if behaviour change programs are backed by safer infrastructure.
- 5. Advocacy for public transport improvements and other big-ticket items really matter**
 - Upfield line duplication, better buses, accessible tram stops, safer state-managed roads – people want Council to be loud, specific and persistent in pushing the State Government for improvements that genuinely give people alternatives to driving.
- 6. Show us the results – accountability matters**
 - Don't just write another plan. Set clear targets, measure what matters, and report back annually on what's actually changed.

The message is clear: Merri-bek is ready for change – as long as it's equitable, measurable, and visible.



Introduction

Over five weeks in late 2025, we asked the community: Is the draft Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029 heading in the right direction? The answer was clear – people want safer streets, slower speeds, better alternatives to driving, and equitable, place-responsive solutions. They also want to see it happen with measurable outcomes and accountability. This report shares what we heard, and how that feedback will shape the final Action Plan.

How we move around Merri-bek shapes our everyday lives – our health, our safety, our connections to people and place, and our sense of equity across the municipality.

In 2024 Council adopted Moving Around Merri-bek, our long-term transport strategy. It sets a vision for a transport system that is safe, accessible, sustainable, healthy, liveable, and inclusive.

The Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029 sits alongside the strategy. It takes those long-term values and turns them into practical actions for the next four years – focusing on better streets, safer travel to school, stronger advocacy to the State Government, and equitable, place-responsive outcomes across our diverse set of suburbs.

We wanted to make sure the draft Action Plan felt meaningful and real to the people who use Merri-bek's streets every day. So, we developed a survey where the community could let us know:

- Does the draft Action Plan reflect your lived experience of getting around?
- Are we focusing on the right actions?
- Are there gaps or things we have missed?
- Is the plan easy to understand and useful?

This wasn't a tick-box exercise. We genuinely wanted to test whether we'd turned big strategic goals into the right actions – actions that feel real to the people who use these streets every day.

How This Engagement Fits with Previous Work

The Action Plan did not start from scratch. When we developed the Moving Around Merri-bek Transport Strategy, we ran a large engagement process – including workshops, surveys, pop-ups and written submissions. People told us they wanted:

- Safer streets and crossings
- Better options for walking and bike riding
- Equitable access to public transport
- A transport system that supports health, climate and equity goals

These earlier themes directly shaped the draft Action Plan, with a focus on:

- Improving local walking and cycling options
- Scaling up Streets for People projects to create safer, greener and more inviting streets
- Making neighbourhood trips safer, especially around schools
- Advocating for State-led improvements like better public transport and safer main roads

This engagement step was about checking: Did we get it right? Are these the right set of actions for the next four years?



How We Listened

Engagement Activities

We used a mix of online and in-person activities:

- Online survey on Conversations Merri-bek
 - Open from 23 October to 1 December 2025
 - Included both multiple-choice and open-text questions
- Five planned pop-up sessions across Merri-bek, with three delivered and two cancelled due to unsafe weather:
 - Fawkner Festa – cancelled due to unsafe weather
 - Glenroy Library – held
 - Fawkner Leisure Centre – held
 - Fleming Park – held
 - Coburg Farmers Market – cancelled due to unsafe weather
- Written submissions
 - 4 written submissions – 2 from community groups and 2 from individual residents

In addition to the engagement activities above, we promoted the opportunity to participate through Council communications channels (e.g. social media pages), to help reach people across all suburbs and encourage broad participation.

Who Took Part

- 62 people completed the online survey
- 4 groups/individuals sent written submissions
- Across the three pop-up sessions we interacted with around 80 people. This included:
 - Short interactions with many people passing by, where we passed out flyers with a QR code to the Conversations Merri-bek page
 - Speaking in detail with around 15 people and taking notes so their feedback could be considered alongside online survey responses.

Limitations and Areas for Improvement

Like any engagement process, there were constraints:

- Two planned pop-up sessions were cancelled due to severe weather warnings, reducing our chance to talk to people at community events.
- Overall respondent numbers were modest for a city the size of Merri-bek, meaning some voices and neighbourhoods may be under-represented.
- Some respondents noted that:
 - The document used technical language
 - There was a lack of translated material
 - The plan could be clearer about where and when actions would occur

These are important lessons we will carry into both:

- The finalisation of this Action Plan
- Future engagement processes



Who We Heard From

Gender

As shown in Figure 1, of the 62 survey respondents:

- About 37% identified as women
- About 45% identified as men
- Around 2% identified as non-binary
- Around 2% preferred not to say
- Around 15% did not provide gender information

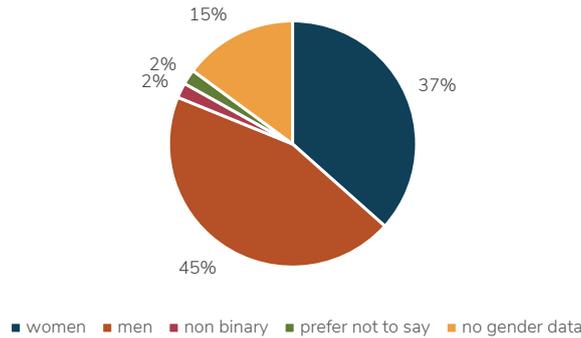


Figure 1: Percentage of responses by gender

Age

As shown in Figure 2, the survey reached people of many ages. The largest groups were:

- 35-44 years – around 23% of respondents
- 45-54 years – around 16%
- 65-74 years – around 16%

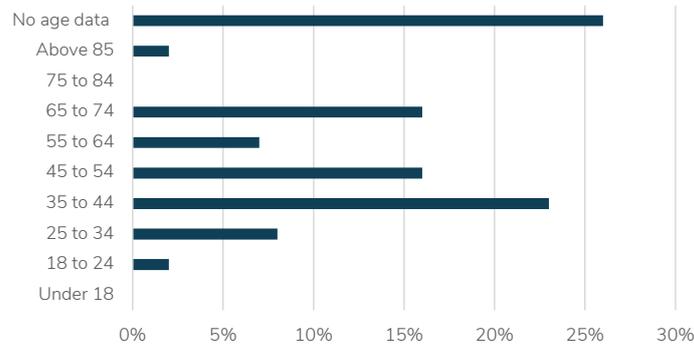


Figure 2: Percentage of responses by age group



Community

People from across Merri-bek took part. The strongest participation came from:

- Brunswick – around 37% of responses
- Coburg North – around 26%
- Pascoe Vale South – close to 9%
- Glenroy – close to 9%

We also heard from residents of Brunswick East, Brunswick West, Fawkner, and other suburbs across the city. Percentage of responses received by suburb is shown in Figure 3.

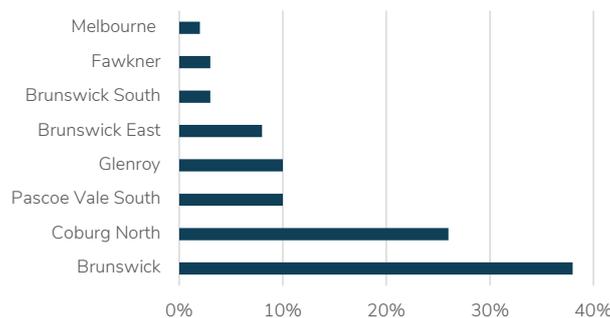


Figure 3: Percentage of responses by suburb

Diversity and Lived Experience

As part of the survey, we included optional questions about background and lived experience to better understand the diversity of people we reached through this engagement.

Of the respondents who chose to answer these questions, we heard from:

- 1 person born overseas
- 1 person who speaks a language other than English at home
- 7 parents or guardians of children
- 1 person living with a disability
- 1 person who cares for a person living with a disability
- 1 member of the LGBTIQ+ community

While these questions were optional and were not answered by most respondents, the responses demonstrate that feedback was informed by community members with a range of lived experiences, caring responsibilities, and cultural backgrounds.



Pop-Up Events

Across the three pop-up events, we interacted with about:

- 10 people at the Glenroy Library and Community Hub
- 25 people at the Fawkner Leisure Centre
- 35 people at Fleming Park, Brunswick East

Written Submissions

We received four written submissions on the draft Action Plan. Of these:

- 2 were from community advocacy groups
- 1 was from a member of the Strategic Transport Reference Group
- 1 was from a community member who wanted to express more thoughts than the open-text boxes in the online survey would allow

What We Asked

The Conversations Merri-bek webpage included a high-level summary of the draft Action Plan, a full copy of the draft Action Plan, and a 'Plan on a Page' poster we used to highlight key elements of the draft Action Plan to people we interacted with at our pop-up events.

By providing multiple ways for people to learn about the draft Action Plan based on the amount of time they had available, everyone had a chance to get a reasonable understanding of the plan.

After reading one or more of these materials, the survey asked people to:

1. Rate their overall feelings about actions included in each of the plan's three sections:
 - Infrastructure
 - Plans & Programs
 - Policy & Advocacy
2. Share feedback on each of these three sections in their own words via open-text boxes
3. Rate the Action Plan as a whole
4. Provide any other comments, ideas, or concerns about the plan via an open-text box

This mix of rating questions and open-text boxes gave us both:

- A picture of overall support for each part of the plan
- Detailed suggestions for the plan or about specific locations, as well as stories documenting lived experience



Summary of Results – Key Themes Across All Questions

Across all sections of the survey, six primary themes of feedback emerged. This part of the report summarises those themes, and links them to content already included in the draft Action Plan or improvements that will be made in the finalised Action Plan.

Theme 1: Road safety and speed management are front and centre

Across all open-text questions, people repeatedly raised the need for:

- Slower speeds – 30 km/h and 40 km/h zones
- Traffic calming – speed humps, raised crossings, narrower traffic lanes
- Safer, more frequent crossings, especially near schools and busy roads
- Stronger advocacy to the State Government to address road safety issues on state-managed roads in Merri-bek

This directly supports key actions in the draft plan, including:

- Action 1.2: Deliver safer school zone infrastructure through a new school precincts program
- Action 1.3: Deliver road safety infrastructure improvements alongside safer speed limits
- Action 2.1: Develop a Road Safety Plan that outlines Council's priorities for addressing road safety across the municipality and informs future capital works planning

The feedback shows there is solid community backing for a stronger, more coordinated approach to road safety and speed management in Merri-bek. This is about fundamentals – making it safe for an eight-year-old to cross the road, for an elderly resident to walk to the shops, for parents to feel confident their children can get to school without being driven there.

"There's too many cars, and they travel too fast. I want my kid to be able to safely and comfortably cross roads and walk around the neighbourhood."

Theme 2: Strong support for focus on walking and cycling – with a call for local detail

Many people expressed support for:

- Creating safer, healthier, and more pleasant streetscapes through Streets for People projects
- More walking and riding for everyday trips
- Better links to local shops, services, parks and schools

These comments often aligned with the vision of streets being designed for people first, not only for cars. At the same time, multiple respondents wanted more clarity about:

- What will happen in their own neighbourhood
- Which streets and routes will change
- When changes are likely to happen

This reinforces the need to:

- Link the Action Plan more explicitly to Streets for People network corridors, Ride & Stride school precincts, and other specific projects people can picture in their own streets.

"There's not really any specific actions (in the infrastructure section). My thoughts are that cycling infrastructure needs a lot of attention. Some dangerous points include Harding/Munro Street, De Carle Street, and Albion Street."



Theme 3: The importance of equitable, place-responsive mobility solutions – including for driving and parking

Across all sections of the survey, many people expressed the need for behaviour change – slower driving, less rat-running, fewer short car trips to reduce congestion, and streets that are comfortable to walk and ride along, and spend time around.

Several respondents highlighted that northern and middle suburbs such as Fawkner, Glenroy, Hadfield, and Pascoe Vale have very different built environments from inner areas like Brunswick. Longer average travel distances, fewer public transport options, and gaps in walking and cycling networks mean many residents still rely on driving. Many were clear that change is desirable – but solutions need to be place-responsive, not copy-pasted from inner-city contexts.

A smaller but vocal group felt that the plan “ignores cars” or doesn’t adequately accommodate people who rely on driving, including:

- Residents in outer suburbs
- Tradies and small businesses
- Carers and people making multi-stop trips

This feedback recognises a fundamental truth: Merri-bek is diverse, and different suburbs start from different conditions. What works in Brunswick may not work in Fawkner or Glenroy. Equity in this context does not mean identical solutions everywhere – it means tailoring walking, cycling, public transport and safety improvements to local land use, street function and starting conditions.

The Action Plan responds to this by embedding equity into how projects are prioritised and delivered. For example, this includes the Streets for People approach which identifies different types of corridor treatments based on place and street function, and the forthcoming Road Safety Plan which will apply a similar context-led lens to identify and prioritise safety interventions.

Change is possible, desirable, and already happening. But it must be carried out equitably, with investment reaching all parts of Merri-bek and solutions that are tailored to local contexts.

“There is a lot of potential to make Merri-bek a great place to live and give people viable alternatives to driving ... Please prioritise this and try to roll out these initiatives in all areas. At the moment it feels like Fawkner isn't getting the treatment it desperately needs.”

Theme 4: Schools and child-friendly mobility as a powerful call to action

Feedback on our Ride & Stride program, school precinct improvements and safe routes to school was overwhelmingly positive. People recognised:

- The value of helping children walk, ride and scoot independently
- The benefits for safety, health, congestion, and community connection
- The need to build on behaviour change programs with supporting infrastructure

These programs are widely understood and supported, and are a natural “hero story” for how the Action Plan can deliver visible, meaningful change.

This directly supports key actions in the draft plan, including:

- Action 2.3: Expand Ride & Stride, with a focus on increasing participating schools
- Action 1.2: Deliver safer school zone infrastructure through a new school precincts program

“As a parent of young children in the area, the number one thing that would encourage our participation in Ride & Stride and active transport in general is the safety of the streets surrounding the school and kinder.”



Theme 5: Advocacy for public transport improvements and other big-ticket items really matter

In the Policy & Advocacy section, people strongly engaged with the “big ticket” state-led items, including:

- Upfield line duplication and connection
- Bus network reform and higher frequencies
- Accessible tram stops and tram streetscape improvements (e.g. Sydney Road)
- Safer state-managed roads and intersections

People clearly understand Council can't deliver these alone, but want us to be loud, specific, and persistent in our asks to the State Government.

This gives strong backing for the development of a Transport Advocacy Strategy – a flagship action in the draft plan – to coordinate and sharpen our advocacy efforts on transport items.

These aren't abstract policy goals – they're daily frustrations that State Government has the power to fix. Council's role is to amplify your voice and push for action.

"It's (Sydney Road) years overdue for raised tram stops, which prevents Merri-bek residents with mobility devices and prams from using the 19 tram."

"The lack of public transport going West to East blocks us off from other suburbs. More frequent buses and new routes would be appreciated."

"We really need increased safety and decreased speed limits on state-managed roads ... we can't keep having crashes and pedestrians/people on bikes risking their lives by simply not being a car on these roads."

Theme 6: Desire for clearer measures and accountability

Many respondents raised:

- The need for clearer measures of success
- Interest in monitoring, KPIs and annual progress reporting
- The importance of not “just writing another plan” without visible change

This aligns strongly with the Action Plan's commitment to:

- Develop a Measurement and Evaluation Framework
- Report annually against the six values of the Transport Strategy
- Use data and community feedback to guide priorities over time

"Whilst it was interesting to see what council actions were completed last year, I think the community would much rather see what actual impact that has had on their and their family's lives. How many fewer traffic crashes were there? How many more families have switched from car drop offs to walking or cycling? Those are some of the outcomes that truly matter. And what does not get measured, does not get done."



Detailed Results by Action Plan Section

We asked respondents to rate how they felt about the actions within each of the three sections, as well as how they felt about the draft Action Plan as a whole. We also invited them share feedback on each of the three sections in their own words via open-text questions. This part of the report analyses what we heard about each section of the plan.

Infrastructure Section

The community’s overall feelings about actions in the Infrastructure section are shown in Figure 4. Of 62 responses:

- 56% rated actions in the Infrastructure section as “very good” or “good”
- 26% were neutral
- 18% rated them as “bad” or “very bad”

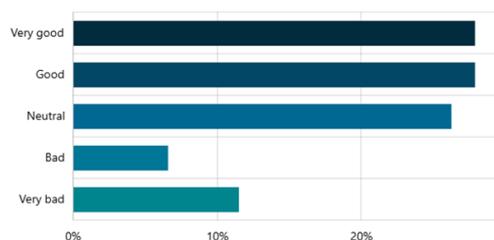


Figure 4: Overall feelings about actions in the Infrastructure section

There were 203 mentions of 10 themes identified in open-text feedback on the Infrastructure section. These are visualised in Figure 5, with sizing of the words based on the number of mentions of each theme.



Figure 5: Word cloud of open-text themes in the Infrastructure section

The top 3 themes identified in open-text responses on the Infrastructure section were:

1. Safer speeds & traffic calming – 40 mentions
 - Calls for more 30 km/h and 40 km/h zones, speed humps, raised platforms, and other traffic-calming on local streets.
2. Local streets & neighbourhood amenity – 28 mentions
 - Concerns about rat-running traffic, noise, and the feel of local residential streets.
3. Location-specific issues – 26 mentions
 - References to particular streets or intersections that feel unsafe or uncomfortable.



Plans & Programs Section

The community's overall feelings about actions in the Plans & Programs section are shown in Figure 6. Of 62 responses:

- 54% rated actions in the Plans & Programs section as “good” or “very good”
- 33% were neutral
- 13% rated them as “bad” or “very bad”

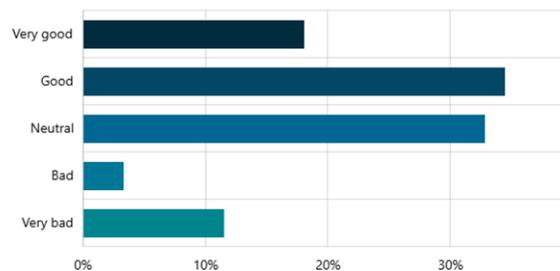


Figure 6: Overall feelings about actions in the Plans & Programs section

There were 154 tagged mentions of 7 themes identified in open-text feedback on the Plans & Programs section. These are visualised in Figure 7, with sizing of the words based on the number of mentions of each theme.



Figure 7: Word cloud of open-text themes in the Plans & Programs section

The top 3 themes identified in open-text responses on the Plans & Programs section were:

1. Safe routes to school & child-friendly mobility – 45 mentions
 - Strong support for Ride & Stride, school-based improvements and kids travelling independently.
2. Behaviour change & education programs – 30 mentions
 - Interest in campaigns and education to shift travel habits and driver behaviour.
3. Active travel programs – 22 mentions
 - Programs that support walking and riding as everyday options.



Policy & Advocacy

The community’s overall feelings about actions in the Policy & Advocacy section are shown in Figure 8. Of 62 responses:

- 48% rated actions in the Policy & Advocacy section as “good” or “very good”
- 36% were neutral
- 16% rated them as “bad” or “very bad”

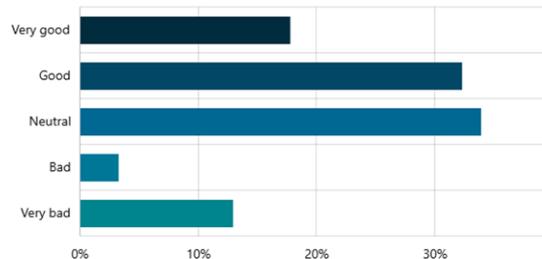


Figure 8: Overall feelings about the actions in the Policy & Advocacy section

There were 190 tagged mentions of 7 themes identified in open-text feedback on the Policy & Advocacy section. These are visualised in Figure 9, with sizing of the words based on the number of mentions of each theme.



Figure 9: Word cloud of open-text themes in the Policy & Advocacy section

The top 3 themes identified in open-text responses on the Policy & Advocacy section were:

1. Public transport infrastructure & frequency – 60 mentions
 - Calls for more frequent, more accessible, and more reliable public transport options.
2. Upfield line duplication – 30 mentions
 - Strong focus on improving capacity and reliability of the Upfield line.
3. State Government powers & legislative reform – 25 mentions
 - Desire for changes that give Councils more tools on speed limits and local traffic management.



Overall views on the draft Action Plan

The community's overall feelings about the Draft Action Plan as a whole are shown in Figure 10. Of 62 responses:

- 52% rated the draft Action Plan as "good" or "very good"
- 30% were neutral
- 18% rated it as "bad" or "very bad"

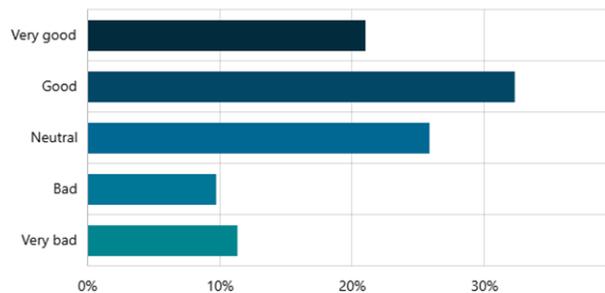


Figure 10: Overall feelings about the draft Action Plan

In the final open question ("Is there any other feedback you'd like to provide?"), a couple unique themes came up that were not as prominent in feedback on specific sections of the plan:

- Desire for more measurable outcomes – such as mode share, crash rates or health indicators
- Concerns that the plan reads too much like a high-level strategy and not enough like a detailed delivery plan

Written Submissions

Across the four written submissions we received, a few common themes emerged that aligned with themes identified in the survey responses. All four written submissions were broadly supportive of improving safety and liveability, with a strong emphasis on safer speeds, traffic calming and safer walking/cycling conditions, particularly around schools and high-risk streets (including calls for action on specific corridors). Multiple submissions also asked for the final Action Plan to be more measurable and accountable – requesting clearer priorities, performance indicators, timeframes and more transparent information to help the community track progress over time.

One theme that was more prominent in the written submissions than in the survey responses was that two of the four submissions (Merri-bek BUG and Walk-on Merri-bek) raised a specific concern about the additional wording inserted at the Council meeting under "Access for Elderly and Vulnerable Residents", arguing that framing access primarily through a car parking lens privileges driving over other modes and conflicts with the values and intent of the transport strategy.



How This Feedback Will Shape the Final Action Plan

You spoke. We listened. Here's what will change:

Making local implications clearer through examples

Many people told us they want a better sense of what the Action Plan means for their own neighbourhood. In response, the final Action Plan will include examples of how high-level actions guide on-the-ground projects through annual capital works, programs and partnerships, while still allowing flexibility to respond to local needs and funding opportunities.

Stronger focus on road safety and speed management

There was consistent and widespread support for safer speeds, traffic calming and better pedestrian crossings. The final Action Plan will place stronger emphasis on road safety and speed management, including clearer links to the development of Council's Road Safety Plan and the rollout of lower-speed environments and supporting infrastructure.

Addressing equity across all suburbs

Feedback highlighted the importance of ensuring transport improvements are equitable and reach all parts of Merri-bek, particularly areas with fewer alternatives to driving. The final Action Plan will more clearly explain how equity considerations will guide prioritisation, so investment benefits communities across the whole municipality.

Putting children and schools front and centre

Strong support was expressed for actions that help children travel safely and independently. The final Action Plan will strengthen the role of school-focused initiatives, showing how programs like Ride & Stride, safer crossings and traffic management around schools work together.

Strengthening advocacy for public transport and other State-led projects

Many people urged Council to be louder and more specific in pushing for better public transport and safer state-managed roads. The final Action Plan will strengthen how we describe advocacy priorities and the role of the forthcoming Transport Advocacy Strategy.

Improving monitoring and accountability

Many respondents were interested in how progress will be tracked. The final Action Plan will strengthen its monitoring section, with clearer information about how actions will be measured and reported on over time.

Together, these changes will help ensure the final Action Plan reflects community priorities, is easier to relate to at a local level, and provides a clear framework for turning shared goals into action across Merri-bek.



Conclusion and Next Steps

Analysing the community feedback allowed us to identify improvements we can make in the final version of the Action Plan. Here's what happens next:

- 1. Refine the Action Plan**
 - Council officers will use this feedback to update the draft Action Plan, including clearer language, stronger local examples, and more detail on safety, equity and monitoring.
- 2. Council consideration and adoption**
 - The revised Action Plan will be presented to Council for consideration and adoption in early 2026.
- 3. Deliver, monitor, report**
 - Once adopted, the Action Plan will guide infrastructure projects, plans, programs, policy and advocacy from 2025-2029.
 - Council will report publicly each year on progress, using the six values of the Transport Strategy as a roadmap: Safe, Accessible, Sustainable, Healthy, Liveable and Inclusive.
- 4. Ongoing dialogue**
 - As we deliver actions – particularly Streets for People projects, school precinct improvements and major advocacy efforts – we will continue talking with local communities about design, priorities and outcomes.

At its heart, this engagement showed a community that:

- Wants safer, calmer, and more pleasant streets to move through and spend time along
- Wants better walking, cycling and public transport – but expects place-responsive solutions
- Understands change takes time, but wants accountability and visible progress
- Believes Merri-bek can lead on creating streets that work for everyone

The feedback was clear: Don't just write another plan. Make it happen. Report on it. And bring the whole community along. That's exactly what we'll do.

The Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029 will carry your voice forward – building a city where people of all ages and abilities can move, connect and thrive, and where, true to our Community Vision, Merri-bek leads – and leaves no one behind.



Appendix – Conversations Merri-bek Survey Questions

1. How do you feel about the actions in the Infrastructure section of the Action Plan 2025-2029?

- A. Very good
- B. Good
- C. Neutral
- D. Bad
- E. Very bad

2. Do you have any feedback on the Infrastructure section of the Action Plan 2025-2029?

Open text

3. How do you feel about the actions in the Plans & Programs section of the Action Plan 2025-2029?

- A. Very good
- B. Good
- C. Neutral
- D. Bad
- E. Very bad

4. Do you have any feedback on the Plans & Programs section of the Action Plan 2025-2029?

Open text

5. How do you feel about the actions in the Policy & Advocacy section of the Action Plan 2025-2029?

- A. Very good
- B. Good
- C. Neutral
- D. Bad
- E. Very bad

6. Do you have any feedback on the Plans & Programs section of the Action Plan 2025-2029?

Open text

7. How do you feel about the Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-2029?

- A. Very good
- B. Good
- C. Neutral
- D. Bad
- E. Very bad

8. Is there any other feedback you'd like to provide about the Action Plan 2025-2029?

Open text

7.3 PUBLIC ART POLICY

Director Community, Eamonn Fennessy

Cultural Development

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Adopts the Public Art Policy.
2. Refers the funds required (\$895,250 over five years) to implement this policy, to the 2026-2027 budget process for consideration.

REPORT

Executive Summary

Through the development of the 2023-2030 Arts and Culture Strategy, community shared their desire for increased support of the arts in Merri-bek, including an increase in public art. This interest was reiterated through the recent Council Plan process.

The creation of Merri-bek's first Public Art Policy will enable investment in public art across the municipality, creating increased opportunities for artists, engaging residents and visitors, and enhancing public space. The Policy will also ensure best practice in the commissioning and maintenance of Council's public art collection.

Community engagement has now been completed on the Draft Public Art Policy and no changes have been made.

Previous Council Decisions

Draft Public Art Policy – 12 November 2025

That Council:

1. *Endorses the draft Public Art Policy at Attachment 1 for public exhibition in November 2025.*
2. *Refers funding recommendations for the draft policy for consideration as part of the 2026/2027 budgeting process.*
3. *Notes the current statutory limitations and practical feasibility of consideration of the inclusion of public art in the planning process.*

Options to increase funding for the arts in Merri-bek – 12 June 2024

That Council:

1. *Requests the development of a Merri-bek Public Art Policy in 2025, that includes a percentage for public art to be allocated from the Council capital works budget.*
2. *Receives a report in 2025 into mechanisms for how Council could request inclusion of public art and arts infrastructure in significant developments through the planning process.*
3. *Receives a future briefing in 2025 about the benefits and risks of establishing a Council-initiated philanthropic fund for the arts.*

1. Policy Context

- Council Plan 2025-2029, Theme 3: Beautiful and liveable city; and Theme 4: Thriving economy and culture
- Council Action Plan 2025-2026, Initiative 4.3

- 2023-2030 Arts and Culture Strategy – Key Commitment: Public art to be built into Council capital works, urban design and open space projects.

2. Background

Through the consultation for the 2023-2030 Merri-bek Arts and Culture Strategy there was clear community interest in increasing public art across the municipality. As a result, the strategy commits to public art being planned for and built into Council capital works, urban design and open space projects. Following the inclusion in the Arts and Culture Strategy, in June 2024 Council requested the development of a Merri-bek Public Art Policy in 2025, which was further committed through the 2025/2026 Arts and Culture Action Plan and 2025/2026 Council Action Plan.

The endorsement of a Merri-bek Public Art Policy will ensure that the strategic development and resourcing of public art into the future. Currently, public art is included in only some Merri-bek capital works projects at the discretion of project managers. In recent years between two and four commissions have been completed annually as part of urban design, open space design or major capital projects, including Glenroy Community Hub, Balam Balam Place, and Michelle Guglielmo Park. Outside of these projects, Council's only ongoing budgets for public art are the Merri-bek Murals graffiti prevention program (operational) and a small budget for public art maintenance budget (capital).

Extensive benchmarking and research were undertaken in the development of the Draft Public Art Policy with many Victorian Councils having public art policies, including Casey, Yarra, Melbourne, Knox, Maribyrnong, Banyule, Wyndham and more. There are several different models for resourcing public art policies, including allocating percentages of budget for all projects over a certain financial threshold; and/or allocating percentages of the total capital works budget; and/or allocating a percentage for maintenance and renewal of the collection. Only very few Councils have a requirement for public art in the Planning Scheme, with some using guidelines to encourage developers to consider public art.

Community engagement on the Draft Public Art Policy was completed in November-December 2025. Feedback was very positive, and no changes were required to the final Policy.

3. Issues

Policy objectives

The objectives of the policy are to:

- Ensure sustained financial investment and strategic planning for public art across the municipality.
- Enhance the city's public spaces through art that invites reflection, celebration, critique and engagement with contemporary issues.
- Provide a clear framework for the acquisition, commissioning and delivery of public art.
- Support best practice management of the public art collection, including conservation and responsible deaccessioning.
- Create meaningful employment and professional development opportunities for artists.

Commissioning artwork

Through the policy, an annual budget will be allocated to fund new public art commissions (see Financial Impact), increasing annually over the next five years, with the hope to create a percentage-based commissioning fund upon renewal of this policy. This structure has been proposed in line with the current budgetary environment and to enable the scaling of Council's commissioning and maintenance processes over time.

The budget allocation is accruable, allowing unspent funds to be carried forward to support larger or future projects as needed. Managed by the Arts and Culture Unit, public art commissioned through this funding stream may be integrated within infrastructure projects or delivered independently in response to community needs, site opportunities, or cultural priorities.

Application of funds will be guided by Council's Public Art Policy and Arts and Culture Strategy 2023–2030 to ensure alignment with broader cultural and community goals. Project selection and prioritisation will be undertaken by the Arts and Culture Unit in consultation with relevant internal departments each year.

All public art proposals will be assessed by a Public Art Advisory Panel using pre-determined selection criteria for each commission. Panel members will provide community context, specialist knowledge, and advice will be selected for their expertise and lived experience in relation to the commissioned project, ensuring diversity and appropriate representation.

Artwork maintenance and renewal

The annual maintenance budget will be increased to 0.8% of the total market value of the public art asset register will be set aside for renewal and conservation activities, with a minimum annual provision of \$50,000. This funding supports routine and responsive conservation, condition assessments, valuation, restoration, and the responsible deaccessioning of artworks where appropriate.

All existing and new permanent public artworks will be recorded on Council's Asset Register and managed in accordance with a scheduled conservation and renewal plan. Ongoing care of these assets will be prioritised through an annual Conservation Action Plan, ensuring responsible lifecycle management of the Public Art Collection.

Community impact

Increased public art in Merri-bek will provide significant community benefits, enhancing the city's public spaces through art that invites reflection, celebration, critique and engagement with contemporary issues.

Human Rights Consideration

The implications of this report have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and the key section in the Charter that is relevant to this report is the right to freedom of expression. In addition a Gender Impact Assessment has been undertaken for the draft policy.

4. Community consultation and engagement

The draft Public Art Policy was advertised on Conversations Merri-bek for a three-week public consultation and shared with the Arts Advisory Committee, community connectors, networks and social media.

Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Elders and the First Nations Creative Consultation group have also been consulted.

The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with particular interest paid to the vibrancy and activation public art can create across the municipality. Many respondents were interested in increasing public art across the municipality including Glenroy, Fawkner and Pascoe Vale.

There will be further community engagement on new commissions when required.

Prior to the development of the Policy, extensive community engagement was completed through the Arts and Culture Strategy process in 2023, informing the need for increased arts funding and public art in the municipality.

The Public Art Policy was developed with Open Arts Consultancy, who brought extensive public art policy development experience to the process, including benchmarking expertise and best practice advice.

Staff from many branches have been consulted in the creation of this Policy including Capital Works Planning and Delivery, Finance, Community Wellbeing, Property Place and Design, Early Years and Youth, Open Space and Environment, Cultural Development and Finance.

Affected persons rights and interests

Before making a decision that affects a person's rights, Council must identify whose rights may be directly affected and provide an opportunity for that person (or persons) to convey those views regarding the effect on their rights and consider those views.

Affected persons include artists and general community members, who were consulted during the initial development of the Arts and Culture Strategy which outlined the Public Art Policy as a key action. Further consultation will occur during the public exhibition of the draft policy.

Communications

The finalised Public Art Policy will be publicly available on Council's website and information about future commissions will be shared through Merri-bek City Council corporate channels, and through the Arts Merri-bek and Counihan Gallery e-news and social media.

5. Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

6. Financial and Resources Implications

The funds required (\$895,250 over 5 years) to action this resolution are referred to the 2026-2027 budget process for consideration.

	Current budget	26/27 Budget	27/28 Budget	28/29 Budget	29/30 Budget	30/31 Budget	Total Budget Increase 5 years
Current budget							
Maintenance (operational)	20,950	20,950	20,950	20,950	20,950	20,950	
Additional budget requested for consideration							
New commissions (capital)		50,000	100,000	150,000	200,000	250,000	750,000
Maintenance (operational) - new		29,050	29,050	29,050	29,050	29,050	145,250
Total additional budget requested		79,050	129,050	179,050	229,050	279,050	895,250

7. Implementation

- February 2026: Consideration in 2026/27 budget development.
- July 2026: New public art commissions and maintenance/renewal program commences.

Attachment/s

1 [↓](#) Public Art Policy Final D25/667254



Public Art Policy

Date Authorised by Council:	<Type text here>
Commencement Date:	<Type text here>
Review Date (5 years from authorised date):	2031
Responsible Department	Arts and Culture

1. Introduction

The *Public Art Policy* provides a strategic framework for the resourcing, acquisition, commissioning, and management of public art within Merri-bek City Council. It is designed to increase the number of public art commissions within the municipality and ensure the implementation of best practices that support and enhance the delivery of public art programs and the stewardship of public art collections.

This policy applies to all public art initiatives undertaken or supported by Council within the local government area, including but not limited to permanent installations, temporary and ephemeral artworks, and integrated design elements in public infrastructure. It applies to Council-managed projects, partnerships, and developer contributions where public art is a component. This policy does not apply to private art collections, exhibitions on private land, or commercial art displays not associated with Council activities.

2. Context

The *Public Art Policy* supports Merri-bek City Council's commitment to creating a vibrant, inclusive and culturally rich municipality. It aligns with the *Council Plan 2025–2029*, particularly the strategic objectives of creating a beautiful and liveable city and a thriving economy, emphasising vibrant spaces and cultural experiences, celebration and community connection, First Peoples heritage, and the role of public art in strengthening community identity and pride.

This policy has been created through the *Arts and Culture Strategy 2023–2030*, providing the vision, principles, and strategic framework for commissioning and managing public art. It is supported by the *Public Art Guidelines*, which outline the processes and responsibilities involved in the planning, delivery and management of public art in Merri-bek.

The policy draws on national and state best practice standards and complies with relevant legislation, particularly those protecting First Peoples cultural heritage and intellectual property.

2.1. Alignment

The *Public Art Policy* is informed by the vision, objectives and priorities of the following Council policies, plans and strategies:

- *Council Plan 2025-2029*
- *Arts and Culture Strategy 2023-30 and associated Action Plans (PDF 8.6Mb)*
- *Asset Management Policy 2023 (PDF 205Kb)*
- *Community Engagement Policy (PDF 1MB)*
- *Human Rights Policy (DOC 554Kb)*
- *Information Privacy and Health Records Policy (PDF)*
- *Procurement Policy 2021-25 (PDF)*
- *Public Transparency Policy (PDF 271Kb)*

- Risk Management Policy (PDF 227Kb)
- Sponsorship Policy 2021 (PDF)
- Statement of Commitment to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung People and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities of the City of Merri-bek (PDF).

The policy adheres to the following documents in guiding best practice in the Public Art sector:

- Australian Government, Office of the Arts, Revive: a place for every story, a story for every place, National Cultural Policy 2023
- National Association for Visual Artists, The Code of Practice for the Professional Australian Visual Arts, Craft and Design Sector
- Creative Australia, Protocols for using First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property in the Arts
- Creative Victoria, Creative State 2025

2.2. Organisational Context

The Policy adheres to legislative requirements as follows:

- Local Government Act 2020
- Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014
- Corporations Act 2001
- Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012
- Commonwealth Privacy Act 1988
- Victorian Equal Opportunity Act 2010
- Gender Equity Act 2020
- National Copyright Act 1968
- Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006
- Victorian Legislation, Heritage Act 2017
- Victorian Legislation, Heritage Amendment Act 2023
- Victoria State Government, Victorian Aboriginal and Local Government Strategy 2021-2026
- Victorian Legislation, Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006
- Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Act 1972
- Indigenous Cultural Protocols and the Arts 2015 by Terri Janke
- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

2.3. Research and other drivers

The development of this policy has been informed by a comprehensive research process, including:

- A review of relevant literature on public art policy and practice.
- Analysis of research conducted by peak industry bodies.

- A survey of successful public art policies and strategies implemented by local governments across Greater Melbourne and Australia.
- Consultation with key internal Council departments and service areas.
- Consultation with community.

3. Objectives

1. Ensure increased financial investment and strategic planning for public art across the municipality.
2. Enhance the city's public spaces through art that invites reflection, celebration, critique and engagement with contemporary issues.
3. Provide a clear framework for the acquisition, commissioning and delivery of public art.
4. Support best practice management of the public art collection, including conservation and responsible deaccessioning.
5. Create meaningful employment and professional development opportunities for artists.

4. Policy details

4.1. Guiding Principles for Public Art and the Public Art Collection

Merri-bek City Council is committed to commissioning and presenting public art that is bold, inclusive, place-based, and transformative. These guiding principles are aligned with the policy objectives and inform the planning, commissioning, acquisition, management, conservation and presentation of public art throughout the municipality.

First Peoples Cultural Leadership: Ensuring First Peoples voices, knowledge systems, and cultural protocols inform and lead public art outcomes.

Equity, Inclusion and Access: Reflecting community diversity through equitable opportunities, inclusive commissioning, and practices that prioritise cultural safety and remove systemic barriers.

Artistic Excellence and Innovation: Driving public art with bold, research-informed, and innovative practices that express distinct cultural ideas, engage audiences, and achieve artistic excellence.

Place Activation and Urban Identity: Enriching public spaces by telling local stories, improving liveability, and activating vibrant civic life.

Community Engagement and Participation: Celebrating diversity and local stories through community-led projects, supported and empowered by Council's inclusive, grass roots initiatives.

Artists as Cultural Workers: Recognising artists as essential contributors to cultural life and providing paid opportunities alongside professional development.

Diverse Forms and Flexible Practices: Supporting a broad range of creative expressions and encouraging experimental, temporary works that engage communities and provide opportunities for emerging artists.

Environmental Sustainability: Developing public art using environmentally sustainable materials and practices, with a commitment to ongoing care and conservation that upholds the principles of long-term environmental stewardship and aligns with Council's sustainability goals.

Best Practice Governance and Equitable Processes: Managing public art with transparency, fairness, and respect for artists' rights and equity throughout all stages.

Equitable Geographic Access: Ensuring fair, accessible public art across all municipal areas and communities.

4.2. Funding

4.2.1 Council Funding

New Commissions

An annual budget allocation (see Appendix: Public Art New Commissions Budget Projection) will be made to fund new public art commissions, increasing annually over the next five years to reach a permanent percentage-based commissioning fund on renewal of this policy.

The budget allocation is accruable, allowing unspent funds to be carried forward to support larger or future projects as needed. Managed by the Arts and Culture Unit, public art commissioned through this funding stream may be integrated within infrastructure projects or delivered independently in response to community needs, site opportunities, or cultural priorities. It will also fund Council's graffiti prevention mural program.

Application of funds will be guided by Council's *Public Art Policy* and *Arts and Culture Strategy 2023–2030* to ensure alignment with broader cultural and community goals. Project selection and prioritisation will be undertaken by the Arts and Culture Unit in consultation with relevant internal departments and each year.

Artwork Renewal – Capital Works Renewal Budget

An annual allocation equivalent to 0.8% of the total market value of the public art asset register will be set aside for renewal and conservation activities, with a minimum annual provision of \$50,000. This funding supports routine and responsive conservation, condition assessments, valuation, restoration, and the responsible deaccessioning of artworks where appropriate.

All existing and new permanent public artworks will be recorded on Council's Asset Register and managed in accordance with a scheduled conservation and renewal plan. Ongoing care of these assets will be prioritised through an annual Conservation Action Plan, ensuring responsible lifecycle management of the Public Art Collection.

Other Projects

Consideration of the integration of artist-led design elements in Council's infrastructure and programs is always encouraged. Integration of these elements may fall outside the scope of the detailed funding streams, with budget decided by Project Managers and Project Control Board, and in consultation with the Arts and Culture Unit.

4.2.2 Non-Council Funding

Grants, Philanthropy, Sponsorship

Council will, where possible, pursue grants from other levels of government, philanthropic organisations, and the private sector to enhance the delivery and longevity of public art outcomes. Sponsorships will be considered in accordance with Merri-bek City Council's *Sponsorships Policy*, ensuring that all partnerships align with Council values and community expectations. Philanthropic contributions may also be explored as a means of fostering shared cultural investment and long-term stewardship of the city's public art assets. All public art commissions funded via grants, funding or philanthropy must adhere to the *Public Art Policy* and *Public Art Guidelines*.

Community and Private Business Led Projects

All community and private business-led public art projects proposed for the public realm must adhere to the *Public Art Policy* and *Public Art Guidelines* and be approved by Council's Arts and Culture Unit to ensure alignment with Council's standards for quality, cultural integrity, and public value. A decision on whether these works will be acquired into the Public Art Collection will be on a case-by-case basis, governed by the Public Art Assessment Panel.

4.3. Artist Rights and Copyright

Merri-bek City Council upholds artists' rights under the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth), including copyright ownership and moral rights. Artists retain copyright, while Council receives a limited, non-exclusive licence for promotional and archival use. All alterations, relocation, or conservation of artworks will involve artist consultation, and Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property will be respected through meaningful engagement with Traditional Owners and communities. Under the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth), copyright protection applies equally to the creative works of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

4.4. Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP) and Moral Rights

Merri-bek City Council is committed to upholding the collective and perpetual rights of First Peoples to their cultural knowledge, expression and heritage. Council will seek free, prior, and informed consent before using any Indigenous cultural content, and will work in genuine partnership with Traditional Custodians to ensure respectful consultation, attribution, and protection of ICIP.

Merri-bek City Council recognises that both individual moral rights and the collective cultural rights of First Peoples must be respected. Council will not alter, reproduce or repurpose material containing Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP) without informed consent from the original artist and relevant Traditional Custodians, regardless of copyright ownership.

4.5. Public Art Commissioning and Selection Process

Merri-bek City Council is committed to a clear, transparent, culturally respectful, and gender-inclusive process for commissioning public art. The commissioning framework balances flexibility with accountability, ensuring each project is responsive to its unique context, community, and cultural significance, while actively promoting equity and inclusion at every stage.

4.5.1 Commissioning Methods

Council employs a range of commissioning methods depending on the scope, budget, and intent of each project while adhering to Council's procurement and equity policies:

- Open Competition (Expression of Interest – EOI): Publicly advertised through diverse media channels, this method is typically used for higher-value commissions and follows Council's procurement and equity policies.
- Limited Competition (EOI): When targeted expertise is required, Council invites a select number of artists (usually 3–5), ensuring that gender balance and diversity are considered in the invitation process.
- EOI Process with Concept Design Stage: Shortlisted artists are paid to develop concept designs, with clear attention given to ensuring gender diversity among participants.
- Direct Invitation: Artists may be directly commissioned based on their qualifications, lived experience, cultural authority, or relevance to the site or community.

These methods are implemented with a conscious effort to promote equitable representation of Council's Human Rights Priority Groups among commissioned artists and collaborators.

4.5.2 Artist Engagement and Support

Artists will be fairly compensated at all stages, with transparent contractual agreements outlining rights, responsibilities, timelines, deliverables, and copyright. Council recognises that barriers exist in the arts and therefore prioritises the inclusion, mentorship, and professional development of First Peoples artists and arts workers, as well as members of Council's Human Rights Policy Priority Groups. Appropriate resourcing will be allocated to support equitable participation, per the National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA) Code of Conduct Payment Standards.

4.5.3 Indigenous Protocols in Commissioning

Merri-bek City Council's vision for reconciliation is for respectful and inclusive recognition of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waterways in the area now known as Merri-bek. Council commits to addressing dispossession and dislocation of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from their traditional lands by establishing and maintaining into the future, respectful partnerships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the broader community. This vision for reconciliation extends to Council's public art program.

Council will appoint a Council-employed First Peoples arts worker, community worker, or an approved representative to support First Peoples artists throughout the Expression of Interest process, when required. Any commissions telling First Peoples stories will be First Peoples led to ensure cultural integrity and appropriate representation. The engagement of First Peoples curators, arts workers, or project managers will also extend to projects that may not be created solely by First Peoples artists, reflecting an inclusive and collaborative approach.

Council will consult with Traditional Owners on the public art program, and a Traditional Owner or delegate will be invited to participate in the Public Art Assessment Panel in a paid role to provide expert cultural advice on those projects when required.

4.5.4 Site Selection

The location of public art is instrumental in shaping its impact, accessibility, and relevance within a community. A carefully selected site can enhance how the work is perceived, encourage public interaction, and reinforce the character and identity of a place.

When considering potential locations for public art, several key factors will guide the evaluation process. These include the cultural and historical significance of the site, how it is used and accessed by the public, local demographics, and the social context of the surrounding area. Practical elements such as visibility, safety, ownership, environmental conditions, and how the site relates to nearby architecture and heritage features are also critical.

4.5.5 Project Planning and Evaluation

Each project will include:

- A comprehensive project brief and contract
- Risk assessment and risk management plan
- Long-term conservation and maintenance planning
- Clear procedures for decommissioning or removal, with transparency and fairness
- An evaluation and feedback process that aims to continuously improve equity outcomes in public art commissioning.

4.6. Risk and Insurance

All public art projects must begin with a risk management plan and risk register, in line with Work, Health and Safety legislation and the Disability Discrimination Act 1992. Complex works require assessment by qualified professionals. Artists must hold appropriate public liability, professional indemnity, and OH&S insurance, with evidence provided at contract execution. Following installation and handover to Council, ownership and insurance responsibilities transfer to Council.

4.7. Public Art Collection Management and Renewal

4.7.1 Budget

The Arts and Culture Unit will manage and administer the Artwork Renewal budget.

4.7.2 Ownership and Responsibility

All public artworks acquired, commissioned, or donated and accepted by the Council will be managed as part of Merri-bek City Council's Public Art Collection. The Arts and Culture Unit manages custodianship, documentation, conservation, and strategic management of the collection. A Public Art Collection Valuation will be conducted every five years, coordinating with Council's Assets and Insurance Departments.

4.7.3 Acquisition and Accessioning

Public artworks can be acquired through commission, donation, or transfer and must comply with the *Public Art Policy*. New artworks are assessed by the PUBLIC ART ASSESSMENT PANEL for artistic merit, durability, relevance, conservation requirements, and alignment with Council priorities before being accepted into the collection. Developer or community-initiated artworks or donations must adhere to the *Public Art Policy* and require review and approval by the Public Art Assessment Panel.

4.7.4 Care and Documentation

All new public art assets will be managed by the Arts and Culture Unit as part of Merri-bek City Council's Public Art Collection and documented in the Public Art Asset Register, detailing key information including artist, title, location, materials, condition, and conservation needs. Artists will be required to prepare a conservation manual outlining construction, materials, cleaning schedules, and conservation requirements, to inform the Public Art Conservation Plan. The Arts and Culture Unit will oversee this plan, along with the annual Conservation Action Plan in consultation with the Public Art Assessment Panel and will coordinate inspections, conservation tasks, and budget requirements. Artists will be consulted on repairs in line with their moral rights, with a 12-month warranty covering any latent defects. Refer to the *Public Art Guidelines* for detailed requirements.

4.7.5 Deaccessioning

Artworks may be considered for removal if they are irreparably damaged or deteriorated, pose safety risks, exceed their lifespan or are no longer relevant to context or artistic intent. Proposals are reviewed by the Public Art Assessment Panel according to clear evaluation criteria, including physical condition, relevance and context, aesthetic and cultural merit, conservation costs and artist, community and stakeholder input.

4.8. Governance

All public art proposals are assessed by a Public Art Assessment Panel using pre-determined selection criteria for each commission. Panel members provide community context, specialist knowledge, and advice will be selected for their expertise and lived experience in relation to the commissioned project, ensuring diversity and appropriate representation.

The Public Art Assessment Panel will evaluate all public art project proposals submitted by internal Council departments, community members, groups, organisations, businesses, or developers for potential inclusion in the Merri-bek City Council Public Art Collection. The Public Art Assessment Panel will make recommendations on the acquisition, commissioning, care, and deaccession of all public art. Recommendations are made to the relevant Manager, CEO, or Council for approval, in line with financial delegations and the *Public Art Guidelines*.

Membership of the Public Art Assessment Panel will change for each commission or commissioning period and include the following membership for any given assessment:

- Unit Manager Arts and Culture or delegate (voting member)
- Public Art Officer (voting member)
- At least one Merri-bek City Council representative relevant to the project and subject matter (voting member).
- A relevant expert advisor, cultural or commission specific, with consideration given to lived experience and gender-informed perspectives (voting member).
- A First Peoples representative (voting member).
- A representative from the Arts Advisory Committee with appropriate public art expertise (voting member).

The Public Art Assessment Panel will operate under a Terms of Reference that outlines roles, responsibilities, membership, authority, and operations. These terms will align with Council's *Public Art Policy*, *Arts and Culture Strategy*, and principles of equity and inclusion.

The preselection and recommendation of external members will be conducted by internal staff and recommendations will be reviewed and endorsed by the Unit Manager Arts and Culture.

Public Art Assessment Panel meetings will be chaired by the Unit Manager Arts and Culture or their delegate and facilitated by the Public Art Officer. Invitations may be extended to internal or external industry specialists or project stakeholders (non-voting) to participate in

one-off meetings and advise the Public Art Assessment Panel on key matters relevant to its role.

5. Roles and responsibilities

Party/parties	Roles and responsibilities
Unit Manager Arts and Culture	Oversees Public Art Assessment Panel including composition of panel, decision maker on commissioning and decommissioning.
Public Art Officer	Runs commissioning and decommissioning process, completes conservation plans and actions.
Team Leader Gallery and Arts Programs	Works with Unit Manager Arts and Culture on commissioning and decommissioning decisions, oversees Public Art Officer.
Arts and Culture Unit	Responsible for delivery of this policy.
Manager Cultural Development	Final decision making on commissioning when required, in line with procurement policy.
Director Community	Final decision making on commissioning when required, in line with procurement policy.
CEO	Final decision making on commissioning when required, in line with procurement policy.
Capital Works	Key stakeholders in policy, contract management of projects that will include public art.
Open Space	Key stakeholders in policy, contract management of projects that will include public art.
Urban Design	Key stakeholders in policy, contract management of projects that will include public art.
Early Years	Key stakeholders in policy, contract management of projects that will include public art.
Aquatics and Leisure	Key stakeholders in policy, contract management of projects that will include public art.
Finance	Assist with resource allocation.
Procurement	Ensure procurement procedures are followed as required.
Council Project Managers	Contract management of projects that will include public art.
Arts Advisory Committee	1-2 members from the Committee will be selected to be members of the Public Art Assessment Panel. The Committee will be informed of all public art commissions and deaccessions from the Public Art Collection.

6. Monitoring, Evaluating and review

Public art requires a significant investment of time and financial resources. To ensure that this investment is strategic, impactful, and well-considered, output measures will be established for each project. These measures will be included in the approval process for commissioning and acquiring public artworks, reviewed by the Unit Manager, Manager, Director, CEO, or

Council as determined by financial threshold. The Arts Advisory Committee, Ward Councillor for each public art project, and Mayor will be updated at key intervals as each project progresses and given the opportunity to provide feedback.

7. Definitions

Term	Definition
Acquisition	The process of obtaining legal ownership and possession of a work of art through purchase, donation, or transfer, whether for an existing piece or a newly commissioned artwork to be added to a collection.
Art Collection	A curated assembly of artworks, objects, or items of artistic, historical, or civic value, organised based on specific guiding principles or curatorial objectives.
Commission	A new purchased artwork that is requested to be created for a specific site or purpose.
Community Art	Art created in collaboration with local communities, where artists engage with the public to develop the concept and execution of the artwork, often in public spaces such as parks or community centres.
Conservation	The practice of repairing and preserving the physical condition of an artwork or object, ensuring its longevity and integrity over time.
Council	Merri-bek City Council, whether constituted before or after the commencement of this Policy.
Councillor	The individuals holding the office of a member of Merri-bek City Council.
Deaccession	A formal process for the removal of an artwork from a collection through either selling or disposing of it and thereby eliminating it from the official collection.
Developer	An individual or company responsible for the construction and sale of residential or commercial properties, typically in a new or redeveloped area.
Ephemeral Public Artwork	Artworks with a temporary existence, often created for a limited time (from a few hours to several days), whose form or relationship to its environment may change during its display. These artworks are not included in permanent art collections, and the artist retains responsibility for any insurance related to the work.
Integrated Public Art	Art that is incorporated into the design of public spaces, architecture, or landscape elements. Examples include artist-designed furniture, lighting, seating, interpretive signage, or sculptural elements embedded in urban infrastructure. Integrated art is designed and/or created by an artist, which is what differentiates it from general infrastructure or features.
Lifespan	The expected duration that a public artwork remains on display or part of a collection, determined by the artist and considering factors such as materials used, conservation needs, expected deterioration, and location-specific impacts. Lifespan may vary and inform decisions around deaccessioning.

Moral Rights	Rights of creators of copyrighted works which includes the right of attribution, the right to have a work published anonymously or pseudonymously, and the right to the integrity of the work such as the display of the work in the way the artist intends.
Public Art Assessment Panel	Public Art Assessment Panel – The Panel responsible for reviewing and evaluating public art proposals, ensuring they align with policy objectives and community standards.
Permanent Public Artwork	Artworks intended for long-term display, often built with durable materials to withstand environmental conditions. These pieces are site-specific and designed to engage with their surroundings and enhance local culture and narratives.
Placemaking	A collaborative approach to the design, planning, and management of public spaces, aiming to create environments that foster a sense of community, belonging, and identity while improving the quality of life for residents.
Public Art Program	A series of initiatives that promote the creation and engagement with public art, including temporary and permanent art installations, educational programs, and community participation opportunities.
Sculpture	Three-dimensional art created through methods such as carving, modelling, casting, or assembling materials to form a tangible, often site-specific object or installation.
Temporary Public Art	Artworks that are intended to be displayed for a short duration, often experimental and dynamic in nature. These works may occupy a space for days, months, or up to five years, contributing to the temporary vibrancy of the environment.

8. Associated Documents

- Public Art Guidelines

9. References

- Arts + Law, [Copyright Law Information Sheets](#).
- Arts Law Centre of Australia 2016, [Public Art: Design and Commissioning Information Sheet](#)
- Arts SA and Local Government Association of South Australia (2006) [Public Art, Making It Happen: Commissioning Guidelines for Local Councils](#)
- Australia Council for the Arts (2019) [Protocols for using First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property in the Arts](#)
- Australian Government, Office of the Arts (2023) [Revive: a place for every story, a story for every place, National Cultural Policy](#)
- Banyule City Council (2020) [Public Art Policy 2020 - 2024](#)
- Brimbank City Council (2018) [Public Art Policy and Plan 2018 - 2023](#)
- City of Casey (2018) [Arts Acquisition Policy](#)
- City of Kingston (2023) [Public Art Policy 2023 - 2028](#)
- City of Melbourne (2021) [Public Art Framework 2021-3](#)

City of Port Phillip (2019) [Public Art Developer Guidelines](#)
 City of Vincent 2014 [Percent for Art Policy](#)
 Copyright Act 1968 (Cth)
 Creative Victoria (2025) [Creative State 2025](#)
 Georges River Council (2024) [Public Art Policy](#)
 Knox City Council (2022) [Public Art Policy](#)
 Maribyrnong City Council (2019) [Public Art Strategy](#)
 National Association for Visual Artists (2024) [The Code of Practice for the Professional Australian Visual Arts, Craft and Design Sector](#)
 NSW Government (2023) [Public Art Toolkit](#)
 Wyndham City Council (2019) [Public Art and Collections Policy](#)
 Yarra City Council (2015) [Public Art Policy 2015-2020 and Guidelines for Public Art in Private Development in Yarra.](#)

10. Appendix: Public Art New Commissions Budget Projection

Year	New Commissions	Maintenance
2026/2027	\$50,000	0.8% of value of public art collection (min \$50,000)
2027/2028	\$100,000	0.8% of value of public art collection (min \$50,000)
2028/2029	\$150,000	0.8% of value of public art collection (min \$50,000)
2029/2030	\$200,000	0.8% of value of public art collection (min \$50,000)
2030/2031	\$250,000	0.8% of value of public art collection (min \$50,000)

7.4 2025-26 SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

Acting Director Business Transformation, Anita Curnow

Financial Services

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the 2025-26 Second Quarter Financial Report for the period ending 31 December 2025, including operating performance and capital performance at Attachment 1.
2. Notes the status of the capital works program for 2025-26.
3. Notes the full-year forecast for operating income of \$286.9 million, operating expenditure of \$249.8 million and an accounting surplus of \$37.0 million arising from the Second Quarter Financial Review.
4. Endorses the full-year capital expenditure forecast of \$80.1 million, arising from the 2025-26 Second Quarter Financial Review.
5. Carries forward the following capital project funding to the 2026-27 Capital Works Program (\$20.8 million):
 - a) Fully or partially grant (or external) funded projects to be carried forward if the funding is secured and received this financial year:
 - Fawkner Netball Club Roof – \$4,483,220
 - Kendall/Harding Footbridge over Merri Creek – \$2,000,000
 - Victoria St - Streets for People – \$2,000,000
 - Coburg North Sports Hub Upgrades – \$813,421
 - 40 km/h Rollout - Traffic Calming – \$400,000
 - Sportsfield Lighting - Dunstan Reserve (N&S) – \$400,000
 - Coburg Bluestone Cottage Complex Redevelopment – \$64,338
 - b) Reserve funded projects:
 - Park Renewal, Loyola Ave Pitt St (Design, Construct and Road Closure – \$300,000
 - Park Renewal, Calder Reserve (Design and Construct) – \$282,600
 - Parks and Reserve Flooding Rectification – \$200,000
 - Central Coburg Roads and Drainage – \$150,000
 - c) Rates funded projects:
 - McDonald Reserve Hockey Pitch - \$3,422,218
 - Glenroy Activity Centre Upgrade - Wheatsheaf Rd – \$1,351,912
 - Heavy Vehicles Replacement Program – \$1,000,000
 - Road Reconstruction, Northumberland Rd from Arndt to Crowley – \$800,000
 - West Street Neighbourhood Streetscape – \$721,000
 - DeChene Reserve - Gender Inclusive Facilities – \$702,775
 - Sylvester St Oak Park Land Slide – \$550,000
 - O'Hea St Bike Path Extension - Sussex to Derby St – \$400,000
 - Road Reconstruction, Tinning Street from Walter to Patterson – \$300,000
 - Fawkner Transport Study Projects- \$236,486
 - Hadfield Depot Masterplan Development & Drainage - \$200,000
 - Coburg Town Hall Upgrade – \$80,000
 - Carelink Go+ Device Purchases – \$59,584
 - Accommodation Changes to Meet Service Demand – \$50,000

- Fawkner Library Upgrade Works - \$50,000
 - Balfe Park Sportsfield Redevelopment - \$20,000
 - Holbrook Reserve Pavilion and Gender Inclusive Change Rooms - \$10,000
- d) Adjustment to rates funded projects previously approved
- Coburg Outdoor Pool - 8 X 15 Toddlers Pool – (\$175,000)
6. Approves funding for the following new projects in the 2025-26 Capital Works Program (\$1.2 million):
- Wheeler Street – Retaining Wall - \$920,000
 - Brunswick Baths Changeroom Works - \$175,905
 - Union Street – Sinkhole/Cavity Remediation Works - \$100,510
 - Raeburn Lighting Pole Rectification - \$36,000
7. Approves additional funding for the following existing projects in the 2025-26 Capital Works Program (\$1.5 million):
- Park Renewal – Sewell Reserve - \$278,852
 - Reactive Drainage Program - \$266,570
 - Wombat Crossings – Barrow St & Blair St, Coburg - \$200,000
 - Light Plant and Equipment Replacement Program - \$200,000
 - Brunswick City Baths Repainting & Renewal - \$160,000
 - Raised Intersection – Landells Rd & Essex St, Pascoe Vale - \$116,000
 - Narre Narre Stadium Floor Renewal - \$109,264
 - 115 Nicholson Street Footpath Upgrade - \$60,000
 - Gowanbrae Dog Park - \$19,051
 - Municipal Art Collection - \$13,115
 - Edgars Creek Corridor Connection Project - \$6,617
 - Road Reconstruction, Herbert Street from Pascoe Vale to Dead End - \$6,356
 - Road Reconstruction, Fowler Street from Walsh to Dead End - \$4,817
 - Brunswick Early Years Hub - \$4,500
 - Pedestrian Access & Priority Treatments - \$4,024
 - Public Art Program Across Merri-bek - \$1,385
 - Richards Reserve Natural Turf Renewal - \$1,182
 - Park Renewal – Soudan St - \$312
8. Notes savings realised from the following existing projects in the 2025-26 Capital Works Program (\$ 4.5 million):
- Drainage, Union St from Millward St to Brunswick Rd - \$1,450,000
 - Road Reconstruction, Northumberland Rd from Fawkner to Longview - \$353,393
 - Brunswick Activity Centre Upgrade Works – Wilson Ave - \$350,061
 - Road Reconstruction, Jersey St from Ohea to Gaffney – Both Carriageways - \$306,920
 - Sim Cr & Victoria St – Engeny Hot Spot No 8 - \$212,027
 - Road Reconstruction, Tinning Street from Patterson to Garnet - \$202,044
 - Light Vehicles Replacement Program - \$200,000
 - School Active Travel and Safety Infrastructure - \$200,000
 - Jukes Rd & William St, Fawkner – Priority Crossing - \$150,000
 - Climate Vulnerability Implementation – Buildings - \$120,000
 - Brunswick Baths – Modifications for Improvements to AV, IT & Lighting Systems - \$120,000
 - Raeburn Reserve – Cricket Training Nets - \$114,013
 - Parker Reserve – Baseball – Change Room & Refurbishment - \$109,264
 - Rehabilitation, Moonee Pde from Jewel to Union - \$100,000
 - Bain Avenue from Plaisted to Boundary, Road Reconstruction - \$97,746
 - Balfe Parks Sports Field Lights - \$83,113

- Fawkner Transport Study Projects - \$64,000
 - Footpath & Bikepath Renewals - \$60,000
 - Road Safety and Amenity Improvements Program - \$52,000
 - Large Scale WSUD (Sportsfield Stormwater Reuse) - \$43,799
 - Brunswick City Baths Community Meeting Space - \$40,000
 - Park Renewal – Esslemont Reserve - \$30,000
 - Additional Seating on Walking Routes to Shops - \$2,250
9. Notes, as at the end of the second quarter, as per Section 97 (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, the Chief Executive Officer is of the opinion that a revised budget is not required, however impacts to the full year forecast will continue to be closely monitored.

REPORT

Executive Summary

The Second Quarter Financial Report outlines Council’s progress in delivering the adopted/approved budget. It compares actual revenue and expenditure against year-to-date (YTD) budget figures and evaluates first-quarter financial performance to project the expected result for 30 June 2026.

At the end of December 2025, a comprehensive financial review was completed across the organisation to produce the 2025–26 Second Quarter Financial Review (Q2 Forecast). This process allows Council to assess its YTD performance and redirect available financial resources to better support its strategic priorities. The outcomes of this review are presented in this report as the Q2 Forecast.

For the six months ended 31 December 2025 and operating surplus of \$119.4 million was achieved, which is \$3.2 million higher than the YTD budget of \$116.2 million. It is important to note that the operating surplus does not convert to immediately available cash to Council. Surplus funds are used to fund important community infrastructure projects as well being restricted by legislation for future infrastructure investment.

Council’s forecast adjusted underlying surplus of \$16.6 million is \$0.4 million less than the Q1 forecast of \$17.0 million. This result is important as it measures Council’s ability to generate a surplus in the ordinary course of business – excluding non-recurrent capital grants, non-monetary asset contributions, and other contributions to fund capital expenditure from net results.

As set out in the issues section of this report, operating surplus funds do not convert to immediately available cash to Council. The accounting surplus includes items such as non-cash contributions, capital grants and is used to fund items such as loan repayments, the rates funded capital works program and transfers (savings) via reserves.

Council has spent \$24.0 million on capital expenditure, which is tracking below the year-to-date (YTD) budget of \$32.2 million, with \$69.9 million budget remaining.

After a detailed review of the capital works program, there is a forecast decrease of \$22.8 million from the Q1 forecast of \$103.0 million to \$80.1 million. This is due to \$20.9 million of additional carry forwards into 2026-27 and \$4.6 million of savings, offset by 18 projects requiring additional funding of \$1.5 million and \$1.2 million of new projects requiring funding.

Previous Council Decisions

2024-25 Financial Statements and Performance Statements – 10 September 2025

That Council, in accordance with the recommendations of the Audit and Risk Committee, and having considered Council’s Financial and Performance Statements for 2024-25 Statements at Attachments 1 and 2 to this report:

1. *Approves ‘in principle’ the Financial and Performance Statements 2024-25.*

2. *Authorises the Mayor, Cr Helen Davidson, Deputy Mayor, Cr Helen Politis, and the Chief Executive Officer, Cathy Henderson, to certify the Financial and Performance Statements for 2024-25 in their final form.*
3. *Carries forward the \$473,339 of tied operating funding that were not spent as of 30 June 2025.*
4. *Carries forward the \$32,410,329 of capital project funds into the 2025/26 Capital Works Program.*
5. *Authorises the Principal Accounting Officer to implement any minor administrative changes to the Financial and Performance Statements for 2024-25 if recommended by the Auditor-General upon final review, for approval by the Chief Executive Officer.*

2025-26 First Quarter Financial Report – 12 November 2025

That Council,

1. *Notes the 2025-26 First Quarter Financial Report for the period ending 30 September 2025, including operating performance and capital performance at Attachment 1.*
2. *Notes the status of the capital works program for 2025-26.*
3. *Notes the increase to the full-year forecast for operating income of \$9.2 million and the increase to operating expenditure of \$6.0 million arising from the 2025-26 First Quarter Financial Review.*
4. *Approves a decrease of \$2.7 million to the transfer to the Significant Projects Reserve (to \$1.8 million) in 2025-26 to fund additional expenditure relating to the Elevate Transformation Program and the bring forward of the Coburg basketball feasibility study. This reduction will be offset by a corresponding increase to the reserve in the 2026-2030 budget.*
5. *Endorses the full-year capital expenditure forecast of \$102.9 million, arising from the 2025-26 First Quarter Financial Review.*
6. *Carries forward the following capital project funding to the 2026-27 Capital Works Program:*
 - a) *Fully or partially grant funded projects to be carried forward if the funding is secured and received this financial year:*
 - *AG Gillon Stormwater Harvesting - \$1,000,000*
 - *Coburg Bluestone Cottage Complex Redevelopment - \$611,324.*
 - b) *Rates funded projects:*
 - *Bin Purchases (waste charge funded) - \$2,258,519*
 - *West Street Neighbourhood Streetscape - \$1,000,000*
 - *DeChene Reserve - Gender Inclusive Facilities - \$700,421*
 - *Coburg Outdoor Pool - 8 X 15 Toddlers Pool - \$175,000*
 - *Fawkner Library Upgrade Works - \$70,000.*
7. *Brings forward the following capital project funding to the 2025-26 Capital Works Program:*
 - *Brunswick Early Years Hub (grant funded) - \$261,663*
 - *Coburg Olympic Pool - Repainting - \$135,000*
 - *Balfe Park Sportsfield Redevelopment - \$50,000.*
8. *Approves funding for the following new projects in the 2025-26 Capital Works Program:*
 - *Fawkner Netball Club Roof (grant funded) - \$4,560,000*
 - *Jukes Rd & William St, Fawkner - Priority Crossing (grant funded) - \$437,000*
 - *Blackspot Project - Intersection of Widford St & View St, Glenroy (grant funded) - \$263,900*

- *Raised Crossing - Everett St & Moreland Rd (SLRSP) (grant funded) - \$184,000*
 - *Electric Vehicle Chargers (externally funded) - \$170,000 (previously budgeted as operating)*
 - *Emergency Road Works - Ivy St, Brunswick - \$104,010*
 - *Blackspot Project - Intersection of Albert St & Wilkinson St, Brunswick (grant funded) - \$57,330*
 - *Brunswick Bowls Club - \$16,646*
 - *Albion St/Lillian St Rectification - \$15,000*
 - *Glenroy Community Hub - Electrical Works - \$10,815*
 - *Coburg Lake Bridge Rectification Works - \$10,620.*
9. *Approves additional funding for the following existing projects in the 2025-26 Capital Works Program:*
- *Mitchell Parade Retaining Walls (grant funded) - \$1,068,852*
 - *Drainage, Moama Crescent and Jhonson Street - Hot Spot No 21 - \$381,650*
 - *Victoria St - Streets for People (grant funded) - \$374,000*
 - *York Street Park Close to Home (reserve funded) - \$265,374*
 - *Rehabilitation, Moonee Pde from Jewel to Union - \$245,000*
 - *Wombat Crossings - Barrow St & Blair St, Coburg - \$200,000*
 - *Brunswick City Baths Repainting & Renewal - \$174,345*
 - *Road Reconstruction, Katawa Grove from Cooraminta to Dead End - \$168,000*
 - *40 km/h Rollout - Traffic Calming - \$100,000*
 - *South Street - Engeny Hot Spot No 12 - \$99,404*
 - *Richards Reserve Natural Turf Renewal - \$85,485*
 - *South Street from Jensen to West, Road Reconstruction - \$82,866*
 - *Fawkner Leisure Centre Redevelopment - \$55,195*
 - *South Street from Dickinson to Everitt, Road Reconstruction - \$51,421*
 - *Park Renewal - Soudan St (reserve funded) - \$48,599*
 - *Building Maintenance - Capital Purchases - \$28,138*
 - *Fallon St From Union to Collier Both Carriageways - \$16,889*
 - *Park Renewal - Beccles / Oulton Reserve (reserve funded) - \$12,974*
 - *Tyson Street from Jukes Rd to Denys Street, Road Reconstruction - \$12,028*
 - *Mobile Phone Purchases - \$15,408*
 - *Shade Sail Installation - Anne Sgro Child Care (grant funded) - \$6,302.*
10. *Notes savings realised from the following existing projects in the 2025-26 Capital Works Program:*
- *Road Reconstruction, O'Hea Street from Lonsdale St to Clifton Grove - \$548,786*
 - *Road Reconstruction, O'Hea Street from Montefiore St to Lonsdale St - \$425,878*
 - *Road Reconstruction, O'Hea Street from Sussex St to Bishop St - \$356,397*
 - *Road Reconstruction, O'Hea Street from Bishop St to Montefiore St - \$350,514*
 - *Road Reconstruction, Dalgety Street from Hope to Whitby - \$325,000*
 - *Road Reconstruction, Devon Street from View to Oak - \$300,000*
 - *Park Renewal, Cox Reserve, including playground upgrade (reserve funded) - \$227,239*
 - *School Active Travel and Safety Infrastructure - \$200,000*
 - *Road Reconstruction, Garden Street from Belfast to Glenlyon (both Carriageways) - \$165,237*
 - *Road Safety and Amenity Improvements Program - \$143,000*
 - *Wombat Crossing - Albion to Melville - \$115,000*
 - *Coburg North Sports Hub Upgrades - \$95,755*
 - *Patterson Street from Tinning to Albion, Road Reconstruction - \$26,760*
 - *Parker Reserve - Baseball - Change Room & Refurbishment - \$25,000*
 - *Snell Gve-Public Toilet-Snell Gve, Oak Park - \$15,859*

- *Fawkner Community Hall - CB Smith Reserve - \$7,000.*

1. Policy Context

The 2025-2029 Budget was adopted by Council on 23 June 2025. The Budget sets out the resources required to deliver the Council Plan, Services and Capital Works Program for the 2025-26 financial year.

This report supports Council's continuing commitment to open and accountable management of the financial resources of Merri-bek on behalf of its ratepayers.

2. Background

Section 97 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires that the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a quarterly budget report is presented to Council at a Council meeting which is open to the public after the end of each quarter of the financial year.

The purpose of this report is to compare the actual and budgeted results to date and provide an explanation of any material variations. This report also includes the results of Q2 forecasts which assesses the financial trends that have occurred in the first two quarters of the 2025-26 financial year to determine a forecast outcome for 30 June 2026.

3. Issues

Operating Performance Summary

Year to Date Result

For the six months ended 31 December 2025, an operating surplus \$119.4 million was recorded, which is \$3.2 million (3%) more than the year to date (YTD) budget of \$116.2 million. This comprises total revenue of \$240.3 million which is \$4.9 million (2%) more than the YTD budget of \$235.4 million and total expenditure of \$120.9 million which is \$1.7 million (1%) more than the YTD budget of \$119.2 million.

Council adopted the 2025-26 budget projecting a surplus of \$43.3 million in June 2025.

Further details on the year-to-date result are included in **Attachment 1**.

Forecast Year End Result (Q2 result)

Although the Q1 forecast projected a surplus of \$46.5 million for 30 June 2026, this has now need revised to \$37.0 million in Q2. This is an unfavourable movement of \$9.5 million. Q2 also forecasts an adjusted underlying surplus of \$16.6 million which is \$0.4 million less than the Q1 forecast.

Although the Q2 result remains an underlying surplus (underlying result), the lower surplus compared to the Q1 forecast indicates a decline in the operating position. While the underlying result has declined, the unrestricted result is forecasting an improvement from a \$0.7 million deficit to a \$0.2 million deficit. This is primarily due to \$0.2 million of savings from rates funded capital projects.

Further details Q1 and Q2 year-end forecast results are included in **Attachment 1**.

Capital Performance Summary

Year to Date Result

\$24.0 million has been spent on capital expenditure to 31 December 2025 which is \$7.2 million (25%) less than the YTD original budget, with \$69.9 million (74.4%) of the original budget remaining.

Forecast Year End Result (Q2 result)

The capital works program is forecast to decrease by \$22.8 million from the Q1 forecast of \$103.0 million as a result of:

- \$20.9 million of additional carry forwards into 2026-27 identified in the Q2 forecast.
- \$4.6 million of savings.
- 22 projects requiring additional funding of \$2.7 million.

There remains \$56.0 million (70%) of the Q2 forecast to be spent, and further details on the Q2 forecast movement are included under **Attachment 2**.

Financial Position Summary

Year to Date Result

Council is still showing a strong balance sheet position, with cash assets at \$112.6 million as at 31 December. This is a \$16.5 million increase on 30 June 2025 cash levels, mainly due to the timing of when the rates instalments fall due and lagging spend in the capital works program. Cash fluctuates frequently over the year due to a number of factors, including the timing of rates instalments as well as lower than anticipated delivery of Capital Works program.

Forecast Year End Result (Q2 result)

The forecast financial position for 30 June 2026 is a cash and investment position of \$81.7 million (an increase of \$13.9 million compared to the Q1 forecast) and net current assets of \$71.0 million (an increase of \$13.8 million compared to the Q1 forecast). This increase is primarily due to the increase in cash resulting from the forecast decrease in rates funded capital works of \$14.3 million in 2025-26.

Public Council Resolutions included in the Q2 forecast

Council makes decisions to refer budget items to a quarterly review, whether savings or additional costs. The table below shows the public Council resolutions that have been accounted for in the Q2 forecast.

Council Report	Council Meeting	Source	\$
7.10 Contract RFT-2025-42 Road Reconstruction, Tinning Street, Brunswick from Garnet Street to Walters Street	November 2025	Rates	(202,044)
7.9 Contract award: RFT-2025-48 Road Reconstruction Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale (Fawkner Road to Longview)	December 2025	Rates	(353,393)
7.10 Contract award: RFT-2025-49 Road Reconstruction Jersey Street, Coburg (O'Hea Street to Gaffney Street)	December 2025	Rates	(306,920)
Rates funded resolutions			(862,357)
Total savings			(862,357)

Key Definitions

Surplus – is reported based on the Australian Accounting Standards and includes all operating income and expenditure recognised in the financial period, including gifted subdivisional assets (non-monetary), developer contributions and grants towards capital works projects. It is important to note that the surplus is not a cash surplus. It does not convert to immediately available cash for Council. Significant amounts of the surplus are restricted by legislation and must be used for future infrastructure investment.

Adjusted underlying surplus – is the surplus for the year adjusted for non-recurrent capital grants and contributions. It is an accepted measure of financial sustainability as it is not impacted by non-recurring or once-off items of revenue and expenses that can often mask the operating results.

Unrestricted result – this is the net funding result after considering the funding requirements to meet loan principal repayments and transfers to and from reserves.

Solvency Assessment

Council officers have reviewed Council's liquidity (Current Assets divided by Current Liabilities), and the revised forecast is 2.2. The Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO) recommends that this ratio be 1.5 or higher. This is a positive result and shows that Council is solvent.

Human Rights Consideration

The implications of this report have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities. There are no Human Rights impacts.

4. Community Consultation and Engagement

Community consultation and engagement was not required for this report as it reflects the performance against the budget and delivery of the capital works program.

Advice was sought from officers across Council to provide performance results for the Second Quarter Financial Review.

Affected persons rights and interests

Before making a decision that affects a person's rights, Council must identify whose rights may be directly affected and provide an opportunity for that person (or persons) to convey those views regarding the effect on their rights and consider those views. There are no individual rights or interests affected.

5. Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

6. Financial and Resources Implications

The overall corporate objective is to deliver the 2025-26 budget with the best possible outcome for Council and the community, and in line with the approved revised forecast targets.

7. Implementation

Subject to Council's decision, the matters outlined in the Second Quarter Financial Report will be implemented.

The financial position of Council and the progress of the capital works program will continue to be monitored and managed.

Attachment/s

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------|
| 1 | Council Quarterly Financial Report - December 2025 | D26/27357 |
| 2 | Capital Works Program - 2025-26 Second Quarter Financial Review | D26/22619 |



Merri-bek
City Council

Council Quarterly Financial Management Report

6 Months Ended December 2025

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Executive Summary

Operating Performance

For the six months ended 31 December 2025, Council recorded an operating surplus of \$119.4 million which is \$3.2 million (3%) more than the year to date (YTD) budget of \$116.2 million. This comprises total revenue of \$240.3 million which is \$4.9 million (2%) more than the YTD budget of \$235.4 million and total expenditure of \$120.9 million which is \$1.7 million (1%) unfavourable compared to the YTD budget of \$119.2 million.

Income Statement	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	Annual Budget	Annual Forecast	Annual Variance
	Actuals	Budget	Variance	Variance			
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total Revenue	240,278	235,416	4,862	2%	281,292	286,861	5,569
Total Expenses	120,889	119,228	(1,662)	(1%)	237,964	249,832	(11,869)
Surplus/(Deficit)	119,389	116,189	3,201	3%	43,328	37,028	(6,300)

YTD favourable variance in revenue is primarily driven by Grants - Capital (\$2.6 million) and Supplementary Rates (\$2.1 million). YTD unfavourable variance in expenses due payment of software as part of Elevate Transformation Program (\$0.8 million), Finance's provision for doubtful debts (\$0.5 million) and Economic Development's consultancy costs (\$0.1 million).

Annual Forecast - The Q2 review is projecting a surplus of \$37.0 million, which is an unfavourable movement of \$9.5 million from Q1. Q2 also forecasts an adjusted underlying surplus of \$16.6 million which is \$380k less than the Q1 forecast.

Capital Works Program

YTD - Council has spent \$24.0 million on capital expenditure to 31 December 2025, which is \$7.2 million (23%) less than YTD original budget, with \$69.9 million (74.4%) of the full year budget remaining. The variance is driven by underspends in Recreational, Leisure & Community Facilities projects (\$2.6 million), Roads projects (\$2.3 million), Plant, Machinery & Equipment (\$2.3 million), Footpaths & Cycleways (\$0.3 million) and Buildings (\$0.3 million).

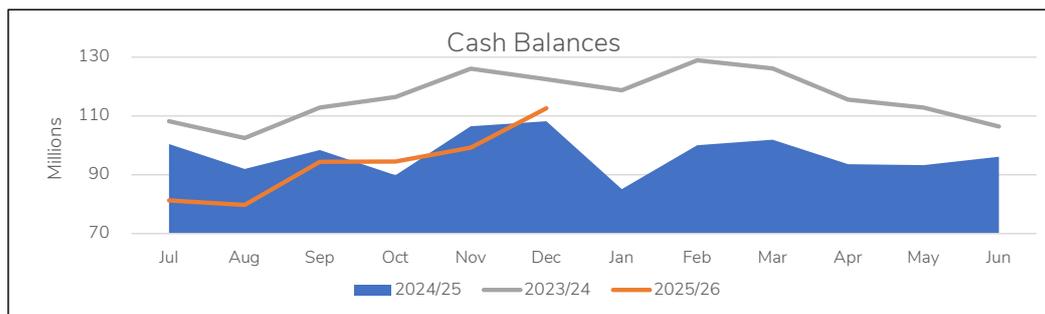
Annual Forecast - The capital works program is forecast to decrease by \$22.8 million from the Q1 forecast of \$103.0 million as a result of \$20.9 million of carry forwards, \$4.6 million of savings and 22 projects requiring additional funding of \$2.7 million.

Financial Results Summary	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	Annual Budget	Annual Forecast	Annual Variance
	Actuals	Budget	Variance	Variance			
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
New asset expenditure	2,517	5,160	2,643	51%	12,345	9,275	3,070
Asset renewal expenditure	15,005	19,182	4,176	22%	60,648	51,993	8,655
Asset upgrade expenditure	6,509	6,887	379	5%	20,894	18,787	2,107
Total capital works expenditure	24,030	31,228	7,198	23%	93,887	80,055	13,832

Cash & Investments

Cash assets are \$112.6 million as at 31 December 2025. This is an increase of \$16.5 million on 30 June 2025 cash levels, mainly as a result of due to the timing of when rates instalments fall due. Cash fluctuates frequently over the year due to a number of factors, mainly due to the timing of when the rates instalments fall due and the delivery of Capital Works projects.

Of the \$112.6 million cash assets, \$86.6 million is convertible to cash in less than 60 days and \$83.0 million (100%) is held in green investments. The portfolio is in compliance with Council policy which requires at least \$20.0 million to be convertible to cash and green investments to make up greater than 70% of all investments.



Operating Performance

Income Statement

YTD Variance (\$)		YTD Variance (%)	
▲	> \$500k	▲	> 10%
■	< \$500k & > (\$500k)	■	< 10% & > (10%)
▼	< (\$500k)	▼	< (10%)

Income Statement	Notes	YTD Actuals \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	YTD Variance %	Annual Budget \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000	Annual Variance \$'000
Revenue								
Rates and charges	1	203,651	202,473	▲ 1,178	1%	202,778	204,278	▲ 1,500
Statutory fees and fines		10,837	9,936	▲ 901	9%	19,323	20,276	▲ 953
User Fees	2	5,106	4,515	▲ 591	13%	8,899	9,748	▲ 849
Contributions - Monetary		4,343	4,276	■ 67	2%	8,232	9,406	▲ 1,174
Grants - Operating	3	9,401	10,504	▼ (1,103)	(11%)	21,205	21,385	■ 179
Grants - Capital	4	2,182	-	▲ 2,182	100%	12,964	12,556	■ (408)
Other Revenue	5	4,582	3,686	▲ 895	24%	7,797	8,969	▲ 1,172
Asset Sales		177	26	■ 150	568%	92	243	■ 150
Total Revenue		240,278	235,416	▲ 4,862	2%	281,292	286,861	▲ 5,569
Expenses								
Employee Benefits	6	61,943	57,432	▼ (4,511)	(8%)	116,144	119,801	▼ (3,657)
Contracts, Materials & Services	7	33,871	37,577	▲ 3,705	10%	73,199	80,319	▼ (7,119)
Depreciation	8	20,513	21,810	▲ 1,297	6%	43,621	42,323	▲ 1,297
Amortisation		118	118	■ 0	0%	236	236	■ 0
Bad and doubtful debts		1,969	1,536	■ (433)	(28%)	3,153	3,749	▼ (596)
Net loss on disposal of assets	9	1,811	-	▼ (1,811)	(100%)	-	1,811	▼ (1,811)
Finance Costs		405	402	■ (3)	(1%)	820	829	■ (9)
Other Expenses		259	353	■ 94	27%	790	764	■ 26
Total Expenses		120,889	119,228	▼ (1,662)	(1%)	237,965	249,832	▼ (11,869)
Net Result		119,389	116,189	▲ 3,201	3%	43,329	37,028	▼ (6,300)

Year to Date Result

Revenue

- User Fees** ended \$0.6 million (13%) favourable due to Aquatics facilities (\$0.2 million) and \$0.2 million relating to higher than anticipated income from Banyule City Council for Meals on Wheels (\$0.2 million).
- Grants-Operating** ended \$1.1 million (11%) unfavourable due to timing of grant funding from the Department of Transport for school crossing supervisors (\$0.6 million) and the timing of grant funding for the Commonwealth Home Support Program (\$0.5 million).
- Other Revenue** ended \$0.9 million (24%) favourable largely due to interest from term deposits being higher than forecasted (\$0.3 million) and invoices for the Emergency Services Volunteer Fund (ESVF) being issued earlier than anticipated (\$0.2 million).

Expenses

- Contracts, Materials & Services** ended \$3.7 million (10%) favourable largely due timing factor of waste charges (\$2.8 million) and centralised utilities being favourable due to a timing factor (\$0.6 million).

Forecast Year End Result

Revenue

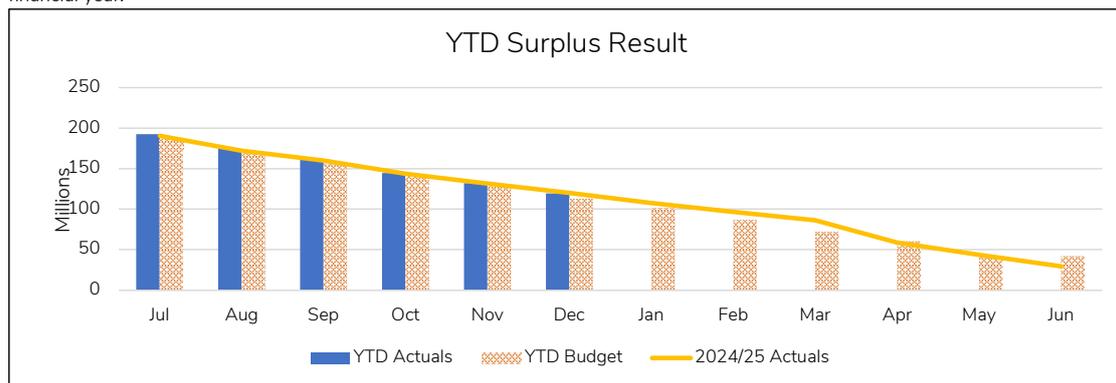
- Rates and Charges** are forecast to increase by \$1.5 million primarily due to a \$0.6 million increase in supplementary rates, and a \$0.6 million increase in interest on rates which is expected to be consistent with 2024-25 actuals.
- Grants-Capital** is forecast to decrease by \$7.1 million primarily due to an additional \$7.5 million of grant funded projects carried forward into 2026-27.
- Other Revenue** is forecast to increase by \$1.0 million primarily due to higher than anticipated interest on investments (\$0.7 million increase). At the end of December, interest was \$0.2 million favourable.

Expenses

- 6. Employee Benefits** are forecast to increase by \$3.0 million primarily due to an increase in leave provisions (\$1.5 million), maternity leave (\$0.2 million), and increased costs in Social Support (\$0.2 million) and Parking (\$0.1 million), which are both offset by additional
- 7. Contracts, Materials & Services** are forecast to increase by \$2.2 million primarily due to increased costs relating to waste (\$0.4 million), Coburg Central Revitalisation (\$0.3 million), IT applications (\$0.2 million) and building maintenance (\$0.2 million).
- 8. Depreciation** is forecast to decrease by \$1.3 million due to delays in capital projects being completed.
- 9. Net Loss on Disposal of Assets** is forecast to increase by \$1.8 million primarily due to the disposal of existing assets when they are replaced with new assets (\$1.3 million).

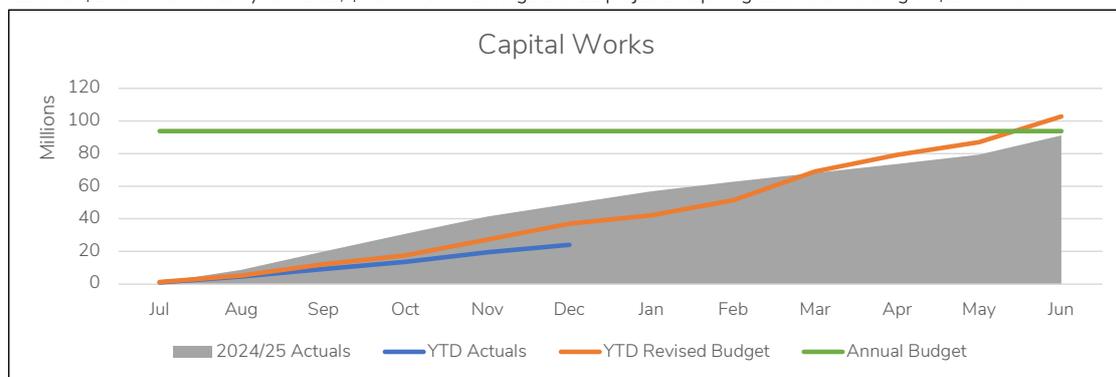
YTD Operating Result

YTD surplus result is impacted by total rates being recognised in July and the surplus will reduce progressively over the course of the financial year.



Capital Works

YTD - Council has spent \$24 million on capital expenditure to 31 December 2025 which is \$7.2 million (23%) lower than the YTD revised budget, with \$69.9 million (74%) of the full year budget remaining. The capital revised budget of \$80.1 million reflects the adopted 2025-26 budget, an additional \$8.4 million of carry forwards from 2024-25 and Q1 variations totalling \$0.7 million. Annual Forecast - The capital works program is forecast to decrease by \$22.8 million from the Q1 forecast of \$103.0 million as a result of \$20.9 million of carry forwards, \$4.6 million of savings and 22 projects requiring additional funding of \$2.7 million.

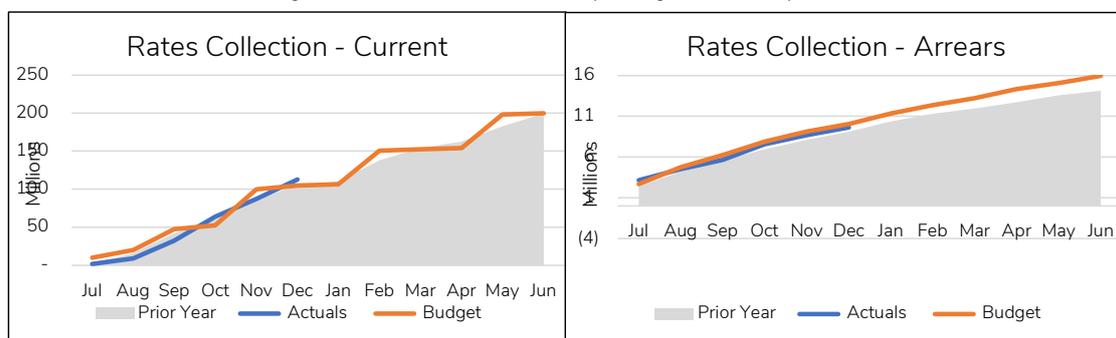


Debtors



Rates Collection

Rates cash collections are on budget and will be monitored over the upcoming months for impact on the forecast cash balances.



Investments

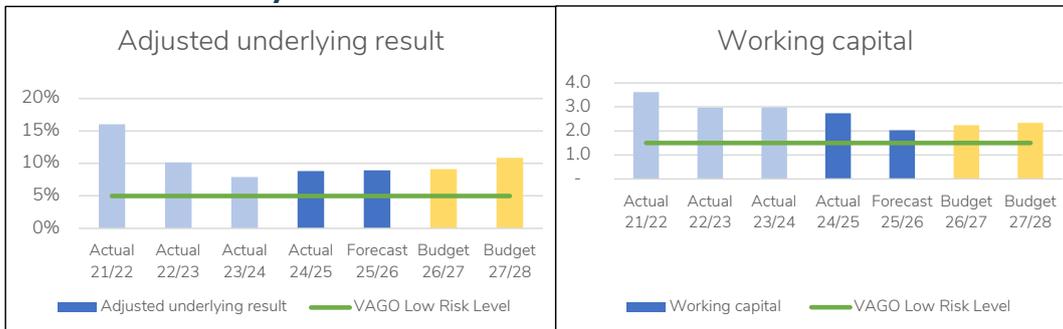
Of the \$112.6 million cash assets, \$86.6 million is convertible to cash in less than 60 days and \$83.0 million (100%) of term deposit

Bank	Maturity Date	Green %	Interest Rate %	S & P short term rating	Amount \$'000	Ratio %
Minor Cash*	N/A		N/A	N/A	123	
Westpac	N/A		4.20%	A-1+	19,324	
Westpac	N/A		4.30%	A-1+	10,121	
ME Bank - 2	18/02/2026	100%	4.05%	A-2	5,000	
ME Bank - 2	30/03/2026	100%	4.00%	A-2	5,000	20.5%
ME Bank - 2	17/02/2026	100%	3.95%	A-2	7,000	
Bendigo Bank - 2	23/03/2026	100%	4.00%	A-2	5,000	18.1%
Bendigo Bank - 2	18/02/2026	100%	4.00%	A-2	5,000	
Bendigo Bank - 2	8/01/2026	100%	4.00%	A-2	5,000	
Suncorp - 3	23/03/2026	100%	4.18%	A-1	10,000	12.0%
IMB - 3	6/01/2026	100%	4.05%	A-2	10,000	18.1%
IMB - 3	9/01/2026	100%	4.05%	A-2	5,000	
Westpac - 6	27/02/2026	100%	4.14%	A-1+	6,000	
Westpac - 6	10/04/2026	100%	4.17%	A-1+	4,000	31.3%
Westpac - 6	2/06/2026	100%	4.25%	A-1+	10,000	
Westpac - 6	23/06/2026	100%	4.44%	A-1+	6,000	
Total		100%			112,568	100.0%
Green					83,000	100.0%

* Minor cash includes NAB holding account and Petty Cash

Financial Sustainability

Financial Sustainability Ratios

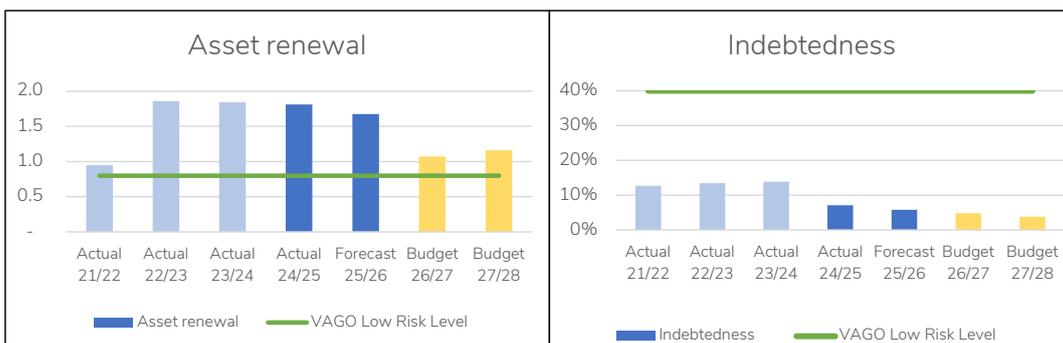


Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / adjusted underlying revenue

This ratio measures an entity's ability to generate its own cash. A positive result indicates a surplus, and the larger the percentage, the stronger the result. The result highlights Council's challenges in generating enough cash to fund future capital works without borrowing.

Current assets / current liabilities

Compares current assets to current liabilities, which provides a measure of the ability to pay existing liabilities in the next 12 months. This year's result expected to be in the low-risk range.



Renewal & upgrade spend/ depreciation

Ratios higher than 1.0 indicate that spending on existing assets is faster than the depreciation rate. This year's result is expected to stay in the low-risk range.

Non-current liabilities / own-source revenue

Measures Council's ability to pay the principal and interest on its borrowings as due from the funds it generates. This year's result is expected to stay in the low-risk range.

Treasury Corporation of Victoria (TCV)

TCV loan requirements		Target	Forecast
Interest Cover	EBITDA/Interest Expense	> 2	▲ 94
Interest Bearing Loans	Interest Bearing Liabilities/Own Source Revenue	< 60%	▲ 6%

TCV financing is conditional upon the Council maintaining a sustainable financial position when measured by the interest cover and interest bearing loans ratios. Forecast results indicate that the Council is meeting the minimum requirements. TCV loan requirements are well within target given limited borrowing compared to own source revenue and liability obligations.

Standard Statements

Comprehensive Income Statement

Comprehensive Income Statement	YTD Actuals \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000	Annual Variance \$'000
Revenue						
Rates and charges	203,651	202,473	1,178	202,778	204,278	1,500
Statutory fees and fines	10,837	9,936	901	19,323	20,276	953
User Fees	5,106	4,515	591	8,899	9,748	849
Contributions - Monetary	4,343	4,276	67	8,232	9,406	1,174
Grants - Operating	9,401	10,504	(1,103)	21,205	21,385	179
Grants - Capital	2,182	-	2,182	12,964	12,556	(408)
Other Revenue	4,582	3,686	895	7,797	8,969	1,172
Asset Sales	177	26	150	92	243	150
Total Revenue	240,278	235,416	4,862	281,292	286,861	5,569
Expenses						
Employee Benefits	61,943	57,432	(4,511)	116,144	119,801	(3,657)
Contracts, Materials & Services	33,871	37,577	3,705	73,199	80,319	(7,119)
Depreciation	20,513	21,810	1,297	43,621	42,323	1,297
Amortisation	118	118	0	236	236	0
Bad and doubtful debts	1,969	1,536	(433)	3,153	3,749	(596)
Net loss on disposal of assets	1,811	-	(1,811)	-	1,811	(1,811)
Finance Costs	405	402	(3)	820	829	(9)
Other Expenses	259	353	94	790	764	26
Total Expenses	120,889	119,228	(1,662)	237,964	249,832	(11,869)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	119,389	116,189	3,201	43,328	37,028	(6,300)

Underlying Result	YTD Actuals \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000	Annual Variance \$'000
Surplus for the Year	119,389	116,189	3,201	43,328	37,028	(6,300)
Other Comprehensive Income						
Net asset revaluation	-	-	-	49,206	49,206	-
Total Comprehensive Result	119,389	116,189	3,201	92,534	86,234	(6,300)
Non Operating Income and Expenditure						
Net loss on disposal of assets	1,634	(26)	1,661	(92)	1,568	1,661
Contributions Capital (cash & non-monetary)	(136)	(9)	(127)	(32)	(993)	(961)
Grants - Capital	(2,182)	-	(2,182)	(12,964)	(12,556)	408
PRRLF Reserve	(3,993)	(4,344)	351	(8,200)	(8,200)	-
DCP Reserve	(213)	(5)	(209)	-	(213)	(213)
Net asset revaluation	-	-	-	(49,206)	(49,206)	-
Total Capital Income	(4,891)	(4,384)	(507)	(21,289)	(20,394)	895
Underlying Result	114,498	111,805	2,693	22,040	16,635	(5,405)
Less						
Loan Principal Repayments	1,013	1,013	-	14,212	14,209	3
Additional Rates Funded CAPEX	(1,699)	(1,699)	-	13,041	(3,397)	16,438
Operating Grants brought forward from FY27	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers to Reserves - Operating	213	3,892	3,678	7,783	7,783	0
Transfers from Reserves - Operating	-	-	-	(13,500)	(16,640)	3,140
Carry Forwards processed into FY27	14,833	14,833	-	-	14,833	(14,833)
Capital to Operating	-	-	-	-	-	-
Developer contributed Assets (Found Assets)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Transfers & Other	14,361	18,039	3,678	21,536	16,788	4,747
Unrestricted Surplus/(Deficit)	100,136	93,764	6,372	504	(154)	(657)

Statement of Financial Position

Statement of Financial Position	YTD Actuals \$'000	30/06/25 Actuals \$'000	Movement Inc/(Dec) \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000	Annual Variance \$'000
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	29,568	36,116	(6,549)	89	14,137	14,048
Trade and other receivables	155,302	41,679	113,623	45,793	45,887	94
Other financial assets	83,000	60,000	23,000	73,107	67,607	(5,500)
Inventories	690	690	-	659	659	-
Prepayments	4,376	3,160	1,216	2,429	2,429	-
Non-current assets classified as held for sale	25,153	22,975	2,178	-	-	-
Other assets	3,672	4,156	(484)	2,208	2,208	-
Total current assets	301,760	168,776	132,984	124,284	132,926	8,642
Non-current assets						
Unlisted Shares	2	2	-	2	2	-
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	2,634,646	2,635,161	(515)	2,983,191	2,968,845	(14,346)
Right-of-use assets	747	813	-	128	128	-
Investments	37,232	37,232	-	36,024	36,024	-
Total non-current assets	2,672,626	2,673,207	(515)	3,019,345	3,004,999	(14,346)
Total assets	2,974,386	2,841,983	132,469	3,143,629	3,137,926	(5,704)
Current liabilities						
Payables						
Payables	34,481	20,543	13,938	18,753	18,753	-
Revenue Received in Advance	3,238	2,302	935	6,898	6,898	-
Provisions	23,814	20,923	2,891	27,110	27,706	596
Interest Bearing Loans and Borrowings	14,209	14,209	-	2,172	2,172	-
Trust Funds & Deposits	1,026	5,822	(4,795)	6,384	6,384	-
Lease liabilities	68	121	(53)	-	-	-
Total current liabilities	76,836	63,920	12,916	61,318	61,913	596
Non-current liabilities						
Provisions	2,910	2,510	400	2,603	2,603	-
Interest-bearing liabilities	12,653	12,961	(308)	11,437	11,437	-
Lease liabilities	462	457	6	-	-	-
Trust Funds & Deposits	706	706	-	-	-	-
Total non-current liabilities	16,732	16,633	98	14,040	14,040	-
Total liabilities	93,567	80,554	13,014	75,358	75,954	596
Net assets	2,880,819	2,761,430	119,389	3,068,272	3,061,972	(6,300)
Equity						
Asset revaluation reserves	1,871,459	1,871,459	-	-	-	-
Other reserves	50,244	66,701	(16,457)	2,151,921	2,164,788	12,867
Accumulated surplus	959,116	823,270	135,846	916,351	897,184	(19,167)
Total equity	2,880,819	2,761,430	119,389	3,068,272	3,061,972	(6,300)

Statement of Cashflows

Statement of Cash Flows	YTD	Annual	Annual	Annual
	Actuals	Budget	Forecast	Variance
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	Inflows	Inflows	Inflows	Inflows
	(Outflows)	(Outflows)	(Outflows)	(Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities				
Rates and charges	88,750	199,737	201,162	1,425
Statutory fees and fines	8,228	18,357	19,291	934
User fees	2,956	8,721	9,570	849
Grants - operating	9,401	21,205	21,385	179
Grants - capital	3,118	12,964	12,556	(408)
Contributions - monetary	4,345	8,232	9,406	1,174
Interest received	2,396	-	851	851
Trust funds and deposits taken	35,462	41,524	41,524	-
Other receipts	4,274	7,797	8,118	320
Net GST refund/(payment)	1,204	-	-	-
Payments to Employees	(61,167)	(113,670)	(117,327)	(3,657)
Payments to Suppliers	(42,978)	(73,167)	(80,286)	(7,119)
Trust funds and deposits repaid	(14,552)	(41,414)	(41,414)	-
Other payments	(280)	(790)	(764)	26
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	41,154	89,497	84,071	(5,426)
Cash flows from investing activities				
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(23,536)	(93,886)	(80,054)	13,832
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	299	92	242	150
Proceeds from sale of investments	-	-	-	-
Payments/(Proceeds) for investments	(23,000)	4,993	4,993	-
Net cash used in investing activities	(46,237)	(88,801)	(74,819)	13,982
Cash flows from financing activities				
Finance costs	(399)	(816)	(825)	(9)
Proceeds from Borrowings	-	-	-	-
Repayment of borrowings	(1,014)	(14,212)	(14,209)	3
Interest paid - lease liability	(6)	-	-	-
Repayment of lease liabilities	(47)	(20)	(20)	-
Net cash used in financing activities	(1,466)	(15,048)	(15,054)	(6)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(6,549)	(14,352)	(5,802)	8,551
Cash at beginning of period	36,116	14,441	36,116	21,675
Cash at end of period	29,568	89	30,315	30,226
Cash Position				
Non-restricted Cash at 1 July 2025	36,116	14,441	36,116	21,675
Other Financial Assets at 1 July 2025	60,000	78,100	60,000	(18,100)
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	96,116	92,541	96,116	3,575
Non-restricted Cash at end of financial period	29,568	89	14,137	14,048
Other Financial Assets at end of financial period	83,000	73,107	67,607	(5,500)
Cash & cash equivalents at end of financial period	112,568	73,196	81,744	8,548

Statement of Capital Works

Statement of Capital Works	YTD Actuals \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000	Annual Variance \$'000
Property						
Land	2	-	(2)	-	-	-
Buildings	1,784	3,615	1,830	8,910	5,783	3,127
Building Improvements	2,070	2,792	722	7,535	8,361	(826)
Total property	3,856	6,406	2,550	16,445	14,144	2,301
Plant and equipment						
Plant, machinery and equipment	880	2,608	1,727	5,877	5,460	417
Fixtures, Fittings and Furniture	31	70	39	171	176	(4)
Computers and telecommunications	485	669	184	1,125	1,021	104
Artworks	13	26	13	47	61	(14)
Library books	577	-	(577)	1,082	1,082	0
Total plant and equipment	1,986	3,372	1,386	8,302	7,800	503
Infrastructure						
Roads	7,559	9,407	1,848	27,223	27,432	(209)
Bridges	110	471	361	3,334	1,369	1,965
Footpaths and cycleways	2,163	2,250	88	6,662	5,209	1,453
Drainage	938	458	(480)	2,946	1,727	1,219
Recreational, leisure & community facilities	2,720	2,002	(717)	14,025	9,778	4,247
Waste management	172	15	(157)	2,183	269	1,914
Parks, open space and streetscapes	4,528	6,846	2,319	12,767	12,327	440
Total infrastructure	18,188	21,450	3,261	69,140	58,111	11,029
Total capital works expenditure	24,030	31,228	7,198	93,887	80,055	13,832
Represented by:						
New asset expenditure	2,517	5,160	2,643	12,345	9,275	3,070
Asset renewal expenditure	15,005	19,182	4,176	60,648	51,993	8,655
Asset upgrade expenditure	6,509	6,887	379	20,894	18,787	2,107
Total capital works expenditure	24,030	31,228	7,198	93,887	80,055	13,832

Procurement reporting

Contracts approved under delegation

This includes a listing of all of the contracts entered under delegation for the month of December.

Contract Description	Contract	Start date	Delegation	Total Contract (excluding GST)
Trees Enhancement Project, Brunswick West - Guthrie Street (Brunswick Road to Union Street)	RFQ-2025-87	2/12/2025	Manager	\$222,825.00
Detailed Design for Fran, Moonee Boulevard and Austin Cres	RFQ-2025-83	20/11/2025	Director	\$226,162.00
Coburg Tennis Club Court Resurfacing and Lighting	RFQ-2025-72	8/12/2025	Director	\$303,360.00
Raised Zebra Crossings (Barrow Street and Blair Street, Coburg)	RFQ-2025-81	23/12/2025	Manager	\$232,736.85
Sumner Street Raingarden and Road Closure, Brunswick East	RFQ-2025-88	30/12/2025	Manager	\$172,750.47

Capital Works Program - 2025-26 Q2 Financial Review

Capital Works Program	\$'000
Adopted budget	93,887
Plus	
Additional carry forwards from 2024-25	8,366
Plus	
Q1 variations	625
Plus	
Q2 variations	(22,824)
Q2 forecast	80,055

Q2 Variations	\$'000
New projects requiring funding	1,232
Existing projects requiring additional funding	1,452
Project savings	(4,636)
Projects requiring a carry forward into 2026-27	(20,873)
Q2 variations	(22,824)

New projects requiring funding

Project	Q1 Forecast \$	Additional Funding \$	Q2 Forecast \$	Grants \$	Reserves \$	Council \$
Wheeler Street - Retaining Wall	-	920,000	920,000			920,000
Brunswick Baths Changeroom Works	-	175,905	175,905			175,905
Union Street - Sinkhole/Cavity Remediation Works	-	100,510	100,510			100,510
Raeburn Lighting Pole Rectification	-	36,000	36,000			36,000
Total	-	1,232,415	1,232,415	-	-	1,232,415

Existing projects requiring additional funding

Project	Q1 Forecast \$	Additional Funding \$	Q2 Forecast \$	Grants \$	Reserves \$	Council \$
Park Renewal - Sewell Reserve ¹	184,335	278,852	463,187		278,852	
Reactive Drainage Program	250,000	266,570	516,570			266,570
Wombat Crossings - Barrow St & Blair St, Coburg	386,095	200,000	586,095			200,000
Light Plant and Equipment Replacement Program	100,000	200,000	300,000			200,000
Brunswick City Baths Repainting & Renewal	703,159	160,000	863,159			160,000
Raised Intersection - Landells Rd & Essex St, Pascoe Vale	169,684	116,000	285,684			116,000
Narre Narre Stadium Floor Renewal	759,784	109,264	869,048			109,264
115 Nicholson Street Footpath Upgrade	80,000	60,000	140,000			60,000
Gowanbrae Dog Park	375,837	19,051	394,888			19,051
Municipal Art Collection	25,750	13,115	38,865			13,115
Edgars Creek Corridor Connection Project	-	6,617	6,617	6,617		
Road Reconstruction, Herbert Street From Pascoe Vale To Dead End	212,010	6,356	218,366			6,356
Road Reconstruction, Fowler Street From Walsh To Dead End	295,885	4,817	300,702			4,817
Brunswick Early Years Hub	261,663	4,500	266,163	4,500		
Pedestrian Access & Priority Treatments	7,221	4,024	11,245			4,024
Public Art Program Across Merri-bek	20,950	1,385	22,335			1,385
Richards Reserve Natural Turf Renewal	87,917	1,182	89,099			1,182
Park Renewal - Soudan St	113,561	312	113,873			312
Total	4,033,851	1,452,045	5,485,897	11,117	278,852	1,162,076

(1) Project also includes the re-allocation of Project Management budget (\$4,089), bringing the Q2 forecast to \$467,277.

Projects with savings

Project	Q1 Forecast \$	Savings \$	Q2 Forecast \$	Grants \$	Reserves \$	Council \$
Drainage, Union St From Millward St To Brunswick Rd	1,450,000	(1,450,000)	-			(1,450,000)
Road Reconstruction, Northumberland Rd From Fawkner To Longview	1,270,950	(353,393)	917,557			(353,393)
Brunswick Activity Centre Upgrade Works - Wilson Ave	1,155,676	(350,061)	805,615			(350,061)
Road Reconstruction, Jersey St From Ohea To Gaffney - Both Carriageways	1,174,970	(306,920)	868,050			(306,920)
Sim Cr & Victoria St - Engeny Hot Spot No 8	671,829	(212,027)	459,802			(212,027)
Road Reconstruction, Tinning Street From Patterson To Garnet	471,750	(202,044)	269,706			(202,044)
Light Vehicles Replacement Program	1,604,983	(200,000)	1,404,983			(200,000)
School Active Travel and Safety Infrastructure	300,000	(200,000)	100,000			(200,000)
Jukes Rd & William St, Fawkner - Priority Crossing	437,000	(150,000)	287,000	(150,000)		
Climate Vulnerability Implementation - Buildings	300,000	(120,000)	180,000			(120,000)
Brunswick Baths - Modifications For Improvements to AV, IT & Lighting Systems	120,000	(120,000)	-			(120,000)
Raeburn Reserve - Cricket Training Nets	320,530	(114,013)	206,516	(14,013)	(100,000)	
Parker Reserve - Baseball - Change Room & Refurbishment	113,589	(109,264)	4,325			(109,264)
Rehabilitation, Moonnee Pde from Jewel to Union	305,000	(100,000)	205,000			(100,000)
Bain Avenue from Plaisted to Boundary, Road Reconstruction	533,708	(97,746)	435,962			(97,746)
Balfe Parks Sports Field Lights	148,628	(83,113)	65,515			(83,113)
Fawkner Transport Study Projects ¹	364,512	(64,000)	300,512			(64,000)
Footpath & Bikepath Renewals	2,000,000	(60,000)	1,940,000			(60,000)
Road Safety and Amenity Improvements Program	971,760	(52,000)	919,760			(52,000)
Large Scale WSUD (Sportsfield Stormwater Reuse)	130,000	(43,799)	86,201			(43,799)
Brunswick City Baths Community Meeting Space	40,000	(40,000)	-			(40,000)
Park Renewal - Esslemont Reserve	78,110	(30,000)	48,110		(30,000)	
Additional Seating on Walking Routes to Shops	17,400	(2,250)	15,150			(2,250)
Total	13,980,395	(4,460,630)	9,519,765	(164,013)	(130,000)	(4,166,617)

(1) Project also has a carry forward into 2026-27 of \$236,486, bringing the Q2 forecast to \$64,026.

Re-allocation of Project Management budget

Project	Q1 Forecast \$	Net Change to Budget \$	Q2 Forecast \$	Grants \$	Reserves \$	Council \$
Parks, Playground and Reserve Renewal and Improvement	225,106	(47,148)	177,958		(47,148)	
York Street Park Close to Home	1,175,467	12,143	1,187,609		12,143	
Park Renewal, Dowd Reserve, including playground upgrade	323,000	6,071	329,071		6,071	
ATC Cook Reserve (Design)	115,115	5,112	120,227		5,112	
Park Renewal - Gervase Reserve	345,318	4,089	349,408		4,089	
Park Renewal, Ivan Page Reserve (Design and Construct)	335,558	4,089	339,647		4,089	
Park Renewal - Sewell Reserve ¹	184,335	4,089	188,424		4,089	
Park Renewal - McCleery Reserve	282,225	3,232	285,457		3,232	
Minor Park - Tate Reserve (Removal)	30,536	3,232	33,768		3,232	
Park Renewal, Morris Reserve (Design and Construct)	63,558	2,045	65,602		2,045	
Half Court Basketball Ring in Glenroy	49,422	1,022	50,445		1,022	
Improving Gilpin Dog Park	160,000	1,012	161,012		1,012	
Park Renewal, Volga Street/Middle Street (Design)	102,000	1,012	103,012		1,012	
Total	3,391,640	0	3,391,640	-	0	-

(1) Project also requires additional funding of \$278,852, bringing the Q2 forecast to \$467,277.

Carry Forwards into 2026-27	\$
Q1 forecast	5,815,264
Q2 forecast - new carry forward requests	20,872,554
Total carry forwards	26,687,818

New capital carry forwards into 2026-27

Project and Delay Reason	Expected Completion Date	Q1 Forecast \$	Carry Forward \$	Q2 Forecast \$	Grants \$	Reserves \$	Council \$
<u>Fawkner Netball Club Roof</u> Project to commence upon completion of Federal Government funding agreement.	Dec-2026	4,560,000	(4,483,220)	76,780	(4,483,220)		
<u>McDonald Reserve Hockey Pitch</u> Engagement and design have progressed. Project delivery will be in 2026-27.	Nov-2026	3,500,000	(3,422,218)	77,782			(3,422,218)
<u>Kendall/Harding Footbridge over Merri Creek</u> Construction is likely to start at the end of this financial year and continue for several months.	Jun-2029	2,946,277	(2,000,000)	946,277	(581,723)		(1,418,277)
<u>Victoria St - Streets for People</u> Design and engagement took longer than expected. Construction is expected to commence in 2026-27.	TBA	2,216,677	(2,000,000)	216,677	(1,157,323)		(842,677)
<u>Glenroy Activity Centre Upgrade - Wheatsheaf Rd</u> Construction is delayed due to Department of Transport and Planning approvals.	Nov-2027	2,651,912	(1,351,912)	1,300,000			(1,351,912)
<u>Heavy Vehicles Replacement Program</u> Council's heavy vehicle procurement process has been reviewed causing some procurement to be delayed.	Jun-2027	3,040,000	(1,000,000)	2,040,000			(1,000,000)
<u>Coburg North Sports Hub Upgrades</u> Waiting on Federal Government approval for project scope variation.	Dec-2026	1,692,457	(813,421)	879,036	(813,421)		
<u>Road Reconstruction, Northumberland Rd From Arndt To Crowley</u> Design took longer than anticipated due to flood modelling. Construction to start in April 2026.	TBA	1,731,878	(800,000)	931,878			(800,000)
<u>West Street Neighbourhood Streetscape</u> Delayed Melbourne Water approval process, causing tender delay and also construction's start and completion date for next year.	Sep-2026	1,121,000	(721,000)	400,000			(721,000)
<u>DeChene Reserve - Gender Inclusive Facilities</u> Carry forward due to revised construction stage to align program with completion date of Moomba Pavilion, the soccer club's temporary home during construction works at De Chene.	Dec-2026	830,000	(702,775)	127,225			(702,775)
<u>Sylvester St Oak Park Land Slide</u> Project delivery is currently on hold due to not receiving the necessary access licence from the private property owners.	Nov-2025	669,439	(550,000)	119,439			(550,000)
<u>O'Hea St Bike Path Extension - Sussex to Derby St</u> The project has been delayed due to third party approvals. Construction is expected to commence in 2026-27.	TBA	600,362	(400,000)	200,362			(400,000)
<u>40 km/h Rollout - Traffic Calming</u> Tender is being finalised and will be tendered out before the end of year for implementation into 2026-27.	TBA	509,064	(400,000)	109,064	(200,000)		(200,000)
<u>Sportsfield Lighting - Dunstan Reserve (N&S)</u> The contract brief has been drafted, however the project has not yet gone to tender.	Jun-2026	400,000	(400,000)	-	(200,000)		(200,000)
<u>Road Reconstruction, Tinning Street from Walter to Patterson St</u> Procurement was slightly delayed but contract now awarded. Project will be mostly constructed this year with anticipation some works will flow into 2026-27.	TBA	1,137,750	(300,000)	837,750			(300,000)
<u>Park Renewal, Loyola Ave Pitt St (Design, Construct and Road Closure)</u> Project has been delayed due to internal resourcing.	Oct-2026	350,000	(300,000)	50,000		(300,000)	
<u>Park Renewal, Calder Reserve (Design and Construct)</u> Project has been delayed due to internal resourcing.	Dec-2027	352,000	(282,600)	69,400		(282,600)	

New capital carry forwards into 2026-27 cont.

Project and Delay Reason	Expected Completion Date	Q1 Forecast \$	Carry Forward \$	Q2 Forecast \$	Grants \$	Reserves \$	Council \$
<u>Fawkner Transport Study Projects</u> ¹ Construction is expected to commence in 2026-27.	TBA	364,512	(236,486)	128,026			(236,486)
<u>Parks and Reserve Flooding Rectification</u> Project has been delayed due to internal resourcing.	Apr-2027	494,588	(200,000)	294,588		(200,000)	
<u>Hadfield Depot Masterplan Development & Drainage</u> Multi-year project.	Jun-2027	456,250	(200,000)	256,250			(200,000)
<u>Central Coburg Roads and Drainage</u> Project tied to timing of Central Coburg program. Budget will be required next year to progress design of streets and drainage when Council's commitments are confirmed.	Dec-2026	180,000	(150,000)	30,000		(150,000)	
<u>Coburg Town Hall Upgrade</u> Project has not yet started. Uncertainty over the scope and urgency of this work.	Jun-2028	100,000	(80,000)	20,000			(80,000)
<u>Coburg Bluestone Cottage Complex Redevelopment</u> An approximate delay of 6+ months to the sale of the site has in turn impacted the tender and construction schedule.	Sep-2027	186,299	(64,338)	121,961	(64,338)		
<u>Carelink Go+ Device Purchases</u> For future purchases.	Dec-2026	59,584	(59,584)	-			(59,584)
<u>Accommodation Changes To Meet Service Demand</u> Design work and approach to engagement have delayed commencement of works.	Jan-2027	100,000	(50,000)	50,000			(50,000)
<u>Fawkner Library Upgrade Works</u> Slippage in feasibility/concept design stages will push design program into 2026-27.	Dec-2028	80,000	(50,000)	30,000			(50,000)
<u>Balfe Park Sportsfield Redevelopment</u> Design has commenced but consultation was delayed due to resourcing constraints. Project will now be delivered in 2026-27.	Jun-2027	50,000	(20,000)	30,000			(20,000)
<u>Holbrook Reserve Pavilion and Gender Inclusive Change Rooms</u> Any remaining budget to be carried forward through to the end of defects liability period.	Feb-2026	1,783,880	(10,000)	1,773,880			(10,000)
Total		32,163,928	(21,047,554)	11,116,374	(7,500,025)	(932,600)	(12,614,929)

(1) Project also has savings of \$64,000, bringing the Q2 forecast to \$64,026.

Changes to carry forwards into 2026-27 previously approved

Project	Previously Approved \$	Adjustment \$	New Carry Forward \$	Grants \$	Reserves \$	Council \$
Adjustments due to budget now declared as savings						
Coburg Outdoor Pool - 8 X 15 Toddlers Pool	175,000	(175,000)	-			(175,000)
Total	175,000	(175,000)	-	-	-	(175,000)

7.5 YEAR 1 COUNCIL ACTION PLAN 2025-26 - SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT

Acting Director Business Transformation, Anita Curnow

Governance and Strategy

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Year 1 Council Action Plan 2025-26 – Second Quarter Performance Report (provided as Attachment 1).
2. Endorses to place on hold Action 53 - Deliver the Wheatsheaf Road Glenroy streetscape improvement project.

REPORT

Executive Summary

The Second Quarter Performance Report (**Attachment 1**) provides an overview of Council's performance in delivering the Council Plan 2025-2029, with a specific focus on implementation of the Year 1 Council Action Plan 2025–26.

The report highlights key achievements and progress across initiatives supporting Council's strategic objectives, and provides the status of the 79 actions, as follows:

- 3% (2 actions) achieved
- 95% (75 actions) in progress and on track
- 1% (1 action) not yet commenced
- 1% (1 action) on hold

Overall, 98% of actions are either achieved or on track, reflecting promising progress in delivering Council Plan 2025-2029 priorities.

Action 53: *Deliver the Wheatsheaf Road Glenroy streetscape improvement project* has not yet commenced due to external partner-related delays. Council endorsement is sought to place this action on hold for future inclusion in the Year 2 Council Action Plan, 2026-27.

Previous Council Decisions

Adoption of the Merri-bek Community Vision 2025–2035, Merri-bek Council Plan 2025–2029 and Merri-bek Council Action Plan 2025–2026 – 10 September 2025

That Council:

1. *Adopted the Merri-bek Community Vision 2025-2035 (provided as Attachment 1) in accordance with legislative requirements of the Local Government Act 2020.*
2. *Adopted the Merri-bek Council Plan 2025–2029 (provided as Attachment 1) in accordance with legislative requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 and the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008, noting that it incorporates the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025-2029.*

3. *Adopted Merri-bek Council Action Plan 2025-2026 (provided as Attachment 2) as the first year of actions to deliver against the Merri-bek Council Plan 2025-2029, with an additional action to be added under Theme 2: Healthy and Inclusive Communities, at initiative 2.9. to read: "Explore, including through partnership arrangements, ways to improve health, access and inclusiveness in public & private spaces for people in precarious housing such as access to toilets and bathrooms, seating under shelter, showers, lockers and a place to heat food as well as improved access to services."*
4. *Authorised the Director Business Transformation to finalise the Merri-bek Community Vision 2025-2035, Merri-bek Council Plan 2025-2029 and Merri-bek Council Action Plan 2025-2026, including any minor administrative changes, professional design of the documents and online versions, for distribution and implementation.*
5. *Advised submitters that Council has considered their submissions relating to the Draft Council Plan 2025-2029 and that the submitters be advised of the outcome of the consideration, as it relates to their specific submission through this council report (provided as Attachment 3), and they be thanked for their contributions.*
6. *Thanked, the members of the Community Panel and Community Youth Panel for their contribution and advise them in writing of the outcome of Council's decision.*

1. Policy Context

In accordance with sections 88 and 90 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council adopted its revised Community Vision 2025-2035 and a new Council Plan 2025-2029 in September 2025.

The Year 1 Council Action Plan 2025-26 supports the implementation of the Council Plan 2025-2029 for the first financial year of the 4-year period and includes specific actions to be undertaken, resourced through the 2025-26 annual budget (included in the 2025-2029 budget).

This report demonstrates Council's continuing commitment to manage funds sustainably, equitably and transparently on behalf of ratepayers, key stakeholders and the broader community.

2. Background

This second-quarter performance report provides a status update on the delivery of the Year 1 Council Action Plan 2025–26 as at 31 December 2025. As the Council Plan 2025–29 and associated Action Plan were adopted late in the first quarter, this report presents an updated view of performance for the first half of the financial year.

3. Issues

Of the 79 actions committed for the year, 75 (95%) are currently in progress and on track for delivery. A further two actions (3%) have already been completed, demonstrating early progress against planned outcomes. One action (1%) has not yet commenced, and a further action (1%) is proposed to be placed on hold for the remainder of the financial year.

A summary of key highlights is provided below, with detailed second-quarter performance updates included in **Attachment 1**.

Theme 1 Care for nature and climate resilience:

Council advanced its climate resilience objectives through urban greening, cooling initiatives, and community-led climate action over the past few months. Major streetscape works on Guthrie Street were completed, creating the conditions for long-term canopy growth in a highly urbanised area.

The project delivered 27 new tree pits and upgraded 15 nature strips, with asphalt removed and sites prepared for tree planting in 2026. Council also completed its 2025 tree-planting program, planting 2,458 trees across Merri-bek to address canopy gaps and support neighbourhoods most affected by heat.

Biodiversity outcomes progressed through preparation for approximately 6,000 m² of new native understorey planting across six sites in Coburg North, Brunswick East, Fawkner, and Pascoe Vale. Site preparation is underway, plants have been ordered from local nurseries, and community planting days are scheduled for 2026. Design work also continued on key water projects, including the Upper Moonee Ponds Creek wetland and stormwater harvesting investigations at several reserves.

Circular economy initiatives achieved high levels of community involvement, with 74 households and six community groups participating in the Garage Sale Trail and 784 shoppers attending Council's central community garage sale. These activities supported reuse and reduced waste to landfill.

Theme 2 Healthy and inclusive communities:

Across the quarter, Council delivered practical support, inclusive programs, and partnership initiatives that improved the wellbeing of residents of all ages.

Support increased across all ages. Eighty older residents received Outdoor Help services, with a further 76 jobs scheduled, while 60 residents accessed one-to-one aged care support and 260 people participated in outreach on national aged care reforms. For young families, Children's Services Librarians delivered 41 outreach visits to early childhood settings, promoting library services and early literacy.

Youth engagement was strengthened through programs delivered in two secondary schools, reaching around 170 students, alongside Council endorsement of expanded youth programs, free family access initiatives, and planning for future youth spaces.

Community infrastructure progressed through the Building Blocks Partnership Agreement, securing \$4,704,545 in State funding toward the \$12,404,545 Brunswick Early Years Hub project. Site preparation is complete, and the construction tender is underway.

Partnerships with First Peoples were strengthened through the establishment of a new Advisory Committee (four First Peoples community members and three Aboriginal organisation representatives), ongoing monthly consultations with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders, and the hosting of Merri-bek's first Welcome Baby to Country on 22 October, connecting families to culture, community, and services.

Council's flagship Social Cohesion Project, Democracy Lab, was recognised nationally, winning the MAV Lab Innovation Award in the Community Inclusion and Cohesion category. In partnership with neighbouring councils, Council distributed 220 anti-racism support service booklets, 95 postcards, and 42 posters across the municipality.

Theme 3 Beautiful and liveable city:

Council progressed major projects to improve public space, streets, and sustainable transport across Merri-bek. Planning for a new open space at 568 Sydney Road advanced through its first consultation phase, attracting over 700 community submissions, which are now shaping concept designs. A concept for increased shade in Victoria Mall has been completed, with trader engagement scheduled.

Local safety upgrades were delivered, with two car parks (ATC Cook, Glenroy, and Hadfield Tennis Courts) upgraded through new traffic calming, and a further site programmed for early 2026. Council also launched a dog management pilot across eight parks, trialing off-leash access, timed access, habitat protection, fencing, and lighting. All sites included signage and feedback channels, with strong community support overall and targeted refinements identified at three locations.

Engagement on Streets for People initiatives continued, including completion of consultation for Breese Street, and preparation for Hope Street and the Harding Street / Munro Street corridor. The Ride & Stride and Biketober programs engaged schools and workplaces, with new infrastructure priorities around schools now progressing. Council expanded its EV charging network by installing a dual-port charger in Brunswick, completing a fast-charger feasibility study, and delivering four home-to-street charging trials, generating national interest.

Theme 4 Thriving economy and culture:

This quarter delivered strong outcomes across economic development, creative industries, and place-based renewal. Council partnered with RMIT University and Creative Victoria to provide the third Open Studio business showcase and networking event, secured Merri-bek's participation in Melbourne Design Week 2026, and progressed planning for a self-determined First Nations-led event in 2026.

Economic development activity continued to scale, with 11 business workshops and networking events delivered this quarter (26 year-to-date) and almost 100 businesses supported through concierge permit services. Targeted engagement was undertaken across Sydney Road, Central Coburg, Glenroy, Lygon Street, and Melville Road. Council also launched a new Love Merri-bek trail map for Northern Merri-bek and delivered a First Nations supplier meet-and-greet event in partnership with Darebin and Banyule Councils.

Major public realm projects progressed from planning into delivery. The West Street Shopping Strip upgrade completed detailed design, finalised tenders, and received Council endorsement in December, with construction scheduled for early 2026. The Places for People Plan also advanced to community consultation.

Public feedback on the Public Art Policy closed; four new mural sites were confirmed; a performing arts infrastructure study commenced; and the Coburg Library and Piazza design competition was completed, supporting investment in Merri-bek's creative and arts infrastructure.

Theme 5 Engaging and responsible council:

Council strengthened its advocacy, engagement, and service delivery across government, community, and internal priorities. Regular briefings were held with local State and Federal MPs, alongside coordinated advocacy with key partners including Northern Councils Alliance (NCA), M9 (inner nine Councils), Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment. (CASBE), Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA), and the Mayoral Taskforce for People Seeking Asylum. Council also engaged the Department of Transport and Planning on Central Coburg and continued advocacy for the Upfield Line duplication and accessible tram services.

Council made submissions to five major State processes and, year to date, has lodged funding applications exceeding \$4 million for community projects. Community engagement expanded through bi-monthly Community News (now 12 pages) and the Connectors program, with 35 active members representing 10 languages. In three months, 878 residents accessed in-language budget pages, 200 multilingual flyers were distributed, and Connectors supported four major strategies and multiple community events.

Detailed updates for second quarter's performance are shown in **Attachment 1**.

Completed actions (Achieved)

The following two actions (3%) have been completed or achieved under the Year 1 Council Action Plan 2025–26, reflecting delivery of the intended outcomes.

Action #	Action Description and Update:	Directorate
46	<p>Engage the community in the review of and update of the Domestic Animal Management Plan</p> <p>Action update: Community engagement has been undertaken on Merri-bek's draft Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP). Public consultation and feedback to inform the development of the draft and subsequently for feedback on the draft was completed. Feedback obtained was considered in the development of the final DAMP endorsed by Council in the November Council meeting.</p>	City Infrastructure
73	<p>Increase editions and page count for Community News</p> <p>Action update: Council has successfully enhanced its communication reach by increasing both the frequency of Community News editions to bi-monthly and the number of pages per edition to 12. This improvement ensures more space for detailed updates, community stories, and accessible information on programs and services. By expanding content volume and distribution, Council aims to strengthen engagement, improve transparency, and cater to Merri-bek's diverse audiences through inclusive and easy-to-understand messaging.</p>	Community

In Progress (On Track)

A total of 75 actions (95%) are on track to deliver against the outcomes of the Year 1 Council Action Plan 2025–26 as at the end of the second quarter. Detailed performance updates are provided in **Attachment 1**.

Action Not Started (Yet to Commence)

One action (1%) is currently classified as 'Not Started' under the Year 1 Council Action Plan 2025–26. Further details are provided in the table below.

Action #	Action Description and Update:	Directorate
71	<p>Develop Customer Experience Strategy</p> <p>Action Update: Development of the Customer Experience Strategy will commence in the new calendar year, with the appointment of a Customer Experience Lead to ensure a coordinated and organisation-wide approach.</p>	Community

Withdrawn (On hold or remove)

One action (1%) is proposed to be placed on hold for the rest of the financial year due to factors outside Council's control. As this was planned as a two-year action, it can be reconsidered as part of the Year 2 Council Action Plan 2026–27 in the new financial year.

A detailed update provided in the table below.

Action #	Action Description and Update:	Directorate
53	<p>Deliver the Wheatsheaf Road Glenroy streetscape improvement project (over two years)</p> <p>Action Update: This project was previously delayed pending Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) agreement to the design. Progress has been made with in-principle agreement so Council and DTP are now finalising documentation of the agreement before DTP can provide road works consent. This is a precursor to works commencing.</p>	Place and Environment

Community impact

Community impact is addressed throughout the Council Plan 2025-2029 but primarily under strategic objective 5: Engaging and Responsible Council - A responsive and engaged Merri-bek that prioritises excellent service, embraces engaging communication methods, advocates community needs, and continues to uphold sustainable financial management and accountable governance that builds trust and collaboration with the community.

Climate emergency and environmental sustainability implications

Climate emergency and environmental sustainability considerations are embedded throughout the Council Plan 2025–29. These objectives are proactively addressed under strategic objective 1: Care for Nature and Climate Resilience - To create a flourishing and climate resilient Merri-bek by improving wildlife and nature connectivity, greening and cooling for healthier streets and public realm, and engaging the community in meaningful climate action. In addition, there are broader climate, health and environmental implications reflected across the plan as a whole.

Economic sustainability implications

Economic sustainability is addressed across the Council Plan 2025–29, with key focus under strategic objective 4: Thriving Economy and Culture - A lively and inclusive Merri-bek where the economy supports local business and industry growth, celebrates artistic and creative expression, and connects the community through vibrant cultural experiences; and strategic objective 5: Engaging and Responsible Council. These objectives together promote economic resilience by supporting local economic activity while maintaining strong governance, financial sustainability, and accountability in Council decision-making.

Legal and risk considerations

The Merri-bek Community Vision 2025-35 and Merri-bek Council Plan 2025-2029 and processes associated with the development of these documents have been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 and the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008.

Human Rights Consideration

The implications of this report have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

4. Community consultation and engagement

Community consultation and engagement was not required for this report as it reflects the performance against the Council Plan 2025-2029.

Affected persons rights and interests

Before making a decision that affects a person's rights, Council must identify whose rights may be directly affected and provide an opportunity for that person (or persons) to convey those views regarding the effect on their rights and consider those views. There are no individual rights or interests affected.

5. Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

6. Financial and Resources Implications

All actions documented in the Council Action Plan 2025-26 were resourced through the 2025-26 annual budget (included in the 2025-2029 Budget).

7. Implementation

The Year 1 Council Action Plan 2025-26 second quarter performance results will be made available on Council's website.

Attachment/s

- 1 [↓](#) Council Action Plan Progress Report Q2 2025-26 D26/7043



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Merri-bek City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways in the area now known as Merri-bek. We pay respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging, as well as to all First Nations communities who significantly contribute to the life of the area.

Executive Summary

This report demonstrates Council's ongoing commitment to the sustainable, equitable, and transparent management of funds on behalf of Merri-bek ratepayers, key stakeholders, and the broader community.

In accordance with sections 88 and 90 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council adopted the revised Community Vision 2025–2035 and Council Plan 2025–2029 on 10 September 2025.

The Council Action Plan 2025–26 outlines the specific actions to be undertaken during the first financial year to implement the Council Plan. All actions in the Action Plan are resourced through the 2025–26 Annual Budget, which forms part of the broader 2025–2029 Budget.

This Second Quarter Performance Report provides an update on the delivery of the Council Action Plan 2025–26.

In summary, the status of the 79 actions in the plan is as follows:

Number	Percentage	Status	Definition	Traffic Light
2	3%	Achieved	Completed, achieved	
75	95%	In Progress	On track	
0	0%	Off Track	Behind Target	
0	0%	Critical	Action is significantly delayed	
1	1%	Action Not Started	Yet to commence	
1	1%	Withdrawn	On hold or removed	

The rest of this report below provides a detailed progress update for each action below including:

- A description of the action
- The percentage complete against what was planned for this financial year
- The status in the form of a traffic light (see table above); an
- Relevant officer commentary.

Theme 1: Care for nature and climate resilience

1: To create a flourishing and climate resilient Merri-bek by improving wildlife and nature connectivity, greening and cooling for healthier streets and public realm, and engaging the community in meaningful climate action.

Action No.	Action	Status	Directorate	Comments
1	Plant and nurture suitable trees in tricky places, parks, and streets	●	City Infrastructure	<p>Civil works for the Guthrie Street streetscape project are complete, successfully creating infrastructure for canopy growth in high-density urban conditions. The project delivered 27 new tree pits, including 16 in-road pits and nine footpath pits designed for future canopy trees. Environmental cooling was further enhanced through 15 nature strip beautifications, which involved removing as much asphalt as possible to create new garden beds. These sites have been prepared for tree planting during the 2026 season. Planning is underway to delivery further new tree plots to complete this years tricky places program.</p> <p>The 2025 annual tree planting program has concluded, with 2,458 trees successfully established across the municipality. The program strategically prioritised climate resilience and canopy equity: northern suburbs focused on filling vacant nature strip locations, while southern areas targeted high-heat zones by installing trees in specialized pits and cut-outs. These combined efforts advance Merri-bek’s commitment to increasing canopy cover and mitigating the urban heat island effect in our most vulnerable precincts.</p>
2	Investigate opportunities to reduce impacts of urban heat and increasing heatwaves by collaborating to get more shade trees in places like schools, retirement villages, and backyards	●	Place and Environment	<p>A program logic model was developed to outline the inputs, activities, outputs, and intended outcomes for community engagement in tree-planting initiatives. An internal working group meeting was held to align on appropriate engagement approaches for different community groups.</p>
3	Facilitate native understorey planting trial project	●	City Infrastructure	<p>This project involves planting around 6,000 m2 of new native understorey plants across Merri-bek. These new understorey planting sites will increase biodiversity in the local area and enhance key habitat links. The six new native understorey planting sites include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Moomba Park, Fawkner, has two sites totalling 1,800m2. Site one is located under a stand of river red gums, where the new planting provides a dense, shrubby habitat which is vital for small birds. The second site is located near the Moomba Park wetlands. It will focus on removing the invasive Chilean Needle Grass and revegetating with indigenous species, which will improve the biodiversity value of the wetland and its surroundings. * Westbreen Creek, Pascoe Vale (750m2): enhancing existing patches of native grasses at Joyce Reserve with the removal of mowing, weed control works, and new native grass plantings. * Kernan Avenue Reserve, Pascoe Vale South, includes 470m2 of new grass and understorey planting next to the Moonee Ponds Creek to create a new habitat node on this significant habitat corridor. * Park Street Linear Reserve in Brunswick East includes 320m2 of new native understorey planting. This new planting builds on earlier plantings with Brunswick South Primary and enhances this key habitat link between the Merri Creek and Royal Park for many species, including pollinating insects. * Yaruk’ho Wilam Edgars Creek Parkland in Coburg North includes a new 2,600m2 planting

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Action No.	Action	Status	Directorate	Comments
				<p>of native understorey in and amongst an existing stand of river red gums to widen the vegetation buffer protecting the Merri Creek.</p> <p>All the sites are currently being prepared, and plant orders have been secured through local nurseries. Community planting days are planned for a selection of sites in 2026.</p>
4	Commence the biodiversity and climate change resilience top-up research grant program	●	City Infrastructure	Work is currently underway to scope the establishment of the biodiversity and climate change resilience top-up research grant program. This includes defining program objectives, eligibility criteria, funding structure, and governance processes to ensure alignment with Council priorities and community needs. Once the framework is finalised, detailed guidelines will be developed to support transparent and effective implementation. Community and stakeholder engagement will follow to confirm priorities and maximise impact. The program is expected to launch later in 2026.
5	Facilitate the Lizards with bikes: revitalising the Coburg Velodrome underpass project	●	City Infrastructure	<p>The Lizards on bikes project is an opportunity to revitalise the underpass at the Coburg cycling velodrome. In conjunction with the community, Council has developed a concept plan for the site that includes extensive planting of local native plants, path works, seating, and a mural. The existing rocky batter that leads into the velodrome will be transformed with improved habitat planting for local lizards. The concrete walls of the underpass will be transformed with a mural featuring lizards on bikes</p> <p>The progress of the project includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Site preparation works * Development of a planting plan and ordering of 4300 local native plants * Installation of a new gravel path * Development of a project brief for the artwork
6	Deliver key stormwater harvesting and wetland projects as outlined in the Integrated Water Management Action Plan	●	Place and Environment	The upper Moonee Ponds Creek wetland detailed design process has commenced. The Austin Crescent ephemeral swale detailed design process has commenced. Feasibility study of Martin Reserve stormwater harvesting is underway. Further refinement of the A.G. Gillon and Reaburn Reserve Stormwater harvesting detailed design is underway, to ensure the designs are in accordance with the recently released (update) flood modelling.
7	Deliver outcome-focused Integrated Water Management planning for the Coburg and Brunswick activity centres to enhance liveability, manage stormwater and flood, support water efficiency, and build climate resilience	●	Place and Environment	<p>Contribution to Integrated Water Management outcomes within Coburg and Brunswick, have been progressed in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Draft Integrated Water Management Roadmap has been prepared by Melbourne Water in partnership with Merri-bek and (DEECA led) IWM Forum members. * Integrated Water Management considerations were included in the submission to DTP for the Built Form Overlay for the Merri-bek cluster (Brunswick and Coburg). * Contributed to the Coburg Central IWM Plan (as part of the 'Coburg is Here' concept) by providing advice as subject matter experts through the project working group.
8	Promote and support an inclusive energy transition, including solar and thermal subsidies for low-income households	●	Place and Environment	<p>Highlights year to date include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Promotion of expanded Solar Savers service which has multiple reputable suppliers for all aspects of a home energy upgrade. * Procurement of suppliers for the Solar and Thermal subsidy program is almost complete. <p>The program has 44 people on waitlist and promotion will relaunch in early 2026.</p>

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Action No.	Action	Status	Directorate	Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through collaboration with Uniting community service organisation, residents on a low income have been supported to access the Victorian Government's Power Saving Bonus. * Promotion of the Victorian Government's Solar for Apartments program has seen Merri-bek having highest local government take-up, with 28 apartment buildings accessing the solar subsidies. * As part of a research project with RMIT University on Renters and Retrofitting, Council recruited renters and landlords for research interviews and home energy assessments. * Construction commenced on the Brunswick Community Battery.
9	Deliver circular economy community initiatives and trial a fortnightly rubbish service	●	Place and Environment	<p>Circular Economy highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 74 households and 6 groups held garage sales across the two weekends of the national Garage Sale Trail * Council held a community garage sale during Garage Sale Trail with 22 stalls and 784 shoppers * Council's Bold Business Gathering, hosted by ReWine in Brunswick East, profiled local planet positive businesses. <p>Council's fortnightly rubbish trial in parts of Hadfield and Brunswick launched in July. Monitoring has seen positive trends in reduced waste to landfill and participants quickly adapting to putting the right bins out each week.</p>
10	Increase awareness and capacity of the Merri-bek community on heat and flood risks to support resilience building	●	Place and Environment	<p>A Climate Resilience Communications Plan was developed to consolidate key messages, communication channels, and supporting tools. Council events, including the Emergency Management Expo and the Seniors Festivals in Brunswick and Glenroy, provided opportunities to share key messages on heat safety and strategies for keeping cool.</p> <p>Heat health sessions for seniors' social groups and child health sessions for parents and carers of babies (including heat health information) are currently being organised. They will be delivered throughout the summer period.</p>
11	Commence Oak Park Sports and Aquatic Electrification and Plant Room Renewal Project	●	Community	The contract for works was awarded in October 2025. Detailed design is currently in progress, with onsite works scheduled to commence in May 2026 following the completion of end-of-season operations.
12	<p>Expand Council's practice to ensure Council buildings and infrastructure are environmentally sustainable in their planning, design, and implementation.</p> <p>In the first year, focus on tangible increases to recycled content. Over four years work towards new buildings and infrastructure that is 100% renewably powered, lower carbon, reflect circular economy principles, consider ways to be more climate resilient and adapted and work is prioritised to reflect greatest</p>	●	City Infrastructure	<p>Council is continuing to embed environmentally sustainable considerations into the planning, design, and delivery of buildings and infrastructure. This includes strengthening internal practices and working with partners and suppliers to explore opportunities to improve environmental performance across projects.</p> <p>Examples of these practices include works at Fawkner Library, where opportunities to improve climate resilience in an existing building are being considered through the Climate Vulnerability Implementation - Buildings funding, supporting more informed and resilient infrastructure outcomes.</p> <p>Consistent with Council-adopted positions through its Climate Emergency and Climate Risk strategies, Council is focusing on outcomes such as increased use of recycled content, lower carbon impacts, alignment with circular economy principles, and improved climate resilience, where appropriate and economically viable.</p>

Merri-Bek Council Action Plan 2025-26 - Quarterly Report: Q2

Action No.	Action	Status	Directorate	Comments
	need.			
13	Continue reducing carbon emissions of Council's fleet	●	City Infrastructure	<p>Fleet has developed a 10-year Fleet Asset Management Plan, supported by a Fleet Capital Investment Plan for the 5 years ending in the financial year 2029-2030, that considers the maturity of Zero-Emissions technology today and Zero Emissions technology on the future horizon. The goals of the plan are to deliver targeted emissions reduction across the fleet operations within budget.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Automation of Investment Models and Total Cost of Ownership Modelling * Scenario analysis was conducted based on balancing budget envelopes and Greenhouse Gas emissions. * Planning the replacement of the council's Passenger Fleet to be Net-Zero by 2027. * Purchased one Zero-Emissions Battery Electric Truck, removing 6,000kg CO₂e from operations. * Plans are underway to pilot Zero-emissions vehicles across the waste collection fleet, reducing emissions by up to 50,000kg CO₂e per vehicle. * Received approval to purchase two Light Commercial Electric Vans that will remove 8,000kg CO₂e. * Tender process underway to replace five trucks that were manufactured before 2010, which will remove up to 20,000kg of CO₂e
14	Continue to advocate for Environmentally Sustainable Design outcomes in the planning scheme to State Government	●	Place and Environment	<p>There has been a broad range of planning reforms by the State Government over 2025. Many of the proposed changes required input from industry and local government, and in some cases advocacy for change. Merri-bek are members of Council Alliance for Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) and work closely with other member councils to provide feedback and to undertake advocacy throughout the year. We will continue to do this as the need arises.</p> <p>Such advocacy work over the past quarter includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * On 4 August 2025, CASBE (on behalf of member councils) released its position paper Planning for Sustainable and Resilient Communities - 2025 and Beyond. - CASBE meets with DTP periodically to advocate for better ESD outcomes through the planning reforms. * While not strictly advocacy, in October officers also submitted a response to DTP in relation to the proposed Built Form Overlay schedules.
15	Promote the delivery of more climate resilient, less carbon intensive and more nature-inclusive private developments through providing clearer guidance for environmentally responsive design, promoting, and negotiating improved outcomes through the planning permit application process and subsequent proactive enforcement of planning conditions	●	Place and Environment	<p>Internal workshop has been held, to better understand desired outcomes and barriers to achieving improved development outcomes in light of the state planning reforms and the subsequent weakening of influence that council now has on development. Actions from this workshop will inform some of the ways in which council will guide and promote sustainable outcomes in the future.</p>

Merri-Bek Council Action Plan 2025-26 - Quarterly Report: Q2

Theme 2: Healthy and inclusive communities

2: To support accessible facilities, programs, services, housing that promote community wellbeing, and connection for all ages, abilities, genders, and cultures, fostering a safe, inclusive, and thriving Merri-bek community.

Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Division	Comments
16	Investigate possibility for renewal of Pascoe Vale Outdoor Pool	●	Community	This forms part of the broader Aquatic Strategy 2018-2038 review, which is currently underway. The scope of works has been confirmed, and the engagement of consultants will be presented to Councillors in 2026.
17	Review progress of the 20 years Aquatic and Leisure Strategy	●	Community	A Councillor briefing was completed during this quarter. A final update on the review of the 20-Year Aquatic and Leisure Strategy will be presented in 2026 to inform future capital works budgets.
18	Facilitate support for the Youth Holistic Outreach Program	●	Community	A new funding and service agreement has been established with Youth Projects. The agreement includes defined targets for service delivery, reporting requirements, and timelines. The program is successfully engaging and supporting at-risk young people.
19	Challenging gender-based violence through youth led initiatives	●	Community	Two schools are participating in the program: Pascoe Vale Girls College and Coburg High School. Peer educators were actively involved in planning and delivering activities for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign at both schools. This included presentations to approximately 170 students and the creation of a collage featuring student campaign messages.
20	Scope options to provide additional free third spaces for children, young people, and families	●	Community	Background research and consultation to identify opportunities for increasing spaces for young people have been completed, informing a report adopted by Council in October 2025 which included the following initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanding youth programs at Fawkner Sports Hall to three afternoons per week on a six-month pilot. Piloting a family engagement program offering free access to Council spaces three times weekly. Completing a feasibility study on additional free third spaces by October 2026. Referring \$319,445 in required funding to the 2026–2030 budget process. Working with Fawkner's Future to find a short-term youth space, with focus on young women. Increasing engagement with children aged 8–12 to strengthen their input.
21	Progress the development of the Brunswick Early Years Hub	●	Community	Building Blocks Partnership Agreement finalised, confirming that the State Government will commit funding of \$4,704,545 towards the project which is estimated to cost \$12,404,545. The site has been prepared, and the construction tender is progressing.
22	Increase awareness of library early literacy programming through partnership with MCH	●	Community	Children's Services Librarians delivered 41 outreach visits to early childhood settings to promote library services and literacy among pre-schoolers. These sessions introduced families and educators to library resources, encouraged early reading habits, and supported the development of foundational literacy skills. The outreach program also strengthened community connections and increased awareness of library programs available for young children and their caregivers.

Merri-Bek Council Action Plan 2025-26 - Quarterly Report: Q2

Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Division	Comments
23	Deliver and extend outdoor help program for seniors for 2025/26	●	Community	New sub-contractors have been inducted to deliver the Outdoor Help Program for seniors. During this quarter, 80 residents have received services, with an additional 76 approved jobs currently scheduled for delivery by contractors.
24	Deliver the ageing well navigation support program to older residents	●	Community	Council provided one-to-one support to 60 residents and delivered 14 outreach sessions attended by 260 residents during the first half of the financial year. The primary focus was on the New Aged Care Reforms effective from 1 November, helping residents understand and navigate the changes and what they mean for their individual circumstances. These sessions aimed to increase awareness, build confidence in accessing services, and ensure compliance with the new requirements.
25	Deliver programs addressing food security through local markets, referral, and voucher systems, strengthening local procurement and logistic	●	Community	Council successfully secured \$522 000 from VicHealth to establish the Merri-bek Food Alliance project. The key project partners Open Table, Merri Food Hub, and Fawkner Food Bowls developed a Memorandum of Understanding to build on existing work through a collaborative alliance that aims to ensure everyone in Merri-bek has access to affordable, healthy, and culturally meaningful food. Through the My Smart Garden, a wicking bed-building session was held at Buleke Bek Garden.
26	Review and implement Social Cohesion Plan	●	Community	<p>During this quarter, Council's flagship Social Cohesion Project - Democracy Lab was recognised nationally, winning the MAV Lab Innovation Award in the Connector Award for Community Inclusion and Cohesion category. Eight of the twenty participants from the 2025 Lab are now actively engaged in community initiatives, with four trialling their project ideas at local Neighbourhood Houses.</p> <p>Council also hosted a successful Community Morning Tea at the Glenroy Community Hub in partnership with Open Table, aimed at strengthening social and cultural inclusion for people from marginalised and socially isolated backgrounds. Survey results showed 84% of participants reported stronger social connections and 92% felt an increased sense of belonging.</p> <p>Regional anti-racism work continues in partnership with Whittlesea, Darebin, and Hume councils. This quarter, Council distributed 220 anti-racism support service booklets, 95 postcards, and 42 posters across libraries, neighbourhood houses, community groups, and partner organisations, reaching staff, residents, youth services, sports clubs, faith communities, and multicultural service providers. One staff training session was delivered, with two more scheduled for the remainder of FY 2026.</p> <p>In September, Merri-bek joined a delegation to Canberra, where the Mayor, a Council Officer, and a Lived Experience delegate met with MPs to advocate for fairer refugee policy and raise the profile of the taskforce's key asks.</p>
27	Evaluation and development of a human rights policy	●	Community	The Merri-bek Human Rights Policy (2016-2026) has guided how Council has supported human rights for 10 years. Council has begun an Independent Evaluation of the policy and its implementation. Analysis of service data, key stakeholder and staff interviews, community feedback and analysis of Council reports has been undertaken, as well as the development of case studies of good practice. Lessons learned and recommendations will inform the development of the new policy in 2026.

Merri-Bek Council Action Plan 2025-26 - Quarterly Report: Q2

Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Division	Comments
28	Create Library of Things plan for Merri-bek libraries	●	Community	The Merri bek Library of Things is a free tool and equipment lending service available through our libraries. It allows cardholders to borrow practical and recreational items. The collection now includes: - Thermal cameras - Water-saving kits - Induction cooktops - CO ₂ monitors - Jigsaw puzzles
29	Deliver the Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan including Functional Zero and Assertive outreach	●	Community	Work from the last quarter has included a councillor briefing on homelessness, creating for the website and a homelessness outreach booklet.
30	Advocate for systemic changes to enable a socially just and climate resilient Merri-bek.	●	Place and Environment	Highlights have included: *Continued to support the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances advocacy in collaboration with ACOSS to the Federal Government for funding of \$72.5M for a scalable home energy upgrade program that is inclusive of vulnerable and low-income households. *Coordinated Local Government and Owners Corporation peak bodies advocacy and a submission to the Victorian Government's Owners Corporation Act Review. Seeking to address governance barriers that are preventing upgrades in apartment buildings to reduce energy bills, improve comfort, build community and lower climate risk. *Letter sent from Mayor to Federal Energy Minister Chris Bowen asking for an ambitious 2035 Australian Emissions Reduction Target. *Submission made to Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry on Electricity Supply For Electric Vehicles.
31	Embed library social worker program	●	Community	Recruitment for a new Library Social Worker role is progressing, with the position in the final stages of the hiring process.
32	Explore, including through partnership arrangements, ways to improve health, access and inclusiveness in public & private spaces for people in precarious housing such as access to toilets and bathrooms, seating under shelter, showers, lockers and a place to heat food as well as improved access to services	●	Community	Council continued to work closely with our local partners on percent projects. We are recruiting for a community safety officer who will assist in building advocacy and creating safer places for people in Merri-bek.
33	Develop and implement Gender Equality and Family Violence Action Plan	●	Community	Provided input into the review of Council's Human Rights Policy 2016-2026, which identifies gender equality and family violence prevention as key action areas. Led the development and implementation of Council's Gender Equality Action Plan, ensuring alignment with legislative requirements and embedding gender equity principles across programs and services.

Merri-Bek Council Action Plan 2025-26 - Quarterly Report: Q2

Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Division	Comments
				Coordinated Council's planning and delivery of activities for the annual 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign, including hosting the Voices for Change Community Forum on 27 November and participating in Respect Victoria's Walk Against Family Violence in the CBD.
34	Deliver an annual Tobacco education and enforcement program	●	Community	More than 50 per cent of the required retailer education visits and inspections of eating establishments have been completed. Work is underway to increase the level of compliant tobacco signage across the municipality.
35	Develop and implement First Peoples self-determination strategy	●	Community	<p>Council has established a new First Peoples Advisory Committee to guide the development of the strategy. The committee will comprise four individual First Peoples community members, three representatives from Aboriginal organisations, and the portfolio councillor.</p> <p>Council officers continue monthly consultations with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders, including a recent in-person visit to the Wurundjeri Corporation by staff from Open Space, Property, and Arts and Culture teams, where they met with Elders and the CEO.</p> <p>Council also attended and welcomed the launch of the Wurundjeri Whole of Country Plan 2025-2035, which outlines a vision for healthy Country and will help guide future collaboration.</p> <p>In addition, officers are reviewing the Human Rights Policy and related plans, including the Statement of Commitment to First Peoples, to ensure the new strategy reflects Council's broader goals of truth-telling, cultural recognition, and community wellbeing.</p>
36	Partner with the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service to investigate options, locations and co-design culturally safe programs and services that promote and improve access to Councils Aquatic and Leisure Centres addressing a range of barriers for Aboriginal Victorians	●	Community	Council held a productive meeting with the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service, which expressed a strong interest in partnering with Coburg Leisure. Plans include delivering monthly group fitness sessions and exploring swimming lessons for mothers in their Women's Group. The first session is expected to commence next quarter.
38	Progress plans and projects to revitalise and improve central Coburg	●	Place and Environment	Work is well underway on plans to revitalise Coburg. A draft framework plan has been endorsed by Council and is out to community consultation. Following community consultation the framework may be amended further, alongside implementation decisions (delivery model, procurement), before coming to Council seeking endorsement.
39	Deliver the Merri-bek Affordable Housing Action Plan	●	Place and Environment	This action is up to date and on track. Work continues with government and housing providers to progress accessible and inclusive housing opportunities, including First Peoples housing on Council land, alongside ongoing advocacy for more public and community housing.

Merri-Bek Council Action Plan 2025-26 - Quarterly Report: Q2

Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Division	Comments
40	Support the development of Ballerrt Mooroop site/community hub with engagement of local First Peoples communities and Traditional Owners		Community	Council hosted its first Welcome Baby to Country on 22 October, connecting children and families to culture, community, and future services at Ballerrt Mooroop. Engagement with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Council continues to support the project's progress.

Theme 3: Beautiful and liveable city

3: Create safe, accessible streets and public spaces that support vibrant communities, active travel, rest and relaxation, and community pride, while ensuring development and growth are well managed and local character is celebrated, ensuring Merri-bek is a welcoming, liveable, and connected place for all.

Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Division	Comments
41	Facilitate additional public toilets in parks & reserves	●	City Infrastructure	Officers are working to finalise the planned toilets for 2026/27 with engagement expected to occur in early 2026.
42	Deliver Park priorities	●	Place and Environment	Council is progressing the creation of new open space at 568 Sydney Road as part of the Park Close to Home program. The project is currently in its early design phase. The first round of community consultation, completed in December 2025, received more than 700 submissions. This valuable feedback will guide the development of concept designs for the next stage of consultation.
43	Deliver increased shade in Victoria Mall	●	Place and Environment	Council is moving forward with plans to increase shade in Victoria Mall. The initial concept design and preliminary cost estimates are complete, and we're now preparing to engage with local businesses along the mall.
44	Implement hooning prevention measures in reserve carparks in Glenroy	●	City Infrastructure	This program is progressing well. Works have been completed to install speed humps in the ATC Cook car park in Glenroy and Hadfield Tennis Courts / Middle Street car park in Hadfield were completed in November-December 2025. Another project is being planned for delivery in the new year.
45	Implement the outcomes of the community engagement for the Stage 1 Pilot - Dog Walking in Merri-bek initiatives at 8 different reserves, including improving Gilpin dog park	●	City Infrastructure	<p>This pilot program was developed from extensive feedback during the Open Space Strategy review regarding dogs in open spaces. Following community consultation, Council endorsed a pilot to trial changes at eight parks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gilpin Park, Brunswick: Additional funding via the Community Budget Ideas program for dog park upgrades and a new quiet dog area. Concept stage, out for engagement. Proposed on-leash zone near playground/shared path; remainder off-leash. • Wylie Reserve, Brunswick West: Evening lighting during cooler months; activation monitored. • Fleming Park, Brunswick West: Winter lighting, new safety fencing to activate underused areas, and an on-leash picnic area in the northeast. • Harmony Park, Coburg: Previously on-leash; trial off-leash area in the south with fencing and vegetated barriers. • Robinson Reserve, Coburg: Previously on-leash; timed off-leash area (morning/evening) in the north. • Tate Reserve, Coburg: Trial no-dog habitat zone near creek; new off-leash zone with path safety upgrades. • Lorne Street Reserve, Fawkner: Trial fenced off-leash zone; remainder on-leash. • GE Clarke Reserve, Glenroy: Trial off-leash zone in northern area; new accessible path. <p>All sites included engagement, signage, and opportunities for feedback. The pilot is guided by five principles: compliance, accessibility, safety, habitat protection, and preservation of outdoor spaces.</p>

Merri-Bek Council Action Plan 2025-26 - Quarterly Report: Q2

Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Division	Comments
				Learnings will inform the Stage 2 review of the remaining open spaces. Overall support has been strong, except at Tate Reserve, where opposition led to vandalism of fencing and signage, including damage to a bush kinder space. Feedback for improvements was received at Gilpin, Fleming, and Harmony Parks.
46	Engage the community in the review of and update of the Domestic Animal Management Plan	✔	City Infrastructure	Community engagement has been undertaken on Merri bek's draft Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP). Public consultation and feedback to inform the development of the draft and subsequently for feedback on the draft was completed. Feedback obtained was considered in the development of the final DAMP endorsed by Council in the November Council meeting.
47	Engage the community in the review of and update of the Local Law	●	Community	The Local law review process is progressing on schedule with internal engagement occurring through October and November.
48	Adopt a new Road Management Plan and implement the changes resulting from its review	●	City Infrastructure	The Road Management Plan was reviewed in time to meet the statutory deadline of 31 October. It was then endorsed by Council in the October Council meeting. The implementation of the changes being built into business-as-usual processes is in progress.
49	Deliver the Streets for People Plan priority projects	●	Place and Environment	Over the past six months, delivery of the Streets for People priority projects has focused on Breese Street, where community consultation has been completed. Planning is underway to commence community consultation for Hope Street and Harding Munro in the coming months.
50	Deliver sustainable transport initiatives that improve options for people walking and riding throughout Merri-bek	●	Place and Environment	Work is progressing to strengthen school travel initiatives, with coordinated efforts underway to deliver infrastructure improvements in and around school precincts.
51	Deliver the Ride & Stride behaviour change program plus priority infrastructure upgrades around schools, to foster safe and active travel to and from school	●	Place and Environment	The Ride & Stride behaviour change program continues with participating schools. The Biketober program was completed in the first quarter of the year, encouraging residents to ride bikes for fun, fitness, and sustainable transport through friendly workplace and community challenges. With the School Transport Precincts Officer now in place, focus will shift to progressing priority infrastructure upgrades.
52	Support the expansion of the Electric Vehicle (EV) charging network across Merri-bek	●	Place and Environment	A range of initiatives have been progressed to support the expansion of the Electric Vehicle (EV) charging network. These include: - An AC (slower) dual-charger was installed at Davies St, Brunswick and opened in October. One port is available to the public, while the second is dedicated to a carshare vehicle. - A study on potential fast charger sites across Merri-bek has been completed, and we have reached out to Citipower and Jemena to understand next steps for working with them to expand the network. In particular we are exploring the feasibility of a fast charger at the council carpark (south of Brunswick Tram Depot). - A trial of private home-to-street EV charging infrastructure has been launched, and four installations have been completed to date. This trial has elicited a high degree of interest from councils both in Melbourne and around the country (Perth, Sydney, Hobart).

Merri-Bek Council Action Plan 2025-26 - Quarterly Report: Q2

Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Division	Comments
53	Deliver the Wheatsheaf Road Glenroy streetscape improvement project (over two years)		Place and Environment	This project was previously delayed pending Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) agreement to the design. Progress has been made with in-principle agreement so Council and DTP are now finalising documentation of the agreement before DTP can provide road works consent. This is a precursor to works commencing.
54	Ensure Council is well briefed to support the best possible design outcomes from major planning applications		Place and Environment	Most major planning proposals are determined through a Council resolution at the Planning and Related Matters Council meeting. Generally, matters exceeding the structure plan height or referred to Council by the Planning Minister are considered by Councillors. All major planning applications undergo a review with expert input from our Urban Design, Environmentally Sustainable Development team, and heritage advisor.
55	Reporting on Ministerial planning permit decision-making through the Quarterly Planning Permit Activity Reporting to the Planning & Related Matters Council Meeting		Place and Environment	The Activity Report included details on Ministerial applications. The Activity Report for the October Council meeting noted: There were no Ministerial applications referred to Council during the September quarter.
56	Ensure the review of the Merri-bek Planning Scheme leads to a framework that supports great housing, employment, and liveability in Merri-bek		Place and Environment	Work is underway to ensure the Merri-bek Planning Scheme continues to provide a clear and effective framework of local policies and controls to guide the type and location of housing growth.

Theme 4: Thriving economy and culture

4: A lively and inclusive Merri-bek where the economy supports local business and industry growth, celebrates artistic and creative expression, and connects the community through vibrant cultural experiences.

Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Division	Comments
57	Continue to develop the Brunswick Design District in partnership with RMIT University and Creative Victoria, with a focus on supporting economic opportunities and job growth in design-related businesses	●	Place and Environment	Over the past months officers worked with RMIT University and Creative Victoria to: (i) deliver the third of a series of Open Studio business showcase and networking events; (ii) plan and secure an event within the 2026 Melbourne Design Week; (iii) prepare updates to the Brunswick Design District website; and (iv) explore opportunities to deliver a self-determined First Nations event in 2026.
58	Implement safety & amenity improvements in major activity centres including Glenroy, Brunswick, and Coburg	●	Place and Environment	Progress has been made in cross-department collaboration to deliver transport-led safety and amenity improvements in the major activity centres of Glenroy, Brunswick and Coburg.
59	Belair Street, Glenroy, on-street garden bed	●	City Infrastructure	A preliminary design has been completed. Further investigations are underway to ensure the design meets drainage design and maintenance requirements. The project will then proceed to detailed design ahead of procurement processes for delivery.
60	Deliver the West Street Streetscape Renewal Project (over two years)	●	Place and Environment	Council is progressing with the upgrade of West Street Shopping Strip to transform the activity centre into a vibrant community destination. The final detailed design and consultations with external authorities have been completed. Public tender evaluations have been finalised and presented at December 2025 Council meeting, where the construction contract will be awarded. Works are scheduled to commence in early 2026.
61	Deliver priority actions from the Places for People Plan	●	Place and Environment	Places for People Plan is the guiding framework for improving Merri-bek's activity centre public spaces. The draft Places for People plan has been presented at the December 2025 Council meeting for endorsement to proceed to community consultation. Priority actions for implementation will be shaped by community feedback and coordinated across various Council service areas.
62	Develop a Public Art Policy	●	Community	Public consultation for the Public Art Policy closed in December 2025 and provided the community with an opportunity to review and provide feedback on the proposed framework for managing and commissioning public art across Merri-bek. The policy aims to strengthen cultural expression, support local artists, and ensure public art reflects community values and diversity. Following the consultation period, all feedback is being reviewed and incorporated into the final draft. The updated policy is scheduled to be presented to Council for endorsement at a 2026 Council Meeting. Once adopted, the policy will guide future public art projects, funding priorities, and partnerships to enhance creative placemaking and cultural vibrancy in public spaces.

Merri-Bek Council Action Plan 2025-26 - Quarterly Report: Q2

Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Division	Comments
63	Deliver the Merri-bek Economic Development Action Plan	●	Place and Environment	During the quarter Economic Development Unit continued to deliver Economic Development Action Plan - Year 2 actions including: 11 business events (taking the year to date total to 26 Skills workshops & business networking events); a newly launched Love Merri-bek trail map focused on Northern Merri-bek; a major Business Friendly Council service improvement initiative; continued support to the Sydney Road Brunswick and Central Coburg business associations; trader networking events in Glenroy and Lygon Street; a new Shopfront Improvement project in Melville Road; nearly 100 business permit concierge processes; and a First Nations supplier meet and greet event in conjunction with Darebin and Banyule Councils.
64	Maintain the Commercial Priority Planning Service to facilitate well prepared planning permit applications that can deliver new or increased local employment opportunities	●	Place and Environment	The Urban Planning Unit continues to provide its Commercial Priority Service to assist new and expanding businesses in navigating the planning process. From July to December 2025, the Council received 20 commercial priority applications.
65	Deliver expanded Merri-bek murals street art program	●	Community	Several mural sites have been confirmed, including Fleming Park (East Brunswick), Shirley Robertson Children's Centre (Coburg), Oxygen Youth Space (Coburg), and Union Street (Brunswick). A suitable site in Glenroy is still being identified. Installation of murals is scheduled to commence in early 2026.
66	Scope project to activate underutilised community spaces for arts and performance	●	Community	Works have progressed to investigate and provide cost estimates for adding performing arts infrastructure to selected community venues. This work will assess opportunities to enhance facilities for live performances, including staging, lighting, and acoustic improvements to support local arts and cultural programming. The findings will inform future capital works planning and budget considerations, ensuring venues are equipped to host diverse community events and creative activities.
67	Refresh festival program in line with community needs	●	Community	The proposed festival program refresh will be presented to Council in 2026 ahead of seeking feedback via community consultation.
68	Redesign grants program to support more opportunities to create, learn and connect	●	Community	Internal consultation of the redesign will commence in early 2026.
69	Develop scope for Fawkner Library redevelopment to increase opportunities to learn and connect	●	Community	Initial research and planning have been completed in preparation for community engagement scheduled for early 2026. The redevelopment brief will be shaped by both functional requirements and community aspirations, ensuring the design delivers inclusive, adaptable spaces that support education, social interaction, and cultural activities.
70	Undertake design competition for the Coburg Library and Piazza concept design	●	Community	The design competition for the Coburg Library and Piazza concept has been completed, and procurement processes are now being finalised. The winning concept design will be announced in early 2026.

Merri-Bek Council Action Plan 2025-26 - Quarterly Report: Q2

Theme 5: Engaging and responsible council

5: A responsive and engaged Merri-bek that prioritises excellent service, embraces engaging communication methods, advocates community needs, and continues to uphold sustainable financial management and accountable governance that builds trust and collaboration with the community.

Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Division	Comments
71	Develop Customer Experience Strategy	●	Community	Development of the Customer Experience Strategy will commence in the new calendar year, with the appointment of a Customer Experience Lead to ensure a coordinated and organisation-wide approach.
72	Deliver advocacy activities that support council priorities	●	Community	<p>Council continued regular meetings with local State and Federal MPs and continued collaborative work with advocacy partners, including Northern Councils Alliance (NCA.), M9, (inner nine Councils), Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE), Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA.), Mayoral Taskforce for People Seeking Asylum, and more. Council also met with the Department of Transport and Planning to provide a briefing on Central Coburg and continued to advocate for the duplication of the Upfield Rail Line and the Accessibility of Tram Services.</p> <p>Council also made submissions to Parliamentary Inquiry - Electricity Supply for Electric Vehicles, Melbourne Water stormwater flood mapping program, Former Coburg North TAFE EOI, Victorian Government's Review of the Owners Corporation Act 2016, and Activities Centres Program Phase 2. Year to date, Council has also submitted applications for State and Federal funding for various community projects and grants totalling over \$4 million.</p>
73	Increase editions and page count for Community News	✓	Community	Council has successfully enhanced its communication reach by increasing both the frequency of Community News editions to bi- monthly and the number of pages per edition to 12. This improvement ensures more space for detailed updates, community stories, and accessible information on programs and services. By expanding content volume and distribution, Council aims to strengthen engagement, improve transparency, and cater to Merri-bek's diverse audiences through inclusive and easy-to- understand messaging.
74	Continue the Merri-bek Community Connectors program	●	Community	<p>The new Connectors group launched in September 2025, with 25 members recruited for a one-year term. These Connectors represent Merri-bek's diverse community and collectively speak and write in 10 of the top languages, including emerging languages such as Bengali, Pashto, and Persian. In addition, 10 former Connectors have continued for another year, strengthening continuity and engagement.</p> <p>Over the past three months, Connectors have supported key projects and events, including the Council Vision and Plan, Children, Young People and Families Strategy, Community Budget Ideas 2026-27, Public Art Policy, and the Hidden Disability Sunflower Campaign. They also assisted with major events such as Fawkner Festa, Carols by the Lake, and Senior Citizen Festivals.</p> <p>Key achievements include: * 878 community members accessed in-language Community Budget pages, showing strong interest ahead of the January 18 campaign close. * 50 flyers were distributed for Central Coburg engagement, and 150 multilingual flyers were</p>

Merri-Bek Council Action Plan 2025-26 - Quarterly Report: Q2

Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Division	Comments
				shared with elderly residents for the Senior Citizen Festival. * Connectors reviewed translated materials for four major projects and supported pop-up engagement at events like Paper Planet and Park Close to Home. New Connectors also explored Council spaces such as Glenroy Community Hub and Counihan Gallery—many for the first time—building stronger connections with Merri-bek.
75	Maintain the planning and building on-line booking service for improved customer convenience and freely accessible high-quality advice	●	Place and Environment	The online booking system continues to operate well for Urban Planning and Building Services, enabling an improved service for those unable to attend the Council offices for general advice.
76	Integrate climate risk into Council processes and systems, focusing on risk management, finance, and asset management and capital works planning	●	Place and Environment	Cross-functional work across risk management, finance, sustainability, and capital works and asset management has identified proposed actions for 2025-2030. These actions are being refined and will be submitted to the Climate Resilience Integration Board for endorsement.
77	Update Merri-bek's open space and developer contribution models	●	Place and Environment	Merri-bek's open space and developer contribution model update is progressing as planned. The new Development Contributions Plan (DCP 2.0) is currently awaiting authorisation from the Minister for Planning. Once authorised, Planning Scheme Amendment C236mbek will be formally exhibited for public submission. Separately, the proposed update to the open space contribution rate has been referred by Council to an independent Planning Panel. The Panel will consider Amendment C235mbek in the new year.
78	Complete or commence construction of every project listed in Merri-bek's first Development Contributions Plan before 30 June 2026	●	City Infrastructure	On target to complete close to all the road and drainage Development Contributions Plan projects by the end of financial year.
79	Finalise designs for the Breese Street precinct improvements	●	Place and Environment	The design for a greener Breese Street Precinct is well underway. In October 2025, we shared two concept options with the community—Option 1 featuring a one-way southbound street and Option 2 introducing a central shared zone. We received great feedback, and now further traffic modelling is in progress to help shape the final design.

7.6 OPEN COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS REPORT

Acting Director Business Transformation, Anita Curnow

Governance and Strategy

Officer Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Open Council Resolutions Report provided as Attachment 1 to this report.

REPORT

Executive Summary

The Open Council Resolutions Report provided as **Attachment 1**, has been prepared to inform Councillors and the community on the progress of Council resolutions that are currently open.

There are currently 40 open Council resolutions, with 1 of these relating to a Petition, 21 relating to Council officer reports and 18 relating to Notices of Motion.

The Open Council Resolutions Report is presented to Council on an ongoing basis, providing transparency on the progress and implementation of Council resolutions.

Previous Council Decisions

Open Council Resolutions Report – 12 November 2025

That Council receives and notes the Open Council Resolutions Report provided as Attachment 1 to this report.

1. Policy Context

Section 46(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* states:

- (a) That Chief Executive Officer has responsibility for ensuring that the decisions of the Council are implemented without undue delay.
- (e) When requested by the Mayor, reporting to the Council in respect of the implementation of a Council decision.

This report also supports Council's continuing commitment to transparent management of resources on behalf of ratepayers, key stakeholders and the broader community.

2. Background

The purpose of the Open Council Resolutions Report, provided as **Attachment 1**, is to inform Councillors and the community of the actions taken to date to implement the Council resolutions that are currently open.

3. Issues

The Open Council Resolutions Report (shown at **Attachment 1**) outlines the open resolutions and indicates that there is a total of 40 Open Resolutions, with 1 of these relating to a Petition, 21 relating to Council officer reports and 18 relating to Notices of Motion. Each open resolution in **Attachment 1**, includes a target date for completion.

The table below details the allocation of open items - Petitions, Council Reports, Notices of Motion, and Urgent Business—across each directorate:

Directorate	Petitions	Council Reports	Notices of Motion	Urgent Business
City Infrastructure		3	3	-
Community	-	2	8	-
Chief Executive Office	-	-	2	-
Business Transformation	-	1	1	-
Place and Environment	1	15	4	-
	1	21	18	

Attachment 1 excludes resolutions relating to Confidential Items and items relating to Planning and Related Matters.

Community impact

Community impact is addressed through the Council Plan 2025-2029 under strategic objective 4: Act with transparency and accountability in all financial and governance practices, setting the standard for integrity and building trust within the community.

Climate emergency and environmental sustainability implications

There are no climate emergency and environmental sustainability implications associated with the preparation of this report.

Economic sustainability implications

There are no economic sustainability implications associated with the preparation of this report.

Legal and risk considerations

There are no legal and risk implications associated with the preparation of this report.

Human Rights Consideration

The implications of this report have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

4. Community consultation and engagement

Community consultation and engagement are not required for this report, as it solely provides an update on the implementation status of previously adopted Council decisions.

Affected persons rights and interests

Before making a decision that affects a person's rights, Council must identify whose rights may be directly affected and provide an opportunity for that person (or persons) to convey those views regarding the effect on their rights and consider those views. There are no individual rights or interests affected.

5. Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

6. Financial and Resources Implications

Any financial implications associated with the preparation of this report have been met within existing resource and budget allocations.

7. Implementation

The reporting of the Open Council Resolutions will continue on an ongoing basis, with the next report scheduled for presentation to Council in May 2026.

Attachment/s

- 1 [↓](#) Open Council Resolutions Report - December 2025 D26/40295

Open Council Resolutions Report

For the period ending 31 December 2025



Merri-bek
City Council

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Petitions – 1

Director Place and Environment	Council 13/08/2025	Target date for full completion: 28/02/2026
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5.1 PETITION REQUESTING COUNCIL TAKE ACTION TO REDUCE THE VOLUME OF CARS ON SHAFTSBURY STREET, COBURG

That Council:

1. Receives the petition, requesting Council take action to reduce the volume of cars on Shaftsbury Street, Coburg, particularly between Reynard Street and Munro Street.
2. Refers the petition requesting Council take action to reduce the volume of cars on Shaftsbury Street, Coburg, particularly between Reynard Street and Munro Street, to the Director Place and Environment for consideration and response.

Progress Comment

Response to petition is being prepared. Shaftsbury Street has been added to the project list for consideration for the 2026-27 road safety design program.

Officer Reports – 21

Director Place and Environment	Council 11/10/2017	Target date for full completion: 30/06/2026
<p>DCS59/17 PROPOSED LAND SWAP WITH DARUL ULUM COLLEGE OF VICTORIA - EVANS RESERVE, FAWKNER</p>		
<p>That Council, having given public notice and having considered the submission received, in accordance with sections 189 and 223 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i>:</p>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determines to exchange part of its land at 20 Victory Street, Fawkner, with land currently owned by Darul Ulum College of Victoria at 21 and 23 Marjory and 16 and 18 Victory Streets, Fawkner, as shown in the negotiated plan at Attachment 1 to this report. 2. Authorises the Director Corporate Services to do all things necessary to affect the exchange of land of part of its land at 20 Victory Street, Fawkner as shown in with land owned by the Darul Ulum College of Victoria at 21 and 23 Marjory and 16 and 18 Victory Streets, Fawkner, as shown in Attachment 1 to this report, including the execution of all relevant documentation. 3. Authorises the Director Corporate Services to commence the subdivision of approximately 2,393 square metres from the Evans Reserve, shown as the red hatched area on Attachment 1 to this report, and remove its drainage, sewerage and recreation reserve status pursuant to section 24(A) of the <i>Subdivisions Act 1988</i>. 4. Requests authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare a planning scheme amendment in accordance with section 20(4) of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> to rezone 21 and 23 Marjory and 16 and 18 Victory Streets, Fawkner, to Public Park and Recreation Zone and rezone the land to be sold at 20 Victory Street, Fawkner, shown as the blue hatched area on attachment 1 to this report, to General Residential 1 (GRZ1). 5. Notifies the person who made a submission in writing of its decision and the reasons for that decision. 6. Explores options with Darul Ulum to preserve 7 mature native trees that exist on the site in keeping with the aims of the newly adopted Urban Forest Strategy 		
<p>Progress Comment</p>		
<p>The land swap process is underway. Since the original 2017 decision, the State Government has introduced a Windfall Gains Tax that may render the swap cost prohibitive. Council requested a ruling from the State Revenue Office (SRO) to confirm whether the tax applies however the SRO has declined to issue a ruling. Council's legal advisor is considering the SRO's response and Council's next steps will be informed by this guidance.</p>		

Director Place and Environment	Council 13/09/2023	Target date for full completion: 30/05/2026
<p>7.9 NAMING OF LANEWAYS</p>		
<p>That Council:</p>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the potential risks and resource challenges associated with a universal approach to naming laneways, and that individual requests for naming laneways can be accommodated within the existing Naming Merri-bek Places Policy (2013), in cases where there is a clear reason to consider them as exceptions to standard practice. 2. Continues discussions with Geographic Names Victoria to assess the name 'Kastoria Lane' against Geographic Naming Victoria's naming rules for places in Victoria - Statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities – 2022. 3. Writes to the submitter of the request to name a walkway on Sydney Road 'Pagonis Place' requesting supporting evidence in relation to the naming rules, specifically Principle C – linking the name to the place and Principle I – using commemorative names. 4. Commence a formal process to name the laneway between Trafford Street and Ann Street, Brunswick. 5. Continues to assess individual naming requests as the naming authority, noting that the Registrar of Geographic Names holds the power to either approve or reject any proposal for naming. 6. Refers to the 2024/25 budget process consideration of allocating funds for the installation of informative text beneath new road names and interpretive signage at newly named parks to offer insights into the history and significance of place names and enhances understanding and appreciation of the locale's heritage and cultural importance. 7. If budget savings are declared in the 2023/24 budget, that consideration be given to allocating savings identified to ensure that projects nominated in this recommendation are delivered with interpretive signage elements. 		
<p>Progress Comment</p>		
<p>All actions have been implemented except for point 4 which will commence once Council's naming policy has been updated. Work is in train to update Council's naming policy in 2026.</p>		

Director City Infrastructure	Council 8/11/2023	Target date for full completion: 31/03/2026
7.7	TOWARDS A PLACE-BASED, COMMUNITY CO-MANAGEMENT OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACES - PROJECT REPORT	
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Notes the successful outcomes achieved in partnership with the community and the findings of the report.2. Updates all park pages under the 'Find a Park' section of Council's website with current photos, park features and for those with a sportsground, links to sporting club pages with training and game time information.		
Progress Comment		
<p>New park pages: All parks that previously did not have individual pages now have new page containers created. Each page includes park information and key features., Dog Walking Pilot updates: Photos and details related to the dog walking pilot parks are being progressively updated. This work is ongoing., Find a Park Tool: Functionality improvements have been completed, including fixes to bugs and search features., Shared reserves and parks: Information and resources for reserves and parks shared by clubs have been added. , Ongoing photo updates: Adding new and updated photos to park pages will remain an ongoing process, depending on available resources. , Anticipate all Find a Park updates completed by March 2026 (subject to resourcing),. Signage to Hosken Reserve and Fleming Park with a QR link to club social media pages. Existing ground booking system is not visible to the public. Investigations are underway into a new ground booking system that will provide public visibility of days and times of use.</p>		

Director Place and Environment	Council 8/05/2024	Target date for full completion: 30/05/2026
7.4 NAMING THE PARK AT 14 FRITH STREET, BRUNSWICK - VOTING POLL RESULTS		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Invite further consultation from the broader Merri-bek community on the resolved list of names for the Park at 14 Frith Street, with a view to a report coming back to Council in August 2024 with the final outcome of the consultation and poll and to confirm Council's preferred name.2. Undertake a review of the Naming Merri-bek Places Policy, including consideration of:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) Considering naming parks and facilities only after they have been opened to the public, allowing users of the space to engage in the naming process.b) Reviewing consultation methods to explore additional strategies for increasing community participation.c) Considering incorporating a pre-poll workshop with submitters and stakeholders to discuss proposed names, taking into account historical and contextual factors for each site, as well as the overarching objectives of the policy, particularly in prioritising indigenous, women and migrant names.		
Progress Comment		
The Frith Street renaming was completed in 2024. A review of the Naming Merri-bek Places Policy is underway.		

Director Place and Environment	Council 10/07/2024	Target date for full completion: 30/06/2026
7.1 BARROW STREET TRIAL ROAD CLOSURE AT HARDING STREET, COBURG		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Considering the report from the Department of Transport and Planning and the written and verbal submissions from the public submitted under Section 223 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> (the Act), resolves under Clause 10, Schedule 11 of the Act to block the passage or access of vehicles, other than bicycles and pedestrians, by installing temporary barriers (bollards) to trial a road closure on Barrow Street, Coburg, from the intersection of Harding Street to a point up to 8 metres further south. The trial shall be in place for approximately 12 months starting in December 2024. 2. Following the trial, receives a report from Council officers in early 2026 with a recommendation on whether to proceed with consulting with the community on a permanent road closure under Section 223 of the Act. 3. Schedules installation of trial infrastructure to occur during the 2024/25 Summer School Holidays to allow for local schools and the community to prepare for the closure ahead of the 2025 school year. 		
Progress Comment		
The trial period ends in January 2026 and a post-12 month trial evaluation will begin in February 2026. A report back to Council is planned for mid-2026.		

Director Place and Environment	Council 11/09/2024	Target date for full completion: 27/02/2026
7.2 SUB-LEASE OF FORMER COBURG TRAIN STATION - UPDATE ON EXPRESSION OF INTEREST		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes that a public Expression of Interest (EOI) process was carried out to test local community organisations' interest and capacity in taking on a sub-lease of the State Government owned former Coburg Train Station building. 		

2. Endorses not-for-profit organisations Schoolhouse Studios Inc and the Melbourne Art Library as the successful proponents to operate and manage the former Coburg Station as an Art Library and community space through a sub-lease, noting they achieved the highest scores against the EOI criteria.
3. Authorises the Director Place and Environment to do all things necessary to negotiate and formalise the sub-lease of the former Coburg Train Station building.

Progress Comment

The draft lease document has been issued to the tenant for review.

Director Place and Environment**Council 12/02/2025****Target date for full completion:
30/09/2026****7.6 FAWKNER TRANSPORT STUDY IMPLEMENTATION**

That Council:

1. Endorses infrastructure improvements to improve transport safety and accessibility in Fawkner including:
 - a) A new pedestrian priority crossing on Jukes Road at the Fawkner Leisure Centre to assist in north-south movement.
 - b) Completing a missing link of shared user path between McBryde Street and the Merri Creek.
 - c) Shared Path Accessibility Improvements in Charles Mutton Reserve.
 - d) Zebra Crossings at the intersections of Jukes Road and Williams Street.
 - e) Raised threshold crossings along Jukes Road at the intersections of McDougall Street, Penn Court and Co-op Lane.
2. Endorses the following actions to reduce conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles on Bonwick Street:
 - a) Installing new signage to direct visitors to the adjacent car parks near Bonwick Street.
 - b) Formally requesting a compliance blitz by Victoria Police to reduce double parking, cars not giving way to pedestrians and other unsafe driver behaviour.

<p>c) Reconsider a “Walking Legs” pedestrian sign on the zebra crossing in the carpark on the eastern side of Bonwick St to signify that that it is a pedestrian crossing.</p> <p>d) In 12 months assess the impact of the above measures on the intersection of Jukes Rd and Bonwick St and bring a report to council identifying ways pedestrian safety could be further improved</p> <p>3. Endorses the Fawkner Safe Travel Corridors as the preferred active transport routes within Fawkner and investigates extending the north south cycling corridor continuing through Parker Reserve to Shorts Road to enable this as a safe cycling corridor to Aldi supermarket, Upfield Bike Path, Merlynston Station, and Hosken Reserve.</p> <p>4. Notes that there will be opportunity as part of the Streets for People Plan to identify priority corridors throughout Merri-bek for targeting improvements, which may include the east-west bicycle route in Fawkner at Roma Street and the Sydney Road – Murray Street intersection.</p> <p>Progress Comment</p> <p>Item 1b, 1d and 1e are complete. Desing on 1a and 1c are in progress.</p> <p>Item 2a is expected to be delivered by March 2026. Item 2c is still being assessed and is likely to occur by June 2026, if suitable. Officers will review and report on safety improvements after 12 months of implementation.</p> <p>Item 3 and 4 are complete, as previously reported.</p>

Director Community	Council 12/03/2025	Target date for full completion: 9/06/2027
<p>7.5 VICKI CLEARY DAY 2025 AND FAMILY VIOLENCE INITIATIVES</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Notes the information provided on current data, initiative and partnerships on prevention of family violence and gender based violence Endorses the proposed program of support for the annual Vicki Cleary Day. Requests that an evaluation, outcomes report, and future program proposal be presented to Council for consideration in the first half of 2027. 		

4. Refers support for Vicki Cleary Day in May 2025 to Quarter 3 budget deliberations.
5. Refers a funding request of \$40,000 to the 2025/26 budget process for consideration.

Progress Comment

Funding agreement in place with club and budget confirmed. Project plan to commence. Working towards the evaluation and outcome to be presented to Council in 2027.

Director Community**Council 12/03/2025****Target date for full completion:**

30/08/2026

7.2 BACHAR HOULI FOUNDATION - ISLAMIC COLLEGE OF SPORT AND ASPIRE SPORTS CENTRE

That Council:

1. Notes the Bachar Houli Foundations concept designs for the proposed Aspire Sports Centre as shown in Attachment 1.
2. Notes the Federal Government's commitment to provide grant funding of \$15 million and the Bachar Houli Foundation's application to the Victorian Government's Building Fund for Non-Government Schools to develop the facility.
3. Notes the planning requirements that must be met for the project to proceed, and the significant community benefits it will deliver.
4. Resolves to enter into a peppercorn lease agreement with the Bachar Houli Foundation for a 30-year term with a 10-year extension option, exercisable by the Bachar Houli Foundation, subject to confirmation that funding has been secured for the project.
5. Receives a further report setting out:
 - a) detailed terms of the proposed lease agreement
 - b) potential relocation options for existing users at the former Coburg Bowls Club
 - c) grant funding updates
 - d) further design and planning considerations, draft community and stakeholder engagement plan

e) details outlining how women and girls will be intentionally included in the programs and design of the facility and how this will be measured and reported by the Bachar Houli Foundation

6. Requests officers continue to explore the potential of Council's adjacent Russell Street car park sites, particularly for future community sport and recreation infrastructure needs, and maximise any synergies or colocation potential with the Bachar Houli Foundation as their proposal develops.

Progress Comment
Council officers are working with the Bachar Houli Foundation and other stakeholders in relation to the project. A report will be presented to Council in 2026.

Director Place and Environment	Council 9/04/2025	Target date for full completion: 30/06/2026
7.16 ELECTRICAL CAPACITY UPGRADE - HADFIELD OPERATIONS CENTRE		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the need for an increase in electrical capacity at the Hadfield Operations Centre (also known as 5 Walter Street, Hadfield) by 3,000kVA (or 3 MW), to support electrification of the site and installation of infrastructure necessary for the transition of Council fleet to zero emissions vehicles. 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to do all things necessary to upgrade electrical capacity at Hadfield Operations Centre, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Accepting the negotiated offer from Jemena to install a new 3 MegaWatt kiosk transformer at Hadfield Operations Centre, for \$403,690.59 (excluding GST); and b) Executing a contract for the delivery of required civil and electrical works on Council property to operationalise the transformer. 3. Notes that the following sums have been referred to the draft budget process for 2025/26: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) \$403,690 (for the Jemena offer) b) \$376,000 (for the remaining works). 		
Progress Comment		

indicated, the report back to Council (item 5) will occur after the trials are complete, community feedback has been received and analysis undertaken to enable recommendations to be made. This is expected to occur in May or June 2026.

Director Place and Environment	Council 9/07/2025	Target date for full completion:
		23/07/2025
7.4 CARBON OFFSETS POLICY UPDATE		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acknowledges that Council has achieved significant reductions to its direct emissions over many years through investment in renewable energy, energy efficiency, fleet electrification and other measures, and that initiatives to reduce Council's remaining emissions while in train are more difficult and expensive than those already delivered. 2. Commits to ongoing direct action to reduce Merri-bek Council's operational emissions to zero, as outlined in the Merri-bek Zero Carbon – 2040 Framework corporate target of 80-100% reduction by 2030. 3. Commits to releasing a public statement indicating that Merri-bek City Council is determined to reach its target of carbon neutrality, with transparency in the way we work towards it. 4. Pauses its Carbon Offsets Purchase Policy for a period of up to 12 months, and diverts the budget allocation for carbon offsets to develop options for verified local offsets for Council's residual emissions (including working with neighbouring councils and the Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action where appropriate). 5. Notes that to obtain Climate Active certification in future would currently require that Council "catch up" 2025-26 offsets. 6. Continues to monitor developments with carbon offsets and receives a future report which outlines a timeline and investment for options for council to reach zero emissions over time, prioritising direct reductions. 		
Progress Comment		
3. Complete. The public statement was released in October. Including postings on the council website and Zero Carbon Merri-bek website and newsletter.		

6. Work continues to explore alternative verified local certification options. A report will come to Council later this financial year.

Director Place and Environment **Council 13/08/2025** **Target date for full completion:**
27/02/2026

7.6 **BRUNSWICK LXP MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

That Council:

1. Delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to negotiate and execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in accordance with the draft MOU at Attachment 1, including:
 - a) Negotiating future funding for Council to engage resources to support the work that will be required in responding to the design and delivery of the Brunswick LXP, should the project proceed.
 - b) Negotiating future handover of any newly created assets for Council operation and maintenance, should the project proceed.

Progress Comment

Council is reviewing some very minor changes to the endorsed draft that have been proposed by the Level Crossing Removal Authority.

Director Place and Environment **Council 13/08/2025** **Target date for full completion:**
31/03/2026

7.2 **SHARED E-BIKE SCHEME FOR MERRI-BEK (UPDATE)**

That Council:

1. Notes the results of community engagement related to a shared e-bike scheme, including that the biggest issue of concern was about footpath access.

2. Delegates authority to the CEO to finalise and sign a multi-council Memorandum of Understanding for selecting shared e-bike operator(s).
3. Notes that virtual parking pins have a low accuracy and should not be considered for Merri-bek, except for temporary or short-term parking uses. All shared e-bike parking bays to be installed on the road and none on footpaths.
4. Receives a report for a decision to allow a shared scheme in Merri-bek once the outcome of the joint procurement proceedings is known.
5. Notes that any agreement with shared e-bike operators be predicated on the private e-bike operator agreeing to fully fund the installation of parking bays.

Progress Comment

Work is continuing with neighbouring Councils considering options for collaborative procurement.

City Infrastructure

Council 8/10/2025

Target date for full completion:

28/02/2025

7.14 ROAD MANAGEMENT PLAN

That Council:

1. Adopts the amended Road Management Plan at Attachment 1 to this report prepared in accordance with the requirements of Division 5 of the Road Management Act 2004.
2. Publishes a notice of the adoption of the Road Management Plan in the Victoria Government Gazette and a local daily newspaper as required by Section 55 of the Road Management Act 2004 stating:
 - a) The Road Management Plan has been adopted on 8 October 2025; and
 - b) That a copy of the Road Management Plan may be inspected or obtained from Council's website or customer service centers.
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to arrange for edits to the document for presentation and clarity, without making any material change ahead of publishing the final Road Management Plan.

<p>Progress Comment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It was identified that the Road Management Plan was missing items 1.3, 1.4, and 1.5 from the Schedule. These items were subsequently updated and presented at the 12 November Council meeting. 2. This will be completed by the end of February 2026. 3. Completed.

<p>Director Place and Environment</p>	<p>Council 8/10/2025</p>	<p>Target date for full completion: 30/03/2026</p>
<p>7.6 568 SYDNEY ROAD PARK CLOSE TO HOME - PRELIMINARY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT</p>		
<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorses community engagement on options for the new park at 568 Sydney Road, Brunswick. 2. Receives a future report on the results of community engagement, with a recommended site extent and draft concept plan for the new park. 		
<p>Progress Comment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community engagement on three broad options was undertaken in November and December 2025. Feedback from this process is currently being worked through. 2. Once engagement feedback has been fully considered, an engagement summary report and proposed draft concept plan for the new park will be presented to Council. 		

<p>Director Place and Environment</p>	<p>Council 8/10/2025</p>	<p>Target date for full completion: 30/01/2026</p>
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7.12 CONNOLLY AVENUE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

That Council:

1. Notes the findings of the community engagement and thanks the community for their participation.
2. Endorses the updated concept plan and notes the implementation plan for those works.
3. Refers the proposed design and project to be considered in the budget process for delivery in the 2026-27 financial year.
4. Notes the advocacy that has been undertaken on a signalised pedestrian crossing on Elizabeth Street.
5. Advocates to the State Government to align the intersection of Outlook and Connolly Ave where they meet Murray Road.

Progress Comment

Funding of the detailed design to be considered as a part of 2026/2027 budget development process. An advocacy letter to the State Government is currently being drafted.

Director Place and Environment	Council 12/11/2025	Target date for full completion: 30/06/2026
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7.4 PROPOSED SALE OF COUNCIL LAND - 10 MURRELL STREET, GLENROY

That Council:

1. Notes the five submissions received in relation to the proposed sale of Council land at 10 Murrell Street, Glenroy, and the advice set out in this report.
2. Endorses the proposed sale of the land by a public process.
3. Writes to all submitters thanking them for their submissions and informing them of Council's decision.
4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to do all things necessary to effect the sale.
5. Directs the net proceeds of the sale to the Significant Projects Reserve.

Progress Comment
 With the sale now endorsed, an agent will be engaged to commence the sale campaign. The campaign will begin in early 2026 and the sale is expected to be settled around mid-2026.

Director Place and Environment	Council 10/12/2025	Target date for full completion: 13/05/2026
7.1 PLACES FOR PEOPLE PLAN - DRAFT FOR ENGAGEMENT		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Endorses the draft Places for People Plan (Attachment 1) for community engagement for five weeks from February to March 2026. Receives a further report at the May 2026 Council meeting with a final version of the Places for People Plan, updated following community feedback, and a community engagement report that outlines the feedback received and how this feedback influenced the final version of the Places for People Plan. 		
Progress Comment		
A six week community engagement on the Draft Places for People Plan is planned during February and March 2026. The outcomes of the engagement will be summarised in a Community Engagement Report and will help shape the final version of the Places for People Plan for Council in mid-2026.		

Director Business Transformation	Council 10/12/2025	Target date for full completion: 31/06/2026
7.3 SUBURB BOUNDARY REALIGNMENT - BARINA ROAD, GLENROY/OAK PARK		

That Council authorises the realignment of the Oak Park/Glenroy suburb boundary to incorporate properties at 26, 28 and 30 Barina Road, Glenroy, into the suburb of Oak Park.

Progress Comment

The Council resolution has been sent to Geographic Names Victoria (GNV), awaiting for processing and to be gazetted. Once the gazette is sent to GIS the maps are amended, and the impacted properties will have the new addressing finalised.

Notices of Motion – 18

Director Community	Council 9/08/2023	Target date for full completion: 11/03/2026
<p>8.2 FIRST NATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Undertakes a review of existing processes associated with Council decision-making (including the formation of Officer recommendations and Notices of Motion) that have an impact on the First Nations community and explore ways to effectively consider and/or refer such matters to the First Nations Advisory Committee and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation for their advice and feedback, prior to presenting to Council for consideration. In addition, the review would seek input from the First Nations Advisory Committee and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation at the beginning of the process and on the outcomes of the review prior to presentation to Council. Receives a further report identifying recommendations that can fulfill the objectives mentioned in point 1) above. <p>Progress Comment</p> <p>A First People’s Strategy as part of the Council Plan will speak to how this group will be involved in decisions. A report will be presented in March 2026.</p>		

Director Place and Environment	Council 13/03/2024	Target date for full completion: 1/03/2026
<p>8.6 DANGERS FOR CYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS AT HUDSON STREET AND VICTORIA STREET, COBURG INTERSECTION</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Receives a report on safety hazards and potential solutions for cyclists and pedestrians at the Hudson Street and Victoria Street, Coburg intersection. 		

2. Requests officers to take account of potential flow-on effects of additional traffic to Hudson Street and consider the need for potential safety improvements to Hudson Street as part of the Harding/Munro Streets for People project.

Progress Comment

The design of this intersection is planned to commence community consultation by March 2026, as a part of the Harding & Munro Street design.

Director City Infrastructure

Council 12/06/2024

Target date for full completion:

31/07/2026

8.1 STANDARDS FOR ENCLOSED DOG PARKS

That Council:

1. Conducts a review of the standards for enclosed off-lead dog parks with consideration given to:
 - eliminating gaps in fences, underneath fences and underneath gates that allow tiny dogs to escape
 - provision of water in both the large dog and small dog sections of the dog park
 - provision of shade in dog parks, especially in the area where people gather to watch their dogs
 - latches on gates to be accessible on both sides of the gate for people in wheelchairs
2. Receives a report on the outcome of the review.

Progress Comment

Enclosed off-lead dog park standards are to be included in draft Open Space Guidelines. Draft Guidelines will be provided to members of the:, i) Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resilience,, ii) Health, Wellbeing and Social Inclusion and, iii) Liveability Advisory Committees for feedback early in 2026, with a proposed deadline for completion of the Open Space Guidelines of 30 June 2026 and a report summarising how the matters at item 1 have been considered by July 2026.

Director Community	Council 10/07/2024	Target date for full completion: 10/04/2026
8.3	ART AND HISTORY AT THE BRUNSWICK TOWN HALL	
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Calls for a report into the best use of the Brunswick Town Hall and as part of the report considers the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expanding the Counihan Gallery to include a permanent exhibition of the Merri-bek Art Collection which focus on the work of Noel Counihan and themes associated with Brunswick.• Interpreting the history of Brunswick in collaboration with the Brunswick Historical Society the permanent exhibition spaces can display art and objects which interpret the history of the suburb, including the historical council chambers and multimedia displays.• That consideration be given to expanding the Library and community usages, which include study spaces, meeting rooms, information and customer service desk and other community spaces.• That consideration also be given to small scale commercial operations and, or social enterprises, which can contribute to the vision and function of the Brunswick Town Hall.2. Gives recognition to the role of prominent local activists Vic Little and Vida Little from the Brunswick Progress Association for their role in preventing the demolition of and saving of the Brunswick Mechanics Institute in 1971 and the Brunswick Town Hall in 1973.3. Calls for a report that considers how Council could formally recognise and acknowledge the Littles and the many other local activists and artists who have made a significant contribution to Brunswick over time.		
Progress Comment		
A report on this matter is currently being prepared for an early 2026 Council meeting.		

Director Community	Council 10/07/2024	Target date for full completion: 11/03/2026
8.2 RECOGNITION OF INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED LOCAL ARTIST - DESTINY DEACON 1956 TO 2024		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pays tribute to the life and work of internationally renowned Merri-bek artist Destiny Deacon. 2. Receives a report with recommendations on the best way to recognise the contribution of Destiny Deacon to art, the First Nations community and the local community. Some suggestions for recognition to be considered include an artist's residency or art prize in Destiny Deacon's name as well as other recommendations. 		
Progress Comment		
A report on this matter is currently being prepared for an early 2026 Council meeting.		

Director Place and Environment	Council 14/08/2024	Target date for full completion: 31/03/2026
8.3 SHORT STAY ACCOMMODATION		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Writes again to the Minister for Government Services, Gabrielle Williams MP, noting our earlier request for further detail about the proposed legislative changes in respect to short stay accommodation, observing that significant time has elapsed since the announcement of the measure and expressing concern about the efficacy of the proposed action, if it does not include an annual cap on the number of days a property can be rented on a short-term basis. 		

2. Writes to the Minister for Planning raising the important issue of the proliferation of short-stay accommodation and its impact on housing supply in light of the current housing crisis and seeking the Minister’s advice and views on the appropriateness of the planning system to address this issue and of any plans to do so as part of the Government’s planning reform agenda, as well as advice on any other suggested mechanisms for how State and/or Local Government can regulate the extent to which dwellings are being rented out as short-stay accommodation.
3. Notes the success other jurisdictions have had in shifting properties back to long-term housing by installing caps on the number of days they can be available for short stay.
4. Notes the advice provided in the report to the February 2024 Council meeting about the inability to pursue a local law on the basis of the impending legislation and receives a report once more detail is known about the legislation. The report should consider what options there are, particularly in relation to the ability for a local law to impose an annual cap on the number of days a property can be listed as short-stay accommodation and include any advice received from the Minister for Planning.

Progress Comment

1. Complete. Letter sent and response received in March 2025.
2. Complete. Letter sent and response received in December 2024.
3. Complete. No action required.
4. In progress. Council officers are awaiting on further information and update from the State government before a report can be presented to the Council. Council has commenced review of Local Laws and short-stay accommodation has been identified as an issue for further consultation.

Director Place and Environment	Council 11/09/2024	Target date for full completion: 30/09/2026
8.3	UPFIELD TRAIN LINE	
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receives a report as soon as practicable that identifies the methodology and cost for a survey of people who live north of Batman station who are also current users of the Upfield Line or who have abandoned using the Upfield line. Such a survey would seek to discover: 		

- why people have abandoned using the Upfield Line
- changes people have made to their public transport usage because of the unreliability of the train service for people who live north of Batman station
- whether people would resume using the Upfield train if it was duplicated to improve frequency and reduce cancellations
- whether people would be attracted to using the Upfield train service if there were one or two extra train stations between Gowrie and Upfield stations.

2. Proposes to our partner Councils in the Northern Alliance of Councils (Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Mitchell Shire, Nillumbik and Whittlesea) that we commission this survey to support advocacy efforts for the Upfield Line duplication and extension.

Progress Comment
 Work to begin by September 2026, alongside development of the Transport Advocacy Strategy.

Director Community	Council 12/02/2025	Target date for full completion:
		10/04/2026
8.2 REVIVING PASCOE VALE POOL		
That Council:		
1. Acknowledges the importance of accessible, high quality local pools for all residents in Merri-bek.		
2. Recognises that during this Climate Crisis, we have an obligation to take proactive action and ensure that there are spaces for residents to stay cool in increasingly hot summers.		
3. Requests Officers provide a report that considers the level of investment required for the refurbishment of Pascoe Vale Pool, with a view to:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extending opening hours • Improving facilities • Avoiding unexpected maintenance 		

- Increasing sustainability
- Advocating to both state and federal levels of government for funding.

4. Revisits the Aquatic and Leisure Strategy for an update.

Progress Comment
Officers are progressing consultations with relevant stakeholders. A report will be presented to Council in early 2026.

Director Community	Council 12/02/2025	Target date for full completion: 10/04/2026
8.3 IMPROVING SAFETY, CLEANLINESS AND WELLBEING OF COMMUNITY AT VICTORIA MALL		
That Council receives a report by mid-March that considers:		
1. Security In the interests of public safety, Council extends the current level of Security Services in Victoria Mall with these security services to be trained in and have a focus on de-escalation, for a period of a further 6 months and undertakes a review of the impact of these services within the next 3 months.		
2. Cleanliness Maintains and seeks to increase the cleaning services in the Mall, so that rubbish, tree debris and pigeon droppings are properly managed. In the interests of wellbeing the community should have access to a healthy, hygienic and pleasant public space, that enhances community wellbeing and contributes to a thriving local economy.		
3. Community Forum That Council coordinates a Community Needs and Safety Forum, which is advertised for the public to attend as well as all stakeholders, including Council, traders, service providers, sports clubs, community leaders to have an input into community safety in central Coburg. This forum should consider ways of turning the area in front of the Coburg Library into a community space.		

4. Exploring ways to better engage with people displaying dangerous and antisocial behaviour
 To keep the community safe, address safety concerns, and reassure shoppers, traders, and the community, Council explores methods for better engaging with people displaying dangerous and antisocial behaviour.

5. Reinstating public seating with back rests and access to shelter in Coburg Mall
 In the interests of elderly people, people with mobility issues and others, Council to consider reinstating public seating with back rests in Coburg Mall. Consideration should be given to providing an equivalent amount of public seating to that which was demolished, and some of the new seating to be in front of the library with a table.

Progress Comment
 Items 1 and 2 have been actioned. Item 4 has been actioned and appropriate measures are in place., Item 3, the community forum, is to be organised in 2026 to determine further actions, which will include consideration of item 5.

Director City Infrastructure	Council 12/03/2025	Target date for full completion: 30/05/2026
8.5 STEPS TOWARDS A MERRI-BEK POLLINATOR BIODIVERSITY CORRIDOR		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As the first step in establishing a Merri-bek Pollinator Corridor, organises a community forum and workshop to develop community participation for establishing a broader pollinator biodiversity corridor across Merri-bek. The forum should aim to connect local action groups and residents and link knowledge among participants. A council-supported workshop can also teach participants to build their own native bee hotels and/or establish an initial pilot site with information about native pollinators with localised habitat restoration (including “bee hotels”) in a visible location. 2. Provides support to the forum in the following ways (among others): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Supporting a suitably qualified ecologist to present b) Identification and provision of a suitable venue 		

c) Promotion of the community forum and workshop through targeted and general communication
 d) Provision of materials needed to construct artificial nesting habitat (bee hotels) for the workshop
 e) Safety and insurance oversight of the community workshop

3. Notes that the information summarised from participants of this forum will help inform on the direction, scope, and scale of a wider pollinator biodiversity corridor in Merri-bek.

Progress Comment
 The Pollinator Corridor Forum date has now been proposed for Sunday 26 April 2026. The proposed event plan is now being finalised and will be made public in the next few months.

Acting Chief Executive Officer	Council 12/03/2025	Target date for full completion: 1/03/2026
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8.2 CONTINUING HIGH QUALITY IN-HOME SUPPORT FOR OLDER RESIDENTS: ADVOCACY TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

That Council:

- Notes the meaningful and important work of Council's aged care workers supporting older residents in Merri-bek to live good lives and remain independent in their own homes.
- Notes that while this work is predominantly funded by the Federal Government's Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) block grants, Council does subsidise this work through our own budget.
- Writes to the Federal Ministers, Shadow Ministers and Assistant Ministers for Aged Care and Health advocating to make permanent the Commonwealth Home Support Program block grants that are currently scheduled to end mid-2027 to give certainty to the 30+ Councils in Victoria still delivering these services in-house, to older residents who currently access the program and to Council workers employed through the program.
- Seeks to convene a meeting this year of Victorian Councils still delivering aged care services in-house supported by the CHSP block grants to coordinate collective advocacy to Federal Government and local Federal MPs in these Councils' areas to make CHSP block funding permanent.

5. Invites the Australian Services Union to participate in the above meeting and advocacy efforts.

Progress Comment
 Point 1 & 2 - No action required, for noting only.
 Point 3 - Complete.
 Point 4 and 5 - Australian Services Union will be invited to participate in the public roundtable.

Director Community	Council 14/05/2025	Target date for full completion: 26/06/2026
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8.3 HONOURING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JOE SAM LUPPINO

That Council:

- Formally recognises and honors the outstanding contribution of Joe Sam Luppino by naming the grandstand at Coburg City Oval the “Joe Sam Luppino Stand”.
- Should this not be deemed suitable, identifies and considers an alternative location or facility within Merri-bek to appropriately commemorate Joe’s legacy and service to the community.

Progress Comment
 This naming process is currently underway with delivery expected for 2026.

Acting Chief Executive Officer	Council 11/06/2025	Target date for full completion:
		1/03/2026
8.1 ABOLISHING SUB MINIMUM WAGES FOR DISABLED WORKERS		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Signs the open letter that calls for subminimum wages for disabled workers to be abolished and for these workers to be paid a 100% of the minimum wage instead (as provided https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Dj4N8NtD9RKj7eyPqKkIPqgKl2aONCrwBOEzirElq/edit?pli=1&tab=t.0) 2. Write to the Federal Minister for the National Disability Insurance Scheme Mark Butler and the Victorian Minister for Disability Lizzie Blandthorn to advocate for the Australian and Victorian Governments to adopt the recommendations of the Royal Commissioner to increase minimum wages for employees with disabilities to 100% of the minimum wage by 2034. 3. Write to the federal Industrial relations Minister Amanda Rishworth, requesting that the Federal Government urgently implement the recommendations tabled by the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability and abolish the practice of allowing Australian Disability Enterprises and other Companies to pay disabled workers a sub minimum wage. 4. Requests the CEO to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) To provide advice to Council relating to possible amendments to the grants policy and guidelines to ensure that grants aren't awarded to organisations that are engaged in restrictive practices or pay a subminimum wage. b) Conduct an Audit of Council web pages and the list of support services for older people and or people with disability to ensure that there are no references to Australian Disability Enterprises. 		
Progress Comment		
Point 1, 2 and 3 complete.		
Point 4 a) This will be considered within the upcoming grants policy guidelines review, commencing in early 2026.		
b) In progress.		

Director Place and Environment	Council 13/08/2025	Target date for full completion: 31/03/2026
8.1 JOHN ENGLART RECOGNITION		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognises the significant contribution that John Englart made to the Merri-bek community over many years. 2. Initiates a discussion with John Englart's family and the community groups that John was most associated with, to plan a suitable way of commemorating his work. 		
Progress Comment		
A meeting with John Englart's family was held in January 2026.		

Director City Infrastructure	Council 10/09/2025	Target date for full completion: 30/03/2026
8.6 ADDRESSING TYRE DUMPING		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Writes to the Minister for Environment requesting the State: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) bolsters Environment Protection Authority (EPA) resourcing and powers to deal with the prevalence of illegal tyre dumping; and b) invests in Recycling Victoria programs that improve access to appropriate waste disposal and recycling facilities and develop end-markets for the use of recycled tyre materials 2. Works with Tyre Stewardship Australia to develop and deliver public education programs and initiatives that support the Recycling Victoria programs. 3. Monitors illegal tyre dumping on Council owned land at known dumping sites for six months. 		

4. Explores opportunities to collaborate with our neighbouring councils to develop a regional response to tackle a common problem.
5. Receives a report back to Council within nine months on progress, including potential pilot programs or partnerships to reduce illegal tyre dumping in Merri-bek.

Progress Comment

Work on actioning this resolution has commenced and is on track to report back in March 2026.

Director Place and Environment	Council 10/09/2025	Target date for full completion:
		30/03/2026

8.9 URGENT ACTION REQUIRED ON ROAD SAFETY: RECENT FATAL INCIDENTS ON MORELAND ROAD

That Council:

1. Recognises two recent deaths on the state-controlled Moreland Road, of a cyclist on 25 August and a skateboarder in mid-May, both caused by motorists.
2. Acknowledges the urgent need for a safer road environment for vulnerable users along Moreland Road.
3. Writes to the Minister for Transport and relevant Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) officials to request:
 - a) An immediate safety audit of Moreland Road.
 - b) Implementation of priority interventions at Murdock Street, Gordon Street, and other high-risk locations.
 - c) That the State government fund and deliver safety enhancements including pedestrian crossings, speed reductions, infrastructure upgrades, safe cycling infrastructure and road user awareness campaigns.

Progress Comment

Supporting documentation is being prepared to inform requests for road safety interventions and priority crossing investment on state roads. This work will inform a letter to the Minister for Roads and Road Safety.

Director Business Transformation	Council 8/10/2025	Target date for full completion: 30/06/2025
8.2 COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE AT ALGA CONFERENCES		
That Council:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Notes in accordance with the Councillor Support, Expenses and Resources Policy an annual budget allocation for attendance at seminars, conferences and training and community events, including for attendance at the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly, which is an important forum for local government advocacy.2. Notes the costs associated with Councillors attending ALGA multiple times in a single Council term can be significant, and that Council must balance professional development opportunities with responsible use of public funds.3. Requests a report that reviews Council's Councillor Support, Expenses and Resources Policy regarding Councillor attendance at the ALGA National General Assembly and review the process of Councillor reporting of their attendance at approved activities.4. Explores options for limiting paid councillor attendance such that each Councillor may only attend one National General Assembly at Council expense per Council term.5. Considers necessary exceptions, such as where a Councillor is elected to a national local government body or holds a representative role that requires ongoing attendance.		
Progress Comment		
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. and 2. Noted3. A report will be presented to the June 2026 Council meeting, providing a review of the Councillor Support, Expenses and Resources Policy in relation to attendance at the ALGA National General Assembly, reporting attendance at activities and considering options as outlined in points 4 and 5.4. and 5. Will be considered as point 3 above.		

Director Community	Council 12/11/2025	Target date for full completion: 30/04/2026
8.2 RAMADAN NIGHTS @ BONWICK STREET, FAWKNER 2026		
That Council:		
1. Receives a future report investigating the establishment of a 'Ramadan Nights' event, that outlines operational, financial and logistical requirements for delivery including:		
a) Considerations for holding this event on an annual basis from 2027 as a multicultural community celebration.		
b) Assesses the suitability of hosting the event in Bonwick Street, Fawkner during the month of Ramadan.		
c) Outlines engagement considerations and opportunities to include Muslim Women's Council Victoria, local business owners, restaurants, and community groups to collaboratively plan and deliver the event in a way that celebrates cultural diversity and strengthens social cohesion.		
d) Identify external funding opportunities, including relevant State and Federal Government multicultural and community event grants, to support event delivery.		
Progress Comment		
A report with recommendations will be presented to Council in April 2026.		

7.7 GOVERNANCE REPORT - FEBRUARY 2026 - CYCLICAL REPORT

Acting Director Business Transformation, Anita Curnow

Governance and Strategy

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the summary of minutes from the Friends of Aileu Community Committee held 9 December 2025, at Attachment 1 to this report.
2. Notes the Records of Meetings, at Attachment 2 to this report.
3. Notes responses to questions taken on notice during Public Question Time at the 10 December 2025 Council meeting, provided as Attachment 3 to this report.
4. Notes Cr Iwasaki's report on attendance at an approved activity, Ecological Society of Australia Conference.
5. Notes the summary of minutes from the Audit and Risk Committee held 18 November 2025 at Attachment 4 to this report.
6. Appoints Cr _____ as a representative to the Audit and Risk Committee for the 2025/26 Mayoral year.
7. Appoints Mr John Watson as Chairperson (Independent Member) to the Audit and Risk Committee for the period 16 May 2026 to 16 May 2029.
8. Appoints Ms Lisa Tripodi as an Independent Member to the Audit and Risk Committee for the period 12 February 2026 to 12 February 2029.
9. In the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation (Attachment 5 to this report), resolves that:
 - a) There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the *Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff*, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.
 - b) The instrument comes into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer and the Mayor.
 - c) On the coming into force of the instrument the previous instrument of delegation to members of Council staff executed 25 July 2025 is revoked.
 - d) The duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.
10. In the exercise of the powers conferred by section 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and section 313 of the *Local Government Act 2020*:
 - a) Appoints and authorises Council staff referred to in the Instrument at Attachment 6 to this report, as set out in the instrument.
 - b) Determines the instrument comes into force immediately, the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument, remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it, and revokes the previous Instrument executed on 18 December 2024.
 - c) Authorises the affixing of Council's common seal.

REPORT

Executive Summary

The Governance report is prepared as a monthly standing report to Council which provides a single reporting platform for a range of statutory compliance, transparency, and governance related matters.

This Governance report includes:

- A summary of the minutes of the Friends of Aileu Community Committee held 9 December 2025.
- Records of Meetings, with a recommendation that Council notes the records.
- Responses to Public Question Time items taken on notice at the 10 December 2025 Council meeting, with a recommendation that Council notes the responses.
- A report from Cr Iwasaki on attendance at an approved activity, Ecological Society of Australia Conference.
- The summary of minutes from the Audit and Risk Committee held 18 November 2025.
- The appointment of a Councillor representative to the Audit and Risk Committee.
- Council's current Chairperson (an Independent Member of the Audit and Risk Committee) will complete their term on 15 May 2026, along with another Independent Member whose term concluded on 30 December 2025. As a result, Council is required to appoint a new Chairperson and an Independent Member to the Audit and Risk Committee. Following a competitive recruitment process, it is recommended that John Watson be appointed as an Independent Member and Chairperson for the period 16 May 2026 to 16 May 2029, and that Lisa Tripodi be appointed as an Independent Member of the Audit and Risk Committee for the period 12 February 2026 to 12 February 2029.
- Reviewed Instrument of Delegation from Council to members of Council staff.
- A recommendation that Council appoints and authorises the Council officers referred to in the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (*Planning and Environment Act 1987*).

Previous Council Decisions

Governance Report – August 2025 – Cyclical Report – 13 August 2025

That Council:

7. *Approves membership for Cr Iwasaki to the Ecological Society of Australia at a cost of \$120.*
8. *Approves interstate travel and registration for Cr Iwasaki to attend the Ecological Society of Australia Conference in Adelaide from 23 to 28 November 2025, at an estimated total cost of \$3,000 (inclusive of GST, travel, accommodation, and registration). Noting that expenses will be covered by the Mayor and Councillor Support budget, and that membership fee reduces the conference registration from \$1,045 (non-member rate) to \$845.*

Governance Report – December 2025 – Cyclical Report – 10 December 2025

That Council:

...

7. *Appoints Councillors to internal, advisory groups, network and external committees for the 2025/26 Mayoral year as follows:*

<i>Internal Committees</i>	
<i>Audit and Risk Committee</i>	<i>Cr Irvin Cr Politis Cr Abboud</i>

...

Statutory Review of Instruments of Delegation from Council – 9 July 2025

That Council:

...

2. *In the exercise of the powers conferred by section 11 of the Local Government Act 2020 and the other legislation referred to in the attached Instruments of Delegation, delegates to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in Attachment 2 to this report, the powers, duties and functions set out in that Instrument subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument and determines:*
- a) *The instrument comes into force immediately on being signed by the Chief Executive Officer.*
 - b) *On the coming into force of the instrument, the previous delegation to members of Council staff adopted 11 September 2024 is revoked.*
 - c) *The duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.*

...

Governance Report – November 2025 – Cyclical Report – 12 November 2025

That Council:

...

4. *In the exercise of the powers conferred by section 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and section 313 of the Local Government Act 2020:*
- a) *Appoints and authorises Council staff referred to in the Instrument at Attachment 4 to this report, as set out in the instrument.*
 - b) *Determines the instrument comes into force immediately, the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument, remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it, and revokes the previous Instrument executed on 18 December 2024.*
 - c) *Authorises the affixing of Council's common seal.*

...

1. Policy Context

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) and the Governance Rules set out the requirements for keeping and reporting records of meetings held under the auspices of Council.

Council's Governance Rules contains provisions which enable the Chairperson to take a question On Notice, with a considered written response being provided to the questioner, in circumstances including where the question requires information that is either not available or accessible at the time of that meeting, or where the time allowed for Public Question Time has elapsed.

The Councillor Support, Expenses and Resources Policy states that Councillors attending any approved activity must provide all Councillors with a verbal or written report on their attendance. The report must be submitted to a Council meeting as soon as practicable.

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter mandates that Council must undertake a public recruitment process for Independent Member positions when an existing member has served two full terms.

Section 11 of the Act and the other legislation referred to in **Attachment 5** sets out the Power of Delegation and that a Council may by Instrument of Delegation delegate any power, duty, function under this Act or any other Act other than a power, duty or function specified.

Authorisation of planning officers under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* is done in accordance with said Act.

2. Background

The Governance Report is prepared as a monthly report to Council to provide a single reporting platform for a range of statutory compliance, transparency, and governance related matters.

In accordance with best practice principles and good governance practice, and to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Act, this report incorporates matters including reporting of Advisory Committees, records of meetings held under the auspice of Council, items relating to the delegation of Council powers and duties, and policy and strategy reporting.

Section 11 of the Act provides that a Council may, by instrument of delegation formally confer powers, duties or functions (where necessary applying specific limitations).

The delegation of powers, duties and functions is essential in enabling Council staff to effectively carry out operational duties and day to day management decisions particularly in areas that involve enforcement, such as town planning, local laws, environmental health, building enforcement, asset protection, animal management and parking control. Delegations are conferred to a role or position title, rather than to a person or name, and are reviewed and updated biannually, pending legislative or organisation change.

Council utilises the Maddocks Lawyers subscription service aimed at assisting councils in the effective allocation and control of decision-making powers via its delegations.

The service provides councils with template instruments of delegation to properly delegate their powers, functions, and duties under State legislation to members of council staff. The service covers a broad range of Victorian Acts and Regulations under which councils have powers and responsibilities which they are able to formally delegate.

3. Issues

Advisory Committee minutes

A summary of the minutes of the Friends of Aileu Community Committee held 9 December 2025 is provided at **Attachment 1** for Council's information.

Records of Meetings held under the auspice of Council

Records of matters discussed at meetings organised or hosted by Merri-bek that involve Councillors and Council officers are kept in accordance with the Governance Rules.

Meeting Records must include meeting attendees, including organisations represented by external presenters; the title of matters discussed; and any conflicts of interests disclosed and whether the declarant of a conflict of interests recused themselves from the meeting.

Some examples include Councillor Briefings, meetings with residents/developers/clients/organisations/Government departments/statutory authorities and consultations.

Records of Meetings received since the previous Council Meeting are presented at **Attachment 2** as follows:

- Councillor Briefing – 8 December 2025
- Planning Briefing – 15 December 2025
- Planning Briefing – 27 January 2026
- Central Coburg Oversight Committee – 28 January 2026
- VCAT matter 53-57 Albert Street, Brunswick East - 2 February 2026
- Councillor Briefing – 2 February 2026

Responses to Questions taken On Notice at Council meetings

At Council Meetings, questions are taken On Notice during Public Question Time, where persons submitting questions are not in attendance or where the maximum allowable time for public questions has elapsed.

Questions taken On Notice are provided with a written response following the meeting for which they are submitted and reported to Council at the next practicable meeting. The questions are recorded in the meeting minutes.

The responses to questions taken On Notice at **Attachment 3** to this report relate to questions from the 10 December 2025 Council meeting regarding:

- Westminster Law
- Development impacting Church activities

Report from Cr Iwasaki on attendance at an approved activity – Ecological Society of Australia Conference, 24-27 November 2025

This event brought together researchers, councils and practitioners working on urban nature, biodiversity, climate resilience and community wellbeing. The findings strongly reinforce that Merri-bek is well-positioned to adopt low-cost, high-impact, science-backed nature-based solutions that align with our Nature Plan and deliver substantial social, environmental and economic benefits. Attendance provided extremely high value, highlighting numerous opportunities for partnerships, external funding and regionally coordinated planning.

Key Learnings with Local Benefits

1. Proven Approaches from Green Adelaide Green

Adelaide's work demonstrates that smaller, scalable nature interventions—such as micro-wetlands, diverse low-cost plantings, and water-sensitive design—deliver strong biodiversity outcomes without the high costs of large infrastructure projects. Their success suggests Merri-bek can replicate these approaches at lower capital outlay and with greater flexibility across our constrained urban environment.

2. Urban Wetlands, Mosquitos and Smart Water Design

Research shows that vegetation and wetlands themselves are minor contributors to vector-borne disease risk. The key is proactive design and maintenance, which can be built into Merri-bek's planning processes. This means we can confidently pursue small water bodies, frog habitats and retention features with minimal risk and high ecological return.

3. Urban Greening Can Be Cheaper Than Expected

Meadow plantings, mixed shrub layers, and diversified street and park plantings are some of the most cost-effective ways to boost biodiversity and urban cooling. Importantly, new findings show these approaches are often cheaper to install and maintain than traditional turf or hard surfaces.

4. Major Social Benefits for Migrant and Vulnerable Communities

A comprehensive literature review shows that nature-based activities increase belonging, reduce loneliness and improve wellbeing, particularly for migrants, refugees, LGBTQIA+ communities and asylum seekers. With over 30% of Merri-bek residents born overseas, council-led programs (e.g., cultural ambassadors, co-designed activities, long-term nature engagement programs) offer a high-value, scalable social intervention.

Strategic Opportunities for Merri-bek

Coordination and Planting Trials

Explore collaboration with Katherine Horsfall on large-scale native planting in Merri-bek; confirm whether this aligns with the upcoming trial.

Regional Strategic Vision (M9 Councils)

Investigate whether an existing framework or concept plan exists to underpin a coordinated M9 nature strategy for inclusion in our next 4-year Council Plan.

Improved Urban Design and Infrastructure Savings

Not all footpaths require concrete - permeable and semi-natural paths are cheaper, reduce heat, and improve tree health. New wildlife-friendly lighting designs can lower energy costs while improving safety and habitat conditions.

Nature-Positive Cities and Funding Value

Accounting for intangible and co-benefits (cooling, health, shade, biodiversity) strengthens grant applications and demonstrates strong value-for-money. Nature-and-water interventions can yield economic gains through reduced maintenance, improved resilience and increased amenity.

Research Partnerships – High Value for Council

Council presence at this event demonstrated support for researchers whose work directly benefits Merri-bek:

- Philippa (Pip) Bell – University of Melbourne: Project attracted significant research funding, enhanced local nature strips, increased biodiversity, and surveyed 510 residents showing strong public support. Barriers are mostly perceptual and solvable.

- Daphne Willemsen – University of NSW: Project will help estimate tree hollow needs and guide habitat strategies.
- Nerkez Opacin – RMIT and Catherine Gunawan – University of Sydney: Upcoming work expected to inform future nature-based social programs.

Maintaining these partnerships can continue bringing external dollars into Merri-bek while trialling scalable, evidence-based solutions within our community.

Why this event was a valuable use of Council resources

- Identified multiple low-cost, high-impact actions that can be implemented immediately.
- Highlighted funding and collaboration opportunities across research institutions and councils.
- Provided actionable insights to improve climate resilience, especially given Merri-bek's low canopy cover and high concrete coverage.
- Clarified how nature-based solutions can enhance wellbeing for culturally diverse and vulnerable residents.
- Reinforced the importance of staying connected to rapidly emerging research to keep Merri-bek at the forefront of urban nature innovation.

Audit and Risk Committee minutes

A summary of the minutes from the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held 18 November 2025 is provided at **Attachment 4**.

Appointment of Councillor representative to the Audit and Risk Committee

The Audit and Risk Committee is a requirement of the *Local Government Act 2020* and governed by the Audit and Risk Committee Charter, adopted in 2025. It comprises 3 Councillor members and 4 independent, external members.

At its meeting of 10 December 2025, Council appointed Councillors Irvin, Politis and Abboud as its members of the Audit and Risk Committee for the 2025/26 Mayoral year. However, since that time Cr Abboud has tendered her resignation as a member of the committee. The appointment of another Councillor member is required to fill the current vacancy, to ensure the continued operation of the Committee.

Appointment of Independent Member to the Audit and Risk Committee

In accordance with the Audit and Risk Committee Charter 2025 the initial appointment of Independent Committee shall be for a three-year term. An independent member may serve no more than two full terms in any one position, after which the position must be publicly advertised. This does not preclude existing members from being re-appointed through a competitive process.

The current Chairperson (an Independent Member of the Audit and Risk Committee) will complete his term on 15 May 2026, and another Independent Member position concluded on 31 December 2025. As both incumbents had served two full terms, Council advertised the positions in accordance with the Charter.

In December 2025, Council initiated a public recruitment process to fill these two vacancies for the next three-year term, receiving 48 applications. Interviews were conducted in January 2026 by a selection panel comprising an Independent Member of the Audit and Risk Committee, the Acting Director Business Transformation, and the Manager Governance and Strategy, consistent with the Audit and Risk Committee Charter requirements.

The structured panel interview process addressed the published selection criteria in a rigorous, merit-based assessment. Following the conclusion of the process, the panel recommends the appointment of Mr John Watson as Chairperson and Ms Lisa Tripodi as Independent Member. Mr Watson has served effectively as an independent member and currently as Chair of the Committee; Ms Tripodi has also served effectively as an independent member on the committee. The recommended reappointments support continuity, retention of corporate knowledge and the effective oversight of Council's financial management, risk and governance frameworks, while ensuring the Committee remains appropriately skilled, independent and fit for purpose.

Further background on the recommended appointments provided below.

- **John Watson: Recommended as Chair**

John Watson is an experienced Board and Committee member and Chair, with extensive expertise in conducting Inquiries and leading complex governance processes. He is a former State Government Senior Executive and Local Government Chief Executive Officer with experience in management, governance and public administration.

Mr Watson served four years as Chair of the Panel of Administrators at Brimbank City Council; Chief Executive Officer of three Victorian Councils; Executive Director of Local Government Victoria; Chair of the Victorian Local Government Grants Commission; and Municipal Monitor at Darebin and Kingston City Councils. Mr Watson currently serves as Chair or Independent Member on fourteen Audit and Risk Committees.

- **Lisa Tripodi: Recommended as Independent Member**

Lisa Tripodi is an experienced non-executive director and experienced board and committee member. She has substantial experience in assurance, risk management, governance and strategic advisory roles, including in both public and private sectors. Her experience encompasses State and Local Government, education, health and banking and has included senior positions in professional services, where she held partner-level responsibility for audit and advisory practices.

Ms Tripodi currently serves as Chair or Independent Member on eight Audit and Risk Committees.

Changes to the Instrument of Delegation from Council to members of Council staff

The proposed instrument provided at **Attachment 5** reflects updates to the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* enacted since the Instrument was last adopted as follows:

- Insertion of additional powers implied by the Act which are not derived from any specific provisions.
- Repealed provisions s 8A(2), s 8A(3), s 8A(5), s 8A(7), s 8B(2) of the Act which have been replaced by the new powers in Division 1AA of Part 3.
- Insertion of new provisions s 16B, s 16C(1), s 16C(4), s 16F, s 16F, s 16H, s 16I, s 16I, s 23A(2), s 28C, s 48A, s 48C and s 158F.
- Amended to provisions s 28(1), s 96A(2) and s 96Z.

The proposed instrument also updates the title of one officer position.

Appointment and Authorisation to enforce the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*

The appointment of Authorised Officers facilitates the administration and enforcement of any Act, regulations or local laws which relate to the functions and powers of the Council. Authorisations are made to specific Council officers in accordance with their roles and responsibilities.

In accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, Authorised Officers can only be appointed by the Council as the Act prohibits delegation of the power to appoint Authorised Officers.

Council staff can only take action to enforce provisions of legislation where they have been properly and lawfully authorised. The authorisation proposed appoints the staff member as an Authorised Officer which will enable that Officer to take action and commence proceedings against people who have breached permit conditions or otherwise not complied with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* or regulations.

The Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation at **Attachment 6** is a routine, administrative update to ensure all Planning staff have a correct and up-to-date authorisation. Updates are reviewed internally each quarter to ensure relevant staff are authorised. The most recent update was presented to Council at its November 2025 meeting. Since the last update, 3 additional officers have been added to the authorisation. Two officers no longer employed at Council have been removed.

On the updated Instrument coming into force, the previous Instrument executed 1 December 2025 will be revoked.

Climate emergency and environmental sustainability implications

There are no climate emergency implications associated with this report.

Human Rights Consideration

The implications of this report have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities, and this report does not contravene or limit any of the 20 fundamental human rights as set out in the Charter.

4. Community consultation and engagement

Advisory committees provide a valuable communication and consultation link between the organisation, Councillors, Council and the community.

Relevant Council officers were consulted in the review and preparation of the Instruments of Delegation.

Affected persons rights and interests

This report and its recommended decision does not affect any person's rights.

5. Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in the matters listed.

6. Financial and Resources Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

7. Implementation

Governance activity, including reports of Committees to Council, Records of Meetings and Community Question Time items will continue to be reported to Council monthly.

Subject to Council's decision the next steps include:

- Inducting the newly appointed Councillor member to the Audit and Risk Committee.
- The Instrument of Delegation at **Attachment 5** (Council to members of Council staff) of this report will be executed, communicated to Council staff (including but not limited to the delegates), and made publicly available on Council's website.
- Council's Public Register of Delegations held and maintained in accordance with section 11(8) of the Act, will be updated and published on Council's website.
- Executing the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation at **Attachment 6** to enforce the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and updating the Register of Authorisations for publishing on Council's website.

Attachment/s

1 ↓	Reports from Advisory Committees to Council - February 2026	D26/36609
2 ↓	Records of Meetings - February 2026	D26/35386
3 ↓	Responses to questions taken On Notice - February 2026	D26/35405
4 ↓	Summary of Audit and Risk Committee minutes - 18 November 2025	D25/687206
5 ↓	Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff	D26/18026
6 ↓	Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation - Planning and Environment Act 1987 - February 2026	D25/658217

FRIENDS OF AILEU COMMUNITY COMMITTEE - 9 DECEMBER 2025

A report of the Friends of Aileu Community Committee meeting held on 9 December 2025 are provided for Council's information.

Councillors appointed to the Friends of Aileu Community Committee:

- Merri-bek City Council: Cr Adam Pulford – (apology)
- Hume city Council: Cr Jarrod Bell (apology) and Cr Naim Kurt (apology)

Key Items Discussed

The Committee received reports on, discussed and supported:

- Further consideration being given to the option to establish a Trust Account with the Inner North Foundation (Friends of Aileu Trust or Inner North Friends of Timor-Leste Trust), as a way of engaging with community generosity and improving financial sustainability
- The Friends of Aileu / Future Collective trip to Timor-Leste for the 1st International PermaYouth Convergence, which included:
 - Engagements in Dili, Atecreu, Atauro Island, Aileu and the PermaYouth Convergence, Ermera)
 - 3 Young Leaders sponsored by Friends of Aileu (1 no.) and Friends of Baucau (2 no.), who have begun planning ways to fulfill their commitments to share their experiences with young people in our Council areas on experiences, outcomes and future opportunities arising from the October engagement visit to Timor-Leste
- The Project Team's request to Merri-bek City Council's Communications Team for the establishment of an Instagram account, seeing an upgrade to social media presence (currently restricted to a Project Team managed Friends of Aileu Facebook Page) as essential to reach young audiences, including the peers of the PErmaYouth Convergence Young Leadership Awardees who are committed to sharing their experiences with their peers
- The work of the Oral Health Promotion (OHP) Working Group, including the report of Dr Sandra Frans, the volunteer OHP Project Coordinator, on her October field visit to Timor-Leste
- The OHP Working Group's collaboration with:
 - Maluku Timor NGO, including on its application to the UK Borrow Foundation for a 3-year \$USD 287,000 grant to expand oral health promotion activities in Aileu and other areas
 - The Balibo House Trust, including its provision of DGR status to a \$6,150 donation to the project
- Action Planning for 2026 aligned with the Friends of Aileu Strategy Plan, which is to be considered further during 2026, including as a guide throughout the coming year when priorities and being considered.

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest was disclosed at the meeting.

Committee Recommendation

The Committee passed the following motion:

- That the Committee supports the Project Teams request to upgrade social media presence and options for Friends of Aileu, e.g. Instagram

Attachment/s

There are no attachments for this report.

Report

2

Record of Meeting

Meeting: Councillor Briefing

Date: Monday, 8 December 2025

Meeting time: 6.00pm to 8.00pm



This Record is kept in accordance with the Governance Rules adopted by Council.

Rule 9.1 provides that a record of the matters discussed at all **Hearing of Submission Meetings, Advisory Committee Meetings** and **Councillor Briefings** organised or hosted by Council will be kept.

The record will include the attendees at the meeting, including the organisations represented by external presenters, the title of matters discussed and any conflicts of interest disclosed and whether the person with the conflict of interest left the meeting.

Attendees		
Councillors	Cr Nat Abboud, Mayor Cr Liz Irvin Cr Helen Politis Cr Adam Pulford	Cr Jay Iwasaki, Deputy Mayor Cr Helen Davidson Cr Chris Miles Cr Ella Svensson
Apologies	Cr Katerine Theodosis Cr Oscar Yildiz JP	Cr Sue Bolton
Council Staff (name and position)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eamonn Fennessy, Acting Chief Executive Officer • Stefan Grun, Acting Director Community • Sue Vujcevic, Director Business Transformation • Anita Curnow, Acting Director City Infrastructure • Pene Winslade, Director Place and Environment 	
External participants	Nil	
Items discussed	Conflict disclosed by, general or material and the nature	Left meeting
1 Council agenda		

Name and title of Council officer completing record: Sue Vujcevic, Director Business Transformation

This form is kept in accordance with the Information Privacy Principles and Merri-bek City Council's Privacy Policy and practices as stated on Merri-bek's [website](#).

Record of Meeting

Meeting: Planning Briefing

Date: Monday, 15 December 2025

Meeting time: 6:00pm



This Record is kept in accordance with the Governance Rules adopted by Council.

Rule 9.1 provides that a record of the matters discussed at all **Hearing of Submission Meetings, Advisory Committee Meetings** and **Councillor Briefings** organised or hosted by Council will be kept.

The record will include the attendees at the meeting, including the organisations represented by external presenters, the title of matters discussed and any conflicts of interest disclosed and whether the person with the conflict of interest left the meeting.

Attendees	
Councillors	Cr Nat Abboud, Mayor Cr Helen Davidson Cr Liz Irvin Cr Katerine Theodosis Cr Jay Iwasaki, Deputy Mayor Cr Ella Svensson Cr Chris Miles
Apologies	Cr Helen Politis
Council Staff	Eamonn Fennessey – Acting Chief Executive Officer Pene Winslade – Director Place and Environment Phil Priest – Group Manager City Development Mark Hughes – Unit Manager Urban Planning Esha Rahman – Planning Coordinator
External participants	Nil

Items discussed	Conflict disclosed by, general or material and the nature	Left meeting
1 MPS/2025/291 – 7 Mantell Street, Coburg North	-	-
2 MPS/2025/85 – 73 Nicholson Street, Brunswick East	-	-
3 MPS/2025/599 - 932 Sydney Road, Coburg North	-	-

Name and title of Council officer completing record: Phil Priest, Group Manager City Development

This form is kept in accordance with the Information Privacy Principles and Merri-bek City Council's Privacy Policy and practices as stated on Merri-bek's [website](#).

Record of Meeting

Meeting: Planning Briefing

Date: Tuesday, 27 January 2026

Meeting time: 6:00pm



This Record is kept in accordance with the Governance Rules adopted by Council.

Rule 9.1 provides that a record of the matters discussed at all **Hearing of Submission Meetings, Advisory Committee Meetings** and **Councillor Briefings** organised or hosted by Council will be kept.

The record will include the attendees at the meeting, including the organisations represented by external presenters, the title of matters discussed and any conflicts of interest disclosed and whether the person with the conflict of interest left the meeting.

Attendees	
Councillors	Cr Nat Abboud, Mayor Cr Sue Bolton Cr Liz Irvin Cr Helen Politis Cr Ella Svensson Cr Jay Iwasaki, Deputy Mayor Cr Helen Davidson Cr Chris Miles Cr Adam Pulford Cr Katerine Theodosis
Apologies	Nil
Council Staff (name and position)	Pene Winslade – Director Place and Environment Phil Priest – Group Manager City Development Mark Hughes – Unit Manager Urban Planning Ryan Hay – Planning Coordinator
External participants	Nil

Items discussed	Conflict disclosed by, general or material and the nature	Left meeting
1 MPS/2025/554 – 194 Glenroy Road, Glenroy	-	-
2 MPS/2015/269/G – 31-37 Stewart Street and 22 Hardy Street, Brunswick	-	-
3 MPS/2021/1029 - 53-57 Albert Street, Brunswick East	-	-

Name and title of Council officer completing record: Phil Priest, Group Manager City Development

This form is kept in accordance with the Information Privacy Principles and Merri-bek City Council's Privacy Policy and practices as stated on Merri-bek's [website](#).

Record of Meeting

Meeting: Central Coburg Oversight Committee

Date: 28 January 2026

Meeting time: 4:00pm



This Record is kept in accordance with the Governance Rules adopted by Council.

Rule 9.1 provides that a record of the matters discussed at all **Hearing of Submission Meetings, Advisory Committee Meetings** and **Councillor Briefings** organised or hosted by Council will be kept.

The record will include the attendees at the meeting, including the organisations represented by external presenters, the title of matters discussed and any conflicts of interest disclosed and whether the person with the conflict of interest left the meeting.

Attendees	
Councillors	Cr Nat Abboud, Mayor Cr Liz Irvin Cr Helen Politis
Apologies	Cr Jay Iwasaki, Deputy Mayor Cr Chris Miles
Council Staff (name and position)	Sue Vujcevic, Acting Chief Executive Officer Eamonn Fennessy, Director Community Pene Winslade, Director Place and Environment Peter Sagar, Program Director Central Coburg Lisa Dempster, Manager Community Development
External participants	Nil

Items discussed	Conflict disclosed by, general or material and the nature	Left meeting
1 Central Coburg matters	-	-

Name and title of Council officer completing record: Peter Sagar, Program Director Central Coburg

This form is kept in accordance with the Information Privacy Principles and Merri-bek City Council's Privacy Policy and practices as stated on Merri-bek's [website](#).

Record of Meeting

Meeting: VCAT matter 53-57 Albert Street, Brunswick East

Date: 2 February 2026

Meeting time: 4.30pm



This Record is kept in accordance with the Governance Rules adopted by Council.

Rule 9.1 provides that a record of the matters discussed at all **Hearing of Submission Meetings, Advisory Committee Meetings** and **Councillor Briefings** organised or hosted by Council will be kept.

The record will include the attendees at the meeting, including the organisations represented by external presenters, the title of matters discussed and any conflicts of interest disclosed and whether the person with the conflict of interest left the meeting.

Attendees	
Councillors	Cr Nat Abboud, Mayor Cr Liz Irvin Cr Chris Miles
Apologies	Nil
Council Staff (name and position)	Pene Winslade, Director Place and Environment Mark Hughes, Unit Manager Urban Planning
External participants	Nil

Items discussed	Conflict disclosed by, general or material and the nature	Left meeting
1 Councillor confirmation for Council to consent to the issue of an amended planning permit in accordance with S87 of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> . The key factors in Councillors delegating this decision to officers were: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The objector parties have consented on the basis that the vehicle crossing has been re-located to Cross Street. 2. The Ward Councillor (Cr Pulford) is supportive of consent. 3. Acceptance that whilst increasing they overall building height by 1.3 metres from the VCAT approval is not ideal, it would be difficult to defend at a contested VCAT hearing. 	Nil	

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Items discussed	Conflict disclosed by, general or material and the nature	Left meeting
4. The daylight to the inward facing bedrooms, is improved by a larger courtyard. Further analysis is needed to confirm acceptability. 5. The flood risk will be mitigated by ensuring that habitable spaces of the development are above the flood level.		

Name and title of Council officer completing record: Mark Hughes, Unit Manager Urban Planning

This form is kept in accordance with the Information Privacy Principles and Merri-bek City Council's Privacy Policy and practices as stated on Merri-bek's [website](#).

Record of Meeting

Meeting: Councillor Briefing

Date: 2 February 2026

Meeting time: 6.00pm to 9.05pm



This Record is kept in accordance with the Governance Rules adopted by Council.

Rule 9.1 provides that a record of the matters discussed at all **Hearing of Submission Meetings, Advisory Committee Meetings** and **Councillor Briefings** organised or hosted by Council will be kept.

The record will include the attendees at the meeting, including the organisations represented by external presenters, the title of matters discussed and any conflicts of interest disclosed and whether the person with the conflict of interest left the meeting.

Attendees	
Councillors	Cr Nat Abboud, Mayor Cr Ella Svensson Cr Liz Irvin Cr Helen Politis Cr Jay Iwasaki, Deputy Mayor Cr Helen Davidson Cr Chris Miles Cr Katerine Theodosis
Apologies	Cr Oscar Yildiz JP Cr Adam Pulford Cr Sue Bolton
Council Staff (name and position)	Sue Vujcevic, Acting Chief Executive Officer Anita Curnow, Acting Director Business Transformation Greg Rodwell, Acting Director City Infrastructure Pene Winslade, Director Place and Environment Eamonn Fennessy, Director Community Lisa Dempster, Manager Cultural Development Peter Sagar, Program Director Central Coburg Matthew Diemer, Strategic Transport Lead Vaughn Allan, Acting Manager City Design and Economy Bernie McMullen, Program Director Transformation
External participants	Victorian Government Architect and Chair of Coburg Library Design Competition Jury Winning Project Design Team, Coburg Library Design Competition. Organisation is confidential at time of publishing meeting record.

Items discussed	Conflict disclosed by, general or material and the nature	Left meeting
1 Contract Award: EOI-2025-2 - Design Consultant Services	Nil	-
2 Central Coburg engagement preliminary findings	Nil	-

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	Items discussed	Conflict disclosed by, general or material and the nature	Left meeting
3	Moving Around Merri-bek Action Plan 2025-29	Nil	-
4	Pride Civic Artwork	Nil	-
5	Briefing Ahead of Contract Award: System Implementer (Elevate Transformation Program) - Confidential	Nil	-
6	Bluestone Cottage	Nil	-

Name and title of Council officer completing record: Anita Curnow, Acting Director Business Transformation

This form is kept in accordance with the Information Privacy Principles and Merri-bek City Council's Privacy Policy and practices as stated on Merri-bek's [website](#).

From: Central Coburg
Sent: Monday, 22 December 2025 11:03 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Central Coburg
Subject: Response to Question on Notice 10 December
Attachments: December Council meeting - ON NOTICE Question for Council - [REDACTED].PDF

Dear Despina

Thank you for sharing your concerns with the draft concept for Coburg. We have taken this feedback into consideration.

Central Coburg currently has almost 1,600 off-street public car parking spaces, of which over 1,000 are owned by Council. There are also approximately 100 on-street spaces. All this current parking is at ground level – and it occupies nearly one-third of the developable land in central Coburg.

The concept for Coburg proposes reconfiguring how public car parking is provided to provide space for new housing, businesses and green space.

Of the 1,000 existing Council car parks, approximately 900 car parks are proposed to be consolidated into three car parking locations: two multi-deck car parks on Louisa and Russell streets and above a new supermarket on Waterfield Street. The multi deck car parks will include provision for priority users such as people with a disability. Every part of the precinct will be able to be reached within a two-minute walk from the carparks. Some on street car parking will remain, prioritised for priority users such as people with disabilities and deliveries.

Residential buildings are expected to provide their own parking (ie, they will not fill up public carparking). If the project proceeds, details will be worked through to ensure housing developments meet the car parking requirements of the Planning Scheme and of new residents moving into the developments.

Preliminary traffic modelling has been undertaken on the Coburg is Here concept, to ensure that the surrounding area can cope with any increases in traffic movements. More detailed traffic modelling, and the design of measures to mitigate more traffic (such as changes to the design of intersections) will be undertaken in further detail in later stages, should the Concept for Coburg proceed.

Will all this being considered, we do not anticipate any major impacts to Church operations, and we intend to work collaboratively with the Church and other important existing stakeholders in central Coburg, to mitigate any potential impacts.

Kind regards

Central Coburg Project Team
Merri-bek City Council

T +61 3 [REDACTED]
www.merri-bek.vic.gov.au



Merri-bek City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways in the area now known as Merri-bek. We pay respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging, as well as to all First Nations communities who significantly contribute to the life of the area.

Merri-bek Civic Centre
Woi-wurrung Country
90 Bell Street, Coburg 3058
T: (03) 9240 1111

Postal Address
Woi-wurrung Country
Locked Bag 10, Brunswick 3056

merri-bek.vic.gov.au



Dear Irene

Thank you for your question.

We are not aware of any law that provides for public land to become jointly owned by some members of the community after any period of shared use or occupation.

It is possible the question is referring to adverse possession, which is a law. In Victoria, adverse possession can, in limited circumstances, allow someone to apply for ownership of land after occupying it **exclusively, continuously, and without the owner's permission**, for fifteen years. Adverse possession never leads to joint ownership, and will never apply to Council owned land that is available for a shared public purpose, such as parking.

Council's car parks in Coburg are free and public – they are used by thousands of community members including businesses, shoppers, artists, members of the various church communities that come to Coburg, people using sports facilities, commuters, and many others.

Based on this, there is no basis to conclude that the Presentation of Our Lord church would have any legal ownership of the parking area as a result of long-term use of a public-access facility.

Kind regards

Central Coburg Project Team

Speak with us in your language		For more information visit merri-bek.vic.gov.au/your-language	
Per maggiori informazioni nella tua lingua, chiama il numero 9280 1911	اپنی زبان میں مزید جاننے کے لیے پر کال کریں۔ 9280 1917	如需了解更多您语言版本 的信息, 请致电 9280 0750	अपनी भाषा में अधिक जानने के लिए 9280 1918 पर कॉल करें
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Committee:	Audit and Risk Committee (Established in accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>)
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 18 November 2025
Representatives:	Councillor members – Mayor Cr Helen Davidson, Deputy Mayor Cr Helen Politis and Cr Ella Stevansson Independent members - John Watson (Chair), Marilyn Kearney, Lisa Tripodi and Jeff Rigby
<p>The Audit and Risk Committee is chaired by Independent Chair, John Watson. The following business was conducted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No conflicts of interest were declared. 2. The CEO advised the Committee that no issues relating to any impending legal action or known legislation breached or instances of fraud were noted. 3. The internal and external auditor reported that there had been no obstructions to the work of internal audit. 4. It was confirmed that the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 2 September 2025 had been circulated and confirmed out of session. <p>ELEVATE TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM REPORT</p> <p>That the Audit and Risk Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DISCUSSED and NOTED the status of the Elevate Transformation Program. 2. DISCUSSED and NOTED with the independent member of the IT Steering Committee, the status of the Elevate Transformation program. <p>Finding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Elevate Transformation Program is currently in the procurement and planning phase. <p>FINANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT</p> <p>That the Audit and Risk Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DISCUSSED and NOTED the progress against the 3-year Financial Management Improvement Plan. 2. DISCUSSED and NOTED the contracts approved by Council and signed from July to September. 3. DISCUSSED and NOTED the monitoring and update on Council's controls for unusual transactions above acceptable risk. 4. DISCUSSED and NOTED the management disclosures in financial reports of the effect of significant compliance issues. 5. DISCUSSED and NOTED Council's handling of accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters or other matters likely to affect the Council or its compliance with relevant legislation and regulations. 6. DISCUSSED and NOTED the finance management report for the period ending 30 September 2025 7. DISCUSSED and NOTED that due to the brought forward timing of the audit and risk committee meeting the First Quarter financial report will be circulated to the committee out of session. <p>Finding</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council is monitoring and managing its financial position and key controls. 	

AUDIT ACTIONS REPORT

That the Audit and Risk Committee:

1. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** progress toward completion of outstanding audit action items.

Finding

Management continues to progress on the completion of actions arising from internal audits.

MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE OF THE USE OF DATA, INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE

That the Audit and Risk Committee:

1. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** the report on Data Governance.

Finding

1. There are adequate protocols and standards applied to the management and governance of the use of data, information, and knowledge.

MEMORANDUM OF AUDIT PLANNING AND AUDITS COMPLETED

That the Audit and Risk Committee:

1. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** the Asset Management (Infrastructure) Memorandum of Audit Planning for the forthcoming audits.
2. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** the findings, recommendations, and management comments for the following audits:
 - Library Services
 - OHS – Depot Employees
1. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** the progress made to date on the 2025-26 internal audit program.

Findings

1. The Library Services audit identified findings and management comments have been provided against recommendations.
2. The OHS - Depot Employees audit identified findings and management comments have been provided against recommendations.
3. Sufficient progress has been made against the Internal Audit Plan.

COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 – FOURTH YEAR IMPLEMENTATION

That the Audit and Risk Committee:

1. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** the strategic indicators update achieved against the Council Plan 2021-25
2. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** the outcomes achieved against the Council Action Plan 2024-25 (period ending 30 June 2025).

Finding

1. That Council has appropriate systems and procedures in place measuring the performance of individual programs and activities as identified in the Council Plan 2021 – 2025 through the implementation of the annual action plan and measurement of strategic indicators.

RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT

That the Audit and Risk Committee:

1. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** the recent activities detailed in the Information Technology update.
2. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** Council's management of complaints.
3. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** that there have been no breakdowns in key controls.
4. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** the annual risk report, including Council's current risk profile.
5. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** the significant open Public Liability claims.
6. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** the annual Occupational Health and Safety report.
7. **DISCUSSED and NOTED** the quarterly update on Council's strategic risks.

Findings

1. The Information Technology update outlines the findings of a recent Cyber Security audit, the current Microsoft Secure Score, the results of a recent phishing simulation and a Disaster Recovery Test.
2. Council continues to efficiently manage complaints.
3. There have been no breakdowns in key controls since the September committee meeting.
4. An annual risk report, including an overview of Council's current risk profile, was provided.
5. There are open public liability claims that may exceed Council's excess.
6. The annual Occupational Health and Safety report is provided.
7. A quarterly update on Council's strategic risks is provided.

Forthcoming Meetings:

3 March 2026	1 September 2026
2 June 2026	24 November 2026



S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff

Merri-bek City Council

Instrument of Delegation

to

Members of Council Staff

Instrument of Delegation

In exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached Schedule, the Council:

1. delegates each duty and/or function and/or power described in column 1 of the Schedule (and summarised in column 2 of the Schedule) to the member of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the office or position described opposite each such duty and/or function and/or power in column 3 of the Schedule;
2. record that references in the Schedule are as follows:

Title	Position
AAO	Asset Assurance Officer
APO	Asset Protection Officer
AOC	Administration Officer Compliance (Development & Asset Assurance)
BS	Building Surveyor
CCIAS	Coordinator Continuous Improvement Administration Support
CDSO	City Development Support Officer
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
COBS	Coordinator Building Services
DBT	Director Business Transformation
DCI	Director City Infrastructure
DMBS	Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor
DPE	Director Place and Environment
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
GEHO	Graduate Environmental Health Officer
GMCD	Group Manager City Development
MAC	Manager Amenity and Compliance
MCWPD	Manager Capital Works Planning and Delivery
MCS	Manager City Services
MCDE	Manager City Design and Economy
MGS	Manager Governance and Strategy
MOSE	Manager Open Space and Environment
PO	Permits Officer (Development & Asset Assurance)
PC	Planning Coordinator
PEC	Planning Enforcement Coordinator
PEO	Planning Enforcement Officer
PUP	Principal Urban Planner

Title	Position
PSP	Principal Strategic Planner
PSDO	Principal Subdivision Officer
PURA	Principal Urban Research Analyst
PHWO	Public Health and Wellbeing Officer
PLSO	Public Lighting and Safety Officer
SCDSO	Senior City Development Support Officer
SO	Subdivision Officer
SPEO	Senior Planning Enforcement Officer
SSP	Senior Strategic Planner
STE	Senior Transport Engineer
STO	Sustainable Transport Officer
StUP	Student Urban Planner
SUP	Senior Urban Planner
TLCDAS	Team Leader City Development Administration Support
TLDM	Team Leader Development Management
TLEH	Team Leader Environmental Health
TLTI	Team Leader Transport Infrastructure
TLTSO	Team Leader Transport Safety and Operations
TE	Transport Engineer
UMAP	Unit Manager Assets and Programs
UMBS	Unit Manager Building Services
UMCW	Unit Manager City Works
UMDAA	Unit Manager Development and Asset Assurance
UMES	Unit Manager Engineering Services
UMEH	Unit Manager Environmental Health
UMF	Unit Manager Finance
UMSP	Unit Manager Strategic Planning
UMTP	Unit Manager Transport Planning
UMUP	Unit Manager Urban Planning
UP	Urban Planner
UPFT	Urban Planner Fast Track
WO	Works Officer

SCHEDULE

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DOMESTIC ANIMALS ACT 1994			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS
s 41A(1)	Power to declare a dog to be a menacing dog	DCI, MAC	Council may delegate this power to a Council authorised officer

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 19(2)(a)	Power to direct by written order that the food premises be put into a clean and sanitary condition	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	If s 19(1) applies
s 19(2)(b)	Power to direct by written order that specified steps be taken to ensure that food prepared, sold or handled is safe and suitable	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	If s 19(1) applies
s 19(3)	Power to direct by written order that the food premises not be kept or used for the sale, or handling for sale, of any food, or for the preparation of any food, or for any other specified purpose, or for the use of any specified equipment or a specified process	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	If s 19(1) applies Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises
s 19(4)(a)	Power to direct that an order made under s 19(3)(a) or (b), (i) be affixed to a conspicuous part of the premises, (ia) displayed at any point of sale, (ib) be published on the food business's Internet site and (ii) inform the public by notice in a published newspaper, on the Internet site or otherwise	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	If s 19(1) applies
s 19(6)(a)	Duty to revoke any order under s 19 if satisfied that an order has been complied with	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	If s 19(1) applies
s 19(6)(b)	Duty to give written notice of revocation under s 19(6)(a) if satisfied that an order has been complied with	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	If s 19(1) applies

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 19AA(2)	Power to direct, by written order, that a person must take any of the actions described in (a)-(c).	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19AA(4)(c)	Power to direct, in an order made under s 19AA(2) or a subsequent written order, that a person must ensure that any food or class of food is not removed from the premises	Not Delegated	Note: the power to direct the matters under s 19AA(4)(a) and (b) not capable of delegation and so such directions must be made by a Council resolution
s 19AA(7)	Duty to revoke order issued under s 19AA and give written notice of revocation, if satisfied that that order has been complied with	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19CB(4)(b)	Power to request copy of records	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19E(1)(d)	Power to request a copy of the food safety program	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19EA(3)	Function of receiving copy of revised food safety program	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19FA(1)	Power to direct a proprietor of a food premises to revise the food safety program for the premises or comply with any requirements specified in the food safety program	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority Subject to s 19FA(2), which requires a time limit for compliance to be specified

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 19FA(3)(a)	Power to refuse to approve an application for registration or renewal of the premises, where a proprietor of a food premises fails to comply with a direction given under s 19FA(1)	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority Refusal to grant or renew the registration of a food premises must be ratified by Council or the CEO (see s 58A(2))
s 19FA(3)(b)	Power to revoke a registration granted in respect of premises, where a proprietor of a food premises fails to comply with a direction given under s 19FA(1)	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19FA(3)(c)	Power to suspend the registration of the premises, where a proprietor of a food premises fails to comply with a direction given under s 19FA(1)	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19GB	Power to request proprietor to provide written details of the name, qualification or experience of the current food safety supervisor	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s19IA(1)	Power to form opinion that the food safety requirements or program are non-compliant.	UMEH, TLEH, EHO, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19IA(2)	Duty to give written notice to the proprietor of the premises	UMEH, TLEH, EHO, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority Note: Not required if Council has taken other appropriate action in relation to deficiencies (see s 19IA(3))

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 19M(4)(a) & (5)	Power to conduct a food safety audit and take actions where deficiencies are identified	Not Applicable	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19N(2)	Function of receiving notice from the auditor	UMEH, TLEH, EHO, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19NA(1)	Power to request food safety audit reports	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19U(3)	Power to waive and vary the costs of a food safety audit if there are special circumstances	Not Applicable	
s 19UA	Power to charge fees for conducting a food safety assessment or inspection	Not Delegated	Except for an assessment required by a declaration under s 19C or an inspection under ss 38B(1)(c) or 39
s 19W	Power to direct a proprietor of a food premises to comply with any requirement under Part IIIB	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19W(3)(a)	Power to direct a proprietor of a food premises to have staff at the premises undertake training or instruction	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19W(3)(b)	Power to direct a proprietor of a food premises to have details of any staff training incorporated into the minimum records required to be kept or food safety program of the premises	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	Where Council is the registration authority

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
---	Power to register or renew the registration of a food premises Power to register, or renew the registration of a food premises	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority Refusal to grant/ or renew the registration of a food premises must be ratified by Council or the CEO (see s 58A(2))
s 36A	Power to accept an application for registration or notification using online portal	CCIAS, CDSO, EHO, SCDSO, TLCDAS, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 36B	Duty to pay the charge for use of online portal	UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38AA(5)	Power to (a) request further information; or (b) advise the proprietor that the premises must be registered if the premises are not exempt	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38AB(4)	Power to fix a fee for the receipt of a notification under s 38AA in accordance with a declaration under s 38AB(1)	Not Delegated	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38A(4)	Power to request a copy of a completed food safety program template	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38B(1)(a)	Duty to assess the application and determine which class of food premises under s 19C the food premises belongs	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 38B(1)(b)	Duty to ensure proprietor has complied with requirements of s 38A	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38B(2)	Duty to be satisfied of the matters in s 38B(2)(a)-(b)	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38D(1)	Duty to ensure compliance with the applicable provisions of s 38C and inspect the premises if required by s 39	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38D(2)	Duty to be satisfied of the matters in s 38D(2)(a)-(d)	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38D(3)	Power to request copies of any audit reports	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38E(2)	Power to register the food premises on a conditional basis	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority; not exceeding the prescribed time limit defined under s 38E(5)
s 38E(4)	Duty to register the food premises when conditions are satisfied	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 38F(3)(b)	Power to require proprietor to comply with requirements of this Act	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38G(1)	Power to require notification of change of the food safety program type used for the food premises	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38G(2)	Function of receiving notice from proprietor if there is a change of the food safety program type used for the food premises	UMEH, TLEH, EHO, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38G(4)	Power to require the proprietor of the food premises to comply with any requirement of the Act	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 39(2)	Duty to carry out an inspection of the premises during the period of registration before the registration of the food premises is renewed	UMEH, TLEH, EHO, PHWO, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 39A	Power to register, or renew the registration of a food premises despite minor defects	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority Only if satisfied of matters in s 39A(2)(a)-(c)
s 39A (6)	Duty to comply with a direction of the Secretary	UMEH, TLEH	

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 40(1)	Duty to give the person in whose name the premises is to be registered a certificate of registration	CCIAS, CDSO, EHO, GEHO, PHWO, SCDSO, TLCDas, TLEH, UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority
s 40(2)	Power to incorporate the certificate of registration in one document with any certificate of registration under Part 6 of the <i>Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008</i>	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	
s 40C(2)	Power to grant or renew the registration of food premises for a period of less than 1 year	EHO, TLEH, , UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority
s 40D(1)	Power to suspend or revoke the registration of food premises	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority
s 40E	Duty to comply with direction of the Secretary	UMEH, TLEH	
s 40F	Power to cancel registration of food premises	EHO, TLEH, UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority
s 43	Duty to maintain records of registration	CCIAS, CDSO, EHO, GEHO, PHWO, SCDSO, TLCDas, TLEH, UMEH	Where Council is the registration authority

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 43F(6)	Duty to be satisfied that registration requirements under Division 3 have been met prior to registering or renewing registration of a component of a food business	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 43F(7)	Power to register the components of the food business that meet requirements in Division 3 and power to refuse to register the components that do not meet the requirements	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO	Where Council is the registration authority Refusal to grant or renew the registration of a food premises must be ratified by Council or the CEO (see s 58A(2))
s 45AC	Power to bring proceedings	DPE, GMCD	Note: The approval requirements to institute proceedings in the various courts and tribunals are: For the Magistrates' Court – Group Manager or Manager level; For VCAT planning matters – Group Manager or Director; For VCAT building matters – Group Manager; For other VCAT matters – Director; For the Children's' court – Director; For the County Court – not delegated; For the Supreme Court – not delegated
s 46(5)	Power to institute proceedings against another person where the offence was due to an act or default by that other person and where the first person charged could successfully defend a prosecution, without proceedings first being instituted against the person first charged	Not delegated	Where Council is the registration authority

HERITAGE ACT 2017			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 116	Power to sub-delegate Executive Director's functions, duties or powers	DPE	<p>Must first obtain Executive Director's written consent</p> <p>Council can only sub-delegate if the Instrument of Delegation from the Executive Director authorises sub-delegation</p> <p>Note - - Executive Director means the Executive Director employed under section 18 of the Heritage Act 2017.</p>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 185L(4)	Power to declare and levy a cladding rectification charge	CEO ¹	

¹ The only member of staff who can be a delegate in Column 3 is the CEO.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 4B	Power to prepare an amendment to the Victorian Planning Provisions	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	If authorised by the Minister
s 4G	Function of receiving prescribed documents and a copy of the Victorian Planning Provisions from the Minister	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PUP, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UP, PURA	
s 4H	Duty to make amendment to Victorian Planning Provisions available in accordance with public availability requirements	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	
s 4I (2)	Duty to make a copy of the Victorian Planning Provisions and other documents available in accordance with public availability requirements	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UP, UMUP, CCIAS, StUP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 12(3)	Power to carry out studies and do things to ensure proper use of land and consult with other persons to ensure co-ordination of planning scheme with these persons	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PSP, SSP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	
s 12B(1)	Duty to review planning scheme	DPE, MCDE, PSP, SSP, UMSP, PURA	
s 12B(2)	Duty to review planning scheme at direction of Minister	DPE, MCDE, PSP, SSP, UMSP, PURA	
s 12B(5)	Duty to report findings of review of planning scheme to Minister without delay	DPE	
s 14	Duties of a Responsible Authority as set out in s 14(a) to (d)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SPEO, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
16B	Duty (upon receiving a request to prepare an amendment to the planning scheme) to decide: - to apply to the Minister for authorisation to prepare the amendment, with or without changes, under section 16F, or - to refuse the request. Note: see also sections 16A, 16D, 16E and 16K.	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UP, SO	
16C(1)	Duty to give written notice of its decision under section 16B to the person who made the request within 10 business days of making the decision. Note: The notice must contain prescribed information, and reasons if it is a refusal.	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UP, SO	
16C(4)	Duty to give a copy of the request and the notice under subsection 16C(1) to the Minister.	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UP, SO	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
16F	Power to apply to the Minister for authorisation to prepare an amendment to the State standard provisions or the local provisions of a planning scheme in force in the municipal district. Note: see also sections 16G and 16K.	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UP, SO	
16F	Power to prepare an amendment to the planning scheme where the Minister has authorised Council to do so under section 16F	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UP, SO	
16H	Power to prepare an amendment specified in an application without the Minister's authorisation if no response received after 10 business days. Note: see also section 16K.	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UP, SO	Does not apply in relation to an application for the preparation of an amendment that will apply to land to which a Suburban Rail Loop planning area declaration applies.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
16I	Power to apply to the Minister for authorisation to prepare an amendment to any part of the State standard provisions and local provisions of a planning scheme applying to an area adjoining its municipal district.	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UP, SO	
16I	Power to prepare amendment to the planning scheme applying to an area adjoining Council's municipal district where the Minister has authorised Council to do so under section 16I. Note: see also sections 16D, 16G and 16J.	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UP, SO	
s 17(1)	Duty of giving copy amendment to the planning scheme	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA	
s 17(2)	Duty of giving copy s 173 agreement	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 17(3)	Duty of giving copy amendment, explanatory report and relevant documents to the Minister within 10 business days	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA	
s 18	Duty to make amendment etc. available in accordance with public availability requirements	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	Until the proposed amendment is approved or lapsed
s 19	Power to give notice, to decide not to give notice, to publish notice of amendment to a planning scheme and to exercise any other power under s 19 to a planning scheme	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	
s 19	Function of receiving notice of preparation of an amendment to a planning scheme	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, UMSP	Where Council is not the planning authority and the amendment affects land within Council's municipal district; or Where the amendment will amend the planning scheme to designate Council as an acquiring authority
s 20(1)	Power to apply to Minister for exemption from the requirements of s 19	DPE, MCDE, GMCD	Where Council is a planning authority

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 21(2)	Duty to make submissions available in accordance with public availability requirements	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	Until the end of 2 months after the amendment comes into operation or lapses
s 21A(4)	Duty to publish notice	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMUP, UMSP	
s 22(1)	Duty to consider all submissions received before the date specified in the notice	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSP, UMSP, UMUP, StUP, SSP, SUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	Except submissions which request a change to the items in s 22(5)(a) and (b)
s 22(2)	Power to consider a late submission	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP,-PSP, UMSP, UMUP, SSP, UP, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
	Duty to consider a late submission, if directed by the Minister	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP,-PSP, UMSP, UMUP, SSP, UP, PURA	
s 23(1)(b)	Duty to refer submissions which request a change to the amendment to a panel	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 23(2)	Power to refer to a panel submissions which do not require a change to the amendment	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, PSP, SSP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	
23A(2)	Power to: - change the amendment in the manner requested; - not change the amendment in the manner requested; or - abandon the amendment or part of the amendment.	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UP, SO	Where Council is the planning authority. After considering a submission which requests a change to a 'low-impact' amendment (as described in section 16N).

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 24	Function to represent Council and present a submission at a panel hearing (including a hearing referred to in s 96D)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SSP, PSDO, PSP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	
s 26(1)	Power to make report available for inspection in accordance with the requirements set out in s 197B of the Act	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, UMSP	
s 26(2)	Duty to keep report of panel available in accordance with public availability requirements	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	During the inspection period
s 27(2)	Power to apply for exemption if panel's report not received	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 28(1)	Duty to notify the Minister if abandoning an amendment, with a copy of any submission considered, and a statement of reasons for the decision	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UP, SO	Note: the power to make a decision to abandon an amendment cannot be delegated
s 28(2)	Duty to publish notice of the decision on Internet site	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA	
s 28(4)	Duty to make notice of the decision available on Council's Internet site for a period of at least 2 months	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA	
28C	Duty to comply with directions of the Minister after abandoning the amendment with respect to: - providing relevant documentation; and - providing assistance with steps to be taken for the amendment.	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UP, SO	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 30(4)(a)	Duty to say if amendment has lapsed	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, PSP, SSP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	
s 30(4)(b)	Duty to provide information in writing upon request	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, PSP, SSP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, PURA	
s 32(2)	Duty to give more notice if required	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSP, SSP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	
s 33(1)	Duty to give more notice of changes to an amendment	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, PSP, SSP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 36(2)	Duty to give notice of approval of amendment	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, PSP, SSP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	
s 38(5)	Duty to give notice of revocation of an amendment	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, PSP, SSP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	
s 39	Function of being a party to a proceeding commenced under s 39 and duty to comply with determination by VCAT	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, PSP, SSP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	
s 40(1)	Function of lodging copy of approved amendment	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SSP, PSDO, PSP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 41(1)	Duty to make a copy of an approved amendment available in accordance with the public availability requirements during inspection period	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 41(2)	Duty to make a copy of an approved amendment and any documents lodged with it available in person in accordance with the requirements set out in s 197B of the Act after the inspection period ends	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 42(2)	Duty to make copy of planning scheme available in accordance with the public availability requirements	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 46AW	Function of being consulted by the Minister	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	Where Council is a responsible public entity

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46AX	Function of receiving a draft Statement of Planning Policy and written direction in relation to the endorsement of the draft Statement of Planning Policy Power to endorse the draft Statement of Planning Policy	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	Where Council is a responsible public entity
s 46AZC(2)	Duty not to prepare an amendment to a declared area planning scheme that is inconsistent with a Statement of Planning Policy for the declared area that is expressed to be binding on the responsible public entity	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, SSP, PSP, UMSP, PURA	Where Council is a responsible public entity
s 46AZK	Duty not to act inconsistently with any provision of the Statement of Planning Policy that is expressed to be binding on the public entity when performing a function or duty or exercising a power in relation to the declared area	DPE	Where Council is a responsible public entity
s 46GI (2)(b)(i)	Power to agree to a lower rate of standard levy for a class of development of a particular type of land than the rate specified in a Minister's direction	DPE, UMF	Where Council is the planning authority, the municipal Council of the municipal district in which the land is located and/or the development agency
s 46GJ(1)	Function of receiving written directions from the Minister in relation to the preparation and content of infrastructure contributions plans	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	
s 46GK	Duty to comply with a Minister's direction that applies to Council as the planning authority	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46GN(1)	Duty to arrange for estimates of values of inner public purpose land	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	
s 46GO(1)	Duty to give notice to owners of certain inner public purpose land	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	
s 46GP	Function of receiving a notice under s 46GO	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GQ	Function of receiving a submission from an affected owner who objects to the estimated value per hectare (or other appropriate unit of measurement) of the inner public purpose land	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	
s 46GR(1)	Duty to consider every submission that is made by the closing date for submissions included in the notice under s 46GO	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	
s 46GR(2)	Power to consider a late submission Duty to consider a late submission if directed to do so by the Minister	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	
s 46GS(1)	Power to accept or reject the estimate of the value of the inner public purpose land in a submission made under s 46GQ	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46GS(2)	Duty, if Council rejects the estimate of the value of the inner public purpose land in the submission, to refer the matter to the valuer-general, and notify the affected owner of the rejection and that the matter has been referred to the valuer-general	DPE, CFO	
s 46GT(2)	Duty to pay half of the fee fixed by the valuer-general for arranging and attending the conference	DPE, CFO	
s 46GT(4)	Function of receiving, from the valuer-general, written confirmation of the agreement between the planning authority's valuer and the affected owner's valuer as to the estimated value of the inner public purpose land	DPE, CFO	
s 46GT(6)	Function of receiving, from the valuer-general, written notice of a determination under s 46GT(5)	DPE, CFO	
s 46GU	Duty not to adopt an amendment under s 29 to an infrastructure contributions plan that specifies a land credit amount or a land equalisation amount that relates to a parcel of land in the ICP plan area of the plan unless the criteria in s 46GU(1)(a) and (b) are met	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46GV(3)	Function of receiving the monetary component and any land equalisation amount of the infrastructure contribution Power to specify the manner in which the payment is to be made	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GV(3)(b)	Power to enter into an agreement with the applicant	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GV(4)(a)	Function of receiving the inner public purpose land in accordance with s 46GV(5) and (6)	DPE	Where Council is the development agency
s 46GV(4)(b)	Function of receiving the inner public purpose land in accordance with s 46GV(5) and (6)	DPE	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GV(7)	Duty to impose the requirements set out in s 46GV(3) and (4) as conditions on the permit applied for by the applicant to develop the land in the ICP plan area	DPE	
s 46GV(9)	Power to require the payment of a monetary component or the provision of the land component of an infrastructure contribution to be secured to Council's satisfaction	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GX(1)	Power to accept works, services or facilities in part or full satisfaction of the monetary component of an infrastructure contribution payable	DCI, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46GX(2)	Duty, before accepting the provision of works, services or facilities by an applicant under s 46GX(1), to obtain the agreement of the development agency or agencies specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan	DCI	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GY(1)	Duty to keep proper and separate accounts and records	DCI, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GY(2)	Duty to keep the accounts and records in accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>	DCI, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GZ(2)(a)	Duty to forward any part of the monetary component that is imposed for plan preparation costs to the planning authority that incurred those costs	DCI, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is that planning authority
s 46GZ(2)(a)	Function of receiving the monetary component	CFO, UMF	Where the Council is the planning authority This duty does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s 46GZ(2)(b)	Duty to forward any part of the monetary component that is imposed for the provision of works, services or facilities to the development agency that is specified in the plan as responsible for those works, services or facilities	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the relevant development agency

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46GZ(2)(b)	Function of receiving the monetary component	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s 46GZ(4)	Duty to use any land equalisation amounts to pay land credit amounts under s 46GZ(7), except any part of those amounts that are to be forwarded to a development agency under s 46GZ(5)	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZ(5)	Duty to forward any part of a land equalisation amount required for the acquisition of outer public purpose land by a development agency specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan to that development agency	DPE	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the relevant development agency
s 46GZ(5)	Function of receiving any part of a land equalisation amount required for the acquisition of outer public purpose land	DPE, CFO	Where Council is the development agency specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s 46GZ(7)	Duty to pay to each person who must provide an infrastructure contribution under the approved infrastructure contributions plan any land credit amount to which the person is entitled under s 46GW	DPE, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46GZ(9)	Duty to transfer the estate in fee simple in the land to the development agency specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan as responsible for the use and development of that land	DPE, CFO	If any inner public purpose land is vested in Council under the <i>Subdivision Act 1988</i> or acquired by Council before the time it is required to be provided to Council under s 46GV(4) Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the development agency
s 46GZ(9)	Function of receiving the fee simple in the land	CFO, DPE	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s 46GZA(1)	Duty to keep proper and separate accounts and records	CFO, DPE	Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZA(2)	Duty to keep the accounts and records in accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>	CFO, DPE	Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZB(3)	Duty to follow the steps set out in s 46GZB(3)(a) – (c)	CFO, UMF	Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46GZB(4)	Duty, in accordance with requirements of the VPA, to report on the use of the infrastructure contribution in the development agency's annual report and provide reports on the use of the infrastructure contribution to the VPA	CFO, UMF	If the VPA is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZD(2)	Duty, within 6 months after the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires, to follow the steps set out in s 46GZD(2)(a) and (b)	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZD(3)	Duty to follow the steps set out in s 46GZD(3)(a) and (b)	CFO, DPE	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZD(5)	Duty to make payments under s 46GZD(3) in accordance with ss 46GZD(5)(a) and 46GZD(5)(b)	CFO, DPE	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZE(2)	Duty to forward the land equalisation amount back to the collecting agency within 6 months after the expiry date if any part of a land equalisation amount paid or forwarded to a development agency for acquiring outer public purpose land has not been expended by the development agency to acquire that land at the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46GZE(2)	Function of receiving the unexpended land equalisation amount	CFO, DPE	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the development agency
s 46GZE(3)	Duty, within 12 months after the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires, to follow the steps set out in s 46GZE(3)(a) and (b)	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZF(2)	Duty, within 12 months after the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires, to use the public purpose land for a public purpose approved by the Minister or sell the public purpose land	CFO, DPE	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZF(3)	Duty, if land is sold under s 46GZF(2)(b), to follow the steps in s 46GZF(3)(a) and (b)	CFO, DPE	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZF(3)	Function of receiving proceeds of sale	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the collection agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the development agency

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46GZF(4)	Duty to divide the proceeds of the public purpose land among the current owners of each parcel of land in the ICP plan area and pay each current owner a portion of the proceeds in accordance with s 46GZF(5)	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZF(6)	Duty to make the payments under s 46GZF(4) in accordance with s 46GZF(6)(a) and (b)	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZH	Power to recover the monetary component, or any land equalisation amount of the land component, payable under Part 3AB as a debt in any court of competent jurisdiction	CFO, UMF	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZI	Duty to prepare and give a report to the Minister at the times required by the Minister	CFO, UMF	Where Council is a collecting agency or development agency
s 46GZK	Power to deal with public purpose land which has vested in, been acquired by, or transferred to, Council	DPE	Where Council is a collecting agency or development agency
s 46LB(3)	Duty to publish, on Council's Internet site, the payable dwelling amount for a financial year on or before 1 July of each financial year for which the amount is adjusted under s 46LB (2)	CFO, DPE, SCDSO, UMF	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46N(1)	Duty to include condition in permit regarding payment of development infrastructure levy	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, UMF	
s 46N(2)(c)	Function of determining time and manner for receipt of development contributions levy	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, UMF, PURA	
s 46N(2)(d)	Power to enter into an agreement with the applicant regarding payment of development infrastructure levy	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	
s 46O(1)(a) & (2)(a)	Power to ensure that community infrastructure levy is paid, or agreement is in place, prior to issuing building permit	BS, TLBS, DMBS, UMBS	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46O(1)(d) & (2)(d)	Power to enter into agreement with the applicant regarding payment of community infrastructure levy	UMAP, CFO, DBT, DPE, DCI, GMCD, MCDE, MCWPD, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP, UMF	
s 46P(1)	Power to require payment of amount of levy under s 46N or s 46O to be satisfactorily secured	UMAP, DBT, DCI, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, MCWPD, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP, UMF	
s 46P(2)	Power to accept provision of land, works, services or facilities in part or full payment of levy payable	UMAP, DPE, DCI, GMCD, MCDE, MCWPD, UMSP, UMF	
s 46Q(1)	Duty to keep proper accounts of levies paid	DBT, DCI, CFO, UMSP, UMF	
s 46Q(1A)	Duty to forward to development agency part of levy imposed for carrying out works, services, or facilities on behalf of development agency or plan preparation costs incurred by a development agency	DPE, DCI, GMCD, MCDE, UMSP, UMF	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46Q(2)	Duty to apply levy only for a purpose relating to the provision of plan preparation costs or the works, services and facilities in respect of which the levy was paid etc	DCI, UMSP, UMF	
s 46Q(3)	Power to refund any amount of levy paid if it is satisfied the development is not to proceed	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, UMSP, UMF	Only applies when levy is paid to Council as a 'development agency'
s 46Q(4)(c)	Duty to pay amount to current owners of land in the area if an amount of levy has been paid to a municipal council as a development agency for plan preparation costs incurred by the Council or for the provision by the Council of works, services or facilities in an area under s 46Q(4)(a)	DPE, DCI, UMSP, UMF	Must be done within six months of the end of the period required by the development contributions plan and with the consent of, and in the manner approved by, the Minister
s 46Q(4)(d)	Duty to submit to the Minister an amendment to the approved development contributions plan	DPE	Must be done in accordance with Part 3
s 46Q(4)(e)	Duty to expend that amount on other works etc.	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, UMSP, UMF	With the consent of, and in the manner approved by, the Minister
s 46QC	Power to recover any amount of levy payable under Part 3B	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, UMSP, UMF	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46QD	Duty to prepare report and give a report to the Minister	DPE	Where Council is a collecting agency or development agency
s 46V(3)	Duty to make a copy of the approved strategy plan (being the Melbourne Airport Environs Strategy Plan) and any documents lodged with it available in accordance with the public availability requirements, during the inspection period	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 46V(4)	Duty to make a copy of the approved strategy plan (being the Melbourne Airport Environs Strategy Plan) and any documents lodged with it available in accordance with s 197B of the Act and on payment of the prescribe fee, after the inspection period	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, SSP, PSP, SUP, PURA	
s 46V(5)	Duty to keep a copy of the approved strategy plan incorporating all amendments to it	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, SSP, PSP, SUP, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 46V(6)	Duty to make a copy of the approved strategy plan incorporating all amendments to it available in accordance with the public available requirements	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT SP, SUP	
s 46Y	Duty to carry out works in conformity with the approved strategy plan	DPE, MCDE, UMSP	
s 47	Power to decide that an application for a planning permit does not comply with that Act	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
48A	Power to notify an applicant that the application is incomplete Note: The notice must set out any required fees or information, the date for payment or production, and the effect of non-compliance set out in section 48B(1).	DPE, GMCD, UMSP, UMUP, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UP, UPFT, CCIAS, TLCDAS, CDSO, SCDSO	Where Council is the responsible authority

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
48C	Power to refund a fee paid for an application which is void and of no effect under section 48B(1)	DPE, GMCD, PC, UMUP, PC, CCIAS PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, TLCDAS, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT CDSO, SCDSO	Where Council is the responsible authority
s 49(1)	Duty to keep a register of all applications for permits and determinations relating to permits	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, TLCDAS, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 49(2)	Duty to make register available for inspection in accordance with the public availability requirements	CCIAS, CDSO, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, PC, PEC, PUP, SCDSO, SO, PSDO, SUP, TLCDAS, UMUP, UP, UPFT	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 50(4)	Duty to amend application	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 50(5)	Power to refuse to amend application	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 50(6)	Duty to make note of amendment to application in register	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SCDSO, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 50A(1)	Power to make amendment to application	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 50A(3)	Power to require applicant to notify owner and make a declaration that notice has been given	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 50A(4)	Duty to note amendment to application in register	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 51	Duty to make copy of application available for inspection in accordance with the public availability requirements	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SCDSO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, TLCDas, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 52(1)(a)	Duty to give notice of the application to owners/occupiers of adjoining allotments unless satisfied that the grant of permit would not cause material detriment to any person	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SCDSO, StUP, SUP, TLCDas, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 52(1)(b)	Duty to give notice of the application to other municipal council where appropriate	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 52(1)(c)	Duty to give notice of the application to all persons required by the planning scheme	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 52(1)(ca)	Duty to give notice of the application to owners and occupiers of land benefited by a registered restrictive covenant if may result in breach of covenant	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 52(1)(cb)	Duty to give notice of the application to owners and occupiers of land benefited by a registered restrictive covenant if application is to remove or vary the covenant	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 52(1)(d)	Duty to give notice of the application to other persons who may be detrimentally effected	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 52(1AA)	Duty to give notice of an application to remove or vary a registered restrictive covenant	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 52(3)	Power to give any further notice of an application where appropriate	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 53(1)	Power to require the applicant to give notice under s 52(1) to persons specified by it	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 53(1A)	Power to require the applicant to give the notice under s 52(1AA)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 54(1)	Power to require the applicant to provide more information	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 54(1A)	Duty to give notice in writing of information required under s 54(1)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 54(1B)	Duty to specify the lapse date for an application	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 54A(3)	Power to decide to extend time or refuse to extend time to give required information	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 54A(4)	Duty to give written notice of decision to extend or refuse to extend time under s 54A(3)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 55(1)	Duty to give copy application, together with the prescribed information, to every referral authority specified in the planning scheme	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UP, UPFT, UMUP, StUP, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 57(2A)	Power to reject objections considered made primarily for commercial advantage for the objector	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 57(3)	Function of receiving name and address of persons to whom notice of decision is to go	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, SCDSO, StUP, SUP, TLCDAS, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 57(5)	Duty to make a copy of all objections available in accordance with the public availability requirements	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, SCDSO, StUP, SUP, TLCDAS, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 57A(4)	Duty to amend application in accordance with applicant's request, subject to s 57A(5)	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 57A(5)	Power to refuse to amend application	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 57A(6)	Duty to note amendments to application in register	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, TLCDas, CDSO, PURA	
s 57B(1)	Duty to determine whether and to whom notice should be given	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 57B(2)	Duty to consider certain matters in determining whether notice should be given	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 57C(1)	Duty to give copy of amended application to referral authority	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 58	Duty to consider every application for a permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 58A	Power to request advice from the Planning Application Committee	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	
s 60	Duty to consider certain matters	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 60(1A)	Duty to consider certain matters	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 60(1B)	Duty to consider number of objectors in considering whether use or development may have significant social effect	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UP, UPFT, UMUP, PURA	
s 61(1)	Power to determine permit application, either to decide to grant a permit, to decide to grant a permit with conditions or to refuse a permit application	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	The permit must not be inconsistent with a cultural heritage management plan under the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i>

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 61(2)	Duty to decide to refuse to grant a permit if a relevant determining referral authority objects to grant of permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 61(2A)	Power to decide to refuse to grant a permit if a relevant recommending referral authority objects to the grant of permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 61(3)(a)	Duty not to decide to grant a permit to use coastal Crown land without Minister's consent	Not Applicable	
s 61(3)(b)	Duty to refuse to grant the permit without the Minister's consent	Not Applicable	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 61(4)	Duty to refuse to grant the permit if grant would authorise a breach of a registered restrictive covenant	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 62(1)	Duty to include certain conditions in deciding to grant a permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 62(2)	Power to include other conditions	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 62(4)	Duty to ensure conditions are consistent with paragraphs (a),(b) and (c)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 62(5)(a)	Power to include a permit condition to implement an approved development contributions plan or an approved infrastructure contributions plan	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 62(5)(b)	Power to include a permit condition that specified works be provided on or to the land or paid for in accordance with s 173 agreement	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 62(5)(c)	Power to include a permit condition that specified works be provided or paid for by the applicant	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 62(6)(a)	Duty not to include a permit condition requiring a person to pay an amount for or provide works except in accordance with ss 46N(1), 46GV(7) or 62(5)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 62(6)(b)	Duty not to include a permit condition requiring a person to pay an amount for or provide works except a condition that a planning scheme requires to be included as referred to in s 62(1)(a)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 63	Duty to issue the permit where made a decision in favour of the application (if no one has objected)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 64(1)	Duty to give notice of decision to grant a permit to applicant and objectors	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit – see s 75
s 64(3)	Duty not to issue a permit until after the specified period	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit – see s 75

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 64(5)	Duty to give each objector a copy of an exempt decision	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit – see s 75
s 64A	Duty not to issue permit until the end of a period when an application for review may be lodged with VCAT or until VCAT has determined the application, if a relevant recommending referral authority has objected to the grant of a permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit – see s 75A
s 65(1)	Duty to give notice of refusal to grant permit to applicant and person who objected under s 57	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 66(1)	Duty to give notice under s 64 or s 65 and copy permit to relevant determining referral authorities	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UP, UPFT, UMUP, StUP, PURA	
s 66(2)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to grant a permit	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	If the recommending referral authority objected to the grant of the permit or the responsible authority decided not to include a condition on the permit recommended by the recommending referral authority
s 66(4)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to refuse a permit	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	If the recommending referral authority objected to the grant of the permit or the recommending referral authority recommended that a permit condition be included on the permit

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 66(6)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority a copy of any permit which Council decides to grant and a copy of any notice given under s 64 or 65	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	If the recommending referral authority did not object to the grant of the permit or the recommending referral authority did not recommend a condition be included on the permit
s 69(1)	Function of receiving application for extension of time of permit	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, TLCDAS, CDSO, SCDSO, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 69(1A)	Function of receiving application for extension of time to complete development	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, TLCDAS, CDSO, SCDSO, PURA	
s 69(2)	Power to extend time	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 70	Duty to make copy permit available in accordance with public availability requirements	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, TLCDas, CDSO, SCDSO, PURA	
s 71(1)	Power to correct certain mistakes	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 71(2)	Duty to note corrections in register	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, TLCDas, CDSO, SCDSO, PURA	
s 73	Power to decide to grant amendment subject to conditions	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 74	Duty to issue amended permit to applicant if no objectors	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 76	Duty to give applicant and objectors notice of decision to refuse to grant amendment to permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, SUP, UMSP, UP, UPFT, UMUP, StUP, PURA	
s 76A(1)	Duty to give relevant determining referral authorities copy of amended permit and copy of notice	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 76A(2)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to grant an amendment to a permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	If the recommending referral authority objected to the amendment of the permit or the responsible authority decided not to include a condition on the amended permit recommended by the recommending referral authority

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 76A(4)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to refuse a permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	If the recommending referral authority objected to the amendment of the permit or the recommending referral authority recommended that a permit condition be included on the amended permit
s 76A(6)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority a copy of any amended permit which Council decides to grant and a copy of any notice given under s 64 or 76	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	If the recommending referral authority did not object to the amendment of the permit or the recommending referral authority did not recommend a condition be included on the amended permit
s 76D	Duty to comply with direction of Minister to issue amended permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 83	Function of being respondent to an appeal	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 83B	Duty to give or publish notice of application for review	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 84(1)	Power to decide on an application at any time after an appeal is lodged against failure to grant a permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 84(2)	Duty not to issue a permit or notice of decision or refusal after an application is made for review of a failure to grant a permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 84(3)	Duty to tell principal registrar if decide to grant a permit after an application is made for review of its failure to grant a permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 84(6)	Duty to issue permit on receipt of advice within 3 business days	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 84AB	Power to agree to confining a review by the Tribunal	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 86	Duty to issue a permit at order of Tribunal within 3 business days	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 87(3)	Power to apply to VCAT for the cancellation or amendment of a permit	DPE, GMCD, UMUP	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 90(1)	Function of being heard at hearing of request for cancellation or amendment of a permit	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 91(2)	Duty to comply with the directions of VCAT	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 91(2A)	Duty to issue amended permit to owner if Tribunal so directs	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 92	Duty to give notice of cancellation/amendment of permit by VCAT to persons entitled to be heard under s 90	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 93(2)	Duty to give notice of VCAT order to stop development	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, SSP, PSDO, PSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 95(3)	Function of referring certain applications to the Minister	DPE, UMSP	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 95(4)	Duty to comply with an order or direction	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 96(1)	Duty to obtain a permit from the Minister to use and develop its land	DCI, DPE, UMSP	
s 96(2)	Function of giving consent to other persons to apply to the Minister for a permit to use and develop Council land	DBT, DCI, DPE	
s 96A(2)	Power to agree to consider an application for permit concurrently with preparation of proposed amendment	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	The request to prepare the amendment must be made under section 16A. Delegate must not agree to consider the application for the permit concurrently with the preparation of the proposed amendment unless it has made a decision under section 16B(a) to apply to the Minister for authorisation to prepare the amendment, with or without changes, under section 16F.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 96C	Power to give notice, to decide not to give notice, to publish notice and to exercise any other power under s 96C	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 96F	Duty to consider the panel's report under s 96E	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 96G(1)	Power to determine to recommend that a permit be granted or to refuse to recommend that a permit be granted and power to notify applicant of the determination (including power to give notice under s 23 of the <i>Planning and Environment (Planning Schemes) Act 1996</i>)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, PSP, SSP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 96H(3)	Power to give notice in compliance with Minister's direction	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, PSDO, PSP, SSP, UMSP, UMUP, StUP, PURA	
s 96J	Duty to issue permit as directed by the Minister	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 96K	Duty to comply with direction of the Minister to give notice of refusal	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 96Z	Duty to keep levy certificates and levy exemption certificates given to it under ss 47 or 96A for no less than 5 years from receipt of the certificate	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA TLCDAS, CCIAS CDSO, SCDSO	
s 97C	Power to request Minister to decide the application	DPE, GMCD	
s 97D(1)	Duty to comply with directions of Minister to supply any document or assistance relating to application	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, TLCDAS, CDSO, SCDSO, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 97G(3)	Function of receiving from Minister copy of notice of refusal to grant permit or copy of any permit granted by the Minister	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 97G(6)	Duty to make a copy of permits issued under s 97F available in accordance with public availability requirements	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, CCIAS, TLCDAS, CDSO, SCDSO, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 97L	Duty to include Ministerial decisions in a register kept under s 49	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, TLCDas, CDSO, SCDSO, PURA	
s 97MH	Duty to provide information or assistance to the Planning Application Committee	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 97MI	Duty to contribute to the costs of the Planning Application Committee or subcommittee	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 97O	Duty to consider application and issue or refuse to issue certificate of compliance	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UP, UPFT, UMUP, StUP, PURA	
s 97P(3)	Duty to comply with directions of VCAT following an application for review of a failure or refusal to issue a certificate	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UP, UPFT, UMUP, StUP, PURA	
s 97Q(2)	Function of being heard by VCAT at hearing of request for amendment or cancellation of certificate	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UP, UPFT, UMUP, StUP, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 97Q(4)	Duty to comply with directions of VCAT	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, SUP, UMSP, UP, UPFT, UMUP, StUP, PURA	
s 97R	Duty to keep register of all applications for certificate of compliance and related decisions	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, PSP, SSP, SPEO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, TLCDAS, CDSO, SCDSO, PURA	
s 98(1)&(2)	Function of receiving claim for compensation in certain circumstances	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 98(4)	Duty to inform any person of the name of the person from whom compensation can be claimed	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	
s 101	Function of receiving claim for expenses in conjunction with claim	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	
s 103	Power to reject a claim for compensation in certain circumstances	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	
s 107(1)	Function of receiving claim for compensation	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	
s 107(3)	Power to agree to extend time for making claim	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	
s 113(2)	Power to request a declaration for land to be proposed to be reserved for public purposes	DPE	
s 114(1)	Power to apply to the VCAT for an enforcement order	DPE, GMCD, PEC	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 117(1)(a)	Function of making a submission to the VCAT where objections are received	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 120(1)	Power to apply for an interim enforcement order where s 114 application has been made	DPE, GMCD, PEC	
s 123(1)	Power to carry out work required by enforcement order and recover costs	DPE, GMCD, PEC	
s 123(2)	Power to sell buildings, materials, etc salvaged in carrying out work under s 123(1)	DPE	Except Crown Land
s 125(1)	Power to apply to any court of competent jurisdiction or to the tribunal for an injunction restraining any person from contravening an enforcement order or an interim enforcement order.	DPE, GMCD, UMUP, PEC	Section 123 of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998 applies on an application to the Tribunal.
s 129	Function of recovering penalties	DPE, GMCD, PC, PEC, PEO, SPEO	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 130(5)	Power to allow person served with an infringement notice further time	DPE, GMCD, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SPEO, SUP, UMUP, UP	
s 149A(1)	Power to refer a matter to the VCAT for determination	DPE, GMCD, UMSP, UMUP, PEC	
s 149A(1A)	Power to apply to VCAT for the determination of a matter relating to the interpretation of a s 173 agreement	DPE, GMCD, UMSP, UMUP, PEC	
s 149B	Power to apply to the Tribunal for a declaration.	DPE, GMCD, UMUP, PC, PEC	
s 156	Duty to pay fees and allowances (including a payment to the Crown under s 156(2A)), and payment or reimbursement for reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the panel in carrying out its functions unless the Minister directs otherwise under s 156(2B) power to ask for contribution under s 156(3) and power to abandon amendment or part of it under s 156(4)	DPE, MCDE, UMSP	Where Council is the relevant planning authority

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
158F	Power to make submissions in response to a directions panel	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PUP, PSDO, SUP, UP, SO	
s 171(2)(f)	Power to carry out studies and commission reports	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SSP, PSDO, PSP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	
s 171(2)(g)	Power to grant and reserve easements	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, UMSP, UMUP, PURA	
s 172C	Power to compulsorily acquire any outer public purpose land that is specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	Where Council is a development agency specified in an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 172D(1)	Power to compulsorily acquire any inner public purpose land that is specified in the plan before the time that the land is required to be provided to Council under s 46GV(4)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	Where Council is a collecting agency specified in an approved infrastructure contributions plan

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 172D(2)	Power to compulsorily acquire any inner public purpose land, the use and development of which is to be the responsibility of Council under the plan, before the time that the land is required to be provided under s 46GV(4)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	Where Council is the development agency specified in an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 173(1)	Power to enter into agreement covering matters set out in s 174	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	
s 173(1A)	Power to enter into an agreement with an owner of land for the development or provision of land in relation to affordable housing	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	Where Council is the relevant responsible authority
---	Power to decide whether something is to the satisfaction of Council, where an agreement made under s 173 of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> requires something to be to the satisfaction of Council or Responsible Authority	CDSO, DBT, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
---	Power to give consent on behalf of Council, where an agreement made under s 173 of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> requires that something may not be done without the consent of Council or Responsible Authority	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	

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Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 177(2)	Power to end a s 173 agreement with the agreement of all those bound by any covenant in the agreement or otherwise in accordance with Division 2 of Part 9	DBT, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	
s 178	Power to amend a s 173 agreement with the agreement of all those bound by any covenant in the agreement or otherwise in accordance with Division 2 of Part 9	DBT, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 178A(1)	Function of receiving application to amend or end an agreement	CCIAS, CDSO, DBT, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, TLCDAS, CDSO, SCDSO	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 178A(3)	Function of notifying the owner as to whether it agrees in principle to the proposal under s 178A(1)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 178A(4)	Function of notifying the applicant and the owner as to whether it agrees in principle to the proposal	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 178A(5)	Power to propose to amend or end an agreement	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, StUP	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 178B(1)	Duty to consider certain matters when considering proposal to amend an agreement	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 178B(2)	Duty to consider certain matters when considering proposal to end an agreement	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 178C(2)	Duty to give notice of the proposal to all parties to the agreement and other persons who may be detrimentally affected by decision to amend or end	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 178C(4)	Function of determining how to give notice under s 178C(2)	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 178E(1)	Duty not to make decision until after 14 days after notice has been given	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 178E(2)(a)	Power to amend or end the agreement in accordance with the proposal	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, SUP, UMSP, UP, UPFT	If no objections are made under s 178D Must consider matters in s 178B
s 178E(2)(b)	Power to amend or end the agreement in a manner that is not substantively different from the proposal	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	If no objections are made under s 178D Must consider matters in s 178B

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 178E(2)(c)	Power to refuse to amend or end the agreement	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	If no objections are made under s 178D Must consider matters in s 178B
s 178E(3)(a)	Power to amend or end the agreement in accordance with the proposal	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s 178B
s 178E(3)(b)	Power to amend or end the agreement in a manner that is not substantively different from the proposal	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s 178B
s 178E(3)(c)	Power to amend or end the agreement in a manner that is substantively different from the proposal	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s 178B

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 178E(3)(d)	Power to refuse to amend or end the agreement	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s 178B
s 178F(1)	Duty to give notice of its decision under s 178E(3)(a) or (b)	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 178F(2)	Duty to give notice of its decision under s 178E(2)(c) or (3)(d)	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 178F(4)	Duty not to proceed to amend or end an agreement under s 178E until at least 21 days after notice has been given or until an application for review to the Tribunal has been determined or withdrawn	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, UMSP, UMUP	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 178G	Duty to sign amended agreement and give copy to each other party to the agreement	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 178H	Power to require a person who applies to amend or end an agreement to pay the costs of giving notices and preparing the amended agreement	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 178I(3)	Duty to notify, in writing, each party to the agreement of the ending of the agreement relating to Crown land	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 179(2)	Duty to make a copy of each agreement available in accordance with the public availability requirements	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 181	Duty to apply to the Registrar of Titles to record the agreement	CCIAS, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 181(1A)(a)	Power to apply to the Registrar of Titles to record the agreement	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 181(1A)(b)	Duty to apply to the Registrar of Titles, without delay, to record the agreement	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 182	Power to enforce an agreement	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 183	Duty to tell Registrar of Titles of ending/amendment of agreement	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 184F(1)	Power to decide to amend or end an agreement at any time after an application for review of the failure of Council to make a decision	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 184F(2)	Duty not to amend or end the agreement or give notice of the decision after an application is made to VCAT for review of a failure to amend or end an agreement	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 184F(3)	Duty to inform the principal registrar if the responsible authority decides to amend or end an agreement after an application is made for the review of its failure to end or amend the agreement	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 184F(5)	Function of receiving advice from the principal registrar that the agreement may be amended or ended in accordance with Council's decision	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 184G(2)	Duty to comply with a direction of the Tribunal	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	
s 184G(3)	Duty to give notice as directed by the Tribunal	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 185B(1)	Duty to comply with a request from the Minister to provide the name, address, email address or telephone number of any person to whom the Minister is required to give notice	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, SSP, PSP, SUP, CCIAS, PURA	
s 198(1)	Function to receive application for planning certificate	Not Applicable	
s 199(1)	Duty to give planning certificate to applicant	Not Applicable	
s 201(1)	Function of receiving application for declaration of underlying zoning	DPE, MCDE, PSP, SSP, UMSP, PURA	
s 201(3)	Duty to make declaration	DPE, MCDE, PSP, SSP, UMSP, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
-	Power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, that a specified thing has or has not been done to the satisfaction of Council	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
	Power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, that a specified thing may be altered or modified with Council's consent	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PEC, SPEO, PEO, PUP, StUP, SUP, UP, UPFT, SO, PSDO, CDSO	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
	Power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, that a specified thing may be done subject to Council's prior consent or must not be done without Council's prior consent	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PEC, SPEO, PEO, PUP, StUP, SUP, UP, UPFT, SO, PSDO, CDSO	
	Power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, that a specified thing is required to be approved and or endorsed by Council	DPE, MCDE, PSP, UMSP, SSP, PURA GMCD, UMUP, PC, PEC, SPEO, PEO, PUP, StUP, SUP, UP, UPFT, SO, PSDO, CDSO	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
	Power, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, to consent or refuse to consent to any matter which requires the consent or approval of Council	CDSO, DBT, DPE, DCI, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
	Power to approve and or endorse any plan or any amendment to a plan or other document in accordance with a provision of a planning scheme or condition in a permit	DPE, DCI, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
-	Power to give written authorisation in accordance with a provision of a planning scheme	DPE, DCI, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 201UAB(1)	Function of providing the Victoria Planning Authority with information relating to any land within municipal district	CDSO, DPE, DCI, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	
s 201UAB(2)	Duty to provide the Victoria Planning Authority with information requested under s 201UAB(1) as soon as possible	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PUP, SO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT 1997			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 518F	Power to issue notice to caravan park regarding emergency management plan if determined that the plan does not comply with the requirements	DPE, GMCD, TLEH, UMEH, EHO, GEHO, PHWO	
s 522(1)	Power to give a compliance notice to a person	DPE, EHO, GMCD, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
s 525(2)	Power to authorise an officer to exercise powers in s 526 (either generally or in a particular case)	Not Delegated	
s 525(4)	Duty to issue identity card to authorised officers	Not Delegated	
s 526(5)	Duty to keep record of entry by authorised officer under s 526	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
s 526A(3)	Function of receiving report of inspection	DPE, GMCD, UMEH, TLEH, EHO, GEHO, PHWO	
s 527	Power to authorise a person to institute proceedings (either generally or in a particular case)	UMEH, GMCD, DPE	

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 11(1)	Power to declare a road by publishing a notice in the Government Gazette	DPE	Obtain consent in circumstances specified in s 11(2)
s 11(8)	Power to name a road or change the name of a road by publishing notice in Government Gazette	DPE	
s 11(9)(b)	Duty to advise Registrar	DPE	
s 11(10)	Duty to inform Secretary to Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning of declaration etc.	DPE	Subject to s 11(10A)
s 11(10A)	Duty to inform Secretary to Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning or nominated person	DPE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 12(2)(b)	Function of providing consent to the Head, Transport for Victoria for the discontinuance of a road or part of a road	DPE	
s 12(10)	Duty to notify of decision made	DPE	Duty of coordinating road authority where it is the discontinuing body Does not apply where an exemption is specified by the regulations or given by the Minister
s 13(1)	Power to fix a boundary of a road by publishing notice in Government Gazette	DCI	Power of coordinating road authority and obtain consent under s 13(3) and s 13(4) as appropriate

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 14(4)	Function of receiving notice from the Head, Transport for Victoria	DCI, MCWPD, UMES, DPE, MCDE, UMTP, PC, PEC	
s 14(7)	Power to appeal against decision of the Head, Transport for Victoria	DCI	
s 15(1)	Power to enter into arrangement with another road authority, utility or a provider of public transport to transfer a road management function of the road authority to the other road authority, utility or provider of public transport	DCI	
s 15(1A)	Power to enter into arrangement with a utility to transfer a road management function of the utility to the road authority	DCI	
s 15(2)	Duty to include details of arrangement in public roads register	UMAP, MCWPD	
s 16(7)	Power to enter into an arrangement under s 15	DCI	
s 16(8)	Duty to enter details of determination in public roads register	UMAP, MCWPD	
s 17(2)	Duty to register public road in public roads register	UMAP, MCWPD	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 17(3)	Power to decide that a road is reasonably required for general public use	MCWPD	Where Council is the coordinating road authority

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 17(3)	Duty to register a road reasonably required for general public use in public roads register	UMAP, MCWPD	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 17(4)	Power to decide that a road is no longer reasonably required for general public use	DCI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 17(4)	Duty to remove road no longer reasonably required for general public use from public roads register	UMAP, MCWPD	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 18(1)	Power to designate ancillary area	DCI, MCWPD, MCDE, DPE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority, and obtain consent in circumstances specified in s 18(2)
s 18(3)	Duty to record designation in public roads register	UMAP, MCWPD	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 19(1)	Duty to keep register of public roads in respect of which it is the coordinating road authority	UMAP, MCWPD	
s 19(4)	Duty to specify details of discontinuance in public roads register	UMAP, MCWPD	
s 19(5)	Duty to ensure public roads register is available for public inspection	UMAP, MCWPD	
s 21	Function of replying to request for information or advice	UMAP, MCWPD	Obtain consent in circumstances specified in s 11(2)
s 22(2)	Function of commenting on proposed direction	DCI	

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 22(4)	Duty to publish a copy or summary of any direction made under s 22 by the Minister in its annual report	DCI	
s 22(5)	Duty to give effect to a direction under s 22	DCI, MCDE, DPE	
s 40(1)	Duty to inspect, maintain and repair a public road	MCS, UMCW	
s 40(5)	Power to inspect, maintain and repair a road which is not a public road	MCS, UMCW	
s 41(1)	Power to determine the standard of construction, inspection, maintenance and repair	DCI, MCWPD, MCS	
s 42(1)	Power to declare a public road as a controlled access road	DCI	Power of coordinating road authority and sch 2 also applies
s 42(2)	Power to amend or revoke declaration by notice published in Government Gazette	DCI	Power of coordinating road authority and sch 2 also applies
s 42A(3)	Duty to consult with Head, Transport for Victoria and Minister for Local Government before road is specified	DCI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority If road is a municipal road or part thereof

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 42A(4)	Power to approve Minister's decision to specify a road as a specified freight road	DCI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority If road is a municipal road or part thereof and where road is to be specified a freight road Note - section 42A (4) provides that if a road or part of a road which is to be a specified freight road is a municipal road, the Minister must obtain the approval of the municipal council which is the co-ordinating road authority before the road or part of the road can be specified to be a specified freight road.
s 48EA	Duty to notify the owner or occupier of land and provider of public transport on which rail infrastructure or rolling stock is located (and any relevant provider of public transport)	DCI, MCWPD, MCS, UMES, TLTI, TLTSO, UMCW, ESC, DPE, MCDE, UMTP	Where Council is the responsible road authority, infrastructure manager or works manager
s 48M(3)	Function of consulting with the relevant authority for purposes of developing guidelines under s 48M	DCI, MCWPD, UMES, DPE, MCDE, UMTP	Note - the section refers to bus stopping points and bus stop infrastructure.
s 49	Power to develop and publish a road management plan	DCI	Subject to the formal adoption by Council of the road management plan.

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 51	Power to determine standards by incorporating the standards in a road management plan	DCI	
s 53(2)	Power to cause notice to be published in Government Gazette of amendment etc of document in road management plan	MCWPD	
s 54(2)	Duty to give notice of proposal to make a road management plan	MCWPD	
s 54(5)	Duty to conduct a review of road management plan at prescribed intervals	MCWPD	
s 54(6)	Power to amend road management plan	Not Delegated	
s 54(7)	Duty to incorporate the amendments into the road management plan	MCWPD	
s 55(1)	Duty to cause notice of road management plan to be published in Government Gazette and newspaper	MCWPD	

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 63(1)	Power to consent to conduct of works on road	MCS, UMDAA, UMCW, WO, MAC, UMES, UMTP, TLTI, TLTSO, AOC, PO, TLDM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 63(2)(e)	Power to conduct or to authorise the conduct of works in, on, under or over a road in an emergency	MCWPD, MCS, UMCW, WO, MAC, UMDAA, TLDM, UMES, UMTP, TLTI, TLTSO	Where Council is the infrastructure manager
s 64(1)	Duty to comply with cl 13 of sch 7	MCWPD, MCS, UMCW, WO	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager Schedule 7 relates to infrastructure and works on roads. Clause 13 of Schedule 7 requires the works manager to give notice the relevant co-ordinating authority of the completion of works.
s 66(1)	Power to consent to structure etc	DCI, MCS	Where Council is the coordinating road authority

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 67(2)	Function of receiving the name & address of the person responsible for distributing the sign or bill	MCS	Where Council is the coordinating road authority The section refers to advertising signs and bills on roads and road infrastructure.
s 67(3)	Power to request information	DCI, MCS	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 68(2)	Power to request information	DCI, MCS	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 71(3)	Power to appoint an authorised officer	DBT, MGS	
s 72	Duty to issue an identity card to each authorised officer	MGS	
s 85	Function of receiving report from authorised officer	MCS	Division 3 of the Act refers to the general powers of Authorised Officers. Section 8 refers specifically to powers of entry.
s 86	Duty to keep register re s 85 matters	DCI	Refers to powers of entry onto land.
s 87(1)	Function of receiving complaints	DCI, MCS	
s 87(2)	Duty to investigate complaint and provide report	DCI, MCS	

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 96	Power to authorise a person for the purpose of instituting legal proceedings	DCI, MCDE, DPE	Note: The approval requirements to institute proceedings in the various courts and tribunals are: For the Magistrates' Court – Group Manager or Manager level; For VCAT planning matters – Group Manager or Director; For VCAT building matters – Group Manager; For other VCAT matters – Director; For the Children's' court – Director; For the County Court – not delegated; For the Supreme Court – not delegated

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 112(2)	Power to recover damages in court	DCI	Note - the section applies if a road authority incurs extraordinary expenses in repairing a road that has been damaged as a result of the passage of extraordinary traffic or excessive mass along the road. Note: The approval requirements to institute proceedings in the various courts and tribunals are: For the Magistrates' Court – Group Manager or Manager level; For VCAT planning matters – Group Manager or Director; For VCAT building matters – Group Manager; For other VCAT matters – Director; For the Children's' court – Director; For the County Court – not delegated; For the Supreme Court – not delegated
s 116	Power to cause or carry out inspection	DCI, MCWPD, MCS	
s 119(2)	Function of consulting with the Head, Transport for Victoria	DCI, MCWPD, MCS	Note - the section refers to VicRoads performing a road management function.
s 120(1)	Power to exercise road management functions on an arterial road (with the consent of the Head, Transport for Victoria)	DCI, MCS	

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s 120(2)	Duty to seek consent of the Head, Transport for Victoria to exercise road management functions before exercising power in s 120(1)	DCI, MCS	
s 121(1)	Power to enter into an agreement in respect of works	DCI, MCS, MAC	
s 122(1)	Power to charge and recover fees	DCI, MCS, MAC	
s 123(1)	Power to charge for any service	DCI, MCS, MAC	Note: a) fees must not be inconsistent with the relevant Regulations. Fees are fixed by Council in the annual budget process; and b) the charge can include costs relating to - supplying a service, product or commodity; or - giving information.
sch 2 cl 2(1)	Power to make a decision in respect of controlled access roads	DCI	
sch 2 cl 3(1)	Duty to make policy about controlled access roads	DCI	
sch 2 cl 3(2)	Power to amend, revoke or substitute policy about controlled access roads	DCI	

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
sch 2 cl 4	Function of receiving details of proposal from the Head, Transport for Victoria	DCI	
sch 2 cl 5	Duty to publish notice of declaration	DCI	
sch 7 cl 7(1)	Duty to give notice to relevant coordinating road authority of proposed installation of non-road infrastructure or related works on a road reserve	MCS, UMCW, WO	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager
sch 7 cl 8(1)	Duty to give notice to any other infrastructure manager or works manager responsible for any non-road infrastructure in the area, that could be affected by any proposed installation of infrastructure or related works on a road or road reserve of any road	ESC, MCWPD, MCS, UMCW, WO	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager
sch 7 cl 9(1)	Duty to comply with request for information from a coordinating road authority, an infrastructure manager or a works manager responsible for existing or proposed infrastructure in relation to the location of any non-road infrastructure and technical advice or assistance in conduct of works	MCS, UMCW, WO	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager responsible for non-road infrastructure
sch 7 cl 9(2)	Duty to give information to another infrastructure manager or works manager where becomes aware any infrastructure or works are not in the location shown on records, appear to be in an unsafe condition or appear to need maintenance	MCS, UMCW, WO	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
sch 7 cl 10(2)	Where Sch 7 cl 10(1) applies, duty to, where possible, conduct appropriate consultation with persons likely to be significantly affected	MCS, UMCW, WO	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager
sch 7 cl 12(2)	Power to direct infrastructure manager or works manager to conduct reinstatement works	MCS, UMCW, WO, AAO, APO	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 12(3)	Power to take measures to ensure reinstatement works are completed	MCS, UMCW, WO, AAO, APO	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 12(4)	Duty to ensure that works are conducted by an appropriately qualified person	MCS, UMCW, WO, AAO, APO	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 12(5)	Power to recover costs	MCS, UMCW, WO, AAO, APO	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 13(1)	Duty to notify relevant coordinating road authority within 7 days that works have been completed, subject to sch 7 cl 13(2)	MCS, UMCW, WO	Where Council is the works manager
sch 7 cl 13(2)	Power to vary notice period	MCS, UMCW, WO	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 13(3)	Duty to ensure works manager has complied with obligation to give notice under sch 7 cl 13(1)	MCS, UMCW, WO	Where Council is the infrastructure manager

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
sch 7 cl 16(1)	Power to consent to proposed works	DCI, DPE, MAC, MCDE, MCWPD, MCS, UMDAA, UMES, UMTF, TLTI, TLTSO, AOC, PO, TLDM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 16(4)	Duty to consult	DCI, DPE, MAC, MCDE, MCWPD, MCS, UMDAA, DE, UMES, UMTF, TLTI, TLTSO, AOC, PO, TLDM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority, responsible authority or infrastructure manager
sch 7 cl 16(5)	Power to consent to proposed works	DCI, DPE, MAC, MCDE, MCWPD, MCS, UMDAA, UMES, UMTF, TLTI, TLTSO, AOC, PO, TLDM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
sch 7 cl 16(6)	Power to set reasonable conditions on consent	DCI, DPE, MAC, MCDE, MCWPD, MCS, UMDAA, UMES, UMTP, TLTI, TLTSO, AOC, PO, TLDM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 16(8)	Power to include consents and conditions	DCI, DPE, MAC, MCDE, MCWPD, MCS, UMDAA, UMES, UMTP, TLTI, TLTSO, AOC, PO, TLDM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 17(2)	Power to refuse to give consent and duty to give reasons for refusal	DCI, DPE, MAC, MCDE, MCWPD, MCS, UMDAA, UMES, UMTP, TLTI, TLTSO, AOC, PO, TLDM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 18(1)	Power to enter into an agreement	DCI, DPE, MAC, MCDE, MCWPD, MCS	Where Council is the coordinating road authority

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
sch 7 cl 19(1)	Power to give notice requiring rectification of works	DCI, DPE, MAC, MCDE, MCWPD, MCS, UMDAA, UMES, UMTF, TLTI, TLTSO, AOC, PO, TLDM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 19(2) & (3)	Power to conduct the rectification works or engage a person to conduct the rectification works and power to recover costs incurred	DCI, MCWPD, MCS	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 20(1)	Power to require removal, relocation, replacement or upgrade of existing non-road infrastructure	DCI, MCWPD, MCS, MAC	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7A cl 2	Power to cause street lights to be installed on roads	DCI, DPE, MCWPD, MCDE, STO, UMES, UMTF, STE, TE, TLTI, TLTSO, PLSO	Power of responsible road authority where it is the coordinating road authority or responsible road authority in respect of the road
sch 7A cl 3(1)(d)	Duty to pay installation and operation costs of street lighting - where road is not an arterial road	DCI, DPE, MCWPD, MCDE, STO, UMES, UMTF, STE, TE, TLTI, TLTSO, PLSO	Where Council is the responsible road authority

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
sch 7A cl 3(1)(e)	Duty to pay installation and operation costs of street lighting – where road is a service road on an arterial road and adjacent areas	DCI, DPE, MCWPD, MCDE, STO, UMES, UMP, STE, TE, TLTI, TLTSO, PLSO	Where Council is the responsible road authority
sch 7A cl (3)(1)(f)	Duty to pay installation and percentage of operation costs of street lighting – for arterial roads in accordance with cls 3(2) and 4	DCI, DPE, MCWPD, MCDE, STO, UMES, UMP, STE, TE, TLTI, TLTSO, PLSO	Duty of Council as responsible road authority that installed the light (re: installation costs) and where Council is relevant municipal council (re: operating costs)

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT REGULATIONS 2015			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS
r 6	Function of receiving notice, under s 19(1)(c) of the Act, from a planning authority of its preparation of an amendment to a planning scheme	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	Where Council is not the planning authority and the amendment affects land within its municipal district; or Where the amendment will amend the planning scheme to designate Council as an acquiring authority.
r 21	Power of responsible authority to require a permit applicant to verify information (by statutory declaration or other written confirmation satisfactory to the responsible authority) in an application for a permit or to amend a permit or any information provided under s 54 of the Act	CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT REGULATIONS 2015			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS
r 25(a)	Duty to make copy of matter considered under s 60(1A)(g) in accordance with the public availability requirements	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	Where Council is the responsible authority
r 25(b)	Function of receiving a copy of any document considered under s 60(1A)(g) by the responsible authority and duty to make the document available in accordance with the public availability requirements	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	Where Council is not the responsible authority but the relevant land is within Council's municipal district

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT REGULATIONS 2015			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS
r 42	Function of receiving notice under s 96C(1)(c) of the Act from a planning authority of its preparation of a combined application for an amendment to a planning scheme and notice of a permit application	CCIAS, CDSO, DPE, GMCD, MCDE, PC, PEC, PEO, PUP, SO, SPEO, PSDO, PSP, SSP, StUP, SUP, UMSP, UMUP, UP, UPFT, PURA	Where Council is not the planning authority and the amendment affects land within Council's municipal district; or Where the amendment will amend the planning scheme to designate Council as an acquiring authority.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT (FEES) REGULATIONS 2016			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS
r 19	Power to waive or rebate a fee relating to an amendment of a planning scheme	DPE, GMCD, MCDE	
r 20	Power to waive or rebate a fee other than a fee relating to an amendment to a planning scheme	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, UMUP, UMSP	
r 21	Duty to record matters taken into account and which formed the basis of a decision to waive or rebate a fee under r19 or 20	DPE, GMCD, MCDE, UMUP, UMSP	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
r 7	Power to enter into a written agreement with a caravan park owner	DPE, GMCD, UMEH	
r 10	Function of receiving application for registration	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 11	Function of receiving application for renewal of registration	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 12(1)	Duty to grant the registration if satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 12(1)	Power to refuse to grant the registration if not satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	TLEH, UMEH	
r 12(2)	Duty to renew the registration if satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 12(2)	Power to refuse to renew the registration if not satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	TLEH, UMEH	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
r 12(3)	Duty to have regard to matters in determining an application for registration or an application for renewal of registration	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 12(4) & (5)	Duty to issue certificate of registration	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, CCIAS, CDSO, GEHO, PHWO, SCDSO, TLCDAS	
r 14(1)	Function of receiving notice of transfer of ownership	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 14(3)	Power to determine where notice of transfer is displayed	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 15(1)	Duty to transfer registration to new caravan park owner	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
r 15(2)	Duty to issue a certificate of transfer of registration	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, CCIAS, CDSO, GEHO, PHWO, SCDSO, TLC DAS,	
r 15(3)	Power to determine where certificate of transfer of registration is displayed	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 16(1)	Power to determine the fee to accompany applications for registration or applications for renewal of registration	Not Delegated	
r 17	Duty to keep register of caravan parks	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 21(1)	Duty to notify a caravan park owner of the relevant emergency services agencies for the caravan park, on the request of the caravan park owner	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 21(2)	Duty to consult with relevant emergency services agencies	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
r 22	Power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display a copy of emergency procedures	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 23	Power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display copy of public emergency warnings	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 24(2)	Power to consult with relevant floodplain management authority	PC, PEC, TLEH, UMEH	
r 26(b)(i)	Power to approve system for the discharge of sewage and wastewater from a movable dwelling	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 38	Function of receiving notice of proposed installation of unregistrable movable dwelling or rigid annexe	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 38(b)	Power to require notice of proposal to install unregistrable movable dwelling or rigid annexe	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 39(3)	Function of receiving installation certificate	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2024			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
r 45(3)	Power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display name and telephone number of an emergency contact person	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	
r 45(5)	Power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display the certificate of registration or certificate of renewal of registration, the plan of the caravan park and a copy of the caravan park rules	EHO, TLEH, UMEH, GEHO, PHWO	

ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
r 8(1)	Duty to conduct reviews of road management plan	DCI, MCWPD	
r 9(2)	Duty to produce written report of review of road management plan and make report available	DCI, MCWPD	
r 9(3)	Duty to give notice where road management review is completed and no amendments will be made (or no amendments for which notice is required)	DCI, MCWPD	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
r 10	Duty to give notice of amendment which relates to standard of construction, inspection, maintenance or repair under s 41 of the Act	DCI, MCWPD	
r 13(1)	Duty to publish notice of amendments to road management plan	UMAP, MCWPD	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
r 13(3)	Duty to record on road management plan the substance and date of effect of amendment	UMAP, MCWPD	
r 16(3)	Power to issue permit	DCI, DPE, MCWPD, MCDE, MCS, MAC, UMDAA, UMES, UMTP, TLTI, TLTSO, AOC, PO, TLDM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority

ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
r 18(1)	Power to give written consent re damage to road	DCI, MCS	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
r 23(2)	Power to make submission to Tribunal	DCI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
r 23(4)	Power to charge a fee for application under s 66(1) Road Management Act	DCI, MCS	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
r 25(1)	Power to remove objects, refuse, rubbish or other material deposited or left on road	DCI, MOSE, MCS	Where Council is the responsible road authority
r 25(2)	Power to sell or dispose of things removed from road or part of road (after first complying with regulation 25(3))	DCI, MOSE, MCS	Where Council is the responsible road authority
r 25(5)	Power to recover in the Magistrates' Court, expenses from person responsible	DCI, MOSE, MCS	

ROAD MANAGEMENT (WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE) REGULATIONS 2015			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
r 15	Power to exempt a person from requirement under cl 13(1) of sch 7 of the Act to give notice as to the completion of those works	DCI, MCS	Where Council is the coordinating road authority and where consent given under s 63(1) of the Act
r 22(2)	Power to waive whole or part of fee in certain circumstances	DCI, MCS, UMDAA	Where Council is the coordinating road authority



Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation
(Planning and Environment Act 1987 only)

Planning Officers – February 2026

S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)

Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation

In this instrument 'officer' means

- Aileen Chin
- Alex Osborne
- Anna Fraser
- Anthea Whitehead
- Antoinette Boxall
- Ariadne Hasiotis
- Caleb Cootes
- Dee Erdogan
- Denise Turner
- Devlin Morton
- Diahnn McIntosh
- Edward (Ned) Dumaresq
- Ekta Shah
- Emily Williams
- Esha Rahman
- Evan Strouss
- Gina Settle
- Graeme Linsell
- Houston Watt
- Jessica Henwood-White
- Jessica Weymouth
- Karmen Wheeler
- Kirmin Sidhu
- Kosta Vassilacopoulos
- Lachlan McGowan
- Lawson Peters
- Leanne Stockley
- Lucas Wearne
- Mark Hughes
- Michelle Rowe
- Niall O'Brien
- Phi Tran
- Phil Priest
- Rachel Clarke
- Renee Wilson
- Robert Wallis
- Rosie Ivers
- Ryan Hay
- Vicki Lu
- Vita Galante
- Wyatt Griffiths

S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)

By this instrument of appointment and authorisation Merri-bek City Council –

1. under section 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* authorises the officers to carry out the duties or functions and to exercise the powers of an authorised officer under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*; and
2. under section 313 of the *Local Government Act 2020* authorises the officer generally to institute proceedings for offences against the Acts and regulations described in this instrument.

It is declared that this instrument –

- comes into force immediately upon its execution;
- remains in force until varied or revoked.

This instrument is authorised by a resolution of the Merri-bek City Council on 11 February 2026.

The COMMON SEAL of)
MERRI-BEK CITY COUNCIL)
was affixed on ____ February 2026)
with the authority of the Council:)

.....
Acting Chief Executive Officer, Sue Vujcevic

.....
Mayor, Councillor Nat Abboud

7.8 CONTRACT AWARD: RFT-2025-56 - ROAD RECONSTRUCTION - NORTHUMBERLAND ROAD PASCOE VALE (ARNDT ROAD TO RHODES PARADE)

Acting Director City Infrastructure, Greg Rodwell

Capital Works Planning and Delivery

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to:
 - a) Make a formal offer to **ADP Constructions Pty Ltd and ACN of 118 588 097 (Contractor)** to award to the Contractor contract **RFT-2025-56 Road Reconstruction Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale (Arndt Road to Rhodes Parade) (Contract)** on the following terms and otherwise subject to and in accordance with paragraph 1(b) of this Resolution:
 - i. For total contract value is \$1,500,278.00 (excl. GST), with the fixed lump sum amount is \$1,298,000.00 (excl. GST) and provisional sum is \$202,278.00 (excl. GST).
 - b) Negotiate and finalise the terms of the Contract between Council and the Contractor provided that:
 - i. the terms specified in paragraph 1(a) of this Resolution shall not be altered without a further Resolution of Council; and
 - ii. other than terms referred to in paragraph 1(a) of this Resolution, the terms of the Contract are acceptable to the Chief Executive Officer;
2. Conditional on acceptance of the Contract by the Contractor in accordance with the terms of this Resolution:
 - a) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to do all things necessary to execute the Contract and any required documentation for the Contract; and
 - b) Advises all tenderers of Council's decision in relation to the Contract.
 - c) Refers the budget savings of \$757,571 to the quarterly review process.

REPORT

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to recommend the award of the Road Reconstruction of Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale (Arndt Road to Rhodes Parade). This project has been included in the 2025–2026 Capital Works Program under the Roads and Carparks Program. The project forms part of Council's current Development Contributions Plan (DCP).

The scope of works includes the installation of underground drainage pipes and associated pits, reconstruction of the existing concrete kerb and channel, vehicle crossings, selected footpaths, construction of rain garden, raised pavement crossing, and the installation of concrete separators for the bike lane.

The proposed design has undergone extensive flood modelling to ensure a reduction in overall flood risk within the area and to address potential flooding issues. In addition, the design was subject to a Road Safety Audit (RSA) to identify potential safety risks for all road users. Items identified in the audit and community feedback have been incorporated and addressed in the final design to improve pedestrian safety and vehicle movements. This includes a raised crossing over Lake Avenue at Northumberland Road and moving concrete barriers for the bike lane farther back from the Pascoe Vale Girls' College driveway entrance on Northumberland Road to improve turning movements in and out of the driveway.

The operation of this road will be reviewed by the Transport Planning Unit 12 months post construction for road safety and access, including engagement with the local community.

Following the tender evaluation process, ADP Constructions Pty Ltd has been identified as the preferred tenderer based on the strength of their submission. Subject to contract award on 11 February 2026, the contractor has confirmed readiness to commence the construction on 4th May 2026, following the completion of the road reconstruction of Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale (Fawkner Road to Longview Street).

ADP Constructions Pty Ltd has successfully delivered projects of similar scale and complexity for Merri-bek and other councils, with strong performance outcomes. The construction is expected to be completed over a six-month period by October 2026 (weather permitting). The works will be delivered in two distinct sections to minimise disruption to residents and local traffic.

The tender complies with section 109(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Previous Council Decisions

Glenroy to Coburg Bike Route Survey Outcome – 12 June 2024

That Council:

1. *Endorses the community-preferred current route (via Kent Road and Derby Street) as the Glenroy to Coburg bike route, without any new infrastructure commitments.*
2. *Confirms the use of the 2024/25 Kent Road trial outcome budget to:*
 - a) *resurface Kent Road between Cornwall Road and Cumberland Road;*
 - b) *install a raised zebra pedestrian crossing outside the Pascoe Vale Health Medical Centre; and if possible with the funding available; and*
 - c) *install lighting in the KW Joyce Reserve shared user path linking Northumberland Road to Kent Road to make it more practical for bike riders at night.*
3. *Writes to Department of Transport and Planning in response to community feedback to request safe cycling infrastructure along Pascoe Street and Boundary Road to support east west bike movements along the state's Strategic Cycling Corridor.*
4. *Upgrades wayfinding signage and linemarking to support the Pascoe Vale Shimmy Route as it provides an important local connection to many destinations including the Pascoe Vale Community Centre.*
5. *Continues to monitor speed of vehicles and compliance with the new 40 km/h limit along the endorsed Glenroy to Coburg route as well as the Pascoe Vale Shimmy Route, and where 85th percentile speeds are not below 40 km/h, design and seek funding opportunities for infrastructure to support the 40 km/h speed limit to improve safety of people riding bikes on these routes, including particular consideration of speed humps in Irvine Street between O'Hea Street and Gaffney Street.*
6. *Approves construction of speed humps on all approaches to the intersection of Olive Grove and Sylvan Grove following repeat crash reports and discussions at the community drop in sessions, as part of annual road safety traffic management works in 2024/25 or 2025/26 as funds allow.*

7. *Receives a report on a comprehensive plan for a safe, direct and comfortable bike network between Glenroy and Coburg as part of the Streets for People Plan being prepared in the 2024/25 Financial Year.*

Petition – Save the Pascoe Vale Bike Lanes – 10 August 2022

That Council:

1. *Receives the petition with 392 signatures requesting Council save the Pascoe Vale bike lanes on Kent and Northumberland Roads.*
2. *Refers the petition requesting Council save the Pascoe Vale bike lanes on Kent and Northumberland Roads, to the Director City Infrastructure for consideration and response.*

Safe Movement of Pedestrians and Cyclists – Outcomes of 12-month trials – 10 August 2022

That Council:

1. *Concludes the trials on:*
 - a) *The shared zones on Victoria Street and Albert Street in Brunswick East*
 - b) *The separated bike lanes on Dawson Street, Brunswick*
 - c) *The bike lanes on Albion Street, Brunswick*
 - d) *The separate bike lane on Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale.*
- ...
6. *Notes that despite the community concerns raised regarding the Northumberland Road bike lane, the community is using these bike lanes and so it concludes the trial period and makes permanent the Northumberland Road bike lane with the following amendments:*
 - a) *Redesign of the intersection of Northumberland Road and Pascoe Street in line with the plans shown Attachment 6.*

Safe Movement of Pedestrians and Cyclists – COVID-19 Response – 8 July 2020

That Council:

4. *Approves the following projects as described in this report to be delivered as soon as possible, subject to external/grant funding being secured:*
 - vi. *Pop up separated bicycle lanes on Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale between Rhodes Parade and the KW Joyce Reserve shared path (\$66,000);*

1. Policy Context

This report is in keeping with Council's commitment to accountability and sound financial management. It also addresses the requirement under section 109(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* which requires Council to adhere to its Procurement Policy when entering into contracts for the purchasing of goods or services, or the carrying out of works. Council adopted the Procurement Policy on 11 June 2025 which sets the threshold for conducting a public tender for goods, services and works where once-off or ongoing cumulative spend over the life of the contract is expected to exceed \$350,000 (incl GST).

2. Background

Northumberland Road between Rhodes Parade and KW Joyce Reserve was identified as a gap between the shared path that runs from Glenroy Road south along Cardinal Road and then east along the northern side of Rhodes Parade. Providing a protected bike lane along this section of Northumberland Road completed the gap in the network, making it safer for people riding between key activity centres and destinations along the way. Following a 12-month trial Council, in August 2022, resolved to make the bike lane on Northumberland Road permanent, with some design changes based on community feedback. A number of alternative alignments were explored at this time with the Northumberland Road bike lane alignment providing the best outcome. Community engagement on Northumberland Road was again undertaken as part of the Glenroy to Coburg bike route project in March to April 2024. Community feedback was considered and presented to Council for decision in June 2024, the Council decision was to make no changes to the Northumberland Road bike lanes.

The proposed design for the road reconstruction project has undergone extensive flood modelling to ensure a reduction in overall flood risk within the area and to address potential flooding issues. In addition, the design was subject to a Road Safety Audit (RSA) to identify potential safety risks for all road users. Items identified in the audit and community feedback have been incorporated and addressed in the final design to improve pedestrian safety and vehicle movements. This includes a raised crossing over Lake Avenue at Northumberland Road and moving concrete barriers for the bike lane farther back from the Pascoe Vale Girls' College driveway entrance on Northumberland Road to improve turning movements in and out of the driveway.

The operation of this road will be reviewed by the Transport Planning Unit 12 months post construction for road safety and access, including engagement with the local community.

The purpose of the report is to award a tender to a suitably qualified contractor to undertake the Road Reconstruction of Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale (Arndt Road to Rhodes Parade) as per the detailed drawings and specifications.

The tender was advertised via Council Procurement portal on 15 November 2025, inviting tenderers via the e-tender portal from suitably experienced contractors to undertake the works.

Tender was released on 15 November 2025 and closed at 3pm on Tuesday 9 December 2025, with tenders received from following 6 contractors. Five tenderers were deemed conforming, and one tenderer was deemed non-compliant.

Tenderers Name	ABN
ADP CONSTRUCTIONS PTY LTD	46 118 588 097
MERLO CIVIL CONSTRUCTIONS PTY LTD	18 150 942 920
GP BLUESTONE PTY LTD	64 604 987 519
KAIZEN CIVIL PTY LTD	18 619 423 068
MJ CONSTRUCTION GROUP PTY LTD	56 092 432 730
PRESTA CONSTRUCTION PTY LTD	73 675 131 870

The conforming tender submissions were evaluated in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy, at the time of tendering.

The following is a breakdown of the Evaluation Criteria applicable to this procurement project.

Criteria	Weighting
Cost	45%
Works Program & Methodology	7%

Criteria	Weighting
Capability	5%
Experience & Past Performance	4%
Capacity	4%
Complete Project Management Plan	10%
Customer Service	7%
Social Sustainability	5%
Economic Sustainability	4%
Environmental Sustainability	4%
Environmental Sustainability Construction Options	5%
Total	100%

The membership of the tender evaluation panel was as follows.

Title and/or company	Project Manager/ Generalist or Nominated Speciality	Full Voting / Advisory Member
Principal Project Manager	Project Manager (Chair)	Full
Acting Unit Manager Engineering Services	Generalist	Full
Project Engineer Road and Drainage	Generalist	Full
Glenroy Movement and Place Officer	Generalist	Full
Senior Procurement Partner	Procurement	Advisory

Further details of tender evaluation are shown in the Tender Recommendation Report (**Confidential Attachment 1**).

3. Issues

Collaboration

Note that section 109(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires that any report to the Council that recommends entering into a procurement agreement must include information in relation to any opportunities for collaboration with other councils or public bodies which may be available.

Under this contract there are no opportunities to collaborate with other Councils or public bodies because it is a local stand-alone road re-construction and drainage project for which there is a healthy local market of contractors.

Interviews

Interview was held with the preferred contractor on 13 January 2026.

Social Implications

ADP Constructions Pty Ltd have implemented a Social Procurement Policy, along with Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Modern Slavery Policies. These policies reflect the company's commitment to fostering a diverse and inclusive workforce by employing individuals from varied social, political, and cultural backgrounds.

Local Implications

ADP Constructions Pty Ltd is a local contractor in Pasco Vale within Merri-bek City Council. Demonstrating a strong commitment to supporting the local economy, ADP Constructions Pty Ltd regularly engages local suppliers in its operations and has identified five local businesses to be involved in the upcoming Road reconstruction project. Moreover, ADP Constructions Pty Ltd has six employees that reside in the Merri-bek area.

Environmental Implications

ADP Constructions Pty Ltd The proposal delivers positive environmental outcomes by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, waste, and reliance on virgin materials through the use of recycled concrete and asphalt, achieving up to 65% reductions in embodied CO₂. All excavated materials are diverted to recycling facilities, supporting strong circular economy practices and minimising landfill. Environmental impacts are further reduced through sustainable procurement, supplier engagement, solar-powered operations, fuel-use monitoring, and the elimination of single-use plastics. These measures are supported by certified and independently audited environmental, safety, and quality management systems, ensuring compliance with Council policies and consistent, measurable environmental performance.

Human Rights Consideration

The implications of this report have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

4. Consultation / Recommendation from Management

Engineering Services Unit as the leading service unit for the design of this project consulted Transport Planning Unit, Sustainable Built Environment, Urban Forest Unit, and Open Space Design and Development Unit.

Community consultation was carried out in July 2025 via a letter drop to property owners and residents, along Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale (Arndt Road to Rhodes Parade). Few feedback was received, and their feedback has been carefully considered in the final road design. Moreover, a consultation with the school principal of Pascoe Vale Girls Secondary College, and they expressed their support for the proposed works. A Road Safety Audit was conducted to verify the safety of the design.

In considering community feedback and the Road Safety Audit, two changes to the design were made. First was improving the pedestrian safety at the Lake Avenue intersection with Northumberland Road. A raised crossing will be provided to make the crossing safer, slowing vehicles at the approach of the intersection. The second change was to move the bike lane barriers farther back at the driveway entrance of Pascoe Vale Girls' College on Northumberland Road. This was done to improve the turning movement for vehicles entering and exiting the driveway.

Prior to the commencement of construction, further notifications will be issued to the community through another letter drop by both the Contractor and Council to ensure clear communication and awareness.

5. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

One conflict of interest (professional relationship) was declared by a voting member of the evaluation panel. This was assessed, in alignment with the Procurement Evaluation and Probity Plan and triaged accordingly.

6. Financial and Resources Implications

A total budget of \$2,332,863.00 has been allocated in Council Capital Works Program for the financial year of 2025/26 for the two projects, the Road Reconstruction Works of Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale (Arndt Road to Crowley Court) and the Road Reconstruction Works of Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale (Crowley Court to Rhodes Parade).

In some cases, there will be contract variations required due to latent conditions outside of Council's and Contractor's control. In these instances, the delegated Council representative will have the authority to approve variations up to 10% of the value of the contract.

The table below shows the breakdown of the 2025/26 budget for the entire works.

Project Name (Roads Reconstruction)	Allocated Budget (Excluding GST)
Road Reconstruction Works of Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale (Arndt Road to Crowley Court)	\$1,731,878.00
Road Reconstruction Works of Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale (Crowley Court to Rhodes Parade).	\$600,985.00
Total Budget	\$2,332,863.00
Less	
Road Reconstruction Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale (Arndt Road to Rhodes Parade)	\$1,500,278.00
Provision for latent conditions or unforeseen costs	\$75,014.00
Savings to be referred to quarterly forecast process	\$757,571.00

7. Implementation and Timeline

It is proposed that the CEO be authorised to do all things necessary to execute the contract/s and any other required documentation.

The contracts will commence as soon as possible following Council endorsement and Planning Permit issuance.

Construction works are planned to commence in early May 2026 immediately after completion of roadworks on Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale (Fawkner Road to Longview Street), and expected to complete in October 2026.

Attachment/s

- 1 CONFIDENTIAL: RFT-2025-56 Tender Recommendation Report - Road Reconstruction at Northumberland Road Pascoe Vale D26/16738

Pursuant to section 3(1)(g)(ii) of the Local Government Act 2020 this attachment has been designated as confidential because it relates to private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

8.1 VENUES FOR COUNCILLOR WORKSHOPS

Cr Sue Bolton

At its meeting on 10 December 2025, Council deferred consideration of this Notice of Motion to allow further consideration.

Motion

That Council holds all Councillor workshops at locations in Melbourne, and preferably locations in Merri-bek.

1. Background

Cr Bolton's background:

Merri-bek Council usually holds a councillor workshop each year for budget and other planning. The workshop involves councillors and the senior council managers, including the CEO.

There has been a tradition at the Merri-bek Council to hold these councillor workshops at conference venues outside Melbourne. Usually the councillors and council managers stay for a whole weekend, especially as the locations are usually a long distance from Melbourne.

There is no practical reason for holding these workshops outside Melbourne, other than to hold them in a more pleasant surroundings. There are a couple of reasons why these workshops should be held at a Melbourne location and preferably a Merri-bek location:

- We are in a cost-of-living crisis. Merri-bek should be leading by example and not spending on such conference venues.
- Holding the workshops in Melbourne, and preferably Merri-bek, makes it easier for councillors to support community activities because there wouldn't be so much time spent travelling to the workshops.

2. Policy Context

Officer's comments:

The annual strategic workshop for Councillors, focused on the annual budget and Council Plan, is typically the only Councillor workshop conducted outside Melbourne and held over a weekend. While no formal decisions are made during this workshop, it serves as a platform for briefings and discussions on key topics.

3. Financial Implications

Officer's comments:

The annual strategic workshop for Councillors held either within Melbourne, locally or outside Melbourne will generally incur similar costs for catering and venue staffing.

However, workshops held offsite, typically at a conference venue, may include additional accommodation expenses.

4. Resources Implications

Officer's comments:

Hosting an annual workshop at a Council venue eliminates external hire fees but requires additional staff at weekend penalty rates.

External venues, local or outside Melbourne, shift expenses to accommodation and travel while reducing some staff overtime.

8.2 COUNCIL SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY DURING EXTREME HEAT

Cr Sue Bolton

Motion

That Council:

1. Notes that Merri-bek's libraries and aquatic centres, outdoor pools and Maternal and Child Health Centres are relied on as public venues to provide cool spaces during extreme heat.
2. Notes that the increasing numbers of extreme heat events, means that there is a need for more community venues that provide cool centres that are open to all community members.
3. Recognises that lack of access to cool spaces is a human rights issues with higher death rates on extreme days meaning that this is a life and death issue for many people, especially people from a range of vulnerable communities such as seniors, people with disabilities, First Nations people, young parents with young children and migrant communities.
4. Receives a report which investigates:
 - a) potential additional community centres such as Neighbourhood Houses which could be cool centres to offer hot day activities in a cool environment. Such centres may need to be funded to install passive cooling such as a misting system and would be open to all community members.
 - b) how to make Merri-bek libraries and other Council venues more suitable to be cool spaces to promote to the community.
5. Undertakes some targeted community consultation about what the community needs in order to deal with extreme heat. Such consultation could target seniors groups, domestic violence services, people with disabilities, migrant communities, homeless people, young parents with small children and other community organisations as well as open community consultation.
6. Consider options for a cool space in Merri-bek such as CB Smith Reserve Fawkner where there are a number of Council facilities in close proximity to each other such as the Fawkner Leisure Centre, the Fawkner Library, the Fawkner Community Hall, Fawkner Community and CB Smith Sport Pavillion as well as a park.
7. Considers a budget allocation in the 2026-27 Council budget for community initiatives to assist community centres such as neighbourhood houses to provide cool spaces for the community during extreme heat as well as targeted upgrades to make Council facilities able to be used as cool spaces.
8. Approaches the State Government about the potential for joint council and state government funding for such initiatives.

1. Background

Cr Bolton's background:

27 January was an extreme heat day across south-eastern Australia, including Melbourne. Parts of Melbourne reached over 44 degrees Celsius.

Many alerts from hospitals and police went out to the community that they expected a high number of deaths because of the extreme heat.

In January 2009, the Chief Health Officer reported that there were an estimated 374 excess deaths in Victoria during the heatwave.

In January 2014, the Chief Health Officer reported that there were an estimated 167 excess deaths in Victoria during the heatwave.

<https://www.health.vic.gov.au/environmental-health/research-and-reports-extreme-heat-and-heatwaves>

While there will always be individual action and neighbours or community members helping other members of their community, there is a need for much more local council and state government investment in helping communities to survive and adapt for extreme heat.

It isn't widely known that heatwaves are the biggest extreme weather killer, therefore there is not much public pressure on governments and councils to plan out how they can support the community.

Monash University researchers estimate that heatwaves caused 1,009 deaths in Australia from 2016 to 2019.

We are still in a situation where governments and people rely on a single form of climate adaptation for extreme heat. The only form of adaptation that is offered is for people to lock themselves in their homes with air conditioning.

Air conditioning is part of the solution, but it shouldn't be relied on as the only solution.

Air conditioning at home can be unaffordable, break down or not work because of electricity blackouts.

There is still a reliance by governments on people having air conditioning at home or accessing commercial and profit-driven operations such as shopping centres, cinemas and pubs.

Many people including homeless people, young people of colour and First Nations people report being moved on from shopping centres and having altercations with heat-stressed security guards and police. poor".

Relying on people locking themselves inside their air-conditioned houses can also be problematic. It can lead to increased social isolation and also result in the terrifying situation of victims of domestic violence being locked in houses with violent partners.

There have been experiments with cooling centres in the United States and by Blacktown Council in Sydney. The Cooling Centre in Blacktown found that people were not comfortable visiting or staying in cool centres.

However, there is still a need for councils and governments to support public cool spaces, as long as they are appropriate and include activities that are likely to attract people.

The Blacktown trial of a Cooling Centre might not have worked, but there is a need to examine why it didn't work to understand other ways that public cool spaces could work.

Currently, Merri-bek's main options for people to cool down are its libraries, Aquatic and Leisure Centres and outdoor pools. But there is a need for more to be done, especially as there have been recent days when the air conditioning in the libraries has broken down, resulting in the temperature being 30 degrees inside some Merri-bek libraries.

Councils and governments could consider funding Neighbourhood Houses and other community groups/spaces to organise activities in a cool space.

Some neighbourhood houses might be able to provide hot day activities in air conditioned spaces. They could also be funded for passive cooling such as a misting system so that people can keep cool in the outdoors such as gardens or parks that are connected to neighbourhood houses.

Where neighbourhood houses have a close connection with their local community, they could be very effective in providing relief from the heat.

Such a project would probably need to be funded by State Government as well as councils.

There could be other community centres and gathering places which could also be supported to be refuges for people escaping the heat. Preston Markets is another public space that uses a misting system to keep people cool on hot days.

Currently, the City of Melbourne is funding five community organisations across the city to operate as Cool Places during severe or extreme heatwaves in Melbourne. The Cool Places are open to all community members and residents, offering air-conditioned spaces, snacks, drinks and activities. Everyone welcome. The organisations that they are funding are Carlton Neighbourhood and Learning Centre, Kensington Neighbourhood House, Salvation Army Project, West Melbourne Baptist Church and Community Centre, The Venny (Kensington Adventure Playground)

Merri-bek needs consider funding and support for additional community venues that can provide a cool space during extreme heat.

Helping the community cope with extreme heat is a human rights issue.

Merri-bek's Human Rights Policy states that "the Human Rights Policy aims to address health inequities which result from the unfair and avoidable differences in health outcomes and life expectancy across groups in society."

There needs to be a recognition that there needs to be community cool spaces. People being locked away in their homes with or without air conditioning could lead to disastrous outcomes for some people. And homeless people don't have homes to access air conditioning and often get evicted from privately owned community spaces such as shopping centres.

2. Policy Context

Officer's comments:

Council has an Extreme Heat Plan which is a sub-plan of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan. An associated Action Plan outlines Councils operational response to extreme heat and is updated annually. Extreme Heat is identified as a high risk in the municipality via the Community Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA), given its likelihood and potential consequences.

Council has a number of other plans that contribute to reducing the impact of extreme heat on the community, including the Urban Heat Island Effect Action Plan 2016-2026; the Urban Forest Strategy 2017-2027; Climate Risk Strategy, and Climate Risk Foundational Action Plan 2023-2025.

Council considered a report at its November 2023 meeting that outlined the facilities and supports available to the community during extreme heat events and the various ways in which Council supports the community.

3. Financial Implications

Officer's comments:

A future report on this notice of motion and some targeted community consultation can be completed within existing budgets.

Further work will be required to determine the feasibility and implications of a budget allocation for Councillor consideration in the 2026-27 budget for funding to support community initiatives to assist community centres such as neighbourhood houses to provide cool spaces for the community during extreme heat and to improve existing Council facilities.

4. Resources Implications

Officer's comments:

Responding to this Notice of Motion can be undertaken within existing resource allocations.

8.3 SYDNEY ROAD

Cr Adam Pulford

Motion

That Council receives a report to its April 2026 Council Meeting exploring options for how Council can strengthen its advocacy on making Sydney Road safer, greener and more accessible for everyone, including options for:

1. Collecting data from local residents, patrons and traders on:
 - a) What changes people want to see along Sydney Road to make it safer, greener and a better experience;
 - b) Experiences of how accessible Sydney Road is for them;
 - c) Who is visiting local shops, cafes, bars and restaurants and the proportion of local residents and visitors from outside Merri-bek;
 - d) Who would visit Sydney Road more if it were safer, greener and more accessible;
 - e) How customers/patrons are getting to/from their destination on Sydney Road; and
 - f) Any other relevant questions as deemed by Council Officers.
2. Completing analysis on current availability and usage of car parks, including:
 - a) How much parking is currently along Sydney Road;
 - b) How much parking is currently within walking distance to Sydney Road; and
 - c) Any other relevant factors to consider on parking.
3. Resourcing options to ensure advocating for a safer, greener and more accessible Sydney Road remains a priority for Council.

1. Background

Cr Pulford's background:

Sydney Road runs from the north to the south of our city, forming the backbone of the Merri-bek community. So much of our community's activity happens along Sydney Road, with local residents frequenting their favourite cafes, bars, restaurants and shops. It is also a destination for people from beyond our city.

While Sydney Road holds a special place in our hearts, there is a lot that could be done to make visiting or travelling along Sydney Road a better experience for everyone. Walking or riding down Sydney Road can be dangerous, and there aren't many trees to provide shade or cooling. Sydney Road also has no accessible tram stops along the number 19 tram route from Brunswick Road up to Bakers Road in Coburg North – preventing people in wheelchairs or with mobility aids and parents with prams from using the tram to get where they need to go.

Recently Merri-bek Council has been making improvements along Sydney Road. We've purchased two blocks of land to turn into parks – one, the Michelle Guglielmo Park, opened near Brunswick Town Hall in 2024, and a new park near Hope Street will soon be constructed. These new parks provide open space for people to relax in, as well as more trees and greenery, providing shade to help cool the area and habitat for local wildlife. Council has also decluttered Sydney Road by removing redundant signs and other items from along the footpaths.

However, Sydney Road is a Victorian Government controlled road, meaning Merri-bek Council is limited in our ability to make changes along the strip.

In the coming years, the Victorian Government plans to remove the Brunswick level crossings for the Upfield train line. While this construction happens, the Upfield train will stop operating and the Upfield shared path will close. This means we will lose both the key mode of accessible public transport and key safe cycling route for our community during this time.

Local residents have been advocating to the Victorian Government for years for changes to Sydney Road to make it safer and greener for everyone using it, whether they're walking, riding, using public transport or driving. This includes installing accessible tram stops along Sydney Road so that everybody can use the number 19 tram.

These changes would make Sydney Road a better experience for everyone and, if the government acts now before the level crossing removals, it will ensure our community has accessible and safe public and active transport options while the Upfield train doesn't operate and the Upfield shared path is closed.

Council has strongly backed these calls from our community, however the Victorian Government has not yet committed to any changes to Sydney Road.

This Notice of Motion seeks to get a report on how Council could strengthen our advocacy to the Victorian Government to create a safer, greener and more accessible Sydney Road, by exploring options for collecting data on some of the key concerns raised in conversations about the future of Sydney Road. This includes who is visiting Sydney Road, how are they getting to/from Sydney Road and the availability and usage of car parking on and within walking distance of Sydney Road.

2. Policy Context

Officer's comments:

Sydney Road is a State-managed road that runs north-south through the middle of Merri-bek. It is a key transport corridor and Council's primary activity centre for Brunswick and Coburg.

The corridor is space-constrained. Pedestrians, retail trading, cyclists, trams, and drivers share limited space amongst tram and utility infrastructure. Tram stops and trams remain inaccessible to all users. A lack of trees or greenery make the corridor hot and uncomfortable, especially during summer, while services along the road make tree planting difficult. This in turn impacts amenity and the kinds of improvements that would enhance the retail activity along the strip.

Both the State Government and Council have sought to make improvements to Sydney Road in preceding years. Most recently, Council undertook street cleansing improvements and identified redundant infrastructure as part of the Love Sydney Road program. Council has also consistently advocated to the State Government to streetscape and accessibility improvements along Sydney Road, particularly for accessible tram stops.

The level crossing removal works that the State government has foreshadowed for 2029 and 2030 is likely to also consider improvements to surrounding streets. The project could also be a catalyst for a much-needed vision to make Sydney Road a safer, greener, more vibrant, and more accessible activity centre.

3. Financial Implications

Officer's comments:

The report can be prepared without external expenditure.

4. Resources Implications

Officer's comments:

The report can be prepared by existing staff within the governance guidelines for a Notice of Motion. However it may be difficult to complete the proposed scope by April 2026 without impacting delivery of existing priorities.