



# **MINUTES**

## **Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday, 4 February 2026**

**Date: Wednesday, 4 February 2026**

**Time: 6.00pm**

**Location: Council Chambers, 15 Stead Street, Ballan &  
Online**

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# **1 OPENING OF MEETING AND PRAYER**

The Mayor opened the meeting at 6.00pm.

Cr Moira Berry read the Prayer.

# **2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Mayor read the Acknowledgement of Country.

# **3 RECORDING OF MEETING**

In accordance with Moorabool Shire Council's Governance Rules, the meeting is livestreamed.

# **4 PRESENT**

Cr Steven Venditti-Taylor, Mayor

Cr Jarrod Bingham, Deputy Mayor

Cr Moira Berry

Cr Sheila Freeman

Cr John Keogh

Cr Ally Munari

Cr Tom Sullivan

Cr Paul Tatchell

Cr Rod Ward

## **Officers:**

Mr David Jackson Acting Chief Executive Officer

Mr Leanne Manton Acting General Manager Customer & Corporate Services

Mr Henry Bezuidenhout Executive Manager Community Planning & Development

Ms Leigh McCallum General Manager Community Strengthening

Mr Phil Jeffrey General Manager Community Assets & Infrastructure

Mr Joseph Spiteri Manager Governance & Civic Support

# **5 APOLOGIES**

Nil

**6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Ally Munari

Seconded: Cr John Keogh

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 17 December 2025 be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

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**7 DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Cr Sullivan declared a conflict of interest in relation to item 12.1.

Cr Keogh declared a conflict of interest in relation to item 20.3.

**8 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

**9 PETITIONS**

Nil

**10 PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS**

Nil

**11 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS****11.1 PROCUREMENT AUSTRALIA CONTRACT - PROVISION OF TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT RECRUITMENT SERVICES**

**Author:** Joshua Warner, Executive Manager People and Culture

**Authoriser:** Derek Madden, Chief Executive Officer

**Attachments:** Nil

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval regarding the Procurement Australia Contract for the provision of temporary and permanent recruitment services.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The existing contract "PA 2312-0618" pertaining to the provision of recruitment, training and associated services has been successfully in place since January 2021 and has greatly supported Council with contractor recruitment activity in times and areas of need.

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr John Keogh

**Seconded:** Cr Moira Berry

**That Council:**

- 1. Resolves to use Procurement Australia Contract Number PA 2712-0652 for the provision of Temporary and Permanent Recruitment Services with nine (9) contractors named below (7 existing and 2 new):**
  - Public Sector People
  - G-Force Employment and Recruitment
  - Hays Specialist Recruitment (Australia)
  - Horner Recruitment Systems (T/A trading as Horner Recruitment)
  - McArthur (Vic) Pty Ltd
  - Michael Page International (Australia)
  - Randstad Pty Ltd
  - Hoban Recruitment Pty Ltd
  - Osborne Richardson Australia
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to appoint additional Contractors on behalf of Council, where it is found to be the best value option for the continued provision of services, and to sign relevant documents on behalf of Council relating to such appointments.**

**CARRIED**

## BACKGROUND

### Previous Contracts

Procurement Australia have offered a continuing series of contracts for Recruitment, Training & Associated Services for many years, with Council first signing up to the previous iteration PA 1912-0618 in 2017, and the subsequent iteration PA 2712-0652 in 2021.

With the expiry of the current iteration on 31 December 2025, Council seeks to accept Procurement Australia's offer to join their subsequent tender to replace this with "PA 2712-0652 – Temporary and Permanent Recruitment Services".

Council have consistently found the use of these contracts to be the best value option for the provision of these services.

### New Contract

Under Procurement Australia's new contract "PA 2712-0652" Council seeks to appoint the same seven (7) suppliers as previously used, with the addition of Hoban Recruitment and Osborne Richardson Australia as an eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) and ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) supplier.

- Public Sector People
- G-Force Employment and Recruitment
- Hays Specialist Recruitment (Australia)
- Horner Recruitment Systems (T/a trading as Horner Recruitment)
- McArthur (Vic) Pty Ltd
- Michael Page International (Australia)
- Randstad Pty Ltd
- Hoban Recruitment
- Osborne Richardson Australia

The seven (7) current suppliers have provided outstanding service to Council during the subsequent periods and have facilitated temporary staffing solutions when Council have required these services.

It is proposed to include Hoban Recruitment based on operational risk and the need for immediate coverage for the School Crossing Supervisor Program, particularly in situations where we experience unforeseen staffing shortages.

Hoban have the capacity to provide coverage instantly, including access to trained School Crossing Supervisors already available locally, which is critical for ensuring crossings remained safely staffed to maintain service continuity without delays.

It is proposed to include Osborne Richardson Australia based on their ability to support local government workforce needs through compliant, responsive and sector-specific recruitment, with strength in regulatory, technical, professional and leadership roles within the public sector. This is particularly relevant for Council as it applies to Environmental Health Officers, Public Health & Safety roles, Compliance and Regulatory officers and Planning, Building and Asset Management professionals.

The contract will be for 3 years, plus two one-year extension options, giving a final expiry date of 31 December 2030.

**PROPOSAL**

The necessity to engage with contractor supported temporary and permanent recruitment providers is heavily candidate and market driven, and it is Council's position to manage permanent recruitment campaigns internally. However, given the necessity for roles to be filled to ensure compliance, continuity of service and community safety amongst many other things, contractor supported temporary recruitment will be necessary. The anticipated spend will vary depending on the need to call upon the prescribed services, however it will be Council's intention to explore alternate and cost-effective recruitment mechanisms prior to engaging contractors.

**COUNCIL PLAN**

The proposal is not provided for in the Council Plan 2025-2029 and can be actioned by utilising existing resources.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The necessity to utilise the contractor workforce is premised on short term vacancies existing in the organisational structure and as such the salary savings created by these short-term vacancies primarily offset the contractor costs.

The 9 suppliers which Council seek to appoint demonstrate a competitive fee structure as it applies to the broad range of suppliers included under Procurement Australia's new contract.

A summary of the Schedule of Rates (Average Margin) for each supplier is provided below.

The Average Margin prescribes the fee the supplier will charge Council for a successful recruitment campaign or contractor backfill based on the salary of the role.

For example, if Council engaged Public Sector People to recruit for a Senior role in which the salary base was \$120,000, the fee would be calculated based on 13.30% of \$120,000 (or \$15,960).

With reference to contractor backfills, the average margin would be applied on top of the hourly rate of the role in question. For example, if the hourly rate of the role is \$30 p/h, the supplier rate inclusive of 18.88% would be \$35.66.

**Public Sector People**

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Executive               | 15.75% |
| Permanent Recruitment – Entry / Middle / Senior | 13.30% |
| Temporary Recruitment – Executive               | 19.00% |
| Temporary Recruitment – All Other               | 18.88% |

**G-Force Employment and Recruitment**

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Executive               | 17.50% |
| Permanent Recruitment – Entry / Middle / Senior | 11.20% |
| Temporary Recruitment – Executive               | 20.00% |
| Temporary Recruitment – All Other               | 14.00% |

**Hays Specialist Recruitment (Australia)**

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Executive               | 14.00% |
| Permanent Recruitment – Entry / Middle / Senior | 13.20% |
| Temporary Recruitment – Executive               | 18.50% |

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Temporary Recruitment – All Other | 18.50% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

**Horner Recruitment Systems (T/a trading as Horner Recruitment)**

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Executive | 16.00% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Entry / Middle / Senior | 10.80% |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Temporary Recruitment – Executive | 15.00% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Temporary Recruitment – All Other | 12.38% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

**McArthur (Vic) Pty Ltd**

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Executive | 12.00% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Entry / Middle / Senior | 12.00% |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Temporary Recruitment – Executive | 25.00% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Temporary Recruitment – All Other | 25.58% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

**Michael Page International (Australia)**

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Executive | 19.00% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Entry / Middle / Senior | 16.00% |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Temporary Recruitment – Executive | 20.00% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Temporary Recruitment – All Other | 15.00% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

**Randstad Pty Ltd**

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Executive | 18.75% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Entry / Middle / Senior | 13.80% |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Temporary Recruitment – Executive | 24.00% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Temporary Recruitment – All Other | 16.50% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

**Hoban Recruitment**

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Executive | 11.63% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Entry / Middle / Senior | 10.40% |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Temporary Recruitment – Executive | 15.00% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Temporary Recruitment – All Other | 14.00% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

**Osborne Richardson Australia**

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Executive | 13.00% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Permanent Recruitment – Entry / Middle / Senior | 13.00% |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|

|                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Temporary Recruitment – Executive | N/A |
|-----------------------------------|-----|

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Temporary Recruitment – All Other | 13.00% |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

## RISK & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES

The proposed risk and occupational health and safety issues are defined below.

| Risk Identifier                                           | Detail of Risk                                                                                                                                                 | Risk Rating | Control/s                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Key policy awareness                                      | Contractor unaware of key policies and associated responsibilities pertaining to OHS, Child Safety and Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying etc.            | Medium      | Specific contractor induction established in ELMO ensuring contractors are adequately trained and educated as part of their onboarding with Council.                                                                                               |
| Financial – Inadequate funds cover contractor arrangement | Inadequate financial management.                                                                                                                               | Medium      | Proactive approach to temporary or fixed term recruitment to nullify costs of using the contractor workforce.                                                                                                                                      |
| Enterprise Agreement compliance                           | Requirement to commence a recruitment campaign within 8 weeks of the role becoming vacant. This can include permanent / temporary and secondment arrangements. | Medium      | In normal circumstances the contractor workforce will only be used for short periods of time or to backfill ad hoc vacancies. Whilst this arrangement is in place a permanent or fixed term recruitment campaign will be designed and implemented. |

## COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION STRATEGY

Historically this tender has not had a broad application across Council, as a focus on inhouse permanent and fixed term recruitment has been more prevalent. However, given the variable need to access the prescribed suppliers, those areas across Council who more regularly engage the contractor workforce have been consulted to ensure the supplier list is inclusive.

Pending approval, the tender will be communicated to all hiring managers across Council in order to create awareness should the need to engage with the contractor workforce prevail.

| Level of Engagement | Stakeholder                            | Activities                                                                                         | Location | Date          | Outcome                                                                                          |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Consult             | Select hiring managers across Council. | Discussions with select hiring managers pertaining to niche contractor requirements (as required). | Various  | December 2026 | Consolidation of current suppliers and the addition of 2 new suppliers based on niche offerings. |

**VICTORIAN CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006**

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

**OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

*Acting Chief Executive Officer – David Jackson*

In providing this advice to Council as the Acting Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

*Author – Josh Warner*

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

**CONCLUSION**

It is recommended that Council resolves to approve:

1. Use of Procurement Australia Contract Number 2712-0652 for the provision of Temporary and Permanent Recruitment Services with seven (7) existing contractors named above.
2. Add Hoban Recruitment as an eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) contractor and Osborne Richardson Australia as the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) contractor.
3. The Chief Executive Officer to appoint additional Contractors on behalf of Council, where it is found to be the best value option for the continued provision of services and to sign relevant documents on behalf of Council relating to such appointments.

**11.2 2017-2021 MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL PLAN - OUTSTANDING PROGRESS REPORT - Q2 1 OCTOBER - 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Author:** Karen Blobel, Organisational Development Business Partner

**Authoriser:** Derek Madden, Chief Executive Officer

**Attachments:** 1. 2017-2021 Outstanding Council Plan Actions Q2 1 October - 31 December 2025 (under separate cover)

**PURPOSE**

This report provides an update on the progress of outstanding actions from the 2017-2021 Moorabool Shire Council Plan.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 10 Strategic Actions were carried over from the 2017-2021 Council Plan. Eight actions have been completed and two remain 'In Progress'.
- Progress is being made on the two remaining actions which will continue to be reported on until completion.

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Rod Ward

**Seconded:** Cr Sheila Freeman

**That Council receive and note the 2017-2021 Moorabool Shire Council Plan – Outstanding Actions Progress Report – June 2025, including attachment 1 to this report.**

**CARRIED**

**BACKGROUND**

Of the strategic actions identified for completion in the final year of the 2017-2021 Moorabool Shire Council Plan, 10 were incomplete as of 30 June 2021 and were not captured in Council's 2021-2025 Council Plan.

As of 30 June 2025, eight actions are completed and two are incomplete. Accordingly, quarterly reporting will continue for these outstanding Council Plan actions until all actions are completed.

**PROPOSAL**

As of 30 June 2021, there were 10 actions outstanding from the 2017-2021 Council Plan. As of 30 June 2025, two of these actions remain incomplete. Both actions have reached between 90% and 96% of their target.

The progress report, including details against each of these outstanding actions, is provided in Attachment 1.

**COUNCIL PLAN**

The Council Plan 2021-2025 provides as follows:

**Strategic Objective 3: A Council that listens and adapts to the needs of our evolving communities****Priority 3.4: Measure performance, communicate our results and continue to improve our services every day**

The proposal to receive the 2017-2021 Moorabool Shire Council Plan – Outstanding Actions Progress Report – June 2025 is consistent with the Council Plan 2021-2025.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The implementation of outstanding Council Plan actions is resourced by Council's adopted annual budget.

**RISK & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES**

There are no Risk or Occupational Health & Safety issues in relation to this report.

**COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION STRATEGY**

Specific projects are subject of their own communications strategy.

**VICTORIAN CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006**

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

**OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

*Executive Manager – Josh Warner*

In providing this advice to Council as the Executive Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

*Author – Karen Blobel*

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

**CONCLUSION**

Council is committed to completing the outstanding actions from the 2017-2021 Moorabool Shire Council Plan, with continued reporting provided for good governance, in line with the overarching governance principles and supporting public transparency principles of the Local Government Act 2020.

Of the 10 outstanding strategic actions, eight are now complete and two remain in progress. These actions will continue to be reported on until all have reached completion.

**11.3 2021-2025 MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL PLAN - OUTSTANDING PROGRESS REPORT Q2 1 OCTOBER - 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Author:** Karen Blobel, Organisational Development Business Partner

**Authoriser:** Derek Madden, Chief Executive Officer

**Attachments:** 1. 2021-2025 Outstanding Council Plan Actions Q2 1 October - 31 December 2025 (under separate cover)

**PURPOSE**

This report provides an update on the progress of outstanding actions from the 2021-2025 Moorabool Shire Council Plan.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 20 Strategic Actions have been carried over from the 2021-2025 Council Plan. 14 actions have been completed and 6 remain in progress.
- Progress is being made on the 6 remaining actions which will continue to be reported on until completion.

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Rod Ward

**Seconded:** Cr Jarrod Bingham

**That Council receive and note the 2021-2025 Moorabool Shire Council Plan – Outstanding Actions Progress Report – Q2 October - December 2025, including attachment 1 to this report.**

**CARRIED**

**BACKGROUND**

Of the strategic actions identified for completion in the final year of the 2021-2025 Moorabool Shire Council Plan, 20 were incomplete as of 30 June 2025 and were not captured in Council's 2025-2029 Council Plan.

As of 31 December 2025, 6 actions are incomplete. Accordingly, quarterly reporting will continue for these outstanding Council Plan actions until all actions are completed.

**PROPOSAL**

As of 30 June 2025, there were 20 actions outstanding from the 2021-2025 Council Plan. As of 31 December 2025, 6 of these actions remain incomplete. These actions have reached between 20% and 95% of their target.

The progress report, including details against each of these outstanding actions, is provided in Attachment 1.

**COUNCIL PLAN**

The Council Plan 2025-2029 provides as follows:

**Strategic Objective 4: A Council that engages and adapts**

**Priority 4.3: Focus resources to deliver on our service promise in a sustainable way**

The proposal to receive the 2021-2025 Moorabool Shire Council Plan – Outstanding Actions Progress Report – Q2 October – December 2025 is consistent with the Council Plan 2025-2029.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The implementation of outstanding Council Plan actions is resourced by Council's adopted annual budget.

**RISK & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES**

There are no Risk or Occupational Health & Safety issues in relation to this report.

**COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION STRATEGY**

Specific projects are subject of their own communications strategy.

**VICTORIAN CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006**

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

**OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

*Executive Manager – Josh Warner*

In providing this advice to Council as the Executive Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

*Author – Karen Blobel*

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

**CONCLUSION**

Council is committed to completing the outstanding actions from the 2021-2025 Moorabool Shire Council Plan, with continued reporting provided for good governance, in line with the overarching governance principles and supporting public transparency principles of the Local Government Act 2020.

Of the 20 outstanding strategic actions, 14 are now complete and 6 remain in progress. These actions will continue to be reported on until all have reached completion.

**11.4 2025-2029 MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL PLAN - PROGRESS REPORT - Q2 1 OCTOBER - 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Author:** Karen Blobel, Organisational Development Business Partner

**Authoriser:** Derek Madden, Chief Executive Officer

**Attachments:** 1. 2025-2029 Council Plan Actions Q2 1 October - 31 December 2025 (under separate cover)

**PURPOSE**

The 2025-2029 Moorabool Shire Council Plan sits within the Council's planning framework and identifies the main priorities and expectations over a four-year period.

This report provides an update on the status of Council Plan actions for Q2, October to December 2025.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- There are 35 actions identified in the Council Plan to be achieved in Year 1.
- As of 31 December 2025, of the 35 Council Plan actions for Year 1, 34 are in progress with 1 completed. Reporting for this period indicates:
  - 23 actions show as 'on track' (green).
  - 4 actions requiring monitoring (yellow).
  - 7 actions are showing as 'off track' (red).

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr John Keogh

**Seconded:** Cr Moira Berry

**That Council receive and note the 2025-2029 Moorabool Shire Council Plan Progress Report – Q2 October - December 2025, including attachment 1 of this report.**

**CARRIED**

**BACKGROUND**

The four strategic objectives outlined in the Council Plan that guide new initiatives and continuing service are:

1. Healthy, inclusive and safe communities.
2. A dynamic and resilient local economy.
3. Place and spaces that meet the need of our many and varied communities.
4. A Council that engages and adapts.

Each objective has a set of priorities, or desired outcomes, which set out strategic actions to be undertaken over the planned four years to achieve the objectives.

The annual and quarterly performance reporting allows Council to effectively measure, monitor, review and report on its performance while providing open and transparent reporting to the community. This report presents the progress performance against the actions set for Year 1.

## PROPOSAL

The 2025-2029 Moorabool Shire Council Plan – Second Quarter Progress Report October – December 2025 is provided as Attachment 1 to this report.

Overall, there are 35 actions to be achieved for Year 1, with one completed.

Of these actions for the first quarter period, 23 actions have reached 90% or greater of their target for the period, 4 actions have achieved between 60% and 90% of their target and 7 actions are at less than 60% of their target.

The following table summarises the status of those actions set to be achieved in Year 1 of the Council Plan:

| Strategic Objective                                                    | Completed | On Track | Off track | Monitor | Not Started | Total |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|---------|-------------|-------|
| Healthy, inclusive and safe communities                                | 0         | 3        | 3         | 2       | 0           | 8     |
| A dynamic and resilient local economy                                  | 0         | 7        | 0         | 0       | 0           | 7     |
| Place and spaces that meet the need of our many and varied communities | 0         | 9        | 3         | 0       | 0           | 12    |
| A Council that engages and adapts                                      | 1         | 4        | 1         | 2       | 0           | 8     |
| Totals                                                                 | 1         | 23       | 7         | 4       | 0           | 35    |

## COUNCIL PLAN

The Council Plan 2025-2029 provides as follows:

**Strategic Objective 4: A Council that engages and adapts**

**Priority 4.3: Focus resources to deliver on our service promise in a sustainable way**

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The implementation of Council Plan actions is resourced by Council's adopted annual budget.

## RISK & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES

There are no Risk or Occupational Health & Safety issues in relation to this report.

## COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION STRATEGY

The progress comments and performance status of each action will be uploaded onto the online Council Performance Dashboard in October 2025. Community members can access the dashboard to view the performance of each of the Council Plan Priorities.

Specific projects are the subject of their own communications strategy, nevertheless this report will be displayed on Council's website and the end-of-year progress will be reported in Council's Annual Report.

#### **VICTORIAN CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006**

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

#### **OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

*Executive Manager – Josh Warner*

In providing this advice to Council as the Executive Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

*Author – Karen Blobel*

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Overall, there are 35 actions being reported on for Year 1. As of 31 December 2025, 23 actions show as 'on track' (green), 4 actions requiring monitoring (yellow), 7 actions are showing as 'off track' (red).

Cr Tom Sullivan left the meeting at 6.09pm.

## **12 COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REPORTS**

### **12.1 PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C085MOOR - WEST MOORABOOL HERITAGE STUDY 2A REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION - ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT**

**Author:** Demi Spencer, Senior Heritage Planner

**Authoriser:** Henry Bezuidenhout, Executive Manager Community Planning & Development

**Attachments:**

1. Attachment 1 - Moorabool C085moor Panel Report (under separate cover)
2. Attachment 2 - Post Panel Planning Scheme Ordinance (under separate cover)
3. Attachment 3 - West Moorabool Heritage Study Stage 2A Review Updated November 2025 (under separate cover)

#### **PURPOSE**

To consider the Planning Panel's report and recommendations relating to Moorabool Planning Scheme Amendment C085moor (the amendment) and consider the adoption of the amendment.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- Amendment C085moor implements the *West Moorabool Heritage Study (WMHS) Stage 2A Review* (May 2021, Plan Heritage) by applying the Heritage Overlay to 106 individual places and 7 heritage precincts across Ballan, Blackwood, Bungaree, Gordon, Lal Lal, Millbrook, Mount Egerton and Wallace.
- At its meeting on 6 December 2023, Council resolved to adopt the *WMHS Stage 2A Review* and seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit Amendment C085moor. Following ministerial authorisation, the amendment was exhibited from 13 March to 30 April 2025, and 13 submissions were received.
- Matters raised in the submissions included questions about heritage significance, requests for changes to Statements of Significance, and information about changes that have occurred to a place. Four submissions opposed heritage controls on specific properties.
- At its meeting on 2 July 2025, Council resolved to refer the submissions to an independent planning panel for consideration. A directions hearing was held online on 11 August 2025. The planning panel hearing was held on 22 September 2025 at Moorabool Shire Council chambers in Ballan.
- Council received the planning panel report from Planning Panels Victoria on 20 October 2025. The Panel found that the amendment is underpinned by a strong strategic basis and is well supported by the relevant planning policy framework.

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Rod Ward

**Seconded:** Cr John Keogh

**That Council:**

1. Consider the Planning Panel report (Attachment 1) and accept the Panel's recommendations for Moorabool Planning Scheme Amendment C85moor pursuant to Section 27 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.
2. Adopt the updated *West Moorabool Heritage Study Stage 2A Review (Attachment 3)*.
3. Adopt Moorabool Planning Scheme Amendment C85moor (Attachments 2), pursuant to Section 29 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.
4. Submit the adopted amendment, together with the prescribed information, to the Minister for Planning for approval, pursuant to Section 31 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

**CARRIED**

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**BACKGROUND**West Moorabool Heritage Study Stage 2A Review

Amendment C085moor implements the findings of the *WMHS Stage 2A Review* (Plan Heritage, May 2021). The WMHS was prepared to identify and assess places of heritage significance in the western part of the shire.

It was undertaken in three parts:

- Stage 1: Preparation of a thematic environmental history and identification of 702 potential places of heritage significance for further assessment.
- Stage 2: A detailed assessment of 106 places and 7 precincts in priority areas identified in Stage 1.
- Stage 2A Review: A review of the Stage 2A study to incorporate current practices and guidance suitable to support a Planning Scheme Amendment.

Council adopted the *WMHS 2A Review* at the 6 December 2023 Ordinary Meeting of Council and resolved to seek Ministerial authorisation to prepare and exhibit Amendment C085moor. Other heritage places identified in Stage 1 of the study and not included in Amendment C085moor will need to be further assessed in a future study, and if necessary, protected through a future planning scheme amendment.

Amendment C085moor

Amendment C085moor applies the Heritage Overlay to 113 places of cultural significance in Moorabool Shire. This includes 106 individual places and 7 heritage precincts across Ballan, Blackwood, Bungaree, Gordon, Lal Lal, Millbrook, Mount Egerton and Wallace.

Specifically, the amendment will make the following changes to the Moorabool Planning Scheme:

- Apply the Heritage Overlay to 106 individual places and 7 heritage precincts across Ballan, Blackwood, Bungaree, Gordon, Lal Lal, Millbrook, Mount Egerton and Wallace.

- Remove the Heritage Overlay from 3 individual heritage places that are to be included in new precincts.
- Amend the Schedule to Clause 43.01 (Heritage Overlay) to apply permanent controls to the identified places and insert permit application requirements.
- Amend the Schedule to Clause 72.04 (Incorporated Documents) to include 113 Statements of Significance and the *Moorabool Shire Heritage Precincts and Places Incorporated Planning Permit Exemptions* (Plan Heritage, May 2021) as incorporated documents.
- Amend the Schedule to Clause 72.08 (Background Documents) to insert the *West Moorabool Heritage Study Stage 2A Review* (Plan Heritage, May 2021).

#### Ministerial authorisation

On 28 February 2024, the Minister for Planning provided conditional authorisation of Amendment C085moor. Several changes were required to update the documentation prior to exhibition.

#### Public exhibition

In accordance with the requirements of Section 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, Amendment C085moor was placed on public exhibition from 13 March 2025 to 30 April 2025. Notification included letters to all affected landowners and occupiers, relevant community groups such as historical societies, Registered Aboriginal Parties, government agencies, and prescribed ministers. Notices were published in the *Moorabool News* on Friday 7 March and the *Government Gazette* on Thursday 13 March.

A total of 12 submissions were received during the exhibition period, and 1 late submission was received from a government agency. Of the 13 submissions, four opposed the overlay applying to specific properties. Other submissions requested changes for specific properties such as correcting addresses and reflecting changes that have occurred in Statements of Significance. Four submissions from stakeholders advised that they had no comment. One submission requested additional heritage controls.

#### Planning Panel Hearing

A Directions Hearing was held online on 11 August 2025, followed by the planning panel hearing on 22 September 2025 at Moorabool Shire Council chambers in Ballan. The Panel undertook site inspections of six properties on the morning of the hearing, with two additional sites inspected prior to the hearing date. Council engaged a heritage expert to provide expert evidence. Two parties lodged requests to be heard by the Panel, and a third party joined the hearing virtually.

Council made the following submissions to the Panel:

- *Part A submission* distributed to all parties prior to the panel hearing. The *Part A submission* provided a high-level summary of the amendment, including the history of the West Moorabool Heritage Study, the state and local strategic and planning context for the amendment and Council's heritage work program.
- *Part B submission* presented at the panel hearing. The *Part B submission* summarised the issues raised in submissions, the expert heritage evidence, and Council's Day 1 version of the amendment documents which incorporated the supported changes recommended by the heritage expert. The Day 1 documents were circulated to all parties prior to the hearing.
- *Closing submission* which briefly addressed matters raised during the hearing. The Part C closing version of amendment documents was circulated to all parties after the hearing. This

version of documents incorporated the Day 1 document changes and any other changes that arose from the panel hearing.

## **PANEL REPORT**

The planning panel report for C085moor was received on 20 October 2025. The Panel's consideration was limited to matters raised in submissions to the amendment. In total, it reviewed 8 properties that were the subject of submissions.

The Panel found that the amendment is underpinned by a strong strategic basis and is well supported by the relevant planning policy framework.

Overall, the Panel supported Council's position on matters raised in submissions and the Part C closing version of amendment documents. It concluded that the amendment should proceed, subject to the minor changes Council recommended.

### Panel recommendations

The Panel's recommendations are outlined below and are reflected in the planning scheme ordinance in Attachment 2 to this report.

Panel recommended changes:

- Correct street number references in the Steiglitz Street Heritage Precinct (HO201) citation and Statement of Significance from 93-97 to 91-95.
- Remove 49 Edols Street (HO215) from the amendment, as historic aerial photographs confirm the building was relocated to the site in the 1990s.
- Remove reference to an outbuilding at the rear of 146 and 146a Inglis Street, Ballan (HO242), as the outbuilding has recently been removed.
- Amend the Heritage Overlay, citation and Statement of Significance for St John's Anglican Church, 56 Simpson Street, Ballan (HO252) to include the historical value of the bell and bell tower and apply the outbuilding controls to the bell tower.
- Amend the boundaries of the Heritage Overlay map for St John's Anglican Church at 56 Simpson Street, Ballan (HO252) to reflect a recently approved two-lot subdivision of the property as shown in the heritage evidence presented to the Panel.
- Amend the citation and Statement of Significance for 190 Bungaree Wallace Road, Bungaree (HO272) to provide additional detail of significant elements, ensure accuracy and correct references.
- Amend the Heritage Overlay, citation and Statement of Significance for 179 Donnellans Road, Millbrook (HO307) to apply controls for internal alterations, external paint controls and tree controls.
- Amend the Statement of Significance for 52 Sullivans Road, Millbrook (HO310) to include satellite imagery identifying the trees of heritage significance.

These changes have been made to the amendment documentation at Attachment 2 and consequential changes have been made to the *West Moorabool Heritage Study Stage 2A Review* at Attachment 3. The updated heritage study is required to be re-adopted by Council to ensure consistency with the amendment documentation including updated citations.

## **COUNCIL PLAN**

The Council Plan 2025-2029 provides as follows:

**Strategic Objective 2: A dynamic and resilient local economy****Priority 3.1: Enhance the natural and built environment**

The proposal to progress Amendment C085moor and implement the *West Moorabool Heritage Study Stage 2A Review* is consistent with the *Council Plan 2025-2029*. The amendment will protect places and precincts of heritage significance through the Moorabool Planning Scheme.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The amendment will apply the Heritage Overlay to 113 places of cultural significance which may trigger planning permit applications or require heritage to be considered where other controls also trigger a planning permit application. A Heritage Planner role was created in 2024 to provide the heritage expertise and support needed for these permit applications.

The *Moorabool Shire Heritage Precincts and Places Incorporated Planning Permit Exemptions* document has also been prepared to exempt permit requirements where works are of a minor nature. This will avoid unnecessary costs to landowners and reduce Council's resourcing requirements.

Costs associated with the planning scheme amendment, including expert evidence and the planning panel process are covered by the recurrent Growth and Development budget for planning scheme amendments.

Given this, there are no significant financial implications created by the amendment.

**RISK & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES**

| Risk Identifier                  | Detail of Risk                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Risk Rating | Control/s                                            |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Demolition of heritage assets    | Prior to the Heritage Overlay being applied, sites may be damaged or demolished, negatively affecting the heritage significance of places.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Medium      | Interim heritage controls if demolition is proposed. |
| Heritage studies become outdated | The WMHS was undertaken over several years and included a review in 2021 to ensure it was up to date with current practices and would support a planning scheme amendment. If the recommendations of the study are not implemented in the short term, an additional review or new study will be necessary to support a future planning scheme amendment. This will require further financial investment and staff resourcing and increase the risk to heritage sites. | Medium      | Progress the amendment to the next stage.            |

**COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION STRATEGY**

Consultation of the amendment followed the statutory requirements of Section 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. The amendment was placed on public exhibition from 13 March 2025 to 30 April 2025.

**VICTORIAN CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006**

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

**OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

Under section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

*Executive Manager Community Planning and Development – Henry Bezuidenhout*

In providing this advice to Council as the Executive Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

*Author – Demi Spencer*

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

**CONCLUSION**

Amendment C85moor has a strong strategic basis and will ensure that significant heritage places and precincts in the western part of the shire are protected for future generations.

The amendment has been through a rigorous public exhibition and panel process, and it is now considered appropriate that Council adopt the amendment with the changes recommended by the Planning Panel, in accordance with the ordinance documents included in Attachment 2 and the updated *West Moorabool Heritage Study Stage 2A Review* included at Attachment 3. This will enable the amendment to be submitted to the Minister for Planning for approval.

Cr Tom Sullivan returned to the meeting at 6.10pm.

**13 CUSTOMER AND CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS****13.1 ADVOCACY PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES**

**Author:** Leanne Manton, Manager Customer and Communications

**Authoriser:** David Jackson, Acting Chief Executive Officer

**Attachments:** 1. Advocacy Projects 2026 and Beyond (under separate cover)

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of an updated advocacy prospectus (Attachment 1).

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- Council is requested to endorse the updated advocacy prospectus, which is based on a list of advocacy projects and initiatives identified by Councillors and prioritised at a recent Councillor workshop.
- The advocacy prospectus and associated materials will play a key role in the promotion of Council's advocacy agenda in the lead-up to the state election this year.

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Jarrod Bingham

**Seconded:** Cr John Keogh

**That Council:**

1. Approves the advocacy prospectus "Advocacy Projects 2026 and Beyond".
2. Notes that the projects and initiatives documented in Council adopted strategies and plans may be leveraged for advocacy purposes where required.

**CARRIED**

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**BACKGROUND**

Council is committed to keeping pace with population growth by providing the best infrastructure and access to services for our community.

Along with Council financial commitment, support from other levels of government and key bodies is required to deliver these projects and initiatives, and advocacy plays a key role in achieving this objective.

Councillors considered a list of potential advocacy projects and initiatives at a workshop on 4 October 2025. In the workshop Councillors refined and prioritised this list and identified potential gaps/additional projects and initiatives for further investigation.

Following this workshop an advocacy prospectus based on this list of projects and initiatives was compiled.

**PROPOSAL**

Council is requested to endorse the prospectus which will set Council's advocacy agenda going forward and inform future advocacy promotional materials and activities, particularly in the lead-up to the Victorian state election in November 2026.

The prospectus will remain a 'live' document and may be updated to reflect funded projects and in line with future adopted Council strategies and plans.

**COUNCIL PLAN**

The Council Plan 2025-2029 provides as follows:

**Strategic Objective 4: A Council that engages and adapts****Priority 4.1: Listen, understand and advocate for community needs**

The proposal to adopt advocacy projects and initiatives is consistent with the Council Plan 2025-2029.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The expenditure associated with delivery of advocacy activities and materials is provided for in Council's operational budget.

**RISK & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES**

There are no Risk and Occupational Health & Safety Issues.

**COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION STRATEGY**

| Level of Engagement | Stakeholder | Activities                                                                              | Location | Date          | Outcome                                                                                                               |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Inform              | Residents   | Finalisation of advocacy prospectus and development of associated materials/activities. | Various  | February 2026 | Following adoption of the advocacy prospectus it will be placed on Council's website and distributed to stakeholders. |

**VICTORIAN CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006**

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

**OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

*Acting Chief Executive Officer – David Jackson*

In providing this advice to Council as the Acting CEO, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

*Author – Leanne Manton*

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

**CONCLUSION**

Council endorsement of the advocacy prospectus will set Council's advocacy agenda and approach for the future and guide the development of advocacy promotional materials and activities.

**14 COMMUNITY ASSETS & INFRASTRUCTURE REPORTS****14.1 RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 327 FLOODING ISSUES - LAY COURT, WALSH STREET AND INGLISTON ROAD, BALLAN**

**Author:** Ewen Nevett, Manager Engineering Services

**Authoriser:** Phil Jeffrey, General Manager Community Assets & Infrastructure

**Attachments:** Nil

**PURPOSE**

To provide a response to Notice of Motions 329 regarding a request to write to Melbourne Water seeking information on actions taken to address flooding issues, future mitigation measures and for Melbourne Water to hold an engagement process with the community.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- Melbourne Water has responded to Council's request for an update on actions taken and proposed to be taken to manage the issue of, and concerns with, flooding in the Lay Court, Walsh Street, Ingliston Road area.
- Melbourne Water has engaged with residents and provided a dedicated page on their website for resident feedback.
- The current drainage system is a legacy system that was not designed to current standards and future development to the south of the rail line will be responded to in a manner that ensures there is no escalation of the current situation with inundation.

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Moira Berry

**Seconded:** Cr John Keogh

**That Council notes the actions taken, and future actions proposed to be taken, by Melbourne Water to manage the drainage issues and community expectations.**

**CARRIED**

**BACKGROUND**

In accordance with the Council resolution passed at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 7 May 2025, officers wrote to Melbourne Water on 12 June 2025 requesting:

- A detailed account of the actions taken to date to address flooding issues in Lay Court, Walsh Street and Ingliston Road, Ballan;
- Information on future measures planned to rectify these issues;
- Melbourne Water to host a community forum to discuss resident concerns and provide updates.

Melbourne Water responded in writing on 29 September 2025 outlining the legacy drainage issues with this area of Ballan, the actions they have undertaken including the engagement with the residents in the area, and future involvement.

#### **UPDATE ON FLOODING ISSUE**

Melbourne Water has advised that the drainage system that services the area of interest is a legacy network that was not designed and developed to current standards and the system is therefore unable to manage larger flood events. They note that the area is covered by a Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO) and Special Building Overlay (SBO) in the Planning Scheme. Melbourne Water do, however, manage the drainage system to ensure operational effectiveness meets its design parameters by:

- Undertaking routine maintenance desilting works on the Lay Court drain;
- Removing vegetation from the main channel of the Lay Court drain to prevent flow obstruction; and
- Apply appropriate development planning permit conditions on proposed developments to mitigate and manage downstream flood impacts.

For the future, Melbourne Water have an ongoing inspection regime to continuously monitor the drainage assets in the area, including a scheduled maintenance program. Measures are also being taken to ensure that growth to the south of the rail line is adequately managed and conditioned so as to not add any additional pressure on the existing drainage system.

Melbourne Water recently undertook consultation with residents which consisted of an information pack distributed directly to households and established a dedicated “Let’s Talk” page on their website accessed via a QR code included in the information pack. A survey was included seeking feedback. Melbourne Water have advised that since the “Let’s Talk” page went live, in early November 2025, there have been 12 visits registered up to 18 December 2025.

#### **COUNCIL PLAN**

The Council Plan 2025-2029 provides as follows:

##### **Strategic Objective 4: A Council that engages and adapts**

##### **Priority 4.1: Listen, understand and advocate for community needs**

The response from Melbourne Water on actions taken and future actions proposed has provided residents with important information about the drainage system and impacts on property and is consistent with the Council Plan 2025-2029.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications for Council.

#### **RISK & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES**

| <b>Risk Identifier</b> | <b>Detail of Risk</b>                      | <b>Risk Rating</b> | <b>Control/s</b>                                                                        |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Resident Frustration   | Flooding of properties continues to occur. | Medium             | Melbourne Water ongoing monitoring and maintenance regime to control future inundation. |

**COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION STRATEGY**

| Level of Engagement | Stakeholder | Activities                                                                                           | Location                | Date         | Outcome                                 |
|---------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Inform              | Residents   | Melbourne Water information pack to households and “Let’s Talk” page of the Melbourne Water website. | Melbourne Water Website | Nov-Dec 2025 | Better informed and prepared residents. |

**VICTORIAN CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006**

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

**OFFICER’S DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

*General Manager – Phil Jeffrey*

In providing this advice to Council as the General Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

*Author – Ewen Nevett*

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

**CONCLUSION**

Melbourne Water has provided a response that addresses the actions they have taken and plan to take to manage the ongoing issue of, and concerns with, flooding around Lay Court, Walsh Street and Ingliston Road, Ballan.

**14.2 DRAFT MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL COMMUNITY ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY**

**Author:** John Miller, Manager Asset Management

**Authoriser:** Phil Jeffrey, General Manager Community Assets & Infrastructure

**Attachments:** 1. Draft Moorabool Shire Council Community Road Safety Strategy 2025 - 2029 (under separate cover)

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to present the draft Moorabool Shire Council Community Road Safety Strategy to Council and to seek in principle endorsement for the purpose of public exhibition.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- Moorabool Shire Council was successful in obtaining funding for the development of a Community Road Safety Strategy through the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) Local Government Grant Program.
- The strategy builds on the positive work already undertaken by Council and sets out a range of improvement actions to be undertaken, to assist in reducing serious injury and fatality crashes within the Shire, in line with Safe System Principles (Safe Roads, Safe Speeds, Safe People and Safe Vehicles).
- Following significant consultation processes involving the community and key stakeholder groups, a draft Moorabool Shire Council Community Road Safety Strategy has been developed.

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Rod Ward

**Seconded:** Cr Ally Munari

**That Council:**

1. Endorses, in principle, the draft Moorabool Shire Council Community Road Safety Strategy for the purpose of public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
2. Requests that a further report be presented to Council on completion of the exhibition period.

**CARRIED**

**BACKGROUND**

Moorabool has been successful in obtaining funding for the development of a new Community Road Safety Strategy through the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) Local Government Grant Program.

Council plays an important role in providing a safe travel environment for residents and visitors and a key part of this role includes the implementation of activities directed at reducing the likelihood and severity of road accidents and influencing driver behaviour by working in partnership with key road safety bodies and community groups.

The current Community Road Safety Strategy 2020-2024 is now due to be renewed. Following significant community and stakeholder consultation, an updated draft Community Road Safety Strategy has been developed.

The draft strategy outlines the key priority actions for the next four years to assist in promoting safe travel with the aim of reducing serious injuries and fatalities within the municipality and provide a structured approach to guide Council in delivering projects and initiatives that meet the needs of the growing community. The strategy will assist Council to continue to create safer local roads by enhancing knowledge and education, increasing engagement, identifying road and roadside infrastructure improvements and working closely with road safety partners and the community.

The strategy builds on the positive work already undertaken by Council, acknowledging transport pressures faced, and confirms a commitment to the reduction of casualty accidents in line with the Victorian Government's Safe System principles and Towards Zero Strategy.

### **PROPOSAL**

The next stage of the project involves presenting the draft strategy to the community via a public exhibition process to provide the opportunity for feedback on the proposed actions. This phase of consultation will be conducted via online engagement through Council's 'Have Your Say' page, with copies of the draft strategy and feedback forms being made available at Council offices for a period of 28 days.

It is recommended that Council provide in principle endorsement of the attached draft strategy for the purpose of public exhibition.

### **COUNCIL PLAN**

The Council Plan 2025-2029 provides as follows:

#### **Strategic Objective 1: Healthy, inclusive and safe communities**

#### **Priority 1.3: Improve access and opportunities for all modes of transport**

The proposal is consistent with the Council Plan 2025-2029.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Moorabool Shire Council was successful in obtaining funding for the development of a Community Road Safety Strategy through the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) Local Government Grant Program. As such there are no financial implications associated with the recommendation within this report.

### **RISK & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES**

| <b>Risk Identifier</b> | <b>Detail of Risk</b>                                                                    | <b>Risk Rating</b> | <b>Control/s</b>                                                                                   |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Financial              | Inadequate financial management resulting in insufficient funds to complete the project. | Medium             | Adequate project scope and budget, procurement process, ongoing supervision of project financials. |
| Community expectation  | Community expectation of key project outcomes outside of the project scope.              | Medium             | Well scoped community consultation process and documentation, clear project objectives documented. |

## COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION STRATEGY

Community participation is an important component of the strategy development, assisting to better understand the local issues. Significant community consultation has been undertaken throughout the project, including the following:

| Level of Engagement                                                               | Stakeholder                                                                                                                                                                               | Activities                                                | Location                                       | Date        | Outcome                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Direct phone call                                                                 | Transport Accident Commission (TAC), Road Safe Central Highlands (RSCH), VicRoads, Victoria State Emergency Service (SES), CFA (Country Fire Authority), Public Transport Victoria (PTV). | One on one consultation                                   | Various                                        | July 2025   | Stakeholders were asked specific relevant questions and encouraged to provide general feedback on key road safety issues within Moorabool. |
| Media release through local paper, Council's Social Media and local radio station | All residents and visitors who live, work and travel in Moorabool.                                                                                                                        | Community survey (online via Have Your Say and hard copy) | Various                                        | July 2025   | Encouraged to provide feedback on key road safety issues within Moorabool via Council's Have Your Say.                                     |
| Direct Emails                                                                     | Various stakeholders, user and community groups (all Council databases).                                                                                                                  | Community survey (online via Have Your Say and hard copy) | Various                                        | July 2025   | Encouraged to provide feedback on key road safety issues within Moorabool via Council's Have Your Say.                                     |
| Community Workshops                                                               | All stakeholders, various user and community groups, residents and visitors who live, work and travel in Moorabool.                                                                       | Open community workshops (2)                              | Lerderderg Library and Ballan Council Chambers | August 2025 | Encouraged to participate in workshops to give feedback and provide potential solutions on key road safety issues within Moorabool.        |

|                                                |                                                                                                                     |                   |         |                                       |                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Draft Moorabool Community Road Safety Strategy | All stakeholders, various user and community groups, residents and visitors who live, work and travel in Moorabool. | Public exhibition | Various | Once endorsed for a period of 28 days | Encouraged to provide feedback on draft strategy via Council's Have Your Say.                |
| Final Moorabool Community Road Safety Strategy | All stakeholders, various user and community groups, residents and visitors who live, work and travel in Moorabool. | Adoption          | Various | Post public exhibition                | Final strategy will be uploaded to Council's website and promoted via online media channels. |

### **VICTORIAN CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006**

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

### **OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

*General Manager – Phil Jeffrey*

In providing this advice to Council as the General Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

*Author – John Miller*

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

### **CONCLUSION**

A draft Moorabool Shire Council Community Road Safety Strategy has been developed which sets out a four-year action plan in line with Safe System Principles to assist in promoting safe travel within Moorabool Shire.

Stakeholders, various user and community groups, residents and visitors were encouraged to participate, provide feedback and potential solutions on key issues within the municipality and it is recommended that Councillors endorse the draft documentation for the purpose of public exhibition.

**15 OTHER REPORTS**

Nil

**16 NOTICES OF MOTION****16.1 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 346 - INVESTIGATION INTO THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A BEREAVED PARENT SUPPORT GROUP WITHIN MOORABOOL SHIRE**

**Attachments:** Nil

I, Councillor Sheila Freeman, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 4 February 2026, I intend to move the following motion:

**MOTION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Prepare a report on the feasibility of establishing a Bereaved Parents Support Group within Moorabool Shire, delivered as a non-clinical, community-based peer support program.**
- 2. That the report considers but not be limited to:**
  - (a) Potential delivery models, including integration with Maternal & Child Health and Enhanced Maternal & Child Health Services;**
  - (b) Partnership opportunities with relevant specialist not-for-profit organisations;**
  - (c) Governance, safeguarding, risk management and insurance requirements;**
  - (d) Anticipated demand and eligibility considerations;**
  - (e) The feasibility of providing access to an appropriate Council facility at no cost, subject to availability and policy;**
  - (f) External grant funding opportunities to support the initiative, including grants that may fund:**
    - (i) Bereavement information and support pack for parents;**
    - (ii) Age-appropriate books and resources for siblings following the loss of a baby;**
    - (iii) Community-based engagement activities and peer support initiatives for bereaved fathers, including group programs or events; and**
    - (iv) Any resourcing or financial implications for Council.**
- 3. This motion does not commit Council to funding, provision of facilities or implementation and that any future decision would be subject to consideration of the report.**

**In Favour:** Crs Jarrod Bingham, John Keogh, Moira Berry, Rod Ward, Sheila Freeman and Steven Venditti-Taylor

**Against:** Crs Tom Sullivan, Ally Munari and Paul Tatchell

**CARRIED 6/3**

**RATIONALE**

Council has received a detailed proposal from a mother, a local resident, parent advocate and social worker who has lived experience of perinatal loss. This proposal recommends the establishment of a Bereaved Parent Support Group overseen by the Enhanced Maternal & Child Health program and delivered in partnership with a specialist not-for-profit organisation. The proposal emphasises trauma-informed practice, lived-experience facilitation and the use of existing infrastructure to minimise costs.

Perinatal loss, including miscarriage, stillbirth and neonatal death, affects a significant number of families each year. National data indicates that the rate of stillbirth in Australia has not decreased over the past two decades. Parents experiencing perinatal loss face an elevated risk of trauma, anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and suicide.

While clinical care is typically provided at the time of loss, evidence indicates that many bereaved parents are not routinely linked with ongoing support following hospital discharge. In Moorabool Shire, access to non-clinical, community-based bereavement support is limited, with families often facing long wait times or out-of-pocket costs for services outside the public health system.

Historically a peer-based bereavement support group operated informally within Council facilities through the Maternal & Child Health network. This group provided connection, validation and support for bereaved parents but ceased following staff changes and the absence of formal program resourcing.

Perinatal loss presents complex and long-term impacts on parents' mental health and wellbeing. While hospital-based clinical care is available at the time of loss, evidence indicates a gap in ongoing, non-clinical and community-based support, particularly in peri-regional municipalities such as Moorabool Shire.

Peer-supported bereavement programs, particularly those delivered in person and integrated within maternal and child health frameworks, have been shown to reduce isolation, stigma and psychological distress. Council has previously hosted an informal peer support group through the Maternal & Child Health network, demonstrating both community demand and feasibility when supported by appropriate governance and resourcing.

The proposed motion seeks a measured, evidence-based approach by requesting an officer report to explore delivery options, partnerships, governance requirements and resourcing implications, without pre-empting funding commitments.

I commend this Notice of Motion to Council.

**16.2 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 347 - STATE GOVERNMENT & LGA REPRESENTATIVE BODIES (VLGA & MAV) TO PROVIDE INCREASED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR COUNCILLORS TO REDUCE THE FINANCIAL BURDEN UPON COUNCILLORS AND RATEPAYERS**

**Attachments: Nil**

I, Councillor Rod Ward, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 4 February 2026, I intend to move the following motion:

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved: Cr Rod Ward**

**Seconded: Cr Sheila Freeman**

**That Council:**

- 1. Requests officers write to the following group of people requesting that the State Government, Municipal Association of Victoria and the Victorian Local Governance Association provide increased professional development opportunities for Councillors, and in doing so reduce the need and financial burden upon Councils and ratepayers who are forced to provide their own Councillor training due to the lack of available options:**
  - (a) The Minister for Local Government, the Hon Nick Staikos MP**
  - (b) The Member for Eureka, Ms Michaela Settle MP**
  - (c) The MAV President, Cr Jennifer Anderson**
  - (d) The MAV CEO, Ms Kelly Griggsby**
  - (e) The VLGA President, Dr Josh Fergeus**
  - (f) The VLGA CEO, Ms Kathryn Arndt**
- 2. Request Council's delegate at the MAV raise the issue of Councillor training with a view to advocating for greater State Government support and funding for Councillor training and professional development and increased offerings from the MAV and VLGA.**

**CARRIED**

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**RATIONALE**

The following background is provided to support this Notice of Motion.

Compared to the period 2020-2022 inclusive, there has been a noticeable and significant reduction in the professional development, training and professional skills development opportunities offered by the MAV and VLGA.

In contrast, under the Local Government Amendment (Governance and Integrity) Act 2024, mandatory training requirements for local Councillors have increased. These new mandatory requirements include:

**Types of Mandatory Training**

1. Councillor Induction Training: New Councillors must complete this within four months of taking their oath, covering how the Council operates, rules and role complexities.
2. Mayoral Training: Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Acting Mayors (for over a month) must complete this within one month of election, focusing on leadership, meeting chairing and advocacy.
3. Annual Professional Development: All Councillors must undertake ongoing training each year to maintain and enhance their skills and understanding of their responsibilities.

**Key Focus Areas**

- Governance and Integrity: Understanding the Local Government Act 2020 and its regulations, ethical conduct, conflict of interest and reporting fraud.
- Role and Responsibilities: Deepening understanding of the Councillor's role, community representation and decision-making processes.
- Leadership and Communication: Skills for leading, chairing meetings and engaging with the community.

In my view it is incumbent upon the Victorian Minister for Local Government, the Municipal Association of Victoria and the Victorian Local Governance Association to provide the necessary training required by Councillors to allow them to perform their duties to their optimum ability.

Unfortunately, the need for each LGA to organise their own providers to conduct the mandatory professional development training at their own expense means that ratepayer's money that could be otherwise spent on community infrastructure or services is being spent on Councillor training and professional development.

As an example, if each of the 79 LGA's are now required to spend \$25,000 on Councillor Professional Development (and some may spend significantly more), that is \$1.975m that could be otherwise spent on community infrastructure or services.

The Moorabool Shire Council urgently requests the Victorian Minister for Local Government, the Municipal Association of Victoria and the Victorian Local Governance Association to review their current Councillor professional development and training curriculum with the aim of better meeting the needs of the Councillors across the 79 LGA's in Victoria.

I commend this Notice of Motion to Council.

**16.3 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 348 - REPORT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL INTERCULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE****Attachments: Nil**

I, Councillor Rod Ward, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 4 February 2026, I intend to move the following motion:

**MOTION****That Council:**

- 1. Requests officers prepare a report investigating the feasibility of establishing an Intercultural Advisory Committee to provide support and advice on key cultural and interfaith issues.**
- 2. That the report on the feasibility of establishing an Intercultural Advisory Committee be presented to Council at the earliest possible convenience.**

**In Favour: Crs Jarrod Bingham, John Keogh, Rod Ward, Sheila Freeman and Steven Venditti-Taylor**

**Against: Crs Tom Sullivan, Moira Berry, Ally Munari and Paul Tatchell**

**CARRIED 5/4****RATIONALE**

Moorabool Shire is a rapidly growing peri-urban area, strategically located between Melbourne, Geelong and Ballarat, attracting new residents seeking a regional lifestyle.

Moorabool Shire's population was estimated at 39,814 in 2024 and is experiencing significant growth, with increasing diversity beyond its historically strong English/Australian roots. This growth, particularly in areas like Bacchus Marsh where the Indian population has tripled in the past 5 years, contributes to its evolving demographic mix.

Moorabool Shire Council actively values this diversity, shaping its services to meet the needs of its young, old, Indigenous and multicultural residents, aiming for inclusivity.

To highlight this diversity and increase in residents from various backgrounds, the percentage of overseas-born residents grew to 14.2% in 2025, and a further 11% of MSC's population arrived in Australia within the 5 years prior to 2021. In addition to this, and acknowledging MSC's rich Aboriginal heritage (Wadawurrung, Dja Dja Wurrung, Wurundjeri), MSC is committed to embracing diverse ages, genders and abilities, aligning with its goal to be an inclusive regional hub between Melbourne, Geelong and Ballarat.

The Objectives, Roles and Responsibilities and the composition of the Committee can be considered as part of this feasibility report, but as an example the following is provided:

The objectives of the Committee are:

- 1. To facilitate support particularly on the basis of equitable access to Council resources.**

2. To be a broad-based representation of community groups.
3. To provide a forum to articulate issues and needs to ensure better understanding across the community and Council.
4. To provide a point of contact for Council to consult and be advised by Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities.
5. To build community cohesiveness, inclusivity, social inclusion and promote harmony.

The role and responsibilities of the Committee are:

1. To have an active role in communicating community views to Council.
2. Maintain dialogue and active partnerships between participating agencies, associations and organisations which share a set of beliefs, attitudes and values that support and celebrate the diversity of our Council.
3. Advise Council as required on issues relating to the provision and development of strategies and services aimed at MSC's multicultural communities.
4. Recommend to Council priority actions outlined in the CDS in relation to community harmony and multicultural initiatives.
5. Provide a forum for discussion and community input on cultural initiatives, issues and activities.
6. Demonstrate community leadership and active promotion of the Committee's objectives.
7. Assist in the development, annual review and monitoring of Moorabool Shire Council's Cultural Diversity Strategy.
8. Act as a conduit for informally relaying information and outcomes from the Committee back to the local community in relation to the cultural diversity and community harmony projects, and to promote co-operation between all participating representatives.

I commend this Notice of Motion to Council.

**16.4 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 351 - ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS****Attachments: Nil**

I, Councillor John Keogh, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 4 February 2026, I intend to move the following motion:

**MOTION**

**That Council prepare a report outlining a business case to investigate the feasibility, costs, delivery models and potential partnerships for installing electric vehicle charging stations in strategic locations within Moorabool Shire.**

**In Favour: Crs John Keogh, Moira Berry, Ally Munari, Rod Ward, Sheila Freeman and Steven Venditti-Taylor**

**Against: Crs Tom Sullivan, Jarrod Bingham and Paul Tatchell**

**CARRIED 6/3****RATIONALE**

With the growing uptake of electric vehicles (EVs) across Victoria and Australia, there is a timely opportunity for Moorabool Shire to support tourism, economic activity and regional connectivity through improved EV infrastructure.

- In the first half of 2025, EVs comprised over 12% of all new car sales in Australia (up from 9.6% in H1 2024), with June alone reaching nearly 16% market share – a record high.
- Nationally, more than 350,000 Australians are now driving EVs, including utes, SUVs and hatchbacks.
- As of mid-2024, Victoria had just over 50,000 EVs registered, reflecting strong state-level growth.

Despite this progressive uptake, there remains no public EV charging station between Ballarat and Melton. Installing or encouraging the installation of charging stations within walking distance of the Bacchus Marsh and Ballan shopping precincts would strategically encourage visitors to recharge, explore and spend locally, thereby benefiting traders and enhancing visitor experience.

I commend this Notice of Motion to Council.

**17      NOTICES OF RESCISSION**

Nil

**18 MAYOR'S & COUNCILLORS REPORTS****18.1 MAYOR'S REPORT****Author:** Dianne Elshaug, Co-ordinator CEOs Office**Authoriser:** Derek Madden, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** Nil**PURPOSE**

To provide details to the community on the meetings and events attended by the Mayor since the last Ordinary Meeting of Council.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

That the Mayor's Report be tabled for consideration at the Ordinary Meeting of Council.

**RESOLUTION****Moved:** Cr Jarrod Bingham**Seconded:** Cr Paul Tatchell**That Council receives the Mayor's Report.****CARRIED****Cr Steve Venditti-Taylor – Mayor's Report****Date:** 4 February 2026

|             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 19 December | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scotsburn Fire 10 Year Anniversary Celebration, Clarendon Recreation Reserve, 6206 Midland Highway, Clarendon</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 20 December | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackwood Community Carol event</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 13 January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bacchus Marsh and District Photography Club Awards Night</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 25 January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackwood Hotel One Year Anniversary of Reopening</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 26 January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Australia Day Award Ceremony and Australian Citizenship Ceremony, Bacchus Marsh Public Hall</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 27 January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>U3A Information Meeting, Bacchus Marsh Public Hall</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 28 January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillor Briefings – 2017-2021 Moorabool Shire Council Plan-Outstanding Actions Progress Report-Q2 October-December 2025; 2021-2025 Moorabool Shire Council Plan-Outstanding Actions Progress Report-Q2 October-December 2025; 2025-2029 Moorabool Shire Council Plan-Progress Report-Q2 October-December 2025; Response to NoM No. 327 – Flooding Issues-Lay Court, Walsh Street and Ingliston Road, Ballan; Draft Moorabool Community Road Safety Strategy; Response to NoM No. 335 – Illegal Dumping of Rubbish; Planning Scheme Amendment C85moor-</li> </ul> |

|            |                                                                                                         |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|            | Heritage Strategy; Advocacy Projects and Initiatives; Review of the OMC Agenda                          |
| 31 January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Western Highway Action Committee Meeting</li></ul>                |
| 1 February | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wings, Wheels and Coffee event, Bacchus Marsh Aerodrome</li></ul> |
| 2 February | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Maddingley Park Advisory Committee Meeting, Darley</li></ul>      |
| 4 February | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ordinary Meeting of Council</li></ul>                             |

**18.2 COUNCILLORS REPORTS****Author:** Dianne Elshaug, Co-ordinator CEOs Office**Authoriser:** Derek Madden, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** Nil**PURPOSE**

To provide details to the community on meetings and events attended by Councillors since the last Ordinary Meeting of Council.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

That the Councillors Reports be accepted for consideration at the Ordinary Meeting of Council.

**RESOLUTION****Moved:** Cr Jarrod Bingham**Seconded:** Cr Paul Tatchell**That Council receives the Councillors Reports.****CARRIED****Cr Jarrod Bingham*****Date:*** 4 February 2026

|            |                                                                                                                                               |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26 January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Australia Day Award Ceremony and Australian Citizenship Ceremony, Bacchus Marsh Public Hall</li> </ul> |
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**Cr Moira Berry*****Date:*** 4 February 2026

|            |                                                                                                                                               |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 15 January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moorabool Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee, Darley Hub</li> </ul>                     |
| 20 January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PUCV Chair catch up meeting</li> </ul>                                                                 |
| 26 January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Australia Day Award Ceremony and Australian Citizenship Ceremony, Bacchus Marsh Public Hall</li> </ul> |
| 27 January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bacchus Marsh U3A Meet and Greet, Bacchus Marsh Town Hall Supper Room</li> </ul>                       |
| 3 February | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moorabool Landcare Network Meeting, Ballan Library</li> </ul>                                          |

**Cr Sheila Freeman*****Date: 4 February 2026***

|            |                                                                                                                                               |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26 January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Australia Day Award Ceremony and Australian Citizenship Ceremony, Bacchus Marsh Public Hall</li> </ul> |
| 27 January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bacchus Marsh U3A Meet and Greet, Bacchus Marsh Town Hall Supper Room</li> </ul>                       |
| 28 January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillor Briefings</li> </ul>                                                                        |
| 30 January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launch of Melton City Council's Advocacy Priorities</li> </ul>                                         |
| 2 February | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maddingley Park Advisory Committee Meeting</li> </ul>                                                  |

**Cr John Keogh*****Date: 4 February 2026***

|             |                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 19 December | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scotsburn Fire 10 Year Event – Clarendon Recreation Reserve, Clarendon</li> </ul>                      |
| 15 January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moorabool Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee, Darley Hub</li> </ul>                     |
| 26 January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Australia Day Award Ceremony and Australian Citizenship Ceremony, Bacchus Marsh Public Hall</li> </ul> |
| 27 January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bacchus Marsh U3A Meet and Greet, Bacchus Marsh Town Hall Supper Room</li> </ul>                       |
| 28 January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillor Briefings</li> </ul>                                                                        |
| 4 February  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ordinary Meeting of Council, Ballan Chambers</li> </ul>                                                |

**Cr Ally Munari*****Date: 4 February 2026***

|            |                                                                        |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 28 January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillor Briefings</li> </ul> |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Cr Tom Sullivan*****Date: 4 February 2026***

|             |                                                                                                                          |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 19 December | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scotsburn Fire 10 Year Event – Clarendon Recreation Reserve, Clarendon</li> </ul> |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Cr Paul Tatchell**

***Date:*** 4 February 2026

|            |                                                                                                                                               |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26 January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Australia Day Award Ceremony and Australian Citizenship Ceremony, Bacchus Marsh Public Hall</li> </ul> |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**19 URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved: Cr Jarrod Bingham**

**Seconded: Cr Ally Munari**

**That Council adjourn the meeting.**

**CARRIED**

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The meeting adjourned at 7.48pm.

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved: Cr Jarrod Bingham**

**Seconded: Cr Ally Munari**

**That Council resumes the meeting.**

**CARRIED**

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The meeting resumed at 7.54pm.

Cr John Keogh left the meeting at 7.55pm.

## **20 CLOSED SESSION OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

### **RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Jarrod Bingham

**Seconded:** Cr Ally Munari

**That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*:**

#### **20.1 C0183-2025/2026 - Elaine-Mount Mercer Road & Bamganie Road Rehabilitation**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1) - g(i) and g(ii) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that relates to trade secrets and 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.

#### **20.2 C0178-2025/2026, Ballan-Meredith Road, Morrisons - Road Rehabilitation (Ch 17301 - Ch 20165)**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1) - g(i) and g(ii) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that relates to trade secrets and 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.

#### **20.3 C0186-2025/2026 Griffith Street, Maddingley Northern Shared Path**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1) - g(i) and g(ii) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that relates to trade secrets and 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.

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved: Cr Moira Berry**

**Seconded: Cr Ally Munari**

**That Council moves out of Closed Session and resumes the Open Session of Council.**

**CARRIED**

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Cr John Keogh returned to the meeting at 7.56pm.

**19 MEETING CLOSURE**

The Meeting closed at 7.56pm.

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**