CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, 22 October 2013

To be held at the
Council Conference and Reception Centre
City Hall, Little Malop Street, Geelong
commencing at 7.00p.m.

COUNCIL:

	(G21 Geelong Regional Alliance, Governance Regional Cities, Women in Community Life)
Cr. T. Ansett *(Windermere)*	(Heritage, Rural Communities)
Cr. L. Ellis *(Coryule)*	(Coastal Communities, Infrastructure, Parks and Gardens)
Cr. J. Farrell *(Beangala)*	(Community Safety, Education and Youth)
Cr. K. Fisher *(Corio)*	(Community Development)
Cr. B. Harwood *(Kardinia)*	(Enterprise Geelong)
Cr. M. Heagney *(Brownbill)*	(Arts and Culture, Central Geelong)
Cr. J. Irvine *(Austin)*	(Sport and Recreation)
Cr. E. Kontelj *(Cowie)*	(Aboriginal Affairs, Multicultural Affairs)
Cr. Dr. S. Kontelj *(Kildare)*	(Finance)
Cr. R. Macdonald *(Cheetham)*	(Major Projects, Planning, Knowledge Economy)
Cr. R. Nelson *(Deakin)*	(Major Events, Tourism)
Cr. A. Richards *(Buckley)*	(Environment & Sustainability, Transport, Primary Industries)

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MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL CONFERENCE AND RECEPTION CENTRE CITY HALL, LITTLE MALOP STREET, GEELONG TUESDAY, 22 OCTOBER 2013 COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Cr B Harwood (Acting Mayor), Crs T Ansett, L Ellis, J Farrell, K Fisher, M Heagney, J Irvine, E Kontejl, S Kontelj*(7.32)

Also present: S Griffin (Chief Executive Officer), J Wall (General Manager Corporate Services), P Bettess (General Manager Economic Development, Planning and Tourism), B Gaudion (Acting General Manager City Services), J McMahon (General Manager Community Services), D Frost (General Manager Projects, Recreation and Central Geelong), R Bourke (Governance Co ordinator), J Merlo (Senior Media Officer)

OPENING: The Acting Mayor declared the meeting open at 7.00pm

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

The Acting Mayor acknowledged that we are here today on the land of the Wathaurong People and we pay our respects to Aboriginal elders past and present.

APOLOGIES: Crs Macdonald, Nelson, Richards

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Cr E Kontelj moved, Cr Irvine seconded –

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8 October 2013 be confirmed and signed.

Carried.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: Nil.

QUESTION TIME: Nil.

PETITIONS: Nil.

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION

Portfolio: **Planning - Cr Macdonald**
Source: **Economic Development, Planning and Tourism**
General Manager: **Peter Bettess**
Index Reference: **Reformed Zones**
Application: C300

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council support for a planning scheme amendment to implement the reformed residential zones for Victoria into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.

Summary

- The Minister for Planning has released the final details on the reform of Victoria's residential planning zones.
- The Residential 1, 2 and 3 zones are to be replaced with the Residential Growth Zone, General Residential Zone and Neighbourhood Residential Zone.
- The new residential zones will give more certainty about the type of development that can be expected in any residential area and give Councils better tools to identify areas where existing urban character will be protected and areas where appropriate increased urban densities can occur.
- Councils have been given until 1st July 2014 to implement the new zones, at which time the current zones, Residential 1, Residential 2 and Residential 3 Zones will no longer be available. The Minister for Planning will apply the General Residential Zone to all residential land where Councils have not finalised a translation.
- Council's Housing Diversity Strategy provides a policy basis to apply the new zones.
- It is recommended that Council apply all three new zones across the City's residential areas by applying:
    - the Residential Growth Zone to Increased Housing Diversity Areas;
    - the General Residential Zone to Incremental Change Areas and all other Residential 1 Zoned land; and
    - the Neighbourhood Residential Zone to parts of Newtown, Drumcondra and North Shore.
- The proposed application of the new residential zones is shown on the maps in Appendix 1 to this report.
- A standard planning scheme amendment is recommended which will provide for community consultation during a public exhibition phase.

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

Cr Heagney moved, Cr Ellis seconded -

That Council resolves to:

1) **Support the preparation and exhibition of an amendment to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme to implement the reformed residential zones for Victoria in the format outlined in this report and generally as detailed in Appendix 1, 2 and 3 to this report.**

2) **Request the Minister for Planning authorise the preparation of an amendment as detailed in this report and generally as outlined in Appendix 1, 2 and 3 to this report.**

Carried.

Background

The reformed residential zones will give more certainty about the type of development that can be expected in any residential area and give Councils better tools to identify areas where existing urban character will be protected and areas where appropriate urban densification can occur.

Three new residential zones have been created, each with specific roles:

- Residential Growth Zone (RGZ) – Enables new housing growth and diversity;
- General Residential Zone (GRZ) – Respect and preserve urban character while enabling modest housing growth and housing diversity; and
- Neighbourhood Residential Zone (NRZ) – Restricts housing growth in areas identified for urban preservation.

The zones were introduced into the Victorian Planning Provisions in July this year. Councils have been given until 1st July 2014 to implement the new zones, at which time the current zones, Residential 1, Residential 2 and Residential 3 Zones will no longer be available.

If Council does not pursue a planning scheme amendment to apply the three zones it is likely that the State Government will apply the General Residential Zone across all residential areas, which may undermine Council's existing housing policies.

Discussion

To implement the new zones a review of the existing policy framework and assessment as to how this aligns with the new residential zones has been undertaken. Council adopted a Housing Diversity Strategy in 2007 and its recommendations were implemented into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme in 2010.

Council's Housing Diversity Strategy and the G21 Regional Growth Plan (adopted by Council in August 2012) both outline issues facing the municipality in relation to housing diversity and providing for population growth. An aging population and a growing demand for more diversity in housing with a greater demand for smaller households, means that the City needs to ensure it provides for appropriately located infill opportunities. Infill development also makes more efficient use of existing infrastructure including community services.

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

A detailed implementation report has been prepared which outlines relevant policies, further work undertaken and justifies application of the new zones in detail. A summary of the review and key issues is outlined below.

Housing Diversity Strategy

The Housing Diversity Strategy (HDS) directs the density of housing change that can be expected in different parts of the municipality by defining a hierarchical approach which guides density and the type of development that can be expected in different areas. The Strategy identifies Key Development Areas, Increased Housing Diversity Areas and Incremental Change Areas.

An assessment has been undertaken of how the principles outlined for each of the new zones align with the policy direction for the areas defined in the Housing Diversity Strategy.

Key Development Areas

Key Development Areas (KDA) are for the most part defined as large existing and future development areas that have the potential to accommodate significant amounts of new medium and higher density housing, including mixed use development. A zoning regime to realise these policy objectives is established for the majority of these areas with the application of the Activity Centre Zone for Central Geelong commercial areas, Mixed Use Zone for Fyans/West Fyans Structure Plan Areas and Urban Growth Zone for Armstrong Creek.

The majority of residential areas in the Central Geelong KDA are zoned Residential 2. It is recommended that these be translated to the Residential Growth Zone. The Central Geelong Urban Design Guidelines provide recommendations in relation to development in these residential areas. These recommendations need to be reviewed to consider an appropriate translation into the planning scheme. It is recommended that this further work be documented in the planning scheme.

A large vacant site located adjacent to the Waurn Ponds Shopping Complex is a nominated KDA and is currently zoned Residential 1, the most appropriate zone to apply is the Residential Growth Zone given the clear alignment of purpose between KDA's and the RGZ.

Increased Housing Diversity Areas

Increased Housing Diversity Areas (IHDA's) are areas that have been identified due to their proximity to activity centres, train stations and town centres. The IHDA boundaries are based on walkable catchments of either 400m (five minute walk) or 800m (ten minute walk). The HDS aims to provide for a mix of high, medium and conventional density housing in these areas, with the density of development being highest within the commercial core of the area and lower at the edge of the area.

The existing planning policy acknowledges that neighbourhood character in the Increased Housing Diversity Areas will adapt and evolve over time, particularly within and on the edges of activity centres, where land use and development will intensify.

The purpose of the IHDA's can be met by applying the Residential Growth Zone and using local policy to provide more explicit direction around the design and built form of medium density housing in these areas.

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

Council's Municipal Strategic Statement recommends as further work the need to undertake more detailed planning to identify planning controls which will deliver increased housing density. This further work has been undertaken in order to inform implementation of the reformed residential zones, a detailed discussion on this further work is provided later in this report.

The Residential Growth Zone allows small scale commercial uses including Shop, Food and drink premises, Medical centre and Place of worship without a permit if conditions limiting their location and scale are met. In relation to food and drink premises and shop the condition for an as of right use include that the land must be located within 100 metres of a commercial zone or Mixed Use Zone and must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone and must have the same street frontage as the land in the commercial zone or Mixed Use Zone. A medical centre up to 250sqm is as of right, however it is noted that the car parking provisions of the planning scheme are still required to be met or if they cannot be a planning permit would be required to waive requirements.

Council's local planning policy in relation to discretionary uses in residential areas is proposed to be amended to include that where these uses are permit required that they are discouraged in residential areas.

Incremental Change Areas

Incremental Change Areas are residential areas in which new development is in keeping with the municipality's traditional suburban character and where only incremental change is expected. These areas are zoned Residential 3 currently and require the provision of larger private open space areas compared to the ResCode standard. These additional requirements ensure that the change that is experienced is in keeping with the existing character of these areas.

It is recommended that all Residential 3 zoned areas have the General Residential Zone applied. This zone is recommended as opposed to the Neighbourhood Residential Zone as this zone and Councils Housing Diversity Strategy recognise that modest housing growth will occur as opposed to the Neighbourhood Residential Zone which is recommended for areas where change is limited. The requirement for backyards larger than the ResCode standard in medium density developments will be retained in a schedule to the General Residential Zone.

Further work – Increased Housing Diversity Areas Study

An Increased Housing Diversity Area Study has been completed, which included a street by street survey of existing conditions, a desktop analysis of relevant policy and a detailed assessment of existing lot sizes and density, building heights, street setbacks, site coverage, public realm quality, constraints and opportunities. This work has informed preparation of key design recommendations for each IHDA.

Generally the Study found that there is significant opportunity for increased housing diversity within all of the IHDA's. Housing diversity can be achieved in all of the IHDAs by encouraging a mix of residential building typologies including infill (detached), semi-detached, attached, terraced and low-rise apartments.

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

The recommendations generally encourage innovative architecture, high quality, site responsive medium density housing development sympathetic to unique characteristics of sites. Recessive elements for buildings three storeys or more are encouraged in appropriate locations within all of the urban IHDAs, and a building height limit of three storeys (10.5 metres) in coastal IHDAs is encouraged to maintain a canopied or coastal vegetation character. Tree planting was identified as being a significant attribute for the future preferred character of all IHDAs.

It is recognised that housing at higher densities can have a greater impact on neighbourhood character than traditional detached housing. As housing density intensifies it is important that design quality improves to ensure a positive contribution to the neighbourhood is achieved.

Well designed, site responsive, contemporary medium density housing will replace the existing housing stock and intensify development patterns overtime in the IHDA's. The intensity of redevelopment will be highest around the activity centre core and lower at the edge of the IHDA with this principle being embedded in the Housing Diversity Strategy.

It was noted that some IHDAs had larger or more areas with development constraints such as precincts with a heritage overlay, or design considerations such as boundary edge areas surrounded by heritage places. However, all had high opportunity areas and an ability to accommodate change across each IHDA.

It is recommended that a Local Planning Policy be introduced in order to manage the change within these areas in relation to built form and character outcomes, as well as balance the constraints such as heritage places, significant vegetation, topography and public spaces within each IHDA. The proposed policy reiterates that these areas are changing and have an evolving character.

The Residential Growth Zone provides the ability to vary ResCode standards in order to assist with realising policy objectives. It is recommended that ResCode standards are varied in relation to minimum street setback, site coverage and private open space for coastal and urban IHDAs.

Geelong West/Newtown area

Further work clauses in the MSS identify the need to:

- implement the Newtown Heritage Study Review 2008;
- conduct a Heritage Review in the Ashby precinct in Geelong West and
- review the application of appropriate zones/overlays, consistent with the principles of the Housing Diversity Strategy, surrounding the neighbourhood centres of Pakington Street Newtown, Pakington Street Geelong West, Aberdeen Street Newtown and Shannon Avenue Manifold Heights.

Council previously determined that the heritage studies needed to be completed prior to any IHDAs being nominated in the Geelong West / Newtown Areas. The Ashby and Newtown Heritage Reviews have both been completed and implemented into the planning scheme. As part of the current work to implement the new zones a detailed review of this area has been undertaken. Recommendations in relation to the various areas are detailed below.

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

The complexity of opportunities and constraints in this area require a unique approach to determining the areas appropriate for increased housing diversity.

This area is only a short distance from Central Geelong, the inner Geelong Stations and the Waterfront. It is well positioned to take advantage of the employment and recreation opportunities afforded by these areas. Within the review area there is also a plethora of retail, education and civic services. The retail centres within the review area are:

Centre	Facilities	Centre type – Retail Strategy
Pakington Street – Geelong West	Two supermarkets; sub-regional catchment for fashion, civic and entertainment uses	Community Centre
Pakington Street – Newtown	Fashion and cafes; no supermarket	Neighbourhood Centre
Shannon Avenue – Geelong West / Manifold Heights	Two supermarkets; some commercial; takeaway restaurants	Neighbourhood Centre
Aberdeen Street – Newtown	Supermarket, hotel, medical centre	Neighbourhood Centre

The methodology used to identify increased housing diversity areas by the Housing Diversity Strategy was the establishment of a hierarchy of centres based on an assessment of the walkable catchment of the respective centres; 400m for neighbourhood centres and 800m for sub-regional centres.

The number of centres within close proximity, the variety of housing stock and complexity of constraints in this area requires a unique approach to ensure that a rational and balanced planning outcome is achieved.

The Pakington Street Geelong West centre is identified in the Retail Strategy as a Community Centre – that is somewhere between a sub-regional centre and neighbourhood centre. Since the preparation of the Retail Strategy in 2006 the Pakington Street centre has grown to include a second full line supermarket and draws a sub-regional catchment for its offer of high quality fashion and café culture.

For the purposes of assessing the walkable catchments it is appropriate to consider 400m from each of the neighbourhood centres and 800m from Pakington Street, Geelong West.

<u>Pakington Street Geelong West</u>

The inner urban character of Geelong West and Pakington Street and its proximity to Central Geelong make it a popular location for many different households. The range of services and centres within close proximity make this pocket of Geelong West suitable to accommodate housing growth.

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

Whilst the average lot size (420 sqm) and corresponding residential density are comparably high in the Geelong context, there is still capacity to redevelop many underutilised sites and opportunities to extend and develop existing heritage properties consistent with the policy objectives of the existing heritage overlays.

It is recommended that Geelong West be included in the Residential Growth Zone (RGZ). Whilst the heritage significance of some precincts will limit the capacity within these areas there are many sites and streets that offer the opportunity to deliver new housing in this popular location. Some variations to the open space and front setback ResCode provisions will further encourage new development in this area that is consistent with the area's inner urban feel.

There is a small pocket of housing adjoining Church Street that is outside the walkable catchment of one of the retail centres however it is recommended that these areas be included in the RGZ due to the multitude of services and centres available to these areas and the need to provide logical boundaries to the new planning zones.

Aberdeen Street Newtown and Shannon Avenue Manifold Heights

The 400m walking catchment of Shannon Avenue and Aberdeen Street centres are recommended for the RGZ consistent with the approach taken with other comparable neighbourhood centres in the municipality. Both centres serve the local shopping needs of nearby residents.

It is recommended that these centres be identified as IHDAs and included in the Incorporated Document for Key Development and Increased Housing Diversity Areas. DDO14 should be removed from this area consistent with the planning controls in place for IHDAs.

The area west of Bostock Avenue is recommended for the General Residential Zone – Schedule 1. This area has a consistent character of single detached dwellings in generous garden settings. New development in this area should provide additional open space to ensure consistency with the existing character of the area.

Pakington Street Newtown

Within the suburb of Newtown there is a distinct pocket of housing located on the Newtown Hill. This area is one of two areas identified in the City of Newtown Urban Conservation Study as having 'regional' rather than just 'local' significance. The significance of the area is distinguished by fine housing reflecting the lifestyles and tastes of some of Geelong's wealthier families during the last century and containing many significant buildings of architectural merit. The large garden settings and the well established street trees also contribute to the unique character of this area. Given the significance of this area the Neighbourhood Residential Zone is recommended. Outside the Newtown Hill area there is more variety in the housing stock and streetscapes and there are examples of similar housing stock elsewhere in Geelong. While there are a number of heritage precincts they are of local significance only. These areas have also seen a higher proportion of new development over recent years providing a greater mix of housing stock within the area, including heritage precincts. The General Residential Zone is recommended for these areas.

The 400m walking catchment of the Newtown – Pakington St centre is not recommended for RGZ like other neighbourhood centres. Whilst it is a popular and vibrant café and fashion strip the centre does not offer nearby residents the daily shopping needs that would be expected at a neighbourhood centre. However there still remains opportunity for new housing within this area and the General Residential Zone is recommended.

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

Latrobe Terrace frontage

There is a broad range of building types and uses within the Residential 1 and Residential 2 zoned land fronting LaTrobe Terrace. This road is a six lane arterial road which is not ideally suited to residential development given the amenity issues associated with high traffic levels. Over the years a number of offices, medical centres and food and drink uses have emerged.

The application of RGZ on LaTrobe Terrace is recommended. Most of the strip is developed, including many substantial heritage properties. The RGZ offers a broader range of non-residential uses allowable with a permit which would be appropriate in this busy corridor. The alternative to facilitate non-residential uses would be an extensive expansion of the mixed use or commercial zones that could undermine planning for other centres. The application of the RGZ provides a good balance of flexibility for landowners and guidance that can be provided by council through the permit process.

Other Recommendations

Hamlyn Heights – Vines Road Increased Housing Diversity Area

This area was nominated as a potential IHDA in the Housing Diversity Strategy in 2007. Since this time the centre has further developed with expansion of the community and education facilities, new and expanded retail development and streetscape upgrades.

It is recommended that a 400m walking catchment around the centre be recognised as an Increased Housing Diversity Area and this be included in the Incorporated Document in the for Key Development and Increased Housing Diversity Areas.

It is recommended that this area have the same zoning regime applied as other IHDAs with the Residential Growth Zone being applied and the DDO14 be removed from the IHDA.

Translation of all other land zoned Residential 1

There is a range of land zoned Residential 1 in the municipality. These areas include land located outside Increased Housing Diversity Areas that are not located within the Residential 3 Zone and include both newer residential estates and established residential areas.

It is recommended that the General Residential Zone be applied in these areas.

Ocean Grove

A number of issues have been raised over recent years by Council's planners and the community with the application and operation of the Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 7 – Ocean Grove Coastal Area (SLO7). The review into the implementation of the reformed residential zones has considered how the policy objectives of the Housing Diversity Strategy, SLO7 and application of the reformed residential zones should be managed.

The objectives of the SLO7 are to provide a balance between roof tops and vegetation when viewed from a distance, encourage development that seeks to maximise views and encourage space for planting and the retention of vegetation.

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

The Ocean Grove IHDA is located around and supports the Town Centre. It is clear Council policy to promote housing density and change in this area through the Housing Diversity Strategy, Ocean Grove Structure Plan and Ocean Grove Town Centre Urban Design Framework (currently being prepared). The application of the Residential Growth Zone is considered to best reflect these policy directions.

As part of the review the boundary of the IHDA has been revisited to ensure that any areas of particularly significant character are not unduly affected by new development. There are a number of areas that display exceptional landscape characteristics that are articulated in the SLO7. The area south of the properties fronting Orton Street should not be included in the IHDA and should be included as an Incremental Change Area. These areas typically interface with coastal vegetation reserves, stands of remnant vegetation or are highly visible from public viewing locations. The scale and character of new development in these areas should be carefully considered to ensure that the significant vegetation and landscape characteristics are maintained.

To deliver a balanced approach in the Ocean Grove IHDA the objectives of the Housing Diversity Strategy and SLO7 both need to be considered. The SLO7 does potentially impact on the capacity of the Ocean Grove IHDA to deliver the housing change anticipated in an IHDA. However, a review of the area has shown it is delivering housing change, increases in density and quality architectural styles when compared to other IHDA's. To this end it is recommended that the SLO7 be retained with improvements to remove the exemption for a permit to remove tea tree where it is indigenous to the area, include only relevant decision guidelines and include application requirements which require the need for a design response including a view impact analysis.

North Shore

The Neighbourhood Residential Zone (NRZ) is recommended for the residential pocket in North Shore. The NRZ can be used in areas where constraints and natural or other hazards restrict housing growth. The maximum number of dwellings on a lot in the NRZ may not exceed two.

The North Shore residential area is constrained by the proximity of port activities and industrial zoned land and the need to manage potential conflicts between port uses and the amenity of existing residences. These issues were considered in the adopted Port Structure Plan 2007 and the Environmental Significance Overlay 5 (ESO5) – Port of Geelong Environs.

The Structure Plan recognises the economic importance of the Port and the need to manage the interface between port and sensitive residential uses. A key direction of the Plan is to minimise future amenity conflict in the Port and interface area. The ESO5 was introduced in 2012 to manage potential conflicts between land in the port environs and the adjoining Port of Geelong. Land within this overlay should not be developed for any purpose that might compromise the long term protection and expansion of port operations infrastructure and associated storage facilities.

The use of the NRZ in North Shore and its restrictions on the number of dwellings allowed on a lot are consistent with these directions.

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

Drumcondra

Like the Newtown Hill area discussed earlier the Geelong West Urban Conservation Areas Study has identified the Drumcondra area as having substantially high quality homes with a number of dwellings designed by local notable architects Buchan Laird, Seeley King and Everett. The area is significant for its almost exclusively detached housing, wide streets with footpaths and street tree plantings, allotment sizes which allow side boundary and generous front setbacks with substantial gardens and consistent materials and styles with rich architectural detailing. For these reasons the Neighbourhood Residential Zone is recommended.

Residential Character Study: Character Precinct Brochures (2001)

The existing Residential Character Study: Character Precinct Brochures prepared in 2001 have been reviewed as part of the work to implement the new zones. The need for a review of the brochures is identified in the planning scheme.

This review has been completed as part of the new zone translation and as a result it is recommended the Study be removed as a reference document in the Planning Scheme for the reasons outlined below.

The Study surveyed the residential character of each part of Geelong, described that character through words and photographs and produced guidelines in the form of brochures to maintain, enhance and improve the character of each part of the municipality. The Study acknowledged the challenges of identifying and describing residential character in Geelong given the diversity of townships and suburbs in the municipality.

The Study dates back to 2001 and development over the last 12 years has seen some significant changes to townships and suburbs across the municipality. More contemporary architecture, two storey forms, prevalence of garaging, reduced front setbacks and an increase in housing typologies mean the existing and preferred character statements do not necessarily reflect what is occurring in 2013. A key criticism of the brochures is that they are generic given the large areas they cover.

The need for developments to have regard to neighbourhood character is embedded in the planning scheme with reference to this within state and local planning policy, notably ResCode which guides the assessment of medium density housing includes neighbourhood character as a specific objective that needs to considered.

More detailed discussion is provided in relation to this recommendation in the implementation report on reformed residential zones.

Urban Growth Zoned Areas

Key growth areas in the municipality are zoned Urban Growth Zone (UGZ) include Armstrong Creek and a current proposal to apply the zone to the Lara west growth area.

The UGZ is impacted by the new zones as the applied zones will need to be amended to refer to the new residential zones. It is proposed that this is resolved as part of a separate amendment process.

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

Summary of Recommendations

Appendix 1 to this report provides a summary of the translation and maps identifying the proposed zone changes.

Appendix 2 to this report provides a summary of changes required to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme to implement the recommendations.

Appendix 3 to this report provides a copy of the key policy changes including proposed new zones and schedule, new local planning policy for Increased Housing Diversity Areas and amended Incorporated Document "Key Development and Increased Housing Diversity Areas."

The following table provides a summary of the proposed implementation of the reformed residential zones:

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

Proposed Zone	**Local areas**	**Design and siting - ResCode variations**	**Maximum building height**	**Maximum no. of dwellings on a lot**
Residential Growth Zone (no schedule)	• Waurn Ponds Key Development Area • Residential 2 Zone areas around the periphery of Central Geelong • Latrobe Terrace frontage area	None specified	Should be no higher than 13.5 metres	None specified
Residential Growth Zone Schedule 1	• Urban Increased Housing Diversity Areas (including Geelong West, Vines Road and Manifold Heights areas)	• Front setback – 4 metres • Site coverage – maximum 70% • Private open space – minimum area of 20 square metres with a minimum width of 3 metres	Should not exceed 13.5 metres	None specified
Residential Growth Zone Schedule 2	• Coastal Increased Housing Diversity Areas (around coastal town centres)	• Front setback – 5.5 metres • Site coverage – maximum 70% • Private open space – minimum area of 20 square metres with a minimum width of 3 metres	Must not exceed 10.5 metres	None specified
General Residential Zone (no schedule)	• Newtown (Chilwell) • All other Residential 1 Zoned areas	None Specified	Should not exceed 9 metres	None specified
General Residential Zone Schedule 1	• Incremental Change Areas currently zoned Residential 3	• Landscaping - one canopy tree per dwelling • Private open space – A total of 60 m² with a minimum area at the side or rear of the dwelling of 40m² with a minimum dimension of 5 metres.	Must not exceed 9 metres	None specified
Neighbourhood Residential Zone (no schedule)	• North Shore	None specified	Must not exceed 8 metres	Two dwellings
Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 1	• Newtown (hill) • Drumcondra	• Landscaping - one canopy tree per dwelling • Private open space – A total of 60 m² with a minimum area at the side or rear of the dwelling of 40m² with a minimum dimension of 5 metres.	Must not exceed 8 metres	Two dwellings

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

In order to implement the new zones it is recommended that Council undertake a standard planning scheme amendment process enabling public consultation during statutory exhibition of the amendment.

Some Councils across Victoria have requested the Minister to approve a 20(4) amendment in order to implement the new zones. This process does not provide for public consultation. Given the additional strategic work that has been undertaken to inform the proposed translation into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, it is considered appropriate that a standard planning scheme amendment process be undertaken.

Environmental Implications

This report has positive environmental implications in relation to encouraging a more sustainable urban form with medium density housing being located near activity centres, town centres and train stations. The new zones provide for greater clarity in relation to the policy difference for various residential areas, which will provide for better outcomes in terms of directing medium density housing to locations where .

Financial Implications

This report does not result in any additional financial implications for Council.

Current approved budget will cover costs associated with a planning scheme amendment.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The recommendations of this report comply with State Planning Policy in relation to the Practice Note for applying the new residential zones prepared by the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure. As outlined in this report the recommendations are based on Council's adopted Housing Diversity Strategy which is implemented in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.

Alignment to City Plan

The recommendations of this report are consistent with City Plan in relation to promoting a sustainable built environment, sustainable land use and development, increased public transport use, liveable neighbourhoods, quality urban design and built environment and the conservation of historic buildings.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

Officers involved in the drafting of this report own property affected by the proposed planning scheme amendment and therefore have an indirect interest in relation to the recommendations of this report.

1. AMENDMENT C300 - REFORMED RESIDENTIAL ZONES IMPLEMENTATION (CONT'D)

Risk Assessment

There are risks associated with Council not resolving a position in relation to implementing the new residential zones, as the Government has stated that it intends to remove the existing zones from the Victorian Planning Provisions on 1st July 2014. Therefore Council must implement the new zones prior to this date.

As outlined in this report, a statutory public exhibition process will be undertaken as part of the standard amendment process, which will provide for community consultation.

Social Considerations

The recommendations of this report provide for managed residential growth in the municipality. Increased density and infill housing is directed to areas that are well serviced which provide good opportunities to meet the demands for smaller households. Incremental change areas provide a balance of providing a mix of housing stock while maintaining the garden character of identified areas. A range of housing is important to provide for the different housing needs in our community.

Human Rights Charter

Human rights relative to the subject matter of this report, such as "ratepayers property rights and a right to a fair hearing" have been considered. The amendment process provides an opportunity for submissions and an opportunity for a fair hearing.

Consultation and Communication

This report recommends that Council undertake a planning scheme amendment in order to implement the new zones. As part of this process a statutory public consultation process will be undertaken, this will give the opportunity for submissions to be made by parties impacted by the amendment.

Appendix 1 - Summary of reformed residential zones implementation

Existing housing policy	Recommended zone	Neighbourhood Character	Building heights
Key development areas ***Purpose:*** *accommodate medium and high density housing* **Increased housing diversity areas** ***Purpose:*** *accommodate medium density housing in residential areas with more intensive development being located closest to the core of activity centres*	**Residential Growth Zone** ***Purpose:*** *enables new housing growth and diversity* ***Application:*** *...activities areas, town centres, train stations and other areas suitable for increased housing activity…* **Schedules for local variations** • Coastal areas • Urban areas	**Character** *Character of area will change and evolve over time.* *A local planning policy to guide preferred character in coastal and urban areas.* **Building types** ***Medium density housing*** *- single dwellings, dual occupancies, units, townhouses and apartments*	**Coastal areas** *Must not exceed - 10.5m (up to 3 storey)* *Third storey elements to be recessed* **Urban areas** *Should not exceed - 13.5m (up to 4 storey)* *Third & fourth storey elements to be recessed*
Residential areas – residential 1 zone ***Purpose:*** *Accommodate appropriate medium density housing in Residential 1 zoned areas* **Incremental change area – residential 3 zone** ***Purpose:*** *accommodate incremental change in Residential 3 zoned areas*	**General Residential Zone** ***Purpose:*** *enables moderate housing growth and diversity while respecting urban character* ***Application:*** *most residential areas for moderate growth consistent with existing neighbourhood character* **Schedules for local variations** • additional open space & landscaping in Incremental change areas	**Character** *New development to be responsive to the established character of the area* **Building types** ***Single dwellings and some medium density housing -*** *single dwellings, dual occupancies, some villa units and townhouses, where appropriate*	**Residential areas** *Should not exceed - 9m (3 storey)* **Incremental change areas** *Must not exceed - 9m (3 storey)*
Incremental change area – unique character **Newtown & Drumcondra** ***Purpose:*** *Preserve unique garden and spacious streetscape character* **Development constraints - North Shore** ***Purpose:*** *Minimise the potential for future land use conflicts between the port and port environs.*	**Neighbourhood Residential Zone** ***Purpose:*** *restricts housing growth in areas identified for urban preservation* ***Application:*** *In areas where single dwellings prevail and change is not identified* **Schedules for local variations** • additional open space & landscaping in incremental change areas	**Character** *Restricts housing growth and protects identified neighbourhood character* **Building types** ***Single dwellings*** *and dual occupancies under some circumstances*	**Residential areas** *Must not exceed - 8m (2 storey)* **Incremental change areas** *Must not exceed - 8m (2 storey)*

* refer to following maps for boundaries of each zone

Legend

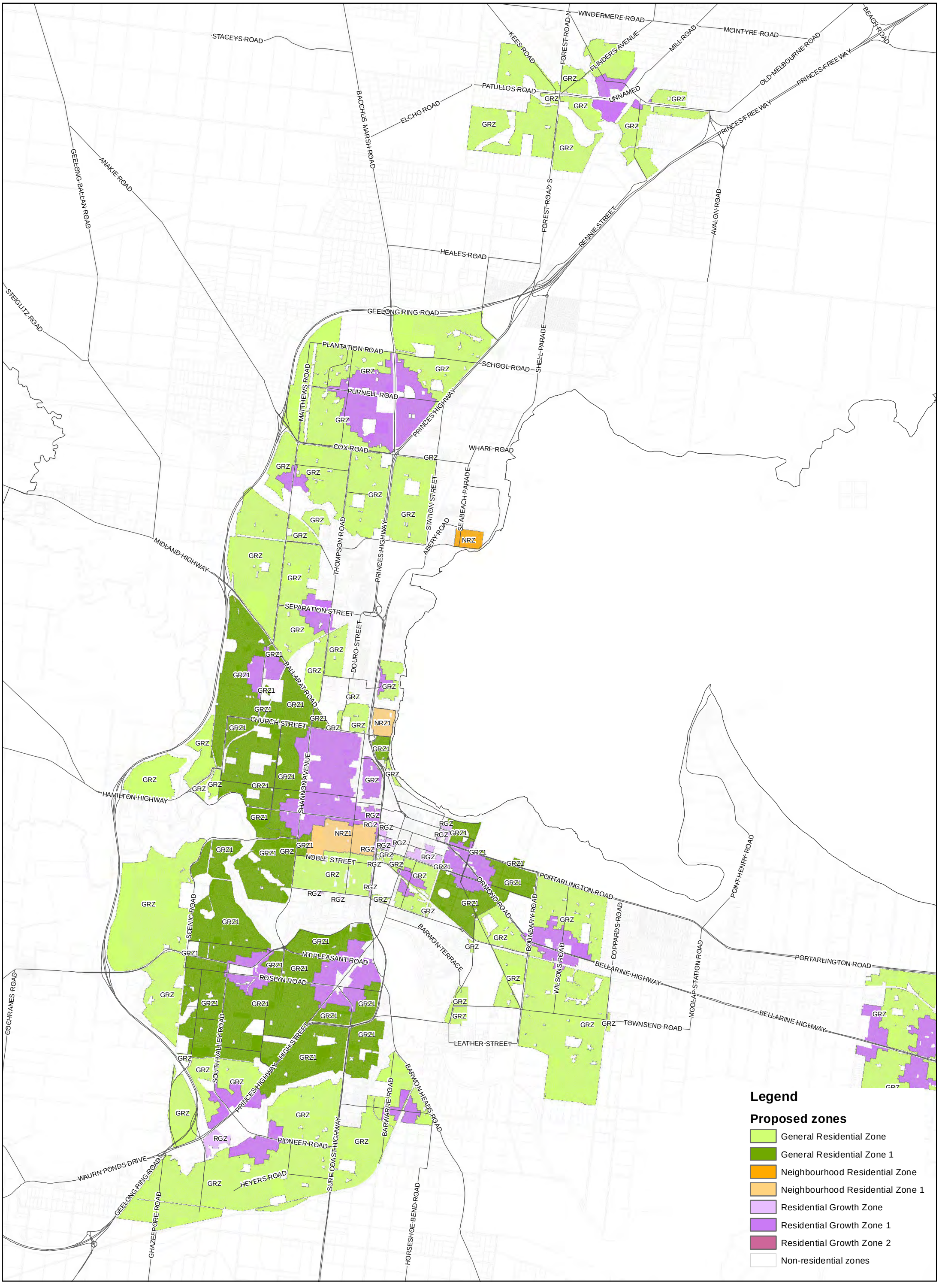
Proposed zones

- General Residential Zone
- General Residential Zone 1
- Neighbourhood Residential Zone
- Neighbourhood Residential Zone 1
- Residential Growth Zone
- Residential Growth Zone 2
- Non-residential zones

Reformed Residential Zone Implementation | draft | C300

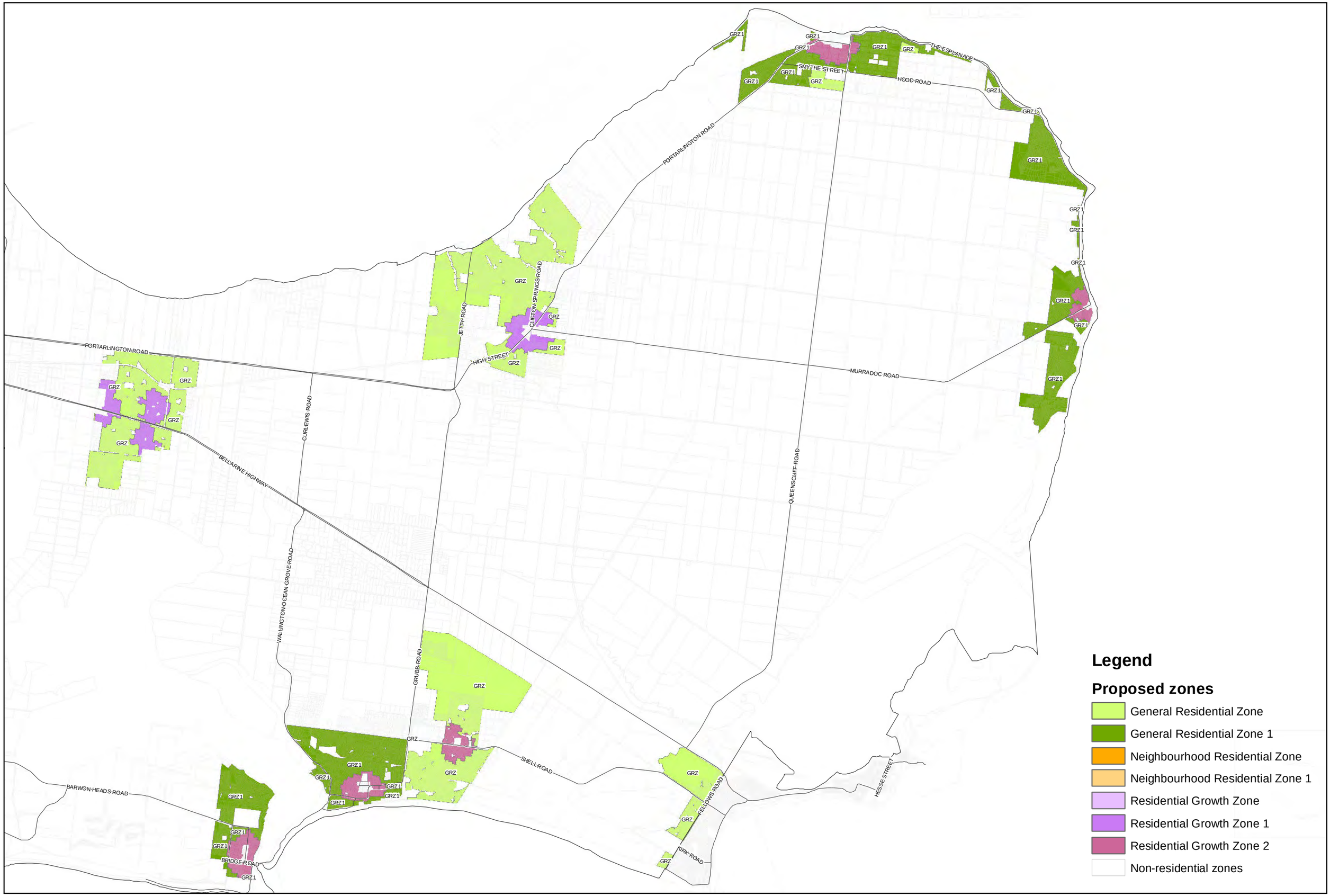
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CITY OF GREATER GEELONG



Reformed Residential Zone Implementation | draft | C300| Urban Geelong

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG



Reformed Residential Zone Implementation | draft | C300 | Bellarine Peninsula

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Appendix 2 – Summary of changes to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme for Amendment C300 Reformed Residential Zones

Maps

- Apply the Residential Growth Zone, General Residential Zone and Neighbourhood Residential Zone and associated schedules to land within the municipality as shown in Appendix 1.
- Delete Design and Development Overlay 14 from land located in the Hamlyn Heights – Vines Road, Newtown – Aberdeen Street and Manifold Heights – Shannon Avenue increased housing diversity area's

Zones

- Introduce Residential Growth Zone Schedule 1, 2 and 3 **(refer to Appendix 3)**
- Introduce General Residential Zone Schedule 1 **(refer to Appendix 3)**
- Introduce Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 1 **(refer to Appendix 3)**

Overlays

- Amend Schedule 7 to Significant Landscape Overlay
- Amend Schedules 8 to the Significant Landscape Overlay
- Amend Schedule 9 to the Significant Landscape Overlay
- Amend Schedule 19 to the Design and Development Overlay

Municipal Strategic Statement

- Amend Clause 21.06 Settlement and Housing
- Amend Clause 21.09 Central Geelong

Local Planning Policies

- Amend Clause 22.01 Discretionary Uses in Residential Zones
- Insert a new Clause 22.63 Increased Housing Diversity Areas **(refer to Appendix 3)**

Incorporated Document

- Amend the Incorporated document "Key Development and Increased Housing Development Areas" **(refer to Appendix 3)**. The amendments include the addition of:
    - Hamlyn Heights – Vines Road IHDA
    - Geelong West, Manifold Heights & Newtown IHDA
    - Alter the boundary of the Ocean Grove IHDA
- Amend Schedule to Clause 81.01 to reflect the updated Incorporated Document

Appendix 3 – New zones and policy

The following documents are included in this appendix:

- Residential Growth Zone
- Residential Growth Zone Schedule 1
- Residential Growth Zone Schedule 2
- General Residential Zone
- General Residential Zone Schedule 1
- Neighbourhood Residential Zone
- Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 1
- Local Planning Policy Clause 22.63 Increased Housing Diversity Area
- Incorporated Document “Key Development and Increased Housing Diversity Areas Amended July 2009 Updated September 2013”

32.07 RESIDENTIAL GROWTH ZONE

01/07/2013
V8

Shown on the planning scheme map as **RGZ** with a number (if shown).

Purpose

To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.

To provide housing at increased densities in buildings up to and including four storey buildings.

To encourage a diversity of housing types in locations offering good access to services and transport including activities areas.

To encourage a scale of development that provides a transition between areas of more intensive use and development and areas of restricted housing growth.

To allow educational, recreational, religious, community and a limited range of other non-residential uses to serve local community needs in appropriate locations.

32.07-1 Table of uses

01/07/2013
V8

Section 1 - Permit not required

Use	Condition
Animal keeping (other than Animal boarding)	Must be no more than 2 animals.
Bed and breakfast	No more than 10 persons may be accommodated away from their normal place of residence. At least 1 car parking space must be provided for each 2 persons able to be accommodated away from their normal place of residence.
Dependent person's unit	Must be the only dependent person's unit on the lot.
Dwelling (other than Bed and breakfast)	
Food and drink premises (other than Convenience restaurant, Hotel and Tavern)	The land must be located within 100 metres of a commercial zone or Mixed Use Zone and must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone. The land must have the same street frontage as the land in the commercial zone or Mixed Use Zone. The leasable floor area must not exceed 100 square metres.
Home occupation	
Informal outdoor recreation	
Medical centre	The gross floor area of all buildings must not exceed 250 square metres.
Minor utility installation	
Place of worship	The gross floor area of all buildings must not exceed 250 square metres.

Use	Condition
	The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.
Railway	
Residential aged care facility	
Shop (other than Adult sex bookshop and Bottle shop)	The land must be located within 100 metres of a commercial zone or Mixed Use Zone and must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone. The land must have the same street frontage as the land in the commercial zone or Mixed Use Zone. The leasable floor area must not exceed 100 square metres.
Tramway	
Any use listed in Clause 62.01	Must meet the requirements of Clause 62.01.

Section 2 – Permit required

Use	Condition
Accommodation (other than Dependent person's unit, Dwelling and Residential aged care facility)	
Agriculture (other than Animal keeping, Animal training, Apiculture, Horse stables and Intensive animal husbandry)	
Animal keeping (other than Animal boarding) – if the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be no more than 5 animals.
Car park	Must be used in conjunction with another use in Section 1 or 2.
Car wash	The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.
Community market	
Convenience restaurant	The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.
Convenience shop – if the Section 1 conditions to Shop are not met.	
Hotel	
Leisure and recreation (other than Informal outdoor recreation and Motor racing track)	
Office (other than Medical centre)	The land must be located within 100 metres of a commercial zone. The land must have the same street frontage as the land in the commercial zone. The leasable floor area must not exceed 250 square metres.

Use	Condition
Place of assembly (other than Amusement parlour, Carnival, Circus, Nightclub and Place of worship)	
Plant nursery	
Service station	The site must either: ▪ Adjoin a commercial zone or industrial zone. ▪ Adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone. The site must not exceed either: ▪ 3000 square metres. ▪ 3600 square metres if it adjoins on two boundaries a road in a Road Zone.
Shop (other than Adult sex bookshop, Bottle shop and Convenience shop) – if the Section 1 conditions are not met	The land must be located within 100 metres of a commercial zone or Mixed Use Zone. The land must have the same street frontage as the land in the commercial zone or Mixed Use Zone.
Store	Must be in a building, not a dwelling, and used to store equipment, goods, or motor vehicles used in conjunction with the occupation of a resident of a dwelling on the lot.
Tavern	
Utility installation (other than Minor utility installation and Telecommunications facility)	
Any other use not in Section 1 or 3	

Section 3 – Prohibited

Use
Adult sex bookshop
Amusement parlour
Animal boarding
Animal training
Bottle shop
Brothel
Cinema based entertainment facility
Horse stables
Industry (other than Car wash)
Intensive animal husbandry
Motor racing track
Nightclub
Retail premises (other than Community market, Food and drink premises, Plant nursery and Shop)
Saleyard

Use
Stone extraction
Transport terminal
Warehouse (other than Store)

32.07-2 Subdivision

01/07/2013
V8

Permit requirement

A permit is required to subdivide land.

An application to subdivide land, other than an application to subdivide land into lots each containing an existing dwelling or car parking space, must meet the requirements of Clause 56 and:

- Must meet all of the objectives included in the clauses specified in the following table.
- Should meet all of the standards included in the clauses specified in the following table.

Class of subdivision	Objectives and standards to be met
60 or more lots	All except Clause 56.03-5.
16 – 59 lots	All except Clauses 56.03-1 to 56.03-3, 56.03-5, 56.06-1 and 56.06-3.
3 – 15 lots	All except Clauses 56.02-1, 56.03-1 to 56.03-4, 56.05-2, 56.06-1, 56.06-3 and 56.06-6.
2 lots	Clauses 56.03-5, 56.04-2, 56.04-3, 56.04-5, 56.06-8 to 56.09-2.

32.07-3 Construction and extension of one dwelling on a lot

01/07/2013
V8

Permit requirement

A permit is required to construct or extend one dwelling on a lot less than 300 square metres

A development must meet the requirements of Clause 54.

No permit required

No permit is required to:

- Construct or carry out works normal to a dwelling.
- Construct or extend an out-building (other than a garage or carport) on a lot provided the gross floor area of the out-building does not exceed 10 square metres and the maximum building height is not more than 3 metres above ground level.

32.07-4 Construction and extension of two or more dwellings on a lot, dwellings on common property and residential buildings

01/07/2013
V8

Permit requirement

A permit is required to:

- Construct a dwelling if there is at least one dwelling existing on the lot.
- Construct two or more dwellings on a lot.
- Extend a dwelling if there are two or more dwellings on the lot.
- Construct or extend a dwelling if it is on common property.
- Construct or extend a residential building.

A permit is required to construct or extend a front fence within 3 metres of a street if:

- The fence is associated with 2 or more dwellings on a lot or a residential building, and
- The fence exceeds the maximum height specified in Clause 55.06-2.

A development must meet the requirements of Clause 55. This does not apply to a development of five or more storeys, excluding a basement.

A permit is not required to construct one dependent person's unit on a lot.

32.07-5 Requirements of Clause 54 and Clause 55

01/07/2013
V8

A schedule to this zone may specify the requirements of:

- Standards A3, A5, A6, A10, A11, A17 and A20 of Clause 54 of this scheme.
- Standards B6, B8, B9, B13, B17, B18, B28 and B32 of Clause 55 of this scheme.

If a requirement is not specified in a schedule to this zone, the requirement set out in the relevant standard of Clause 54 or Clause 55 applies.

32.07-6 Buildings and works associated with a Section 2 use

01/07/2013
V8

A permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 32.07-1.

32.07-7 Maximum building height requirement for a dwelling or residential building

01/07/2013
V8

The maximum height of a building used for the purpose of a dwelling or residential building must not exceed the building height specified in a schedule to this zone.

This does not apply to:

- An extension of an existing building that exceeds the specified building height provided that the extension does not exceed the existing building height.
- A building which exceeds the specified building height for which a valid building permit was in effect prior to the introduction of this provision.

If no building height is specified in a schedule to this zone, the maximum building height should not exceed 13.5 metres unless the slope of the natural ground level at any cross section wider than 8 metres of the site of the building is 2.5 degrees or more, in which case the height of the building should not exceed 14.5 metres.

This building height requirement replaces the maximum building height specified in Standard A4 in Clause 54 and Standard B7 in Clause 55.

32.07-8 Buildings on lots that abut another residential zone

01/07/2013
V8

Any buildings or works constructed on a lot that abuts land which is in a General Residential Zone, Neighbourhood Residential Zone, or Township Zone must meet the requirements of Clauses 55.04-1, 55.04-2, 55.04-3, 55.04-5 and 55.04-6 along that boundary.

32.07-9 Application requirements

01/07/2013
V8

An application must be accompanied by the following information, as appropriate:

- For a residential development of four storeys or less, the neighbourhood and site description and design response as required in Clause 54 and Clause 55.
- For residential development of five or more storeys, an urban context report and design response as required in Clause 52.35.
- For an application for subdivision, a site and context description and design response as required in Clause 56.
- Plans drawn to scale and dimensioned which show:
  - Site shape, size, dimensions and orientation.
  - The siting and use of existing and proposed buildings.
  - Adjacent buildings and uses.
  - The building form and scale.
  - Setbacks to property boundaries.
- The likely effects, if any, on adjoining land, including noise levels, traffic, the hours of delivery and despatch of good and materials, hours of operation and light spill, solar access and glare.
- Any other application requirements specified in a schedule to this zone.

If in the opinion of the responsible authority an application requirement is not relevant to the evaluation of an application, the responsible authority may waive or reduce the requirement.

32.07-10 Exemption from notice and review

01/07/2013
V8

Subdivision

An application to subdivide land is exempt from the notice requirements of Section 52(1)(a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the Act.

32.07-11 Decision guidelines

01/07/2013
V8

Before deciding on an application, in addition to the decision guidelines in Clause 65, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

General

- The State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.
- The purpose of this zone
- Any other decision guidelines specified in a schedule to this zone.

Subdivision

- The pattern of subdivision and its effect on the spacing of buildings.

- For subdivision of land for residential development, the objectives and standards of Clause 56.

Dwellings and residential buildings

- For the construction of one dwelling on a lot, whether the development is an under-utilisation of the lot.
- For the construction and extension of one dwelling on a lot, the objectives, standards and decision guidelines of Clause 54.
- For the construction and extension of two or more dwellings on a lot, dwellings on common property and residential buildings, the objectives, standards and decision guidelines of Clause 55.
- For a development of five or more storeys, excluding a basement, the Design Guidelines for Higher Density Residential Development (Department of Sustainability and Environment 2004).

Non-residential use and development

- Whether the use or development is compatible with residential use.
- Whether the use generally serves local community needs.
- The scale and intensity of the use and development.
- The design, height, setback and appearance of the proposed buildings and works.
- The proposed landscaping.
- The provision of car and bicycle parking and associated accessways.
- Any proposed loading and refuse collection facilities.
- The safety, efficiency and amenity effects of traffic to be generated by the proposal.

32.07-12 Advertising signs

01/07/2013
V8

Advertising sign requirements are at Clause 52.05. This zone is in Category 3.

Notes: *Refer to the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement, for strategies and policies which may affect the use and development of land.*

Check whether an overlay also applies to the land.

Other requirements may also apply. These can be found at Particular Provisions.

--/--/20--
C--

SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 32.07 RESIDENTIAL GROWTH ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **RGZ1**

URBAN INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS

1.0 Requirements of Clause 54 and Clause 55

--/--/20--
C--

	Standard	Requirement
Minimum street setback	A3 and B6	The average distance of the setbacks of the front walls of the existing buildings on the abutting allotments facing the front street or 4 metres, whichever is the lesser. This variation does not apply to land in a heritage overlay.
Site coverage	A5 and B8	Maximum site coverage 70%
Permeability	A6 and B9	None specified
Landscaping	B13	None specified
Side and rear setbacks	A10 and B17	None specified
Walls on boundaries	A11 and B18	None specified
Private open space	A17	At least one part of the private open space should consist of secluded private open space with a minimum area of 20 square metres and a minimum dimension of 3 metres at the side or rear of the dwelling with convenient access from a living room.
	B28	A dwelling or residential building should have private open space consisting of: - An area of 20 square metres of secluded private open space at the side or rear of the dwelling or residential building with a minimum dimension of 3 metres and convenient access from a living room; or - A balcony of 8 square metres with a minimum width of 1.6 metres and convenient access from a living room; or - A roof-top area of 10 square metres with a minimum width of 2 metres and convenient access from a living room.
Front fence height	A20 and B32	None specified

2.0 Maximum building height requirement for a dwelling or residential building

--/--/20--
C--

None specified

3.0 Application requirements

--/--/20--
C--

None specified

4.0 Decision guidelines

--/--/20--
C--

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under clause 32.07, in addition to those specified in clause 32.07 and elsewhere in the scheme:

- The requirements of Clause 22.63 in relation to the siting, height, scale, materials and form of proposed buildings.

--/--/20--
C--

SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 32.07 RESIDENTIAL GROWTH ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **RGZ2**

COASTAL INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS

1.0 Requirements of Clause 54 and Clause 55

--/--/20--
C--

	Standard	Requirement
Minimum street setback	A3 and B6	The average distance of the setbacks of the front walls of the existing buildings on the abutting allotments facing the front street or 5.5 metres, whichever is the lesser. This variation does not apply to land in a heritage overlay.
Site coverage	A5 and B8	Maximum site coverage 70%
Permeability	A6 and B9	None specified
Landscaping	B13	None specified
Side and rear setbacks	A10 and B17	None specified
Walls on boundaries	A11 and B18	None specified
Private open space	A17	At least one part of the private open space should consist of secluded private open space with a minimum area of 20 square metres and a minimum dimension of 3 metres at the side or rear of the dwelling with convenient access from a living room.
	B28	A dwelling or residential building should have private open space consisting of: - An area of 20 square metres of secluded private open space at the side or rear of the dwelling or residential building with a minimum dimension of 3 metres and convenient access from a living room; or - A balcony of 8 square metres with a minimum width of 1.6 metres and convenient access from a living room; or - A roof-top area of 10 square metres with a minimum width of 2 metres and convenient access from a living room.
Front fence height	A20 and B32	None specified

2.0 Maximum building height requirement for a dwelling or residential building

--/--/20--
C--

A building used as a dwelling or a residential building must not exceed a height of 10.5 metres

3.0 Application requirements

--/--/20--
C--

None specified.

4.0 Decision guidelines

--/--/20--
C--

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under clause 32.07, in addition to those specified in clause 32.07 and elsewhere in the scheme:

Buildings and works & dwellings

- The requirements of Clause 22.63 in relation to the siting, height, scale, materials and form of proposed buildings.

32.08 GENERAL RESIDENTIAL ZONE

01/07/2013
V8

Shown on the planning scheme map as **GRZ** with a number (if shown).

Purpose

To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.

To encourage development that respects the neighbourhood character of the area.

To implement neighbourhood character policy and adopted neighbourhood character guidelines.

To provide a diversity of housing types and moderate housing growth in locations offering good access to services and transport.

To allow educational, recreational, religious, community and a limited range of other non-residential uses to serve local community needs in appropriate locations.

32.08-1 Table of uses

01/07/2013
V8

Section 1 - Permit not required

Use	Condition
Animal keeping (other than Animal boarding)	Must be no more than 2 animals.
Bed and breakfast	No more than 10 persons may be accommodated away from their normal place of residence. At least 1 car parking space must be provided for each 2 persons able to be accommodated away from their normal place of residence.
Dependent person's unit	Must be the only dependent person's unit on the lot.
Dwelling (other than Bed and breakfast)	
Home occupation	
Informal outdoor recreation	
Medical centre	The gross floor area of all buildings must not exceed 250 square metres. Must not require a permit under clause 52.06-3. The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.
Minor utility installation	
Place of worship	The gross floor area of all buildings must not exceed 250 square metres. The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.
Railway	
Residential aged care facility	

Use	Condition
Tramway	
Any use listed in Clause 62.01	Must meet the requirements of Clause 62.01.

Section 2 - Permit required

Use	Condition
Accommodation (other than Dependent person's unit, Dwelling and Residential aged care facility)	
Agriculture (other than Animal keeping, Animal training, Apiculture, Horse stables and Intensive animal husbandry)	
Animal keeping (other than Animal boarding) – if the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be no more than 5 animals.
Car park	Must be used in conjunction with another use in Section 1 or 2.
Car wash	The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.
Community market	
Convenience restaurant	The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.
Convenience shop	
Food and drink premises (other than Convenience restaurant and Take away food premises)	
Leisure and recreation (other than Informal outdoor recreation and Motor racing track)	
Place of assembly (other than Amusement parlour, Carnival, Circus, Nightclub, and Place of worship)	
Plant nursery	
Service station	The site must either: ▪ Adjoin a commercial zone or industrial zone. ▪ Adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone. The site must not exceed either: ▪ 3000 square metres. ▪ 3600 square metres if it adjoins on two boundaries a road in a Road Zone.
Store	Must be in a building, not a dwelling, and used to store equipment, goods, or motor vehicles used in conjunction with the occupation of a resident of a dwelling on the lot.
Take away food premises	The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.

Use	Condition
Utility installation (other than Minor utility installation and Telecommunications facility)	
Any other use not in Section 1 or 3	

Section 3 – Prohibited

Use
Amusement parlour
Animal boarding
Animal training
Brothel
Cinema based entertainment facility
Horse stables
Industry (other than Car wash)
Intensive animal husbandry
Motor racing track
Nightclub
Office (other than Medical centre)
Retail premises (other than Community market, Convenience shop, Food and drink premises, Plant nursery)
Saleyard
Stone extraction
Transport terminal
Warehouse (other than Store)

32.08-2 Subdivision

01/07/2013
V8

Permit requirement

A permit is required to subdivide land.

An application to subdivide land, other than an application to subdivide land into lots each containing an existing dwelling or car parking space, must meet the requirements of Clause 56 and:

- Must meet all of the objectives included in the clauses specified in the following table.
- Should meet all of the standards included in the clauses specified in the following table.

Class of subdivision	Objectives and standards to be met
60 or more lots	All except Clause 56.03-5.
16 – 59 lots	All except Clauses 56.03-1 to 56.03-3, 56.03-5, 56.06-1 and 56.06-3.
3 – 15 lots	All except Clauses 56.02-1, 56.03-1 to 56.03-4, 56.05-2, 56.06-1, 56.06-3 and 56.06-6.
2 lots	Clauses 56.03-5, 56.04-2, 56.04-3, 56.04-5, 56.06-8 to 56.09-2.

32.08-3 Construction and extension of one dwelling on a lot

01/07/2013
V8

Permit requirement

A permit is required to construct or extend one dwelling on:

- A lot of less than 300 square metres.
- A lot of between 300 square metres and 500 square metres if specified in a schedule to this zone.

A permit is required to construct or extend a front fence within 3 metres of a street if:

- The fence is associated with one dwelling on:
  - A lot of less than 300 square metres, or
  - A lot of between 300 and 500 square metres if specified in a schedule to this zone, and
- The fence exceeds the maximum height specified in Clause 54.06-2.

A development must meet the requirements of Clause 54.

No permit required

No permit is required to:

- Construct or carry out works normal to a dwelling.
- Construct or extend an out-building (other than a garage or carport) on a lot provided the gross floor area of the out-building does not exceed 10 square metres and the maximum building height is not more than 3 metres above ground level.

32.08-4 Construction and extension of two or more dwellings on a lot, dwellings on common property and residential buildings

01/07/2013
V8

Permit requirement

A permit is required to:

- Construct a dwelling if there is at least one dwelling existing on the lot.
- Construct two or more dwellings on a lot.
- Extend a dwelling if there are two or more dwellings on the lot.
- Construct or extend a dwelling if it is on common property.
- Construct or extend a residential building.

A permit is required to construct or extend a front fence within 3 metres of a street if:

- The fence is associated with 2 or more dwellings on a lot or a residential building, and
- The fence exceeds the maximum height specified in Clause 55.06-2.

A development must meet the requirements of Clause 55. This does not apply to a development of five or more storeys, excluding a basement.

A permit is not required to construct one dependent person's unit on a lot.

32.08-5 Requirements of Clause 54 and Clause 55

01/07/2013
V8

A schedule to this zone may specify the requirements of:

- Standards A3, A5, A6, A10, A11, A17 and A20 of Clause 54 of this scheme.
- Standards B6, B8, B9, B13, B17, B18, B28 and B32 of Clause 55 of this scheme.

If a requirement is not specified in a schedule to this zone, the requirement set out in the relevant standard of Clause 54 or Clause 55 applies.

32.08-6 Buildings and works associated with a Section 2 use

01/07/2013
V8

A permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 32.08-1.

32.08-7 Maximum building height requirement for a dwelling or residential building

01/07/2013
V8

The maximum height of a building used for the purpose of a dwelling or residential building must not exceed the building height specified in a schedule to this zone.

This does not apply to:

- An extension of an existing building that exceeds the specified building height, provided that the extension does not exceed the existing building height.
- A building which exceeds the specified building height for which a valid building permit was in effect prior to the introduction of this provision.

If no building height is specified, the requirement set out in the relevant standard of Clause 54 and Clause 55 applies.

32.08-8 Application requirements

01/07/2013
V8

An application must be accompanied by the following information, as appropriate:

- For a residential development of four storeys or less, the neighbourhood and site description and design response as required in Clause 54 and Clause 55.
- For residential development of five or more storeys, an urban context report and design response as required in Clause 52.35.
- For an application for subdivision, a site and context description and design response as required in Clause 56.
- Plans drawn to scale and dimensioned which show:
  - Site shape, size, dimensions and orientation.
  - The siting and use of existing and proposed buildings.
  - Adjacent buildings and uses.
  - The building form and scale.
  - Setbacks to property boundaries.
- The likely effects, if any, on adjoining land, including noise levels, traffic, the hours of delivery and despatch of good and materials, hours of operation and light spill, solar access and glare.
- Any other application requirements specified in a schedule to this zone.

If in the opinion of the responsible authority an application requirement is not relevant to the evaluation of an application, the responsible authority may waive or reduce the requirement.

32.08-9 Exemption from notice and review

01/07/2013
V8

Subdivision

An application to subdivide land into lots each containing an existing dwelling or car parking space is exempt from the notice requirements of Section 52(1)(a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the Act.

32.08-10 Decision guidelines

01/07/2013
V8

Before deciding on an application, in addition to the decision guidelines in Clause 65, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

General

- The State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.
- The purpose of this zone.
- Any other decision guidelines specified in a schedule to this zone.

Subdivision

- The pattern of subdivision and its effect on the spacing of buildings.
- For subdivision of land for residential development, the objectives and standards of Clause 56.

Dwellings and residential buildings

- For the construction and extension of one dwelling on a lot, the objectives, standards and decision guidelines of Clause 54.
- For the construction and extension of two or more dwellings on a lot, dwellings on common property and residential buildings, the objectives, standards and decision guidelines of Clause 55.
- For a development of five or more storeys, excluding a basement, the Design Guidelines for Higher Density Residential Development (Department of Sustainability and Environment 2004).

Non-residential use and development

- Whether the use or development is compatible with residential use.
- Whether the use generally serves local community needs.
- The scale and intensity of the use and development.
- The design, height, setback and appearance of the proposed buildings and works.
- The proposed landscaping.
- The provision of car and bicycle parking and associated accessways.
- Any proposed loading and refuse collection facilities.
- The safety, efficiency and amenity effects of traffic to be generated by the proposal.

32.08-11 Advertising signs

01/07/2013
V8

Advertising sign requirements are at Clause 52.05. This zone is in Category 3.

Notes: *Refer to the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement, for strategies and policies which may affect the use and development of land.*

Check whether an overlay also applies to the land.

Other requirements may also apply. These can be found at Particular Provisions.

--/--/20--
C--

SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 32.08 GENERAL RESIDENTIAL ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **GRZ1**.

INCREMENTAL CHANGE AREAS

1.0 Permit requirement for the construction or extension of one dwelling on a lot

--/--/20--
C--

Is a permit required to construct or extend one dwelling on a lot of between 300 square metres and 500 square metres?
No

2.0 Requirements of Clause 54 and Clause 55

--/--/20--
C--

	Standard	Requirement
Minimum street setback	A3 and B6	None specified
Site coverage	A5 and B8	None specified
Permeability	A6 and B9	None specified
Landscaping	B13	One canopy tree per dwelling
Side and rear setbacks	A10 and B17	None specified
Walls on boundaries	A11 and B18	None specified
Private open space	A17	An area of 60 m² with one part of the private open space to consist of secluded private open space at the side or rear of the dwelling or residential building with minimum area of 40m² with a minimum dimension of 5 metres of secluded private open space with convenient access from a living room. It can not include a balcony or roof top terrace.
	B28	An area of 60 m² with one part of the private open space to consist of secluded private open space at the side or rear of the dwelling or residential building with minimum area of 40m² with a minimum dimension of 5 metres of secluded private open space with convenient access from a living room. It can not include a balcony or roof top terrace.
Front fence height	A20 and B32	None specified

3.0 Maximum building height requirement for a dwelling or residential building

--/--/20--
C--

A building used as a dwelling or a residential building must not exceed a height of 9 metres.

4.0 Application requirements

--/--/20--
C--

Subdivision

When any of the lots being created are less than 500 square metres, a subdivision must be accompanied by a development application for the site for the construction of the dwellings.

5.0 Decision guidelines

--/--/20--
C--

None specified.

32.09 NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTIAL ZONE

01/07/2013
V8

Shown on the planning scheme map as **NRZ** with a number (if shown).

Purpose

To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.

To recognise areas of predominantly single and double storey residential development.

To limit opportunities for increased residential development.

To manage and ensure that development respects the identified neighbourhood character, heritage, environmental or landscape characteristics.

To implement neighbourhood character policy and adopted neighbourhood character guidelines.

To allow educational, recreational, religious, community and a limited range of other non-residential uses to serve local community needs in appropriate locations.

32.09-1 Table of uses

01/07/2013
V8

Section 1 - Permit not required

Use	Condition
Animal keeping (other than Animal boarding)	Must be no more than 2 animals.
Bed and breakfast	No more than 10 persons may be accommodated away from their normal place of residence. At least 1 car parking space must be provided for each 2 persons able to be accommodated away from their normal place of residence.
Dependent person's unit	Must be the only dependent person's unit on the lot.
Dwelling (other than Bed and breakfast)	
Home occupation	
Informal outdoor recreation	
Medical centre	The gross floor area of all buildings must not exceed 250 square metres. Must be located in an existing building. The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone. Must not require a permit under clause 52.06-3.
Minor utility installation	
Place of worship	The gross floor area of all buildings must not exceed 250 square metres. The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone. Must not require a permit under clause

Use	Condition
	52.06-3.
Railway	
Residential aged care facility	
Tramway	
Any use listed in clause 62.01	Must meet the requirements of Clause 62.01.

Section 2 - Permit required

Use	Condition
Accommodation (other than Dependent person's unit, Dwelling and Residential aged care facility)	
Agriculture (other than Animal keeping, Animal training, Apiculture, Horse stables and Intensive animal husbandry)	
Animal keeping (other than Animal boarding) – if the Section 1 condition is not met	Must be no more than 5 animals.
Car park	Must be used in conjunction with another use in Section 1 or 2.
Car wash	The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.
Community market	
Convenience restaurant	The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.
Convenience shop	The leasable floor area must not exceed 80 square metres.
Food and drink premises (other than Convenience restaurant and Take away food premises)	
Leisure and recreation (other than Informal outdoor recreation and Motor racing track)	
Place of assembly (other than Amusement parlour, Carnival, Circus, Nightclub and Place of worship)	
Plant nursery	
Service station	The site must either: ▪ Adjoin a commercial zone or industrial zone. ▪ Adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone. The site must not exceed either: ▪ 3000 square metres. ▪ 3600 square metres if it adjoins on two boundaries a road in a Road Zone.

Use	Condition
Store	Must be in a building, not a dwelling, and used to store equipment, goods, or motor vehicles used in conjunction with the occupation of a resident of a dwelling on the lot.
Take away food premises	The site must adjoin, or have access to, a road in a Road Zone.
Utility installation (other than Minor utility installation and Telecommunications facility)	
Any other use not in Section 1 or 3	

Section 3 – Prohibited

Use
Amusement parlour
Animal boarding
Animal training
Brothel
Cinema based entertainment facility
Horse stables
Industry (other than Car wash)
Intensive animal husbandry
Motor racing track
Nightclub
Office (other than Medical centre)
Retail premises (other than Community market, Convenience shop, Food and drink premises and Plant nursery)
Saleyard
Stone extraction
Transport terminal
Warehouse (other than Store)

32.09-2 Subdivision

01/07/2013
V8

Permit requirement

A permit is required to subdivide land.

A schedule to this zone may specify a minimum lot size to subdivide land. Each lot must be at least the area specified for the land.

An application to subdivide land, other than an application to subdivide land into lots each containing an existing dwelling or car parking space, must meet the requirements of Clause 56 and:

- Must meet all of the objectives included in the clauses specified in the following table.
- Should meet all of the standards included in the clauses specified in the following table.

Class of subdivision	Objectives and standards to be met
60 or more lots	All except Clause 56.03-5.
16 – 59 lots	All except Clauses 56.03-1 to 56.03-3, 56.03-5, 56.06-1 and 56.06-3.
3 – 15 lots	All except Clauses 56.02-1, 56.03-1 to 56.03-4, 56.05-2, 56.06-1, 56.06-3 and 56.06-6.
2 lots	Clauses 56.03-5, 56.04-2, 56.04-3, 56.04-5, 56.06-8 to 56.09-2.

32.09-3 Number of dwellings on a lot

01/07/2013
V8

The number of dwellings on a lot must not exceed the number specified in a schedule to this zone. If no number is specified, the number of dwellings on a lot must not exceed two.

32.09-4 Construction and extension of one dwelling on a lot

01/07/2013
V8

Permit requirement

A permit is required to construct or extend one dwelling on:

- A lot of less than 300 square metres.
- A lot of less than the lot size specified in a schedule to this zone.

A permit is required to construct or extend a front fence within 3 metres of a street if:

- The fence is associated with one dwelling on:
  - A lot of less than 300 square metres, or
  - A lot of less than the lot size specified in a schedule to this zone, and
- The fence exceeds the maximum height specified in Clause 54.06-2.

A development must meet the requirements of Clause 54.

No permit required

No permit is required to:

- Construct or carry out works normal to a dwelling.
- Construct or extend an out-building (other than a garage or carport) on a lot provided the gross floor area of the out-building does not exceed 10 square metres and the maximum building height is not more than 3 metres above ground level.

32.09-5 Construction and extension of two or more dwellings on a lot, dwellings on common property and residential buildings

01/07/2013
V8

Permit requirement

A permit is required to:

- Construct a dwelling if there is at least one dwelling existing on the lot.
- Construct two or more dwellings on a lot.
- Extend a dwelling if there are two or more dwellings on the lot.

- Construct or extend a dwelling if it is on common property.
- Construct or extend a residential building.

A permit is required to construct or extend a front fence within 3 metres of a street if:

- The fence is associated with 2 or more dwellings on a lot or a residential building, and
- The fence exceeds the maximum height specified in Clause 55.06-2.

A development must meet the requirements of Clause 55.

A permit is not required to construct one dependent person's unit on a lot.

32.09-6 Requirements of Clause 54 and Clause 55

01/07/2013
V8

A schedule to this zone may specify the requirements of:

- Standards A3, A5, A6, A10, A11, A17 and A20 of Clause 54 of this scheme.
- Standards B6, B8, B9, B13, B17, B18, B28 and B32 of Clause 55 of this scheme.

If a requirement is not specified in a schedule to this zone, the requirement set out in the relevant standard of Clause 54 or Clause 55 applies.

32.09-7 Buildings and works associated with a Section 2 use

01/07/2013
V8

A permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 32.09-1.

32.09-8 Maximum building height requirement for a dwelling or residential building

01/07/2013
V8

The maximum height of a building used for the purpose of a dwelling or residential building must not exceed the building height specified in a schedule to this zone. If no building height is specified, the height of a building must not exceed 8 metres unless the slope of the natural ground level at any cross section wider than 8 metres of the site of the building is 2.5 degrees or more, in which case the height of the building must not exceed 9 metres.

This does not apply to:

- An extension of an existing building that exceeds the specified building height provided that the extension does not exceed the existing building height.
- An extension of an existing building or the construction of a new building that exceeds the specified building height which does not exceed the height of immediately adjacent buildings facing the same street.
- The rebuilding of a lawful building or works which have been damaged or destroyed.
- A building which exceeds the specified building height for which a valid building permit was in effect prior to the introduction of this provision.

32.09-9 Application requirements

01/07/2013
V8

An application must be accompanied by the following information, as appropriate:

- For a residential development, the neighbourhood and site description and design response as required in Clause 54 and Clause 55.
- For an application for subdivision, a site and context description and design response as required in Clause 56.

- Plans drawn to scale and dimensioned which show:
  - Site shape, size, dimensions and orientation.
  - The siting and use of existing and proposed buildings.
  - Adjacent buildings and uses, including siting and dimensioned setbacks.
  - The building form and scale.
  - Setbacks to property boundaries.
- The likely effects, if any, on adjoining land, including noise levels, traffic, the hours of delivery and despatch of good and materials, hours of operation and light spill, solar access and glare.
- Any other application requirements specified in a schedule to this zone.

If in the opinion of the responsible authority an application requirement is not relevant to the evaluation of an application, the responsible authority may waive or reduce the requirement.

32.09-10 Exemption from notice and review

01/07/2013
V8

Subdivision

An application to subdivide land into lots each containing an existing dwelling or car parking space is exempt from the notice requirements of Section 52(1)(a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the Act.

32.09-11 Decision guidelines

01/07/2013
V8

Before deciding on an application, in addition to the decision guidelines in Clause 65, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

General

- The State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.
- The purpose of this zone.
- Any other decision guidelines specified in a schedule to this zone.

Subdivision

- The pattern of subdivision and its effect on the spacing of buildings.
- For subdivision of land for residential development, the objectives and standards of Clause 56.

Dwellings and residential buildings

- For the construction and extension of one dwelling on a lot, the objectives, standards and decision guidelines of Clause 54.

- For the construction and extension of two or more dwellings on a lot, dwellings on common property and residential buildings, the objectives, standards and decision guidelines of Clause 55.

Non-residential use and development

In the local neighbourhood context:

- Whether the use or development is compatible with residential use.
- Whether the use generally serves local community needs.
- The scale and intensity of the use and development.
- The design, height, setback and appearance of the proposed buildings and works.
- The proposed landscaping.
- The provision of car and bicycle parking and associated accessways.
- Any proposed loading and refuse collection facilities.
- The safety, efficiency and amenity effects of traffic to be generated by the proposal.

32.09-12 Advertising signs

01/07/2013
V8

Advertising sign requirements are at Clause 52.05. This zone is in Category 3.

Notes: *Refer to the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement, for strategies and policies which may affect the use and development of land.*

Check whether an overlay also applies to the land.

Other requirements may also apply. These can be found

--/--/20--
C--

SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 32.09 NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTIAL ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **NRZ1**.

URBAN PRESERVATION AREA

1.0 Minimum subdivision area

--/--/20--
C--

None specified

2.0 Permit requirement for the construction or extension of one dwelling on a lot

--/--/20--
C--

	Requirement
Permit requirement for the construction or extension of one dwelling on a lot	None specified
Permit requirement to construct or extend a front fence within 3 metres of a street on a lot	None specified

3.0 Requirements of Clause 54 and Clause 55

--/--/20--
C--

	Standard	Requirement
Minimum street setback	A3 and B6	None specified
Site coverage	A5 and B8	None specified
Permeability	A6 and B9	None specified
Landscaping	B13	One canopy tree per dwelling.
Side and rear setbacks	A10 and B17	None specified
Walls on boundaries	A11 and B18	None specified
Private open space	A17	An area of 60 m² with one part of the private open space to consist of secluded private open space at the side or rear of the dwelling or residential building with minimum area of 40m² with a minimum dimension of 5 metres of secluded private open space with convenient access from a living room. It can not include a balcony or roof top terrace.
	B28	An area of 60 m² with one part of the private open space to consist of secluded private open space at the side or rear of the dwelling or residential building with minimum area of 40m² with a minimum dimension of 5 metres of secluded private open space with convenient access from a living room. It can not include a balcony or roof top terrace.
Front fence height	A20 and B32	None specified

4.0 Number of dwellings on a lot

--/--/20--
C--

None specified

5.0 Maximum building height requirement for a dwelling or residential building

--/--/20--
C--

None specified

6.0 Application requirements

--/--/20--
C--

Subdivision

When the lots being created are between 300-500 square meters a subdivision must also be accompanied by a development application for the construction of the dwellings.

7.0 Decision guidelines

--/--/20--
C--

None specified

22.63 INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS POLICY

--/--2013
C300

This policy applies to all land zoned Residential Growth and located in the identified Increased Housing Diversity Areas.

Policy Basis

This policy provides guidance on development in Council's identified Increased Housing Diversity Areas (IHDA). IHDAs have been identified around activity centres and have significant capacity to accommodate residential growth and increased housing diversity through a range of housing types and forms. These areas can provide residents local shopping needs and/or are serviced by public transport. New development in these areas should encourage walking by residents and discourage reliance on cars for all trips.

Medium density housing can have a greater impact on neighbourhood character than traditional detached housing. As housing density intensifies it is important that design quality improves to ensure a positive contribution to the neighbourhood is achieved.

Well designed, site responsive, contemporary medium density housing will replace the existing housing stock and intensify development patterns overtime. The intensity of redevelopment will be highest around the activity centre core and lower at the edge of the IHDA.

Instead of applying a 'one size fits all' approach, medium density development should be achieved through a range of housing typologies that best reflects the local context. This includes responding to unique characteristics of an area such as heritage, significant vegetation, topography and views which may reduce the development potential. The IHDAs include heritage areas and new development should balance the preservation and restoration of the identified heritage place and opportunity for new housing.

Housing should also meet the needs of a diverse range of future residents including the demand for smaller, low maintenance households and tourist accommodation.

Objectives

- To evolve the character of these areas through more intensive development.
- To ensure that the density, mass and scale of residential development is appropriate to the location, role and character of the specific IHDA.
- To promote a diversity of housing types to cater to a variety of lifestyle needs.
- To ensure development makes a positive architectural and urban design contribution to the IHDA.
- To promote walking trips and pedestrian safety within the IHDAs.
- To increase the residential population living in IHDAs.
- To implement the findings of the Housing Diversity Strategy.

Policy

It is policy that development within each of the Increased Housing Diversity Areas responds positively to the relevant matters set out in this policy.

General

Design Objectives

- Encourage innovative, high quality, site responsive medium density housing development.
- Encourage a sympathetic design response when responding to unique characteristics such as heritage places, significant vegetation, topography and public spaces.
- Encourage design that incorporates environmentally sustainable design principles, particularly the siting and orientation of the dwellings.
- Encourage the retention of vegetation where possible and providing space for new vegetation.
- Encourage the consolidation of smaller lots to increase development potential.
- Discourage the fragmentation of sites and underdevelopment of sites.
- Ensure that the visual prominence of car parking structures is minimised by locating them behind the line of the front façade and designing them to form a visually unobtrusive part of the building.
- Where more than one car space is provided, encourage the use of a single-width garage or carport and a tandem parking space on existing or proposed lots less than 10.5m frontage.
- For multi-unit developments minimise the number of vehicle crossings and where possible, access should be from lower order roads and rear laneways.
- Ensure that the height and bulk of the new development on interface properties, between IHDA and other residential areas, is responsive to the adjoining character and provides a transition in the built form between areas.
- Storage areas must not be located within the minimum area of secluded open space.
- Provide high quality landscaping, including opportunities for trees within the development.
- Where appropriate provide a street tree to enhance the contribution of the development to the street.

Coastal

This applies to the Barwon Heads IHDA, Ocean Grove IHDA, Ocean Grove Market Place IHDA, Portarlington IHDA and St Leonards IHDA.

Development will integrate with the landscape and respond to natural features, vegetation, topography and the coastal location. Coastal style architecture will dominate with the use of varied natural and lightweight materials, articulation of facades and higher building elements to capture views.

Design Objectives

- Encourage innovative architecture that respects the coastal setting by incorporating a variety of lightweight materials, building elements and details that contribute to a lightness of structure (including balconies, verandahs, extensive glazing, light transparent balustrading), simple detailing and roof forms.
- Encourage two and three storey development.
- Encourage the recessing of third storey reduce dominance of the building from adjoining properties and the streetscape.
- Retain the openness of the streetscape by avoiding the use of front fences or by providing low permeable front fences.

- Encourage landscaping to be incorporated into the overall development including planting of a canopy tree and/or large shrubs within front setbacks.

Urban

This applies to the Bellarine Village and Newcomb Central IHDA, Bell Park - Separation Street IHDA, Bell Post Shopping Centre IHDA, Corio Village Shopping Centre IHDA, Drysdale IHDA, Highton Shopping Centre IHDA, Lara and Lara Station IHDA, Leopold IHDA, Marshall Station IHDA, Waurn Ponds Shopping Centre IHDA, South Geelong IHDA, Belmont IHDA, North Geelong IHDA, East Geelong IHDA, Geelong West, Manifold Heights and Newtown IHDA, Hamlyn Heights IHDA.

Increased residential densities will be achieved through a mix of different building forms and scales. New housing in the form of units, townhouses, terrace housing and apartments will depart from traditional detached housing.

Design Objectives

- Encourage a sympathetic design response to nearby sites and precincts of known heritage value.
- Encourage development that incorporates a combination of horizontal and vertical articulation, materials, textures and colours to create visual interest.
- Encourage three storey development and fourth storey elements on larger sites, abutting the activity centre or where the amenity of adjoining properties will not be unreasonably impacted.
- Encourage the recessing of the third storey element and above to reduce the dominance of the building from adjoining properties and the streetscape.

Decision Guidelines

Before deciding on an application in an Increased Housing Diversity Area the responsible authority must consider:

- The extent to which the proposal meets the policy and design objectives of this clause.
- Whether the development provides a high level of amenity for future residents.
- Whether the development unreasonably reduces opportunities for neighbouring sites to reasonably develop.

Reference Documents

City of Greater Geelong Housing Diversity Strategy, alphaPlan, David Lock Associates and the City of Greater Geelong, 2007.

Key Development Area and Increased Housing Diversity Areas

July 2009

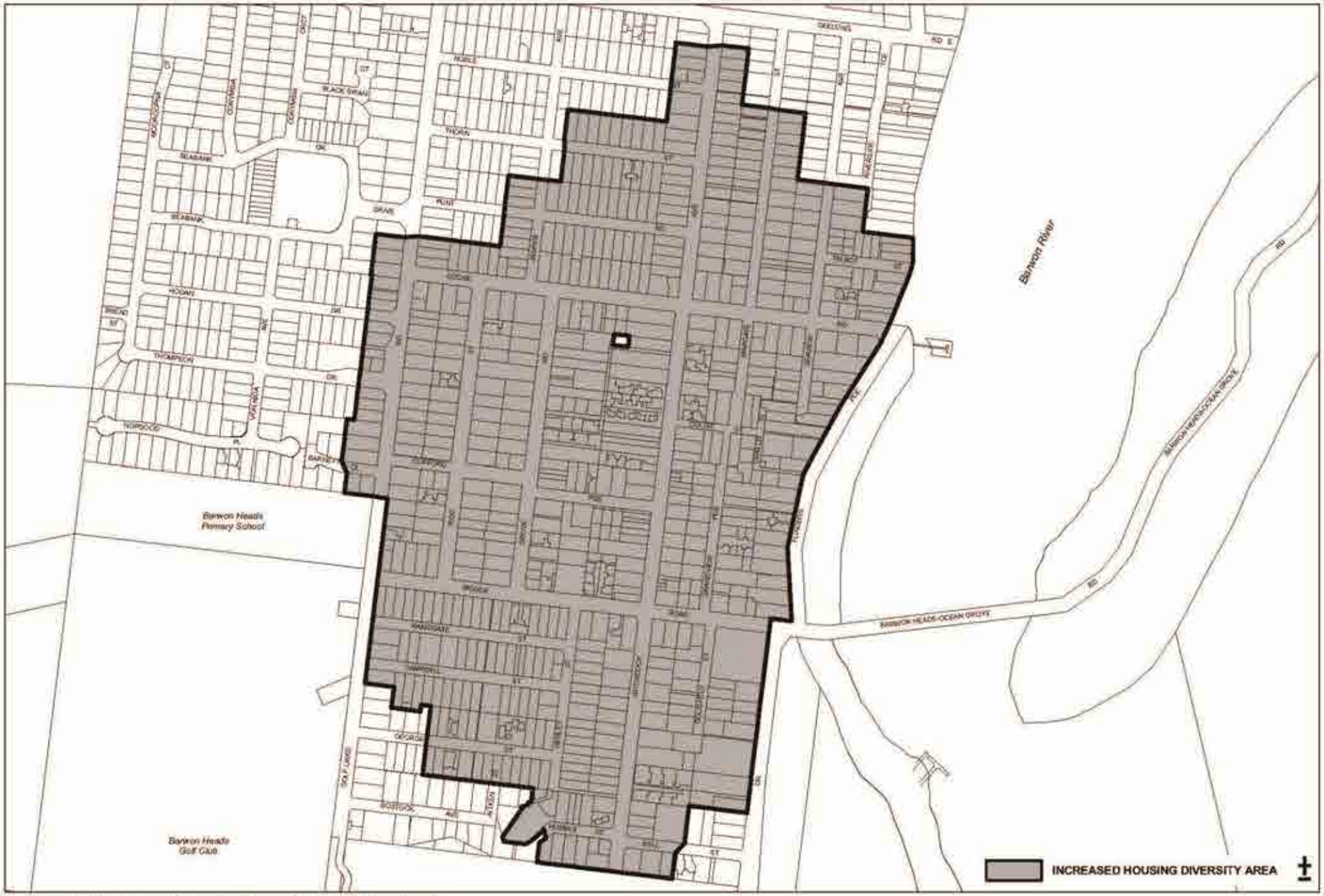
Updated September 2013

Increased Housing Diversity Areas

List of updates

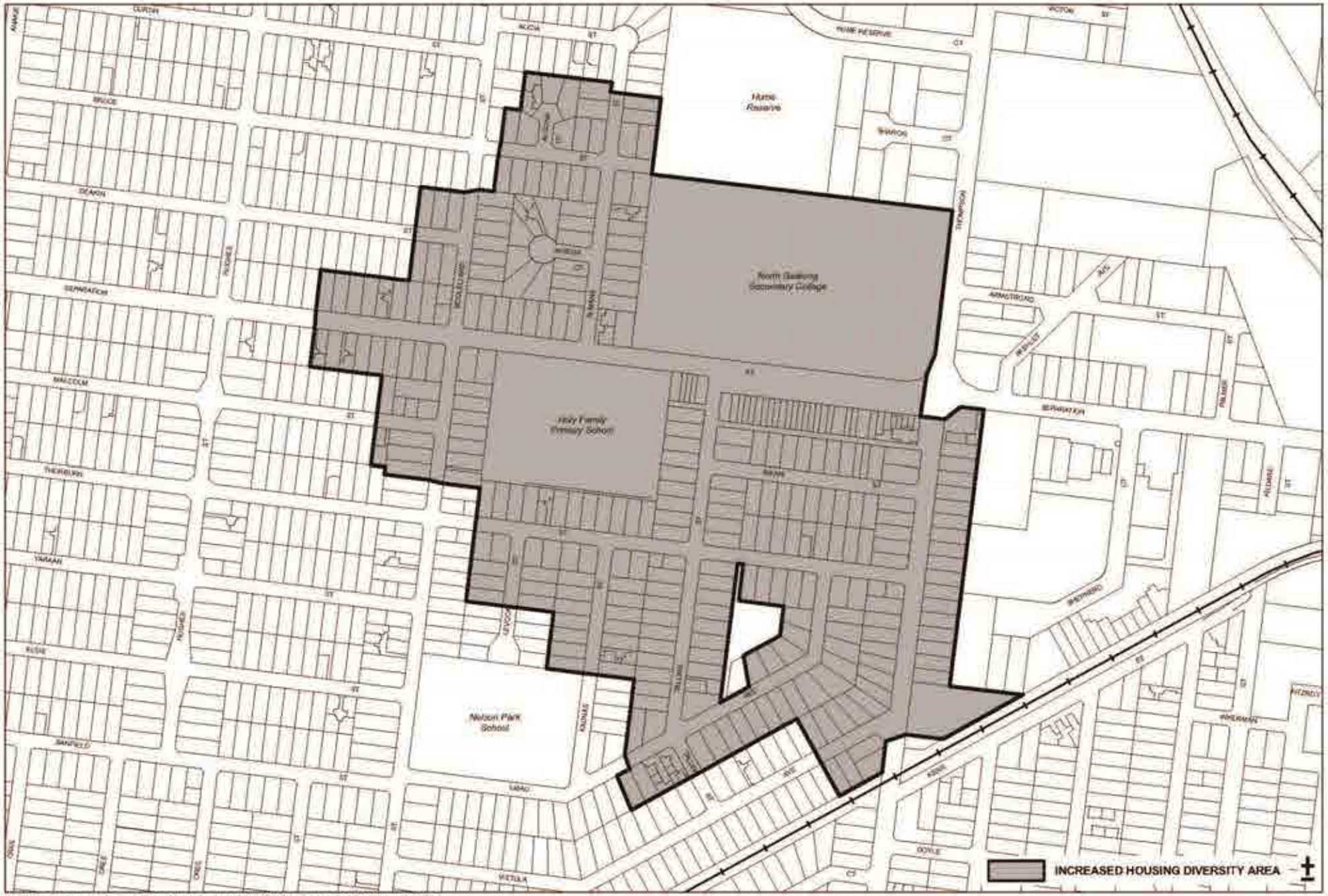
Amendment Number	Description	Date Prepared	Date Gazetted
C103	Updates to Drysdale IDHA	September 2010	24 February 2011
C254	Updates the IDHA for Leopold to reflect the Leopold Structure Plan (2011).	February 2012	8 May 2013
C300	Includes Geelong West, Manifold Heights and Vines Road, Hamlyn Heights IHDAs Updates boundaries to Ocean Grove IHDA Removed duplication of Waurn Ponds KDA and IHDA	September 2013	

BARWON HEADS INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



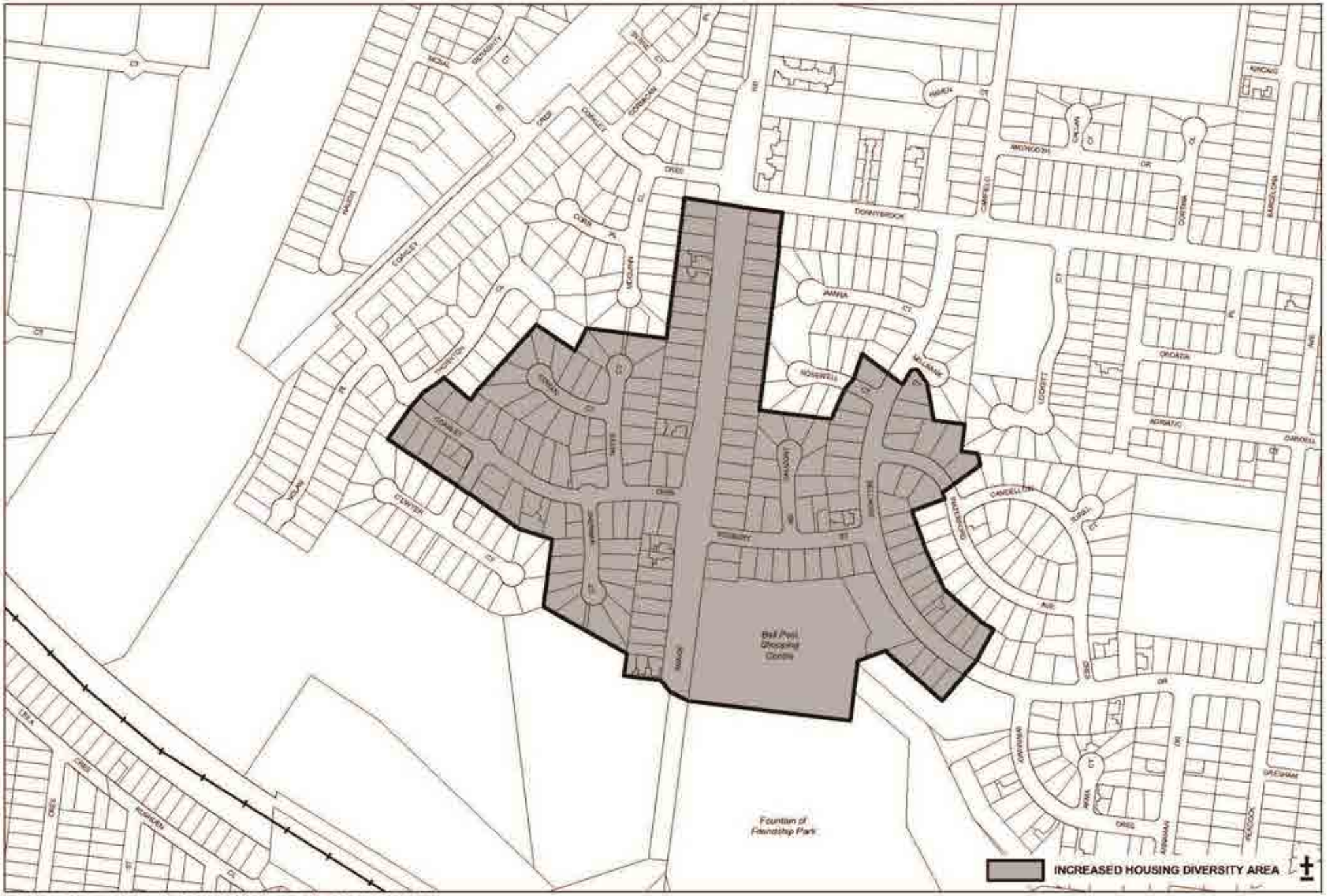
KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

BELL PARK - SEPARATION STREET INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

BELL POST SHOPPING CENTRE INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



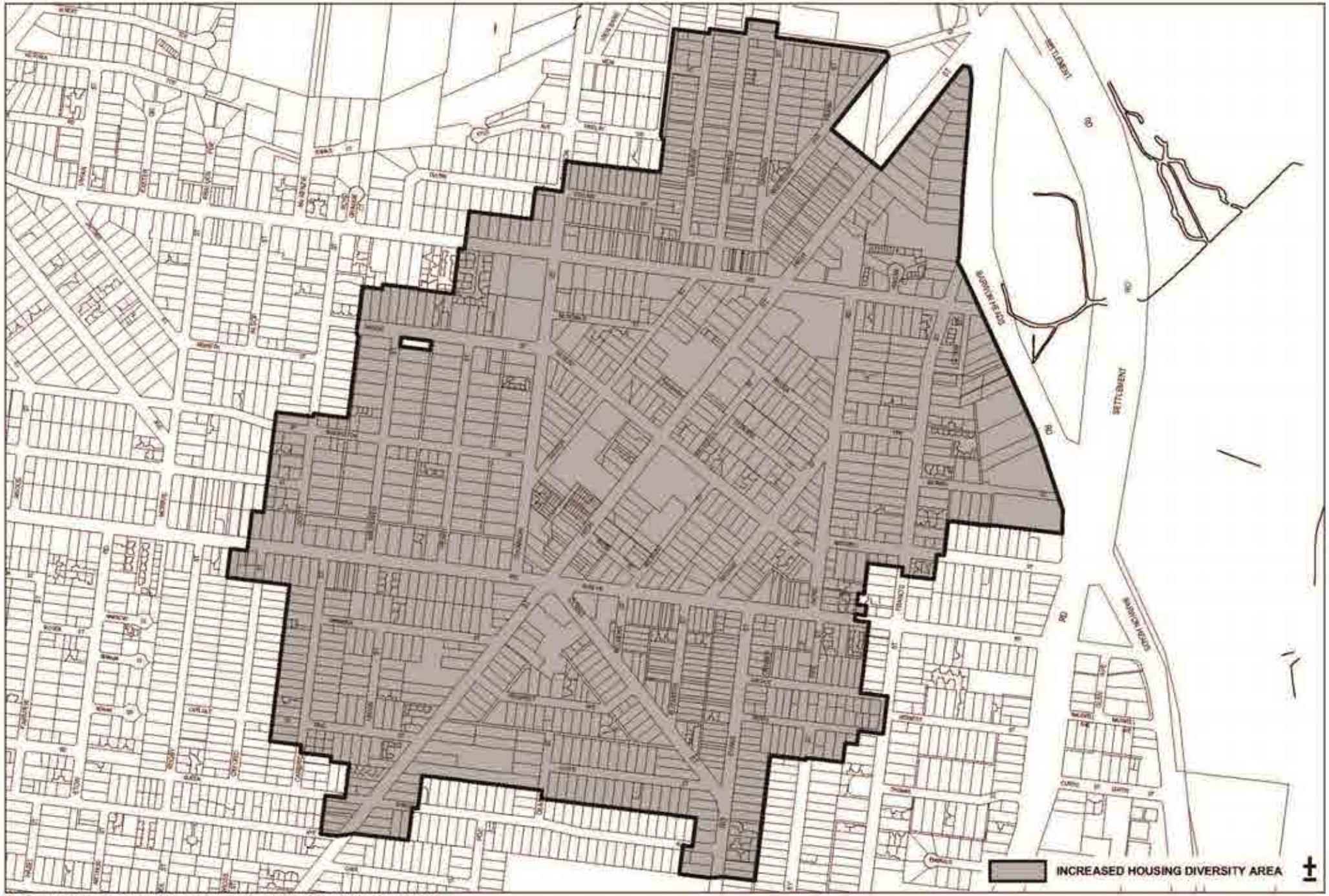
KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

BELLARINE VILLAGE & NEWCOMB CENTRAL INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



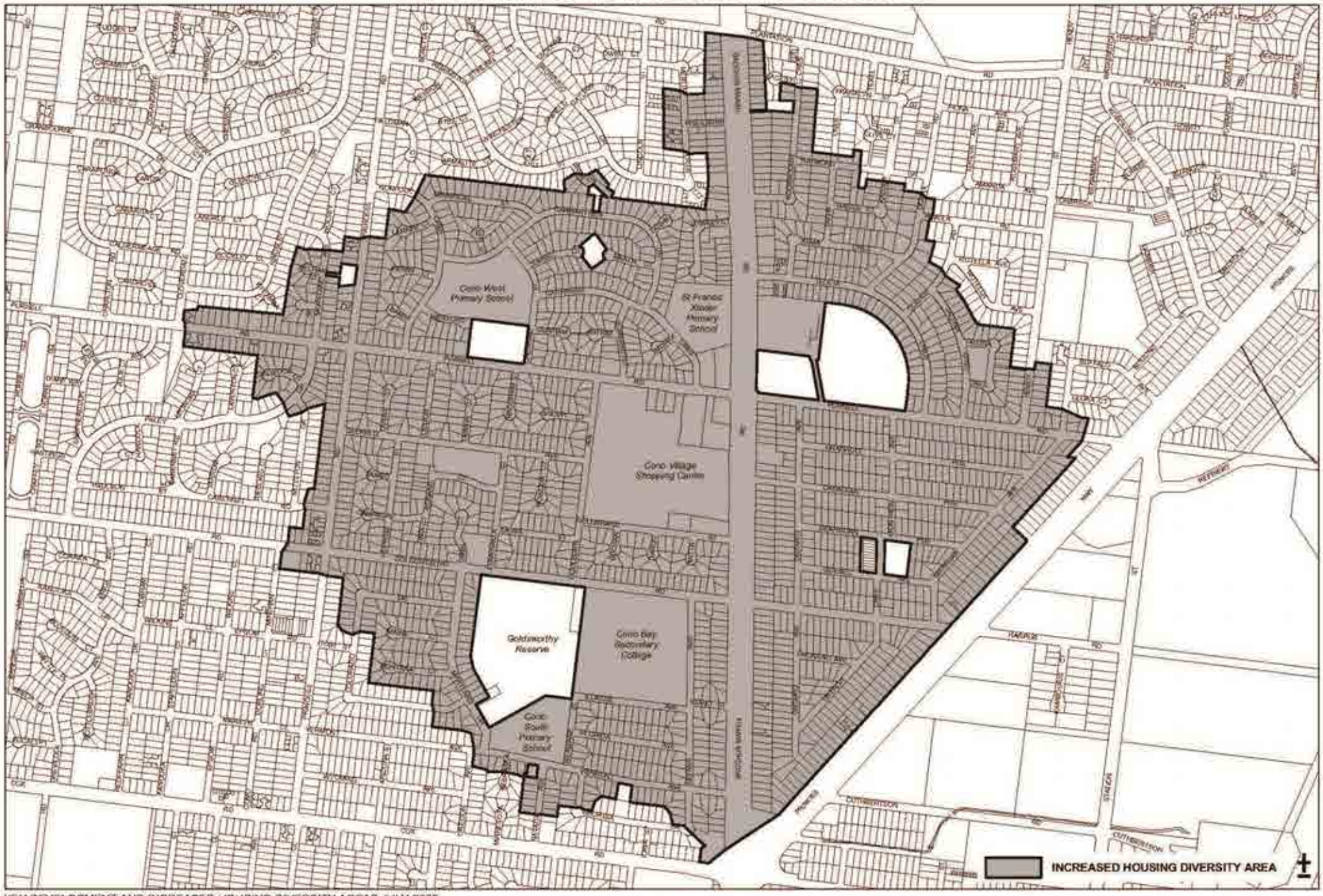
KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

BELMONT - HIGH STREET INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



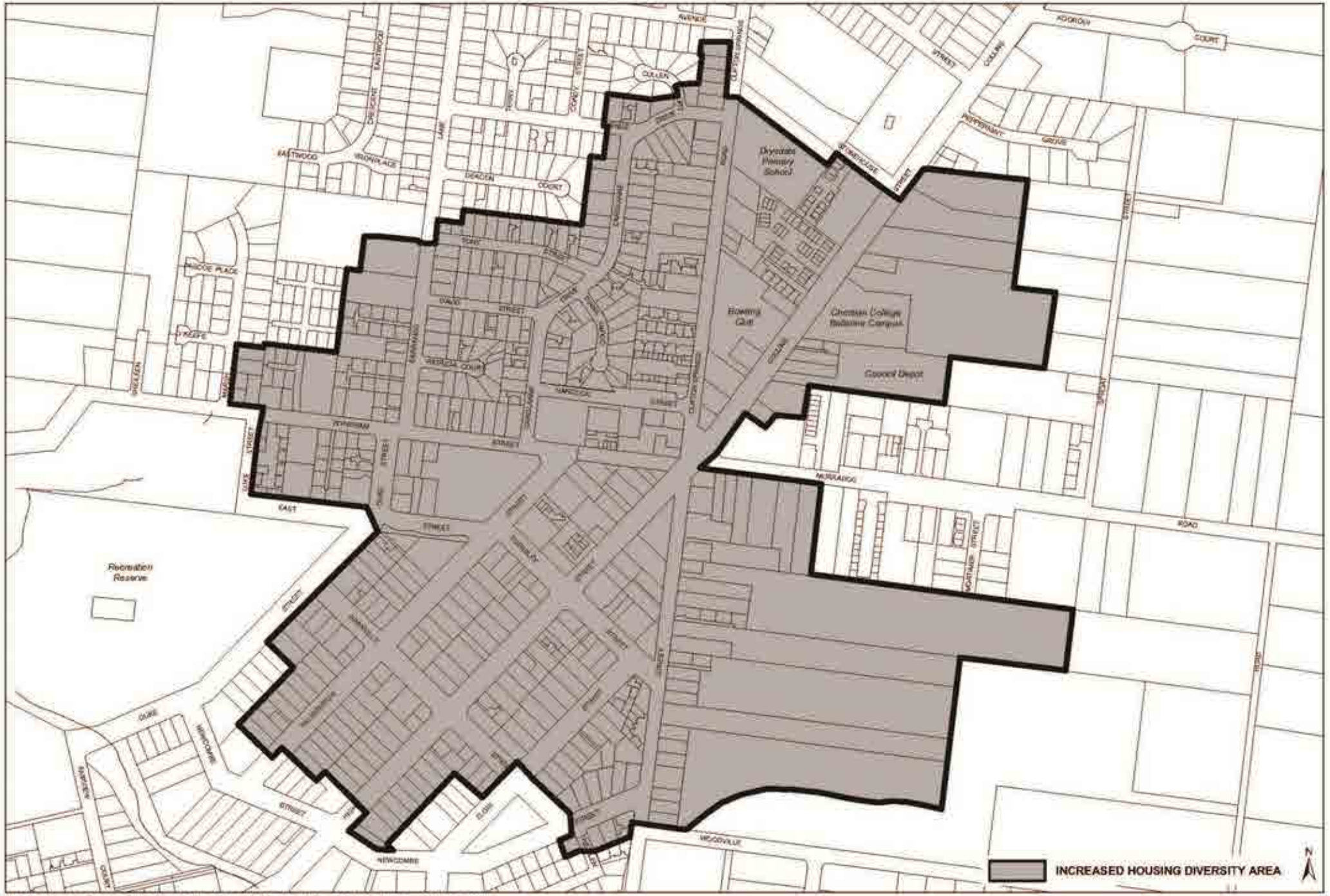
KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

CORIO SHOPPING CENTRE INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



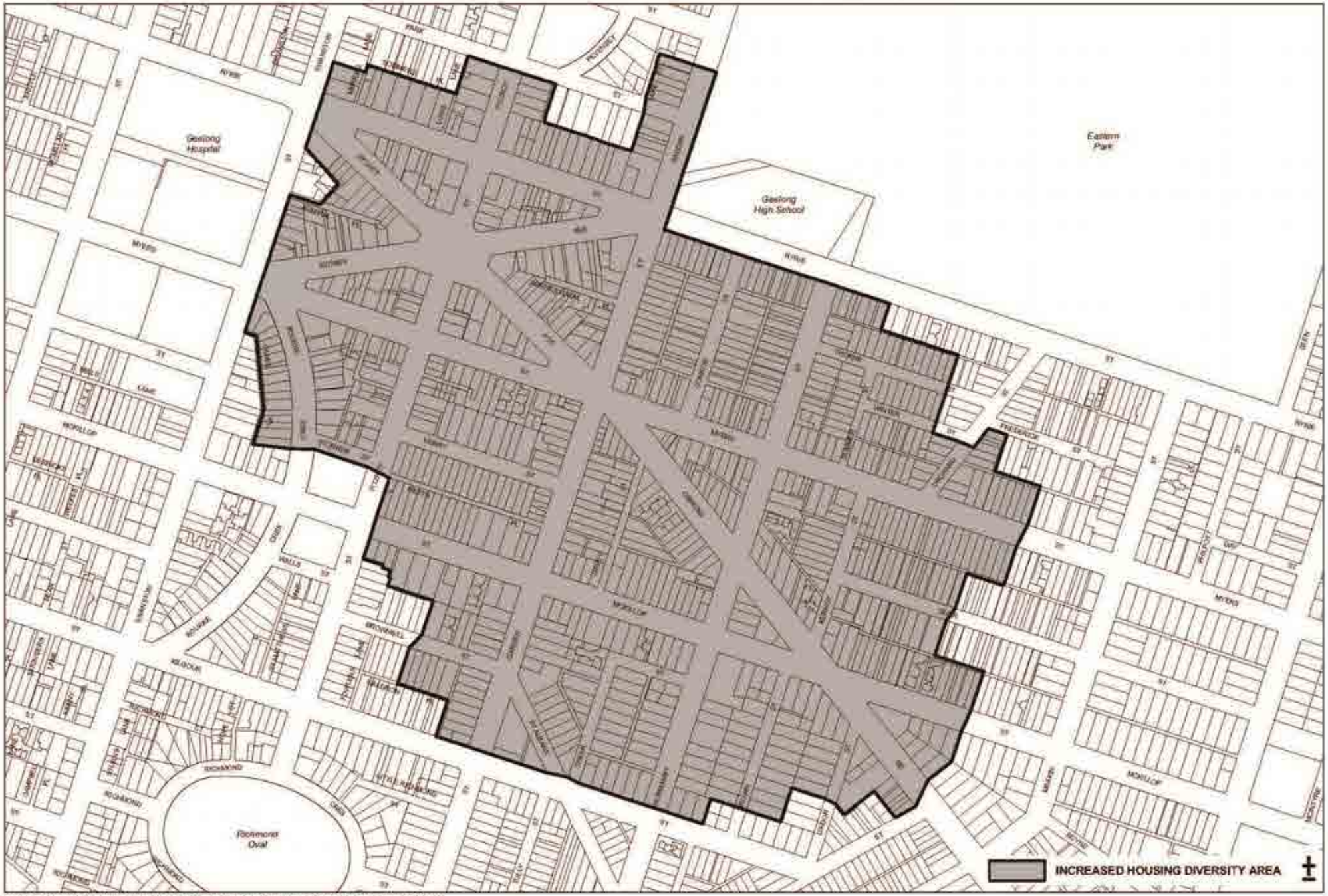
KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

DRYSDALE INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



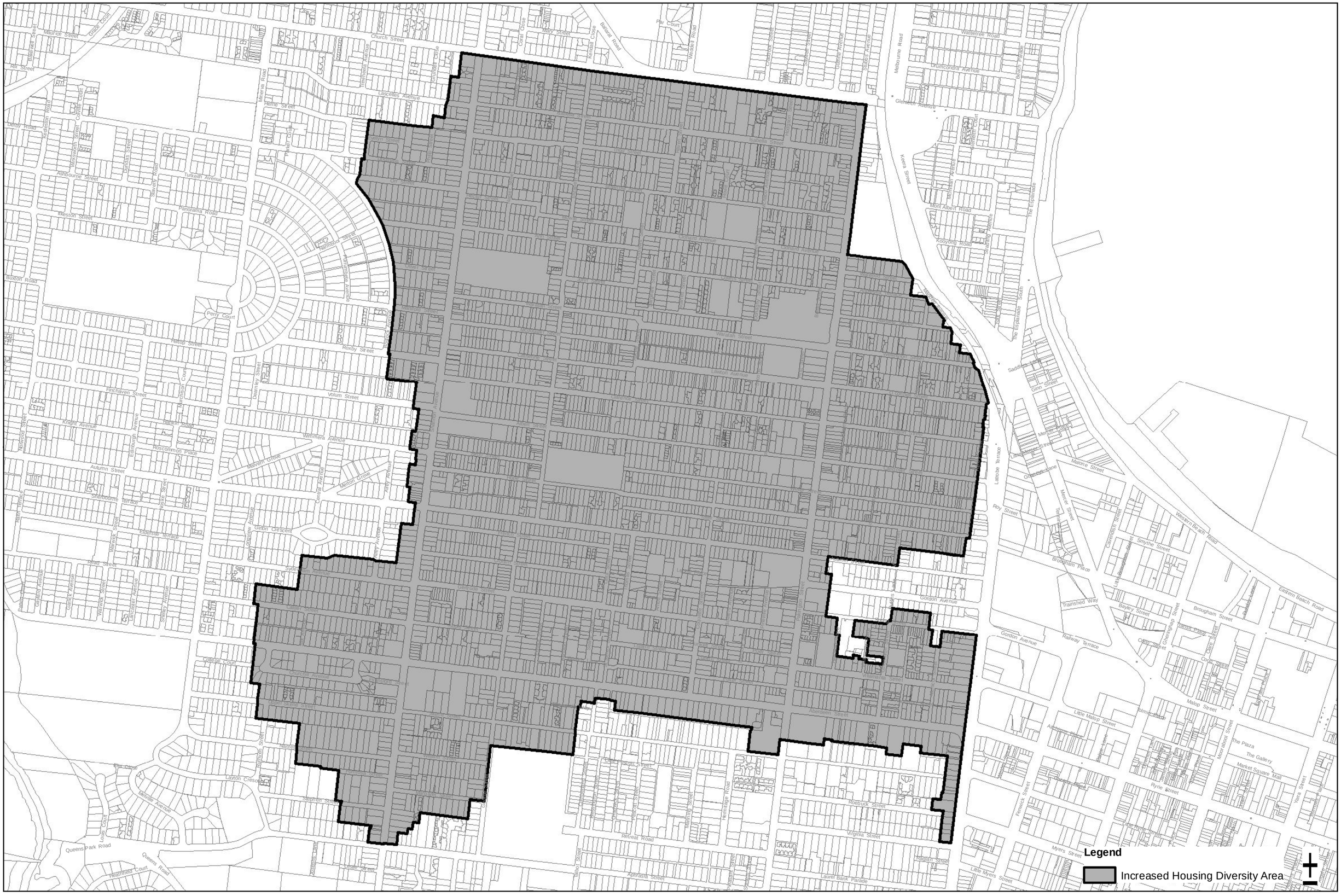
KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS SEPTEMBER 2010

EAST GEELONG - ORMOND ROAD INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



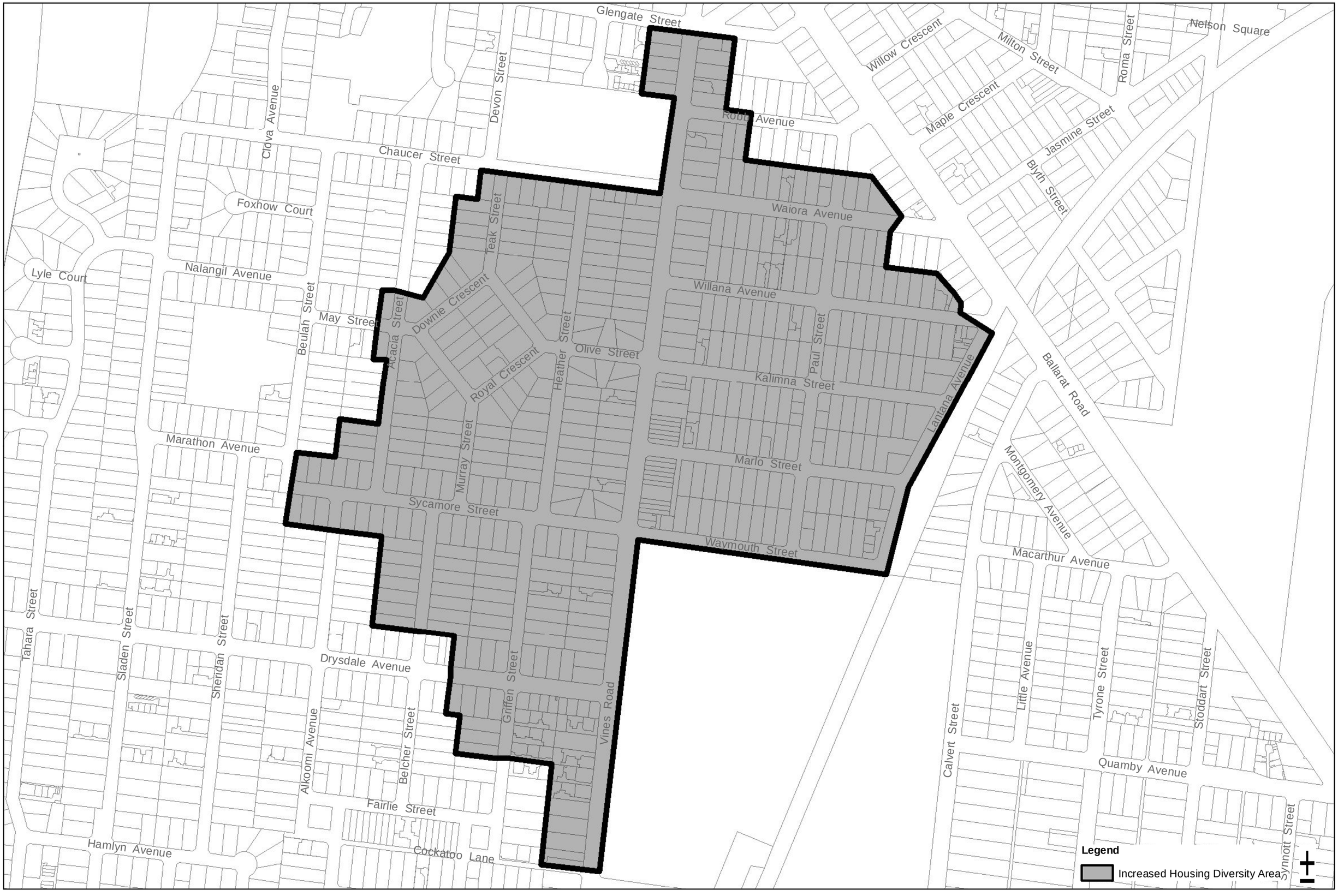
KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

GEELONG WEST, MANIFOLD HEIGHTS & NEWTOWN INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



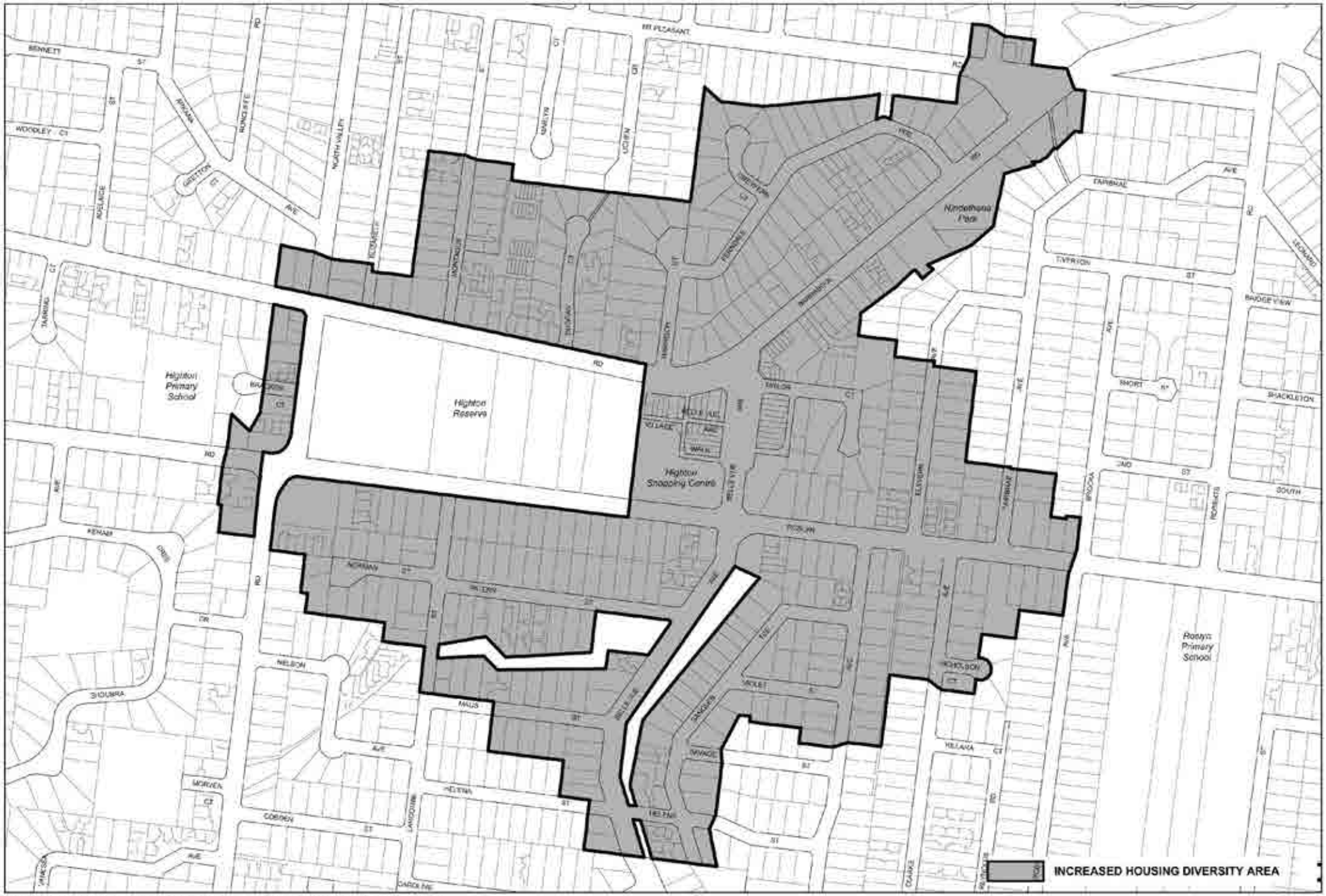
Key development and Increased Housing Diversity Areas - Septermber 2013

HAMLYN HEIGHTS - VINES ROAD INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



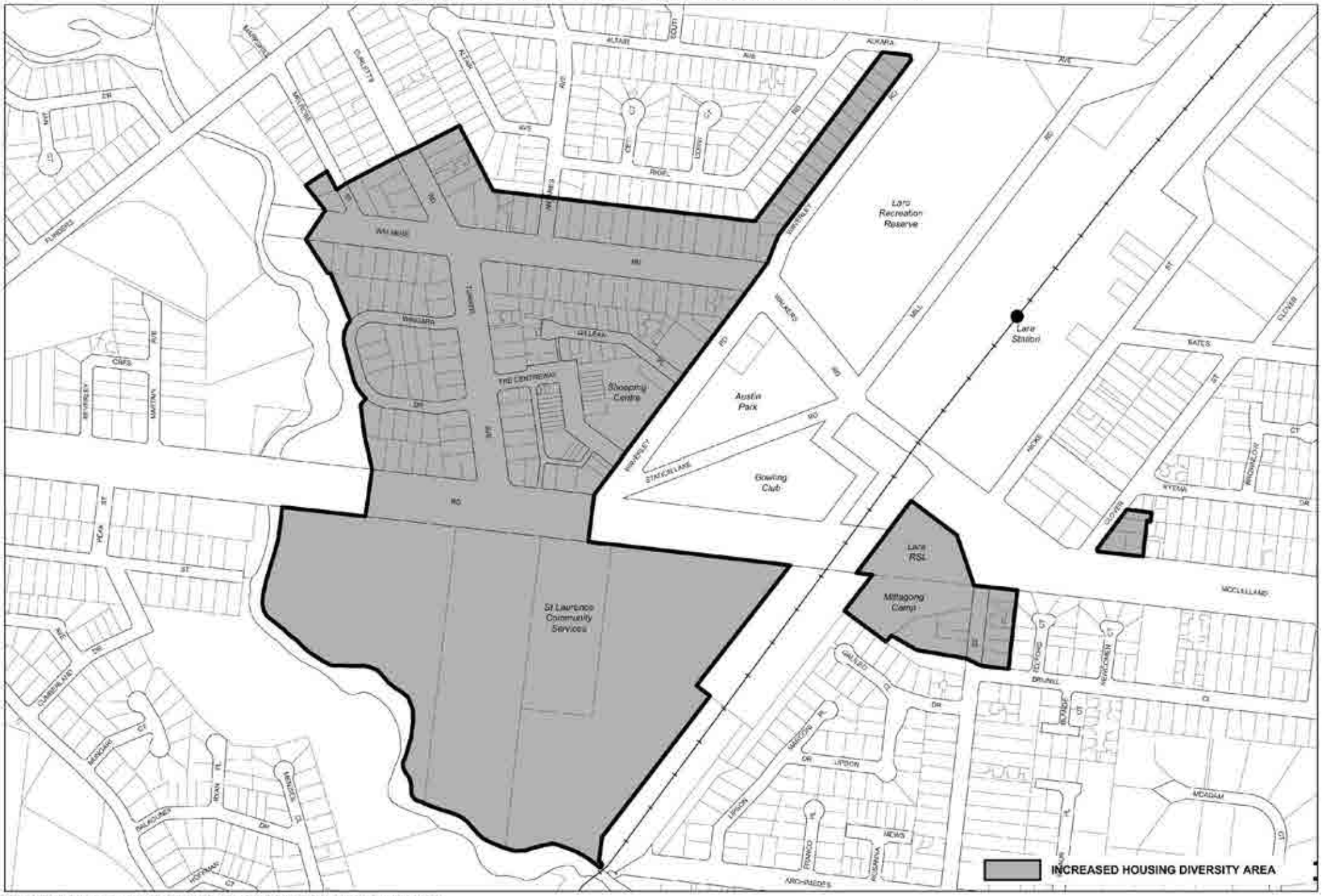
Key development and Increased Housing Diversity Areas - Septermber 2013

HIGHTON SHOPPING CENTRE INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

LARA AND LARA STATION INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



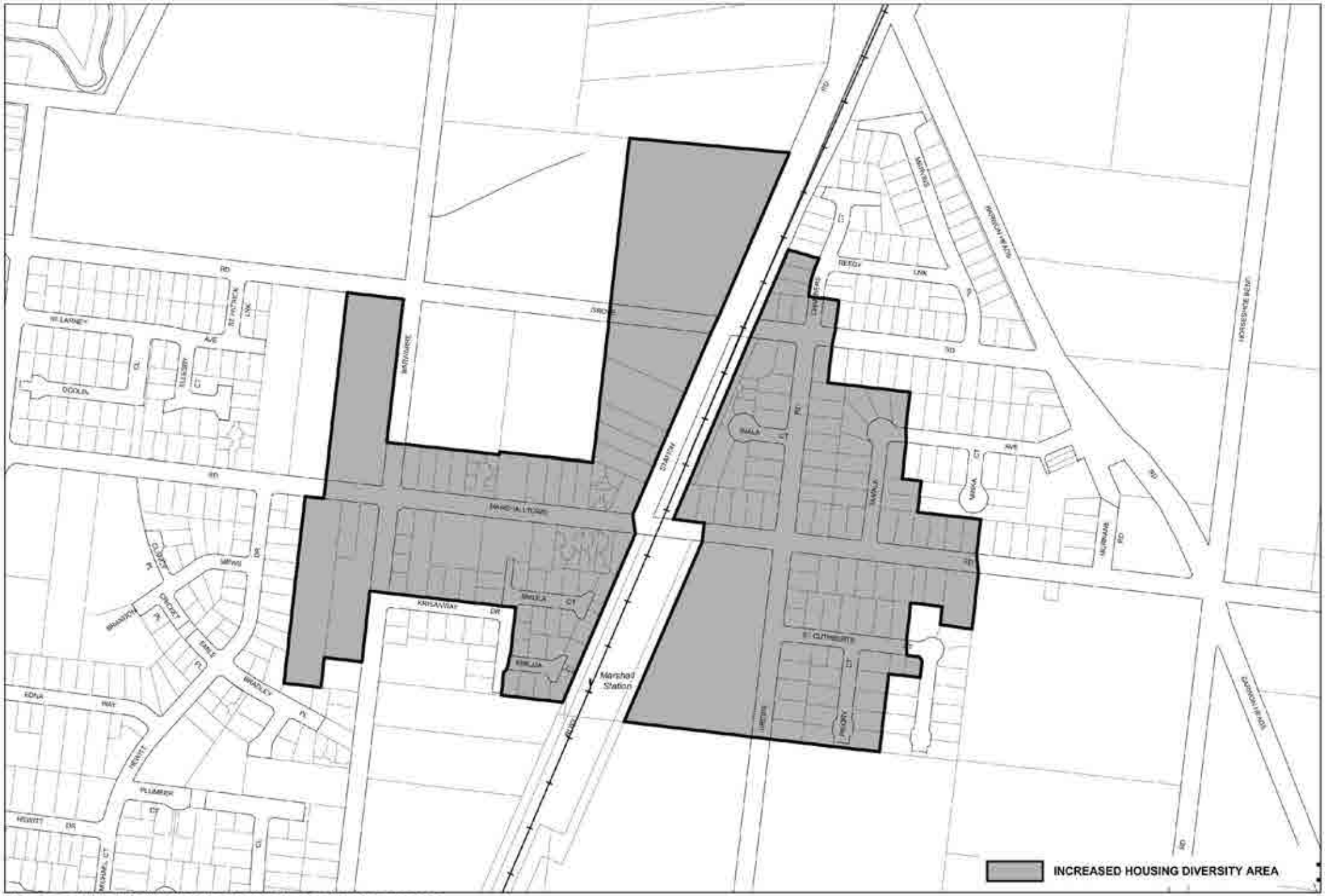
KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

LEOPOLD INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS FEBRUARY 2012

MARSHALL STATION INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA

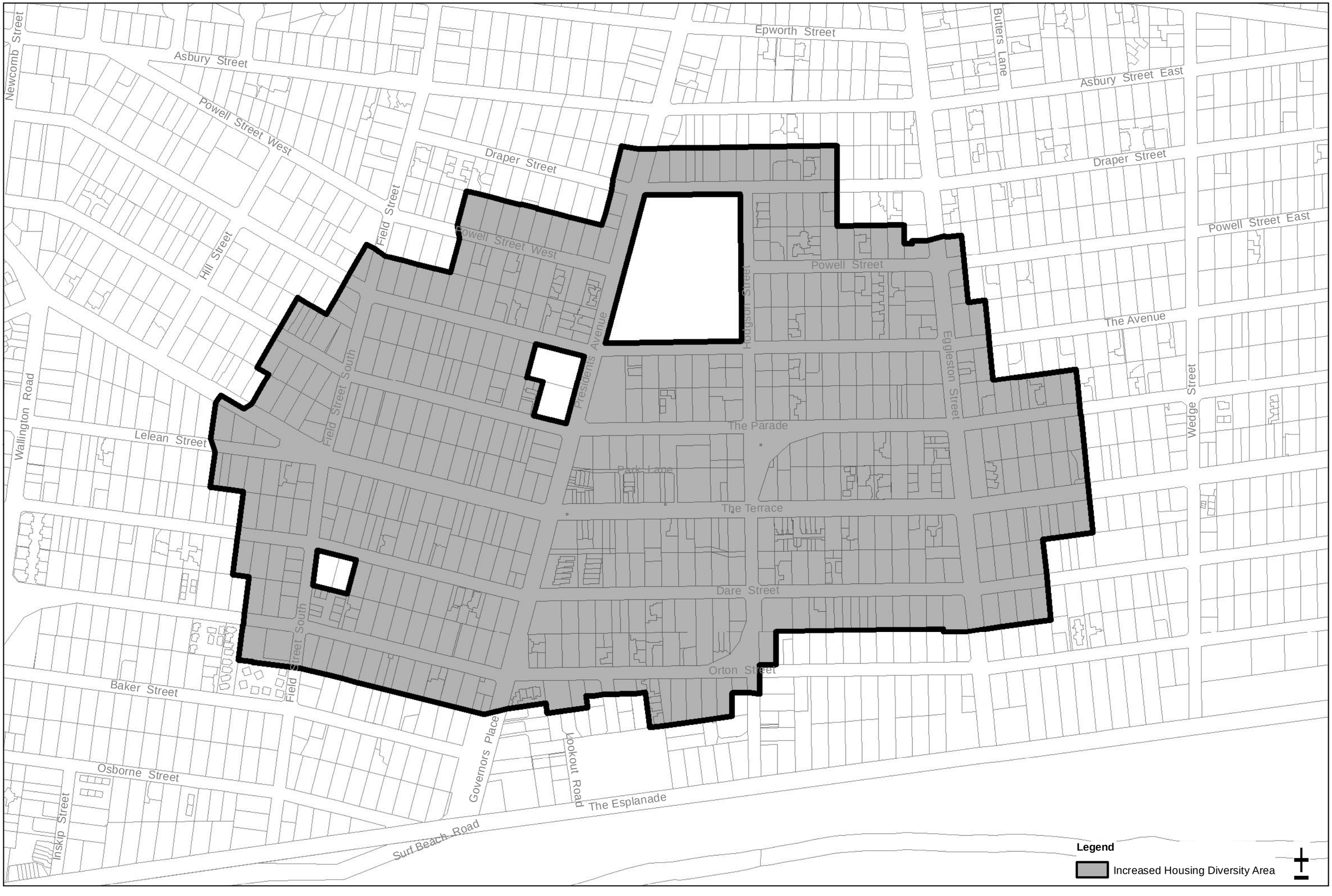


KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

NORTH GEELONG STATION INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA

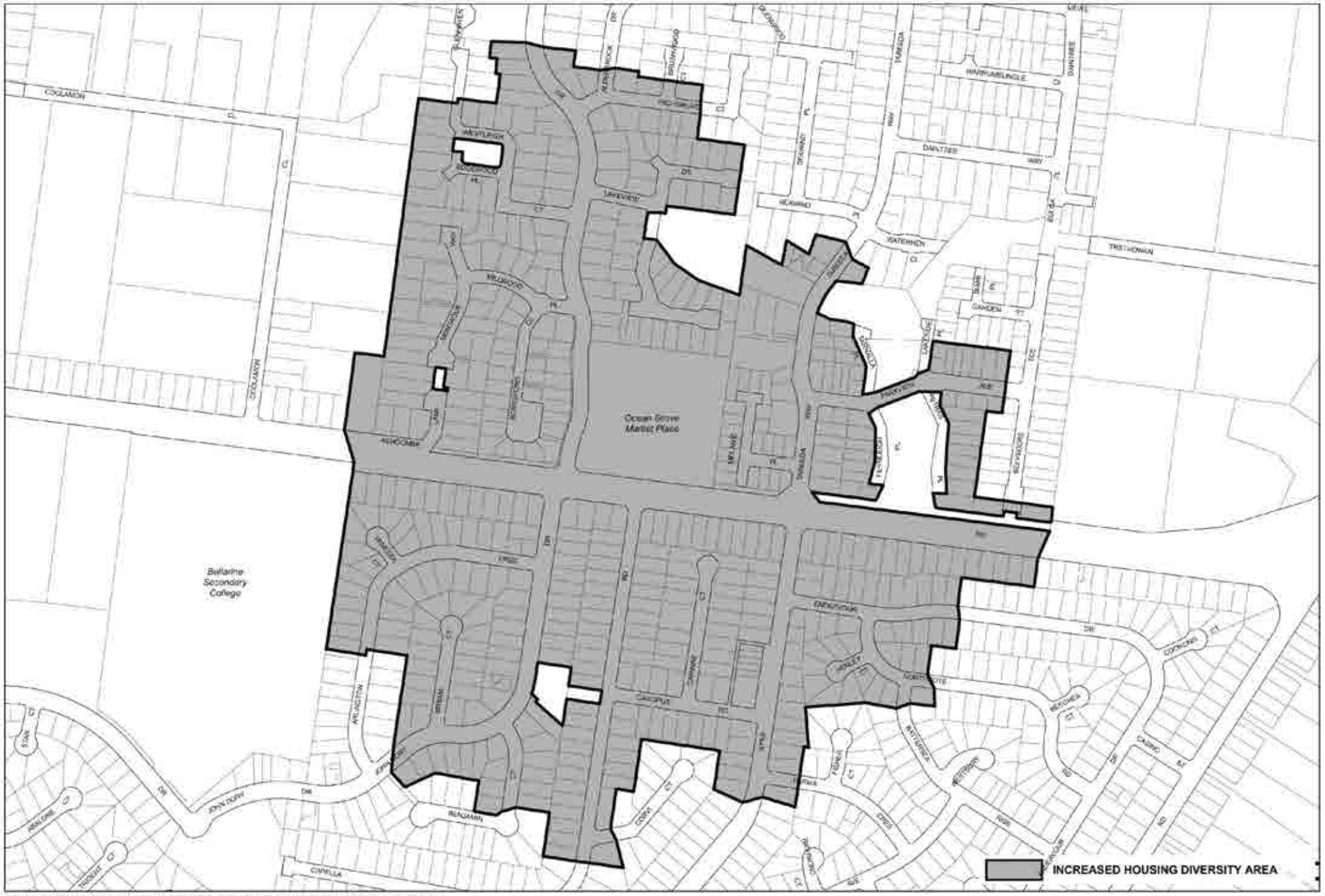


OCEAN GROVE INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



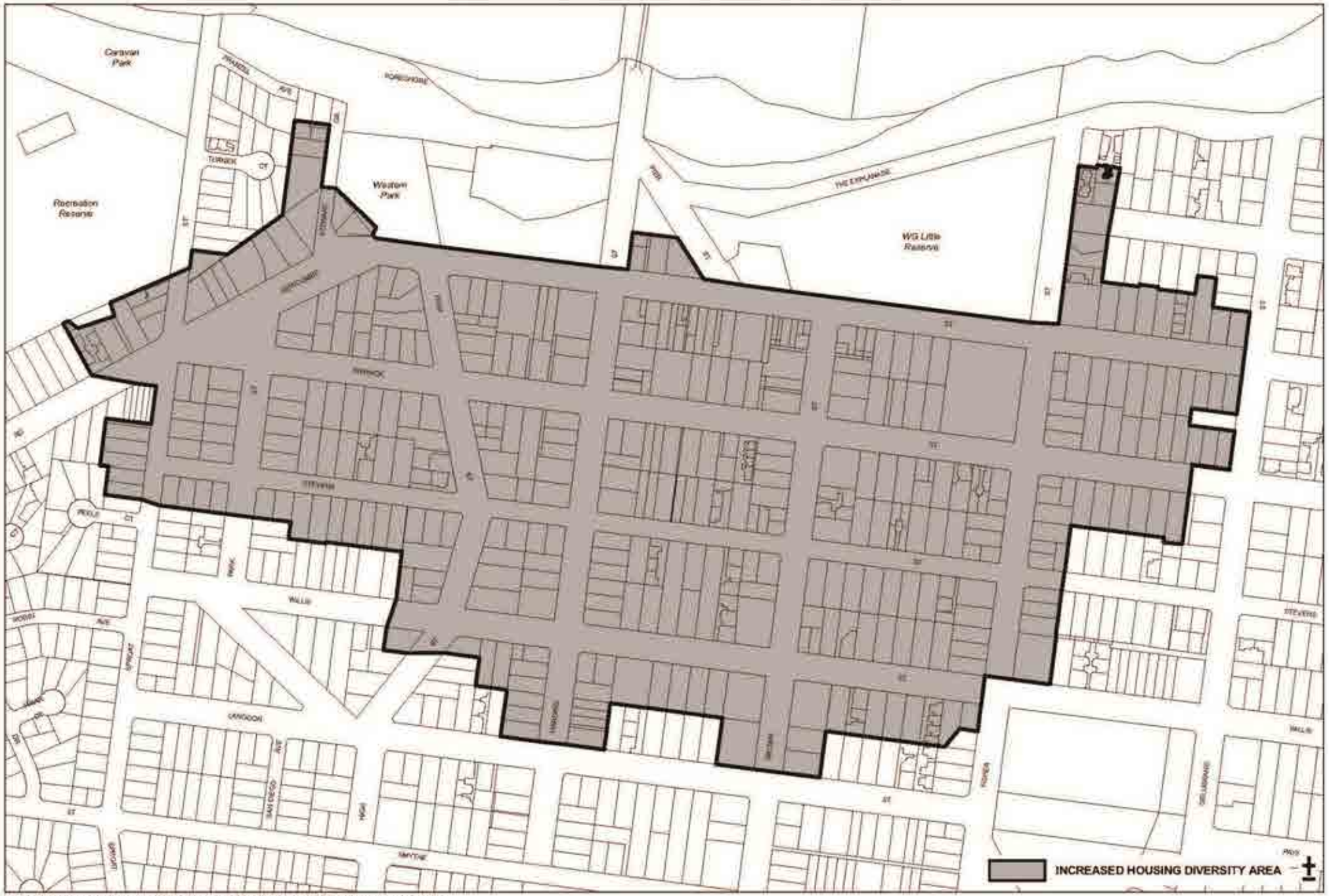
Key development and Increased Housing Diversity Areas - Septermber 2013

OCEAN GROVE MARKET PLACE INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



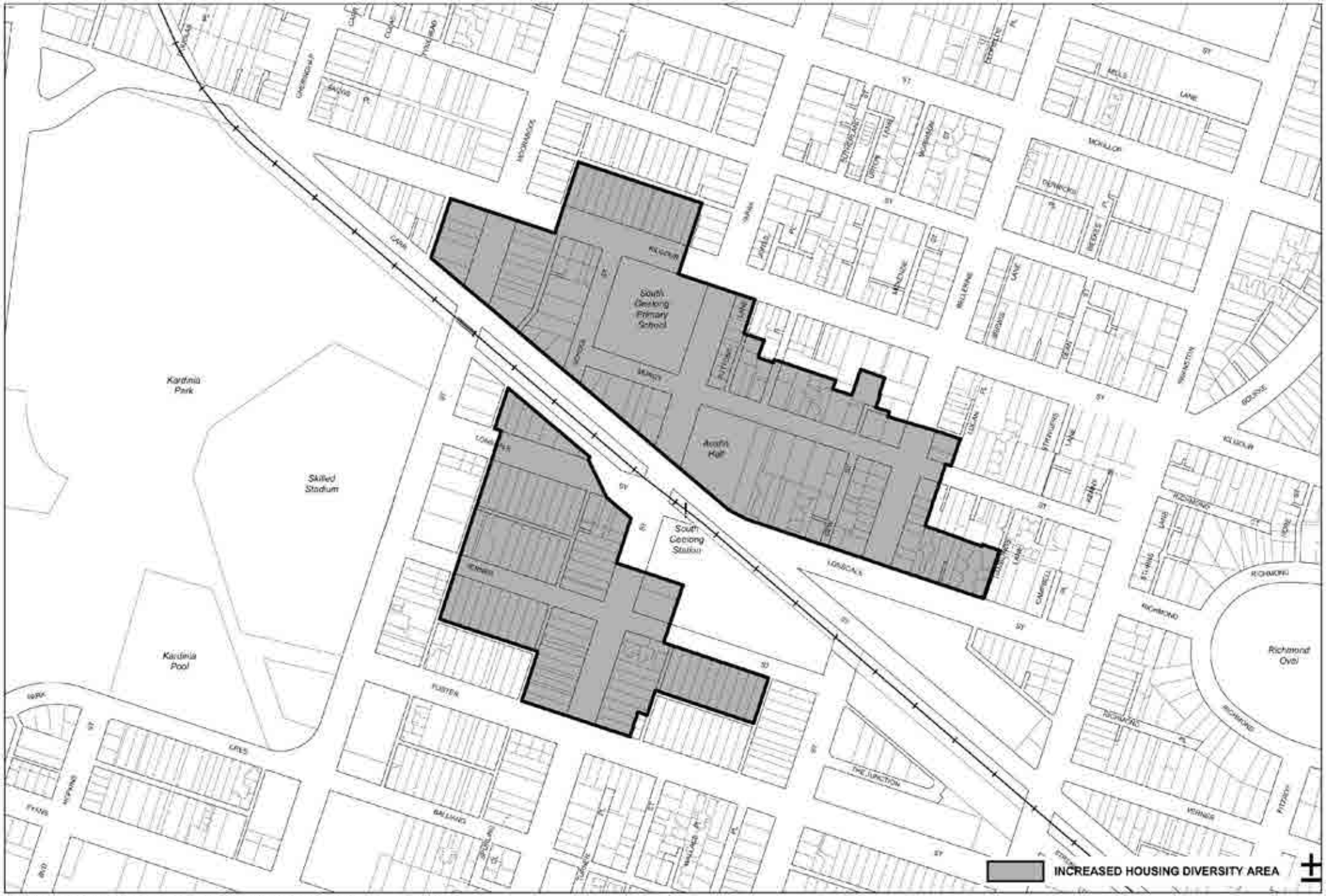
KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

PORTARLINGTON INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



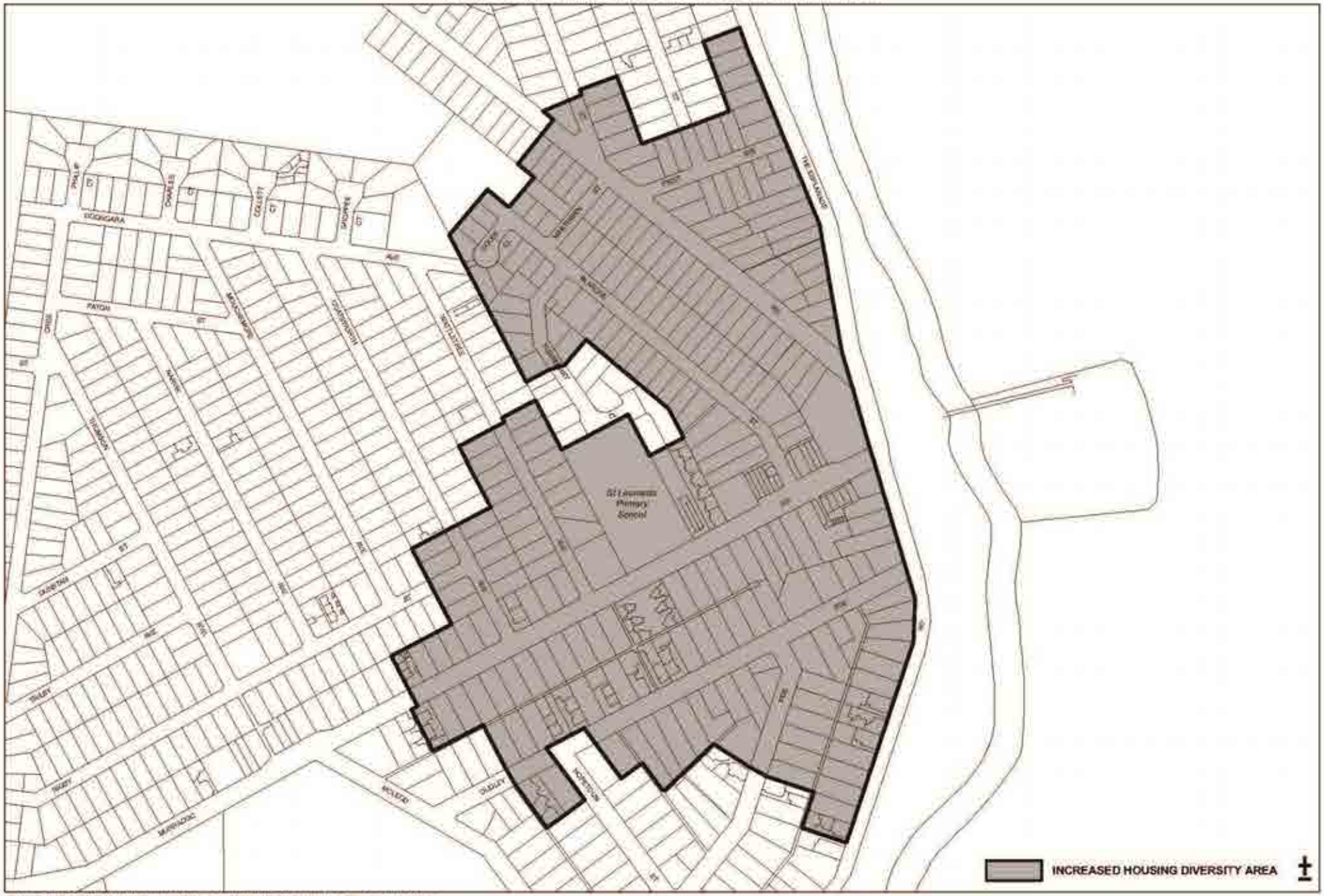
KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

SOUTH GEELONG STATION INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



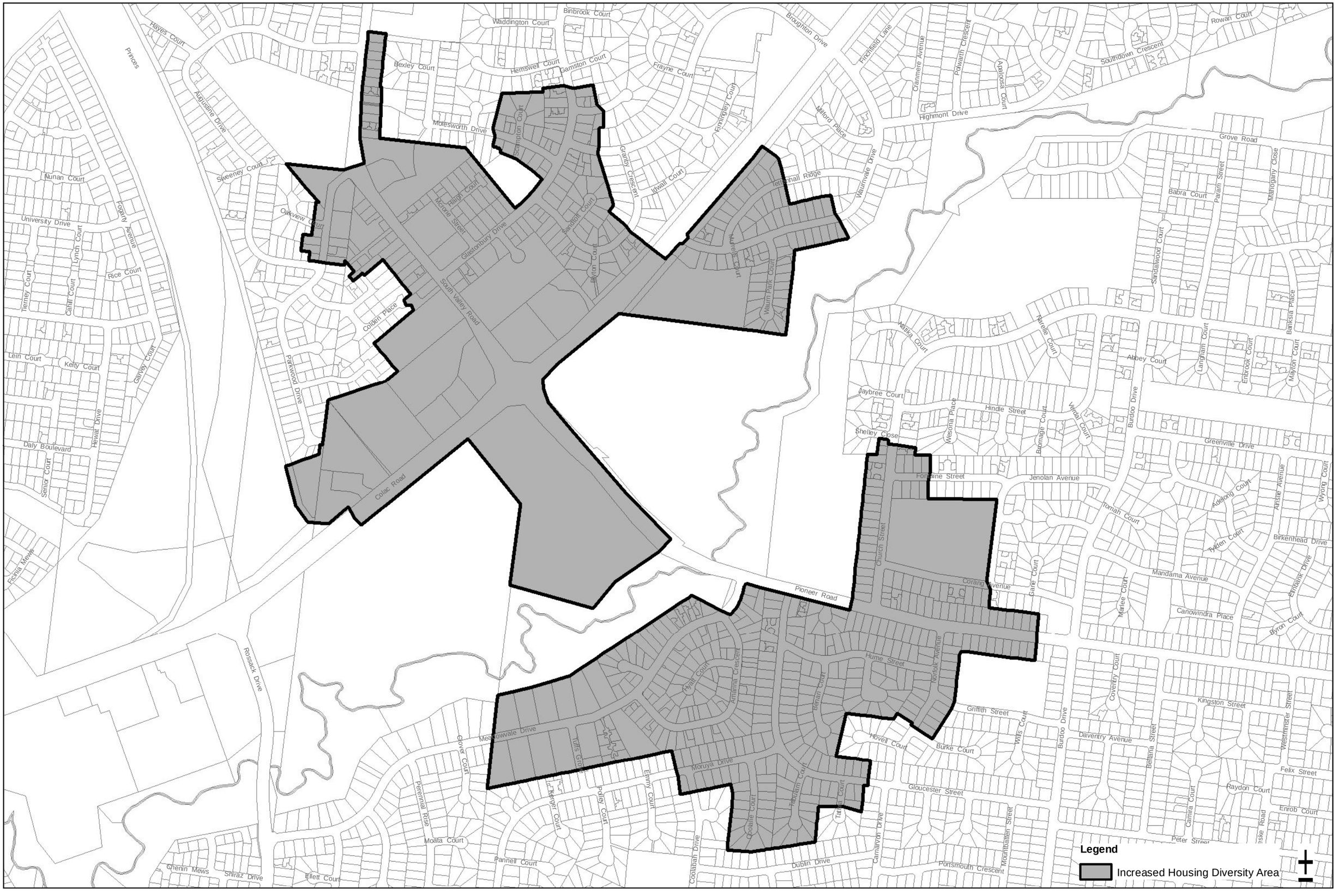
KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

ST LEONARDS INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

WAURN PONDS INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREA



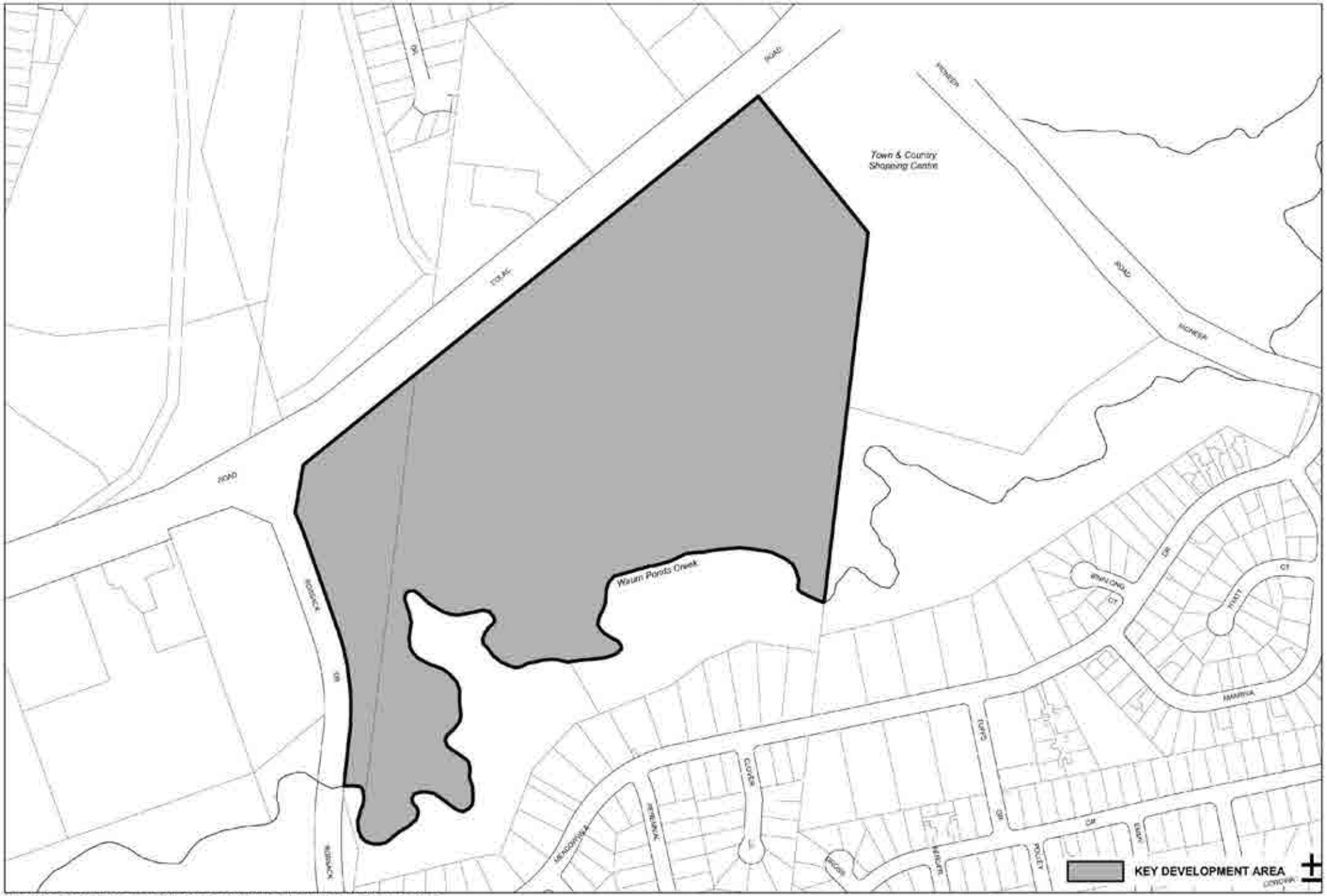
Key development and Increased Housing Diversity Areas - Septermber 2013

CENTRAL GEELONG KEY DEVELOPMENT AREA



KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

WAURN PONDS KEY DEVELOPMENT AREA



KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

WEST FYANS KEY DEVELOPMENT AREA



KEY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED HOUSING DIVERSITY AREAS JULY 2009

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION

Portfolio:	**Planning – Cr Macdonald**
Source	**Economic Development, Planning and Tourism – Strategic Implementation**
General Manager:	**Peter Bettess**
Index Reference	**Application: Amendment C246** **Subject: Council Reports 2013**

Purpose

This report considers the Panel Report to Amendment C246 and recommends adoption of the Amendment.

Summary

- Amendment C246 proposes to rezone 390 hectares of land on the western fringe of Lara to the Urban Growth Zone, accompanied by a Precinct Structure Plan, Native Vegetation Precinct Plan and Development Contributions Plan.
- The Amendment is referred to as the Lara West Growth Area or Lara West Precinct and bounded by Bacchus Marsh Road, Patullos Road, O'Halloran's Road and Windermere Road.
- Public exhibition of the Amendment commenced on 16 November 2012 and closed on 24 December 2012, with late submissions accepted up to 31 January 2013.
- Council received 53 submissions, 19 of which did not support the Amendment or raised concerns. Key issues included planning for land uses changes within close proximity to the APA gas pipeline, the preferred location for a Neighbourhood Activity Centre, pressure on existing infrastructure in Lara, directly affected landowner objections and adverse stormwater drainage impacts.
- Council resolved on 12 March 2013 to refer the submissions to an Independent Planning Panel appointed by the Minister for Planning.
- A Panel Hearing occurred over 7 days in late April and early May 2013. Council was represented at the Hearing by Maddocks Lawyers.
- The Panel concluded that the Amendment has strong strategic planning justification, including the development of a Neighbourhood Activity Centre within the Lara West Precinct. The Panel made findings about transport, drainage, development contributions and directly affected landowner concerns, as well as improvements to the content of the Amendment C246 documents.
- The Panel provided an extensive discussion on the APA high-pressure gas pipeline located in the Precinct and its impacts on land use planning. Both the Panel and Council relied on the advice of Energy Safe Victoria – the independent technical regulator for gas and pipeline safety.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

- The Panel has recommended that the Precinct Structure Plan be adopted subject to refinement of sites marked for schools and community facilities so that they are located outside the Pipeline Measurement Length (as defined in AS2885). The Panel also recommends that future buyers of land within the Pipeline Measurement Length are notified at the time of purchase.
- Council officers recommend that the Amendment be adopted as outlined in this report.

Cr Ansett moved, Cr Fisher seconded -

That Council:

1) **adopts Amendment C246 in the form as outlined in Appendix 6 and Appendix 9 of this report;**
2) **submits the adopted Amendment with the prescribed information to the Minister for Planning requesting approval; and**
3) **writes to the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure requesting that the Department investigate the need for an overlay control to recognise high pressure gas pipelines and their 'pipeline measurement lengths (as defined in AS2885)' in planning schemes, to protect them from encroachment by inappropriate residential development or sensitive land uses and to ensure appropriate conditions are placed on land use and development within 'pipeline measurement lengths (as defined in AS2885)'.**

Carried.

Background

Amendment C246 has been prepared by the Greater Geelong City Council which is the planning authority for this Amendment. The Amendment was initiated by the major landowners in the Lara West Precinct, *Lara Lakes Pty Ltd*.

The Lara West Precinct covers an area of 390 hectares and is bounded by Bacchus Marsh Road, Patullos Road, O'Halloran's Road and Windermere Road. **Appendix 1** is an aerial map of the area.

The Amendment seeks to rezone the land for urban use. This new community will accommodate approximately 11,000 people and is supported by a range of services including retail and employment precincts, Council community centres, sporting facilities, parklands and open space trails and essential infrastructure.

The Minister for Planning authorised the preparation and exhibition of Amendment C246 on 25 September 2012. Public exhibition occurred between 16 November 2012 and 24 December 2012, with late submissions accepted up to 31 January 2013.

The exhibited Amendment proposed to:

a) Rezone the land from the Farming and Rural Living zones to the Urban Growth Zone.
b) Apply a new schedule to Clause 37.07 (Urban Growth Zone).
c) Amend Clause 21.13 Lara to update the implementation actions to reflect the completion of the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan.
d) Remove the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay from the Precinct.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

e) Apply a new schedule to Clause 45.06 (Development Contributions Plan Overlay).

f) Amend Clause 81.01 to incorporate:
- The Lara West Precinct Structure Plan, June 2012.
- The Lara West Growth Area Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, June 2012.
- The Lara West Development Contributions Plan, 2012.

A total of 53 submissions were received; 33 offering no objection or support, 1 requesting further information and 19 objecting. 'In principle support' submissions which then raised detailed concerns were treated as an objection.

Key issues raised in the objecting submissions included: the preferred location for a Neighbourhood Activity Centre (NAC) in planning for growth in western Lara, directly affected landowner objections, further pressures on Lara's infrastructure and adverse stormwater drainage impacts.

APA GasNet Australia (Operations) Pty Ltd (APA) lodged a submission requesting modifications to the Precinct Structure Plan to safeguard the high-pressure gas pipeline it owns and operates. The Precinct is traversed by the pipeline (refer to the map in Appendix 1). The Department of Primary Industries submitted that it was seeking advice from Energy Safe Victoria as to whether the Plan provided sufficiently for human safety in the siting of residential areas in proximity to the pipeline.

The APA gas pipeline issue is extensively addressed in the 'Discussion' section of this report.

Council resolved on 12 March 2013 to refer the submissions to an Independent Planning Panel appointed by the Minister for Planning. A Panel Hearing occurred over 7 days in late April and early May 2013. Council was represented at the Hearing by Terry Montebello from Maddocks Lawyers.

Nine submitters appeared at the Panel Hearing. The proponent was represented by Harwood Andrews, who called a number of expert witnesses. The developer of the adjacent Manzeene Village project (Dacland Pty Ltd) was represented by a Barrister who also called witnesses – primarily to argue that the preferred location for a NAC in western Lara should be on the Manzeene Village land.

Officers from both Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) and the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) gave evidence at the hearing about the APA gas pipeline, Australian Standard (AS) 2885 and the relationship with land-use planning. Officers from Public Transport Victoria, the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) and the Catholic Education Office appeared in support of the Amendment.

One of the landowners of the larger farming properties proposed for rezoning was represented at the hearing by TGM Pty Ltd. The owners of 180 Patullos Road submitted that the proposed design for the Patullos / Elcho / O'Hallorans Road intersection should be reconsidered to reduce the area of land required for acquisition.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Discussion

A three person Panel, chaired by Mr William O'Neil, conducted the hearing. The Panel provided its report to Council on 19 July 2013.

The Panel has found that the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan and accompanying Amendment C246 documentation has strong strategic planning justification. The Panel also concludes that there is planning policy support for the development of a NAC within the Lara West Precinct.

The Panel concluded that the rezoning of the Patullos Road Area to the Urban Growth Zone is strategically justified and supported, as are the requirements for the preparation of Masterplans for the West Gateway and Patullos Road Areas prior to the granting of a permit to subdivide.

The Panel has accepted the location of land uses identified in the hearing version Urban Structure Plan, Revision V, 02 May 2013 (shown in **Appendix 2)**, subject to further refinements.

Appendix 3 shows the final Future Urban Structure Plan to be adopted. This is the plan that will form part of the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan to be incorporated into the planning scheme. This plan will also appear in the Schedule 4 to the Urban Growth Zone.

The Panel also recommends that notice for newcomers buying into the area about the existence of the pipeline is reasonable. This recommendation is supported.

A copy of the Panel Report's Consolidated List of Recommendations is in **Appendix 4**. A table listing all of the recommendations, a summary Council response and adopted Council position is in **Appendix 5**.

Appendix 6 contains the Amendment documents to be adopted. These are the planning controls to be inserted into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, subject to approval by the Minister for Planning.

A full copy of the final Incorporated Documents - Precinct Structure Plan, Native Vegetation Precinct Plan and Development Contributions Plan – are located at the end of this report in **Appendix 9**.

The issues raised during the Panel Hearing, the Panel's recommendations and Council officer's response are outlined below using the headings from the Panel Report.

Section 5: The strategic basis for the Amendment

The Panel noted that Council, the proponent (Lara Lakes Pty Ltd) and Dacland Pty Ltd (Manzeene Village developer), all agreed in principle with the need to provide future land supply opportunities for the Lara Township. Accordingly, the Panel believes the Amendment has strong strategic planning justification including support of the Lara Structure Plan.

The Panel did not support the notion put by Dacland that the Manzeene Avenue land should be developed prior to the Lara West land. The Panel found that the additional residential land supply provided for by the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan will provide housing opportunities in the west of the Lara Township in response to demand, and such development is unlikely to compromise the realisation of housing opportunities elsewhere in the township.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Council Officer Response

The findings of the Panel are consistent with the policy position of Council and supported.

Section 6: The high-pressure gas pipeline

Summary findings

The Panel states that the protection of the pipeline and the easement and the encroachment of more intense land uses and development within its vicinity under the proposed Lara West Precinct Structure Plan is a matter for careful consideration.

In the Executive Summary the Panel concludes that:

- Based on ESV's advice, the location of the NAC on *C246 Hearing Version Draft 2, Revision V, 02 May 13* of the LWPSP Urban Structure Plan is acceptable for planning purposes.
- The *C246 Hearing Version Draft 2, Revision V, 02 May 13* of the LWPSP Urban Structure Plan should be further amended to ensure that sites marked for schools and community facilities are entirely outside the 554 m pipeline measurement length.
- A new referral requirement to ESV should be included in the UGZ Schedule to require all permit applications to be referred to it for use, development or subdivision of land within the gas easement pipeline measurement length.
- A condition should be placed on subdivision permits within the 554 m pipeline measurement length that requires a Section 173 Agreement be registered on land titles.

Council Officer Response

There is relatively little information about this State significant asset, and for the purposes of providing proper context and disclosure, Chapter 6: *The high-pressure gas pipeline* is copied in full in **Appendix 7**. The location of the pipeline is shown in Appendix 1.

Terry Montebello for Council made it very clear to the Panel that Council is reliant on bodies such as ESV and DPI (now the Department of State Development, Business and Innovation) in relation to this matter. Council does not have the necessary expertise where it comes to the pipeline issue. The conclusions of the Panel are discussed in detail below.

Appropriate terminology to describe the pipeline and its buffer requirements

The Panel adopted the term 'heat flux zone' to describe the distance from the pipeline of relevant land uses for a full bore rupture of the pipe leading to ignition of the escaping gas.

Council Officer Response

Subsequent to the Panel Hearing, advice about this term was sought from ESV. Steve Cronin, Manager Performance Standards, Gas and Pipeline Infrastructure Safety, responded:

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

"The term used in the industry standard (AS2885) is 'measurement length'. This, unfortunately, is not a very descriptive term, which is why I believe APA introduced the colloquialism 'heat flux zone' to the C246 Panel. However, for your purposes, I suggest you use 'pipeline measurement length' to identify the relevant ***distance*** *from the pipeline within which the area of concern falls. There is no defined term that refers to this* ***area*** *of land – the standard uses the phrase: 'the land within the pipeline measurement length on either side of the pipeline'.*

Also, if it's helpful you could add: '(as defined in AS2885)' – whilst you could also refer to AS2885 Part 1, section 4.3.2, I'm conscious that the standard does get reviewed from time to time, and a word search of an electronic copy may be more helpful in the long term than pointing to the clause number".

As a result, this report, and relevant C246 Amendment documentation to be implemented into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme will use the term: 'Pipeline Measurement Length (as defined in AS2885)' or 'Pipeline Measurement Length'.

Location of sporting fields and stadium site

The Panel is of the view that the location of these facilities is reasonably flexible, that there is no overriding requirement that they be co-located with the NAC and that consideration could be given to relocating them to a location outside the 554 m 'pipeline measurement length'. The Panel did not include this finding as a formal recommendation because the AS2885 location class categories do not define these uses.

Council Officer Response

Council officers do not agree that the location of these facilities is 'reasonably flexible'. While it is agreed that contemporary growth areas planning does not require sporting facilities to be co-located with a NAC, the objective here is to establish a sense of place and synergy in the Lara West Precinct by siting key community and commercial uses on the main internal East-West Connector Street.

Because the 'pipeline measurement length' extends beyond the main East-West Connector Street for nearly all its length, if the Panel's view was accepted, the sporting fields could not be located on this road.

The proposed location of the sporting fields and stadium site interlinks with public open space trails along the primary drainage corridor and electricity transmission easement. The stadium site is strategically located as part of the Secondary School Site and adjacent to the sporting fields to maximise use and enable cost sharing between Council and the Department of Education. This large, central area of open space will also contribute to the existing 'open bushland feel' character of Lara and reinforces the important role that sport and recreation plays in the community.

In considering the views of the Panel, Council officers wrote to ESV seeking clarification on this matter, particularly in relation to AS2885. In its response, ESV raises no objection to the proposed location of the sporting fields. A copy of the ESV response is shown in **Appendix 8**.

Council officers do not support the relocation of the sporting fields and stadium site.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Location of the schools and community centres

The Panel has recommended that the hearing version Urban Structure Plan, Revision V, 02 May 2013, be adopted subject to further refinement to ensure that sites marked for schools and community facilities are entirely outside the 554 m 'pipeline measurement length'. The Panel considers that the layout of the road and drainage network is flexible enough to allow this adjustment.

Council Officer Response

Council officers question the 'flexibility' of the road and drainage network. In the Revision V Plan, both primary schools and the two community centres have been relocated to the north side of the main East-West Connector Street. Schools and community centres are now only marginally in the 'pipeline measurement length' – the non-government primary school site is completely outside.

Council's and the proponent's overriding objective has been to relocate the schools and community centres clear of the 'pipeline measurement length', as opposed to retaining the exhibited locations and attempting to further mitigate the risk of pipeline rupture. This has largely been achieved.

In considering the views of the Panel, Council officers wrote to ESV seeking clarification, particularly in relation to AS2885. In its response, ESV raises no objection to the proposed location of the schools or community centres. A copy of the ESV response is shown in **Appendix 8**.

Based on the advice from ESV, Council officers are comfortable with the location of the school and community centre sites being located marginally within the 'pipeline measurement length' as shown on the Future Urban Structure Plan to be adopted.

Notification to future land buyers

During the course of the Hearing the Panel raised the question of whether or not there should be a mechanism to advise purchasers of property within the Pipeline Measurement Length (as defined in AS2885) of its existence. The Panel ultimately recommended amending the Urban Growth Zone Schedule to include a condition on subdivision permits within the 554 m Pipeline Measurement Length that requires a Section 173 Agreement be registered on land titles.

Council Officer Response

Council officers sought legal advice from Maddocks as to the appropriateness of the use of an Agreement for such a purpose and the proposed Panel wording.

In an email letter dated 02/08/2013 Maddocks advised that the use of an Agreement under section 173 of the *Planning and Environment Act* 1987 is an appropriate mechanism of giving notice. Maddocks also recommended that the wording of section 4.4 to the Urban Growth Zone Schedule as suggested by the Panel be revised.

The Panel recommendation to notify land buyers by use of an Agreement registered on title is supported. The Panel's suggested wording for inclusion in the Urban Growth Zone Schedule will be changed to the wording recommended by Maddocks.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Section 7: The Neighbourhood Activity Centre

The majority of the 7 day Hearing was consumed by discussion on the most appropriate location for a NAC in planning for growth in western Lara. Dacland argued that its Manzeene Village site, on the corner of Patullos Road and O'Hallorans Road, was the most appropriate location. Dacland has been in discussions with Woolworths and says a retail centre anchored by a supermarket can be delivered in the short-term, will not impact on the Lara Town Centre, and provides a significant net community benefit. Dacland proposed that the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan be amended to downgrade the NAC to a Local Activity Centre.

The proponent rejected this argument, submitting that there is strong strategic justification for a NAC in the Lara West Precinct. Economic evidence by the proponents' expert is that a supermarket would be supportable at the LWP in about 2020. The evidence also finds that the proposed NAC location, central to the Precinct, provides sufficient distance (4 km) to the Lara Town Centre to ensure that they are not directly competing within the same core catchment area.

Council, in closing, submitted that the NAC site identified in the Lara West Precinct is appropriate due to its central position within a large proposed population base and also within a walkable catchment co-located with community and recreational facilities and medium density housing. Council reiterated that it does not support the early establishment of the Lara West Precinct NAC let alone a Manzeene Village NAC, until there is full utilisation of the Town Centre. Council concluded that there is no amendment for Manzeene Village which includes an activity centre.

The Panel considered all the evidence and submissions and finds:

- There is planning policy support for the development of a NAC within the Lara West Precinct. The location is generally consistent with relevant activity centre and precinct structure plan guidelines.
- The projected population of the Lara West Precinct area will ultimately support the proposed composition of the NAC including a full-line supermarket, specialty shops, community facilities and non-retail commercial uses.
- It is unlikely that the NAC will be developed prior to 2020. The Panel considers this timing will provide the opportunity for the Town Centre to develop and consolidate its retail role.
- The proposed NAC location as shown in Hearing Version Draft 2 Revision V is satisfactory and should provide the basis for future detailed design in accordance with the guidelines provided within the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan and accompanying planning scheme provisions.

<u>Council Officer Response</u>

The findings of the Panel are consistent with the policy position of Council and supported. Officers agree that the NAC is unlikely to be developed by 2020.

It is noted that Amendment C285 Manzeene Village was recently on exhibition and proposes to rezone all land to the General Residential Zone. There is no Commercial 1 Zone component to the Amendment to provide for a NAC.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Section 8: Transport and Movement

The Panel heard evidence and submissions on a number of traffic and transport issues. The Panel noted that concerns about traffic problems well beyond the Lara West Precinct would be addressed by Council in its review of the Lara Transport Management Plan. Public Transport Victoria (PTV) submitted that they are planning a bus route through the Lara West Precinct and requested a number of modifications to the PSP which are supported by Council.

Council advised the Panel that, consistent with the views of PTV, the main East-West Connector Street should be extended to Manzeene Avenue. PTV submitted at the hearing saying that an easterly extension would provide "the best opportunity in terms of directness, safety and catchment for a future bus route planned to service the Lara West Precinct and the Manzeene Village site". PTV suggested that an arrow be shown on the Precinct Structure Plan. This was opposed by Dacland.

Dacland provided expert evidence to argue why their site is a more logical choice for a future NAC on traffic engineering grounds. The Panel did not support this view and found that it is appropriate for the NAC to be located in the Lara West Precinct. The Panel also said that a location on the main East-West Connector Street, extended to Manzeene Avenue will facilitate bus access to the Centre and co-located facilities. The Panel regarded this as a very important attribute in an area that is likely to have a relatively low level of public transport service for some time.

The Panel heard submissions from the landowner of 180 Patullos Road regarding loss of some of their land for the upgrading of the Elcho Road / Patullos Road intersection. The landowner suggested that alternative designs should be considered. The Panel noted that no traffic evidence had been produced that casts doubt on the proposed design and accepts the need for signalisation as part of the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan. The Panel made no finding to the matter of the extent of the acquisition of land to be dealt with under Amendment C290.

Council Officer Response

The findings of the Panel are consistent with the policy position of Council and supported.

Consistent with the Panel's and PTV's views to extend the Lara West Precinct main East-West Connector Street east, Amendment C285 Manzeene Village supports continuing this road through to Manzeene Avenue and exiting at Kees Road.

Amendment C290 exhibition period has closed and a submission from the landowners of 180 Patullos Road was received. The submission is currently under consideration.

Section 9: Drainage

The proponent's drainage expert, Mr Craigie, gave evidence about the proposed stormwater management strategy. Mr Craigie described the objectives of the strategy and noted that the site's flat topography is such that the 1% (1 in 100 year) flood is extensive and flows down gently sloped, wide depressions towards Hovells Creek in the east, at a depth less than 110 mm.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority urged that the current Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO) be retained until post-development 1% AEP flood extent is confirmed. Council submitted that the LSIO need not be retained as the new Urban Growth Zone schedule and Precinct Structure Plan will fulfil this role, which was supported by the Panel.

Submissions by both Dacland and the landowner of Property 8 in the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan raised concerns about the exclusion of drainage costs in the Development Contributions Plan (DCP). Council highlighted that through an extensive consultation process with its engineers, the proponent and Dacland, it was determined that the drainage design will be a developer-funded item. Mr Tobin for Lara Lakes opposed the inclusion of drainage items within the DCP.

The Panel accepted the evidence of Mr Craigie about the objectives underpinning the drainage strategy. The Panel noted that detailed design and costing of the system will be a significant engineering task that the Panel understands will be the responsibility of the various owners through whose land the drainage system passes. The Panel's view is that until the drainage design is further advanced and costed, it is not possible to include drainage in the DCP.

Council Officer Response

The findings of the Panel are consistent with the policy position of Council and supported.

Section 10: Development Contributions

Council gave evidence to the Panel to support the DCP, providing an overview of the *Development Contributions Plan Principles* and the rationale for the identification of the five different charge areas and apportionment of costs. Mr Anderson, Council's DCP expert witness stated that the Lara West Development Contributions Plan delivers an infrastructure funding regime that is fair, affordable and aligns with the vision for the growth area in providing a best practice sustainable development.

Mr Montebello, for Council, noted that a number of the concerns raised by Dacland to the exhibited DCP had been resolved prior to the hearing, subject to minor changes agreed by both parties. Mr Anderson, in response the Panel's request, following the hearing forwarded a consolidated list of proposed changes to the Amendment documentation, all of which was supported by both the proponent and Dacland.

Mr Marshall for G & L Wilks (Property 8 landowner) submitted that drainage should be included as an infrastructure item to be funded by the DCP. This was not supported by the Panel. The Panel has supported the suggestion by the Catholic Education Office to modify the schedule to the Development Contributions Plan Overlay (DCPO) to make it explicit that land for the development of non-government schools is exempt from the overlay.

The Panel concluded that:

- The development and community infrastructure to be funded by the Lara West DCP is appropriate and that the cost apportionment has occurred generally in accordance with relevant DCP guidelines and Ministerial Directions.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

- Minor corrections are required to the Lara West DCP and the Schedule to the DCPO to rectify errors in exhibited documentation concerning demand unit calculation, cost apportionment and project scope.
- The per hectare DCP levy for each of the five charge areas within the Lara West DCP will be comparable to levies of other recently approved DCPs in like settings.

Council Officer Response

The findings of the Panel are consistent with the policy position of Council and supported.

Section 11: Other issues

Retention of Patullos Road Area for Rural Living

Some of the landowners in this area oppose the rezoning, preferring to retain their existing rural outlook, amenity and lifestyle. The landowner at 245 Patullos Road supports the rezoning. In its submission, Mr Montebello for Council acknowledged that the country setting of the area is a feature which many existing residents would like to see retained. Mr Montebello submitted that the rezoning outcome has followed a rigorous strategic planning process which was supported by the C198 Panel, Lara Structure Plan and ultimately the Municipal Strategic Statement.

The Panel found that the rezoning of the Patullos Road area to the Urban Growth Zone is strategically justified and supported. The Panel noted that existing landowners are not obliged to develop their land at conventional lot densities or actively participate in the Master Planning process and that the Precinct will be developed over a 30 year period.

Council Officer Response

The findings of the Panel are consistent with the policy position of Council and supported.

West Gateway Masterplan

One of the landowners within the West Gateway Area submitted that the provisions are unduly restrictive. Of particular concern is the requirement that a Masterplan must be prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority prior to being able to grant a permit to subdivide land. The submission requests that the Urban Growth Zone clause should be amended to allow existing and future land owners to subdivide their land into no more than two parts and that this subdivision can occur before a Masterplan of the West Gateway Area has been prepared.

The Panel did not support this request as it would potentially compromise the future long term development and integration of the land with the wider Precinct. The Panel said that there is no time frame or any mechanism to compel any landowner to be part of a future Masterplan process that would see this land developed into conventional residential use. The panel also noted that these findings equally apply to the Patullos Road Area.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Council Officer Response

The findings of the Panel are consistent with the policy position of Council and supported.

Section 12: Changes to the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan

The Panel noted that in response to submissions made during the exhibition of the amendment, the Council endorsed a number of changes to the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan. Further changes to the Plan were suggested during the course of the Hearing which are outlined in Chapter 12 of the Panel Report. Changes were suggested by Council, the proponent, ESV, the Catholic Education Office, DEPI, PTV, the landowner of Property 8 in the Lara West Precinct and Dacland Pty Ltd.

The Panel considers that the changes recommended and supported by Council all generally contribute to improving the clarity and direction of the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan. The Panel identified ensuring consistency of legends in the various plans and the preparation of an Urban Design Framework for the Employment Precinct as further improvements.

The Panel pointed out that the relocation of the eastern community facilities would result in the loss of a small patch of native vegetation, and that DEPI advised that this patch could be offset. DEPI also advised that a consequent change should be made to the Native Vegetation Precinct Plan.

With regard to design parameters or standards for use and development within the gas pipeline measurement length, the Panel stated it evident that ESV should develop appropriate processes and guidelines to deal with these matters into the future, as this Amendment has highlighted 'gaps' in the planning system.

The Panel endorsed Council's approach to the submission by the Catholic Education Office. That is, because the Catholic Education Office has no current interest in the land and therefore no commitment to the provision of a school at the designated site, it should not be designed as 'Non Government (Catholic) School' on the plan. The Panel also did not support the Catholic Education Office request to add an additional paragraph in the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan.

The Panel supported the approach of PTV and Council to show an arrow on the plan that a future road link (i.e. the main East-West Connector Street) could be achieved between the Lara West Precinct and Manzeene Village. Dacland did not support this change, recommending that any 'connection' should be offset by 60-100 metres to ensure safety considerations.

Mr Marshall for the landowner of Property 8 requested that direct access to the site from O'Halloran's Road, to better assist development, should be shown on the plan. This was supported by the Panel.

Overall, the Panel found that the changes recommended improve the clarity of the document and do not materially transform the scope of nature of the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Council Officer Response

The findings of the Panel are supported.

Section 13: Other Proposed Changes to Planning Controls

During the Hearing, submitters requested other various changes to the Amendment. In Chapter 13 of its report, the Panel discusses and makes recommendations about the changes. The changes and the proposed controls are outlined below:

Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS)

The Panel supported the changes to Clause 21.13 of the MSS as exhibited by Council. No party objected to these changes.

Council Officer Response

The findings of the Panel are supported.

Urban Growth Zone Schedule

In its submission Council advised the Panel of a number of early changes to the Schedule. Also, during the course of the hearing other changes put forward by Council, Mr Tobin and Mr Tweedie were discussed in detail during a 'without prejudice' session on the last day. These changes are referred to on pages 92-94 of the Panel Report.

The majority of the changes proposed were supported by all parties. The Panel said the changes will contribute to improving the clarity and transparency of the Schedule and have updated information where required.

The Panel then addressed outstanding issues.

Mr Tobin for Lara Lakes Pty Ltd suggested that the pipeline measurement length should be depicted on the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan and not shown on Map 1 to the Schedule. The Panel disagreed, recommending that *"Map 1 be amended to show the location of the high-pressure gas pipeline and pipeline measurement lengths – the 324 m and 554 m zones"*.

Mr Tobin suggested that there was no need for an Urban Design Framework for the Employment Precinct as this would place an unreasonable burden on the landowner. The Panel disagreed, saying the requirement for an Urban Design Framework is consistent with the approach adopted for the NAC.

The Panel was satisfied with Council's revisions to Clause 3.1 Environmental Assessment. Mr Tobin proposed that the clause be amended so that a site assessment is not required for land identified in the SMEC report, *Phase 1 Environmental Assessment, Proposed Lara Lakes Estate, Area 4, July 2011*, as preliminary assessment works had been undertaken. The Panel did not support this amendment.

Mr Tobin suggested a new section to Clause 4.0 Conditions and requirements for permits, to require a Construction Management Plan for all buildings and works proposed in the pipeline measurement length. Council disagreed, submitting that the new referral provision in Clause 3.3 would ensure that ESV would consider these issues. The Panel agreed with Council.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Mr Tweedie for Dacland, proposed a number of changes in relation to the NAC. Mr Tweedie proposed to re-name the NAC to a Local Activity Centre - Area 1 and the eastern centre to be re-named Local Activity Centre - Area 2. Both Council and Mr Tobin disagreed. The Panel did not support Mr Tweedie's position concluding that the proposal is not appropriate nor a good planning process or outcome.

The Panel requested that Council address the potential impact of the application of the new zones introduced by the Minister for planning and how they would affect Clause 2.2 'Applied zone provisions'.

Council Officer Response

The findings of the Panel are generally supported. Appendix 5 includes the Schedule 4 to the Urban Growth Zone for adoption.

Regarding the new zones, Council advised the Panel that the proposed Business 1 Zone for the NAC and Local Activity Centre would be translated to the Commercial 1 Zone, and that the Employment Precinct would be translated to the Commercial 2 Zone. Land shown as 'Residential conventional' and 'Residential medium density' will have the General Residential Zone applied.

The Panel's recommendation that *"Map 1 be amended to show the location of the high-pressure gas pipeline and pipeline measurement lengths – the 324 m and 554 m zones"* appears to be an error and should only refer to the '554 m zone'. Reference to the '554 m zone' only is consistent with the Panel Report recommendation 14.2 and the Appendix C draft schedule.

Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO)

The Panel highlighted that much of the northern boundary of the Precinct area is included in the LSIO and that the amendment proposes to remove the overlay. Mr Montebello for Council referred the Panel to Mr Craigie's investigation and report that found that the area subject to flooding was not confined to the area in the LSIO, but covered a far more extensive area.

Over the course of the Hearing, the exhibited Amendment documents were modified to require a referral of applications for development to the relevant Catchment Management Authority if the site were identified to be subject to flooding in Plan 19 of the incorporated Lara West Precinct Structure Plan. Both Mt Craigie and the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CMA) recommended that the LSIO be retained.

Council submitted that a referral to the Corangamite CMA on the basis of the identification of land subject to flooding identified in an Incorporated Document is a satisfactory approach. The Panel agreed with Council's approach and concluded that the deletion of the LSIO from the Planning Scheme Maps 12 is appropriate.

Council Officer Response

The findings of the Panel are consistent with the policy position of Council and supported.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Development Contributions Plan Overlay

Mr Montebello for Council submitted that the Development Contributions Plan Overlay is the most appropriate planning tool in which to identify and cost infrastructure items that are to be provided within a precinct plan area.

This position was not disputed by any parties to the Panel. The Panel noted that where issues were raised, they were matters of cost and apportionment and addressed in Section 8 of the Report.

Council Officer Response

The findings of the Panel are consistent with the policy position of Council and supported.

Clause 52.01 Public open space contribution and subdivision

At the Directions Hearing, Mr Montebello for Council advised the Panel that a minor change to the Amendment was required to include the Lara West Urban Growth Area in the Schedule to Clause 52.01 'Public open space contribution and subdivision'.

No other parties objected and the proposal was supported by the Panel.

Council Officer Response

In reviewing this change recommended by Council at the Hearing, officers realised it was made in error. The Schedule to Clause 52.01 currently requires the subdivision of land zoned for residential purposes to provide a 10% open space contribution (for 10 or more lots). As a result, the Schedule does not need to be amended.

Incorporated Documents

The Panel agreed that the Lara West Growth Area Native Vegetation Precinct Plan is the appropriate tool to address the identification, removal and offset provision for any native vegetation within the precinct plan area. The Panel supported minor changes to the Amendment documents requested by the Department of Environment and Primary Industries.

The Panel recommended that the Lara West Growth Area Native Vegetation Precinct Plan Incorporated Document be amended by:

- Changing all references to the Department of Sustainability and Environment to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries;
- Permitting a native vegetation offset to be provided for the relocated eastern park (relocated to the west on the East-West Connector Street and the eastern community centre relocated to the exhibited park site); and
- Updating references in light of the changes to the native vegetation framework contained in *Reforms to Victoria's native vegetation permitted clearing regulations* released on 22 May 2013 by the Minister for Environment and Climate Change.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Council Officer Response

The findings of the Panel are consistent with the policy position of Council and supported.

Matters arising after receiving the Panel Report

APA GasNet Letter

On 3 September 2013 Council received a letter from Hall & Wilcox Lawyers acting for APA GasNet. The letter notes that APA and ESV made submissions to the Panel considering the draft Lara West Precinct Structure Plan on the potential implications of urban encroachment on its existing high pressure gas pipeline.

The letter states that APA endorses the recommendations in the C246 Panel Report and considers there is merit in the Victoria Planning Provisions incorporating a specific pipeline notification overlay. The letter goes on to say that APA queries whether the proposed section 173 agreement is appropriate, however intends to take this up as part of broader submissions to the Department of State Development, Business and Innovation (DSDBI) and the Minister for Planning.

Finally, APA requests in the letter that it be named as the referral authority referred to in the proposed referral provisions to be contained in the urban growth zone schedule, instead of ESV. Hall & Wilcox were instructed that ESV shares that position. The letter says that as the pipeline licensee, APA is responsible for regulatory and statutory compliance and is the most appropriate body to assess the potential impact of proposed land uses or developments in the pipeline's vicinity.

Council officers acknowledge the support received from APA during the amendment process and similarly endorses the Panel's recommendations subject to changes outlined in this report. Officers note that the Council resolution includes writing to the Minister's department to investigate the need for an overlay control to recognise the gas pipeline and its measurement length.

Regarding the referral provisions in the Amendment documentation, officers sought direction on this issue from Earth Resources Regulation Victoria, a division of DSDBI.

Advice was provided by Rachel Carney, Program Manager - Planning, Earth Resources Regulation:

> *"Currently all referrals relating to pipelines should be sent to DSDBI who operate under the Minister administering the Pipelines Act 2005. This method referencing is used under Part 3 of the Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 which relates to the notice of planning scheme amendments. ESV also operate under the same Minister but a current Memorandum of Understanding between the two gives DSDBI the responsibility of dealing with all matters relating to the Planning and Environment Act 1987. This may change in the future, but by referencing the Minister rather than a specific Government Department Branch, such changes can occur without requiring amendments to planning schemes.*
>
> *DSDBI and ESV are currently in discussions as to whether it is appropriate to include licensees as referral agencies and in this case request that any referral / notice takes place as requested above".*

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

As a result of this advice, both the Schedule to the Urban Growth Zone and the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan will substitute referral/notice provisions to ESV and/or APA with the 'Minister administering the Pipelines Act 2005'.

Additional change to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme

In finalising the Amendment documents to be implemented into the Planning Scheme, it has come to the attention of officers that an amendment should also be made to the Schedule to Clause 66.04 *Referral of permit applications under local provisions.*

This clause specifies a person or body as a referral authority (under section 55 of the Planning and Environment Act) if a local provision in the scheme contains a referral requirement. Importantly, the clause also says that if the requirement is not included in the schedule to this clause, it is not a referral requirement under section 55 of the Act.

The proposed Schedule 4 to the Urban Growth Zone in section 3.0, contains referral provisions for native vegetation, the high-pressure gas pipeline and flood mitigation. To ensure applications are appropriately referred to the relevant bodies under section 55 of the Act, the schedule to Clause 66.04 has been amended. This change does not transform Amendment C246 but properly utilises the Victoria Planning Provisions.

Environmental Implications

The Lara West Precinct Structure Plan and the Lara West Native Vegetation Precinct Plan forms part of the Amendment and will be incorporated into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.

These documents are underpinned by extensive technical assessment and review and include a range of objectives and requirements to reduce environmental impacts and support sustainable development.

Financial Implications

The Development Contributions Plan (DCP) is the primary mechanism for funding infrastructure to service the new growth area. The growth area requires in the order of $40M of infrastructure of which the DCP will fund approximately $36M.

Council will be responsible for managing the funds collected through the DCP and either directly delivering the required infrastructure or making arrangements for developers to construct infrastructure as "works in lieu".

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

Clause 11.02 'Urban Growth' of the State Planning Policy Framework requires planning authorities to ensure that sufficient residential land is available to meet forecast demand.

The Lara West Growth Area is identified as 'Future residential' in the Lara Structure Plan and Clause 21.13 of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. Clause 21.13 supports the rezoning when a review of lot supply indicates rezoning is necessary to continue to achieve at least 15 years lot supply taking into consideration any infill opportunities that will not be realised in the short term.

The Amendment documentation includes an assessment of land supply in Lara which finds that there is between 7 and 12 years supply. The assessment is considered accurate and provides sufficient strategic merit to rezone the land at this time.

2. AMENDMENT C246 LARA WEST GROWTH AREA – CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT AND ADOPTION (CONT'D)

The land is also identified in the G21 Regional Growth Plan for planned urban growth.

Alignment to City Plan

The Amendment supports the Growing our Economy and Sustainable Built and Natural Environment strategic directions of City Plan.

The rezoning will maintain an appropriate supply of residential land in northern Geelong, and facilitate significant, long term investment in an area identified in Council's Municipal Strategic Statement for growth.

The Lara West Precinct Structure Plan and Development Contributions Plan promote development of a sustainable built environment. This will be achieved by delivering community and retail facilities, integrated management of stormwater and open space, and an efficient transport and movement network.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No Council officer involved in the report has any direct or indirect interest, in accordance with section 80(C) of the local Government Act.

Risk Assessment

There are no notable risks associated with implementing the recommendations contained in this report.

Social Considerations

Councils are required to ensure a sufficient supply of land is available in designated growth areas for residential, commercial and other community uses, including affordable housing close to jobs, transport and services.

The Lara West Growth Area will be a fully planned community that promotes affordable housing. The scale of development, staged over many years, will also be a significant economic and employment generator for the Geelong region.

Human Rights Charter

The Amendment will not impact on any basic rights, freedoms and responsibilities as set out in the Charter. Planning legislation ensures an open community consultation process occurs, enabling people to freely express their views and if necessary obtain a fair hearing before an Independent Panel.

Consultation and Communication

Council officers have written to submitters and landowners to the Amendment to advise of the Panel recommendations, and included the Panel Report Executive Summary. Submitters and landowners will be notified of the final decision of Council and the Minister for Planning.

Appendix 1 - Aerial Location Map



Appendix 2 - Panel Hearing Version, Urban Structure Plan: Rev V, 02 May 2013



Appendix 3 – Final Future Urban Structure Plan (to be adopted)



Appendix 4 - C246 Panel Report: Consolidated List of Recommendations

14. Consolidated list of Recommendations

14.1 Amendment C246 and Exhibited Documentation

1. The Panel recommends that the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan, Lara West Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, Lara West Development Contributions Plan and the documentation forming Planning Scheme Amendment C246 to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme be adopted as exhibited subject to the modifications below.

(i) Modifications to more than one document

2. Adopt the Urban Structure Plan - Revision V, 02 May 2013 (Hearing Document 26) as Plan 5: Future Urban Structure in the LWPSP and as Map 1 – Lara West Precinct Structure Plan in the UGZ Schedule subject to the following further refinements:

   I. Identify / show the location of the 554 metre "heat flux zone";

   II. Modify the footprint of sites marked for schools and community facilities so that they are entirely outside the 554 metre "heat flux zone"; and

   III. Improve the legibility of the legend and achieve consistency in terminology within the LWPSP.

(ii) Schedule to the Urban Growth Zone

3. Replace the exhibited version of the Schedule to the Urban Growth Zone with the Panel Recommended UGZ Schedule contained in Appendix C of this report.

(iii) Change to Clause 52.01

4. Amend the Schedule to Clause 52.01 'Public open space contribution and subdivision' by including the following words in the column 'Type of location of subdivision':

   See Lara West Urban Growth Area Diagram 4

   and by including the following words in the column 'Amount of contribution for public open space':

   10% (unencumbered).

(iv) Changes to the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan

5. Amend Plan 4 – Precinct Features of LWPSP to indicate both the 554 m and the 324 m "heat flux zones".

6. Amend Plans 5, 15 and 16 to include an 'arrow' pointing east, at the eastern end of the east/west connector street to indicate a possible future connection with land to the east.

7. Amend Plans 5, 6, 7, 8, 14, 15 and 16 to show a connector street to provide access to Property 8 from O'Hallorans Road between the East-West Connector Street and the stormwater retarding basin.

8. Include the new Section 2.5 'APA Gas Easement and Pipeline', in accordance with the draft submitted by Council on 12 April 2013, with further modification to include the following as the final paragraph:

   The APA assessment identified a "heat flux zone" as being land up to 554 m from the pipeline where certain intense or sensitive land uses should be excluded and residential density should not exceed 30 lots per hectare. Any permit application for the use, development or subdivision of land within the "heat flux zone" as shown in

the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan must be referred to Energy Safe Victoria for consideration and its advice will be taken into account in the decision.

9. Subject to acceptance by APA and ESV, following Table 2 'Summary – Residential Lot Yield Analysis', include Figures 1 and 2 Subdivision Design Concepts, generally in accordance with Mr Milner's Options 1 and 2, submitted in his evidence to the Panel.

10. Delete the planning and design guidelines for the Employment Precinct at Section 4.5.1 and include a new subsection at Section 4.5.4 'Urban Design Framework' that provides the requirements of a UDF for the Employment Precinct. Suggested wording:

    Employment Precinct

    An urban design framework for the employment precinct should:

    - *Provide for activated ground floor street frontages;*
    - *Demonstrate the how buildings will be articulated to avoid blank walls along street frontages;*
    - *Provide an overall landscape concept for the whole employment precinct;*
    - *Set out provisions for pedestrian and bicycle movement throughout the precinct;*
    - *Provide guidelines for the provision of service areas for deliveries and waste disposal and access for large vehicles to minimise the impact on the amenity of adjoining uses; and*
    - *Demonstrate how the employment precinct will visually and physically connect with the surrounding neighbourhoods.*

11. Amend dot point 3 of Section 4.5.3 'Planning and Design Guidelines: Activity Centres and Employment' to require an Urban Design Framework Plan to be prepared for the Employment Precinct prior to any building and works. Suggested wording is:

    Before development starts an urban design framework must be completed for the employment precinct to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

12. In addition to the inclusion of the non-contested additional 2 dot points to Section 4.7.3, Planning and Design Guidelines: Utilities and Energy, include the following as the 5th dot point:

    - *Any permit application for the use, development or subdivision of land within the 'heat flux zone' as shown on Plan 4 or in the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan, must be referred to Energy Safe Victoria for consideration and its advice taken into account in the decision.*

13. Amend the LWPSP to reflect the following changes proposed by Council or the proponent in response to submissions and evidence that were not opposed:

    I. Amend Map 5 'Future Urban Structure' and other relevant plans to show the location of the eastern most park swapped with the eastern community centre to ensure the community centre is outside the heat flux zone. (Note: This will also require a change to the native vegetation precinct plan as the park in the current location has a small patch of native vegetation that will require an offset to be provided).

II. Amend Plans 5, 7, 8, 14, 15 and 16 to include an annotation that the road network in the rural residential areas of West Gateway and Patullos Road is 'indicative only'.

III. Replace Section 2.1 'Heritage' with the following wording:

There is one previously registered Aboriginal heritage site within the boundary of the LWP. The site comprises a single isolated artefact identified during monitoring of excavation of a gas pipeline trench. The existence of this site of relatively low significance is not envisaged to impact on future development. The presence of other areas of cultural heritage sensitivity external to but within close proximity of the boundary of the LWP, particularly in the north (within the Windermere Road and powerline easement intersection) and to the north-east of the LWP will trigger the need to prepare a Cultural Heritage Management Plan, prior to the development of affected lands.

IV. Amend Section 3.1.1 Sense of Place and Community to include the following wording:

Public art within the LWP will provide opportunities for local communities (and broader audiences) to relate in new ways to the natural and built environment. Art is an important element in the urban fabric, providing interest and opportunity for a deeper connection with place, environment, storytelling, way finding and community identity.

V. Amend Section 3.1.3 Accessible and Vibrant Activity Centres, to include the following wording:

The NAC shall create a range of public art opportunities to enhance sense of place, interpret heritage and landscape and promote the identity and character of the LWP.

VI. Amend the text within Section 3.2, the Land Use Budget at Table 1, and the Summary Residential Lot Yield Analysis at Table 2 to reflect the impact of the gas pipeline.

VII. Amend Section 4.1.3 Planning and Design Guidelines: Image and Character to include the following additional dot points:

Public art is encouraged and where provided should meet the requirements of the responsible authority;

Planning for public art needs to identify opportunities of different types for artists to respond to the design of new development, its context and the makeup of the community.

VIII. Amend dot points 3 and 4 of Section 4.2.3 'Planning and Design Guidelines: Subdivision and Housing' to replace the word 'must' with 'should'.

IX. Amend Section 4.3.3 to acknowledge the preference for school site to be serviced by three street frontages.

X. Amend Plan 12, 'Landscape Master Plan' to show the extension of shared pathways in the gas pipeline easement.

XI. Amend the guidelines that must be met in Section 4.6.3 Planning and Design Guidelines for Transport and Movement as follows:

- Include the following as the 4th dot point – *Any planning permit granted for development that increases traffic to the Bacchus Marsh*

Road/West Gateway intersection will include a condition to require an intersection upgrade, as appropriate.

- Insert at the end of the 5th dot point – *(i.e. all lots will not have direct access to Windermere Road).*
- Insert a new 7th dot point to read – *Where applicable, shared paths associated with any Connector Level 1 road category should be located on the side which is adjacent to the drainage reserve to create links with surrounding off-road shared paths.*
- Modify the 9th dot point to change the reference from 'Director of Public Transport' to '*Public Transport Victoria'*,

XII. Amend the guidelines that should be met in Section 4.6.3 Planning and Design Guidelines for Transport and Movement as follows:

- Insert as the 4th last dot point – Future Windermere Road intersection design should be consistent with the future Lara Transport Study.

XIII. Amend Plan 17, 'Public Transport', to identify the western, north-south collector road as a potential bus route.

XIV. Update the titles of all Figures in section 4.6.3 to reflect correct numbering.

XV. Amend the O'Hallorans Road Cross Section – Connector Road Category 4 (new Figure C1) and the Patullos Road Cross Section – Connector Road Category 4 (new Figure C2) to include a 2.5m shared path.

XVI. Amend the 'Connector Roads Level 1 with bus' cross section (new Figure D2), so that footpaths on both sides of the road are 2.5 metres wide, and a minimum road reservation of 25.4 metres.

XVII. Amend the 'Connector Street – Level 2' cross section (new Figure D3) to show 7 metre bus clearance and 2.5 metre shared path.

XVIII. Amend Section 4.7.2 Implementation Utilities and Energy to include the following as the 4th dot point:

- Figure A: APA Gas Easement and Pipeline (example cross section)

XIX. Amend Section 4.7.3, Planning and Design Guidelines: Utilities and Energy to include the following as dot points 4 and 5:

- Any development (including roads, earthworks, landscaping, wetlands etc) within 60 metres of the powerline transmission easement must be referred to SPI Powernet for approval prior to the commencement of any works on site,
- All permit applications for multi-lot or multi-lot staged subdivision in the south of the east-west connector road must be referred to ESV.

XX. Replace references to the Department of Sustainability and Environment with the Department of Environment and Primary Industries.

(v) Changes to the Lara West Precinct Native Vegetation Precinct Plan

14. Amend the Lara West Growth Areas Native Vegetation Precinct Structure Plan Incorporated Document by:

I. Changing all references to the Department of Sustainability and Environment to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries;

II. Permitting a native vegetation offset to be provided for the relocated eastern park (relocated to the south side of the east/west connector street and the eastern community centre relocated to the park site); and

III. Updating references in light of the changes to the native vegetation framework contained in, Reforms to Victoria's Native Vegetation Permitted Clearing Regulations released on 22 May 2013 by the Minister for Environment and Climate Change.

(vi) Changes to Lara West Development Contributions Plan and Schedule 5 to the DCPO

15. Realign the boundary of Charge Area B in all LWDCP Maps to reflect the actual boundary of the Patullos Road area as identified in Plan 5 of the PSP.

16. Modify the Project Sheet for DI_C_2 (Western Multipurpose Community Centre – Construction) in Appendix 2 of the LWDCP by:

- *Deleting the references to "and childcare" and "maternal and child health" from the project description;*
- *Adding the words "Youth Resource Centre (self-contained)" to the project description; and*
- *Deleting the reference to Charge Area "B" in the apportionment of costs entry.*

17. Exclude the 20 metre wide APA gas easement from the extent of the Net Developable Area in the LWDCP and ensure that the change to the NDA flows right through all LWDCP calculations.

18. Amend the various tables in the LWDCP and Schedule 5 to the DCP Overlay to reflect the correct calculations and inputs for all projects and charge areas as set out in 'Table B' of Hearing Document 9 (Mr Anderson's addendum explanatory report).

19. Modify the text in Clause 5 of Schedule 5 to the DCP Overlay so the sentence reads:

The Development Contributions Plan applies to all land in the Lara West Main Catchment Area, other than land required for the development of non-government schools, for a period of 20 years.

14.2 Other Recommendations

20. That the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure investigate the need for an overlay control to recognise high pressure gas pipelines and their "heat flux zones" in planning schemes, to protect them from encroachment by inappropriate residential development or sensitive land uses and to ensure appropriate conditions are placed on land use and development within "heat flux zones".

Appendix 5 - Panel Recommendations and Council Response

Panel Recommendation **Greater Geelong Planning Scheme - Amendment C246**	**Summary Council Response**	**Adopted Council Position**	**Panel Report: Chapter 14 Rec #**
General			
The Panel recommends that the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan, Lara West Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, Lara West Development Contributions Plan and the documentation forming Planning Scheme Amendment C246 to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme be adopted as exhibited subject to the modifications below.	Supported subject to changes outlined in this report.	As per Panel recommendation subject to changes outlined in this report.	**1**
Lara West Precinct Structure Plan			
Adopt the *Urban Structure Plan - Revision V, 02 May 2013* (Hearing Document 26) as *Plan 5: Future Urban Structure in the LWPSP* and as *Map 1 – Lara West Precinct Structure Plan* in the UGZ Schedule subject to the following further refinements: I. Identify / show the location of the 554 metre "heat flux zone"; II. Modify the footprint of sites marked for schools and community facilities so that they are entirely outside the 554 metre "heat flux zone"; and III. Improve the legibility of the legend and achieve consistency in terminology within the LWPSP.	I. Supported. The Plan will show the 554m 'pipeline measurement length (as defined in AS2885)'. Note: the term 'heat flux zone' is replaced with the term 'pipeline measurement length (as defined in AS2885)', following advice from Energy Safe Victoria (ESV). II. Not supported. ESV has advised that it would raise no objection to the location of the schools and community facilities as shown on the Plan. III. Supported.	The plan will be amended to show the 'pipeline measurement length', as will the legend.	**2**
Amend Plan 4 – Precinct Features of LWPSP to indicate both the 554 m and the 324 m "heat flux zones".	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**5**
Amend Plans 5, 15 and 16 to include an 'arrow' pointing east, at the eastern end of the east/west connector street to indicate a possible future connection with land to the east.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**6**

Panel Recommendation **Greater Geelong Planning Scheme - Amendment C246**	**Summary Council Response**	**Adopted Council Position**	**Panel Report: Chapter 14 Rec #**
Amend Plans 5, 6, 7, 8, 14, 15 and 16 to show a connector street to provide access to Property 8 from O'Hallorans Road between the East-West Connector Street and the stormwater retarding basin.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**7**
Include the new Section 2.5 'APA Gas Easement and Pipeline', in accordance with the draft submitted by Council on 12 April 2013, with further modification to include the following as the final paragraph: *The APA assessment identified a "heat flux zone" as being land up to 554 m from the pipeline where certain intense or sensitive land uses should be excluded and residential density should not exceed 30 lots per hectare. Any permit application for the use, development or subdivision of land within the "heat flux zone" as shown in the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan must be referred to Energy Safe Victoria for consideration and its advice will be taken into account in the decision.*	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**8**
Subject to acceptance by APA and ESV, following Table 2 'Summary – Residential Lot Yield Analysis', include Figures 1 and 2 Subdivision Design Concepts, generally in accordance with Mr Milner's Options 1 and 2, submitted in his evidence to the Panel.	APA GasNet Australia (Operations) Pty Ltd supports the Panel's recommendations to include Option 1 and 2 into the LWPSP, however express a preference for Option 2. ESV supports the position of APA.	Include Rob Milner's Option 2 in the LWPSP.	**9**

Panel Recommendation **Greater Geelong Planning Scheme - Amendment C246**	**Summary Council Response**	**Adopted Council Position**	**Panel Report: Chapter 14 Rec #**
Delete the planning and design guidelines for the Employment Precinct at Section 4.5.1 and include a new subsection at Section 4.5.4 'Urban Design Framework' that provides the requirements of a UDF for the Employment Precinct. Suggested wording: *Employment Precinct* *An urban design framework for the employment precinct should:* - *Provide for activated ground floor street frontages;* - *Demonstrate the how buildings will be articulated to avoid blank walls along street frontages;* - *Provide an overall landscape concept for the whole employment precinct;* - *Set out provisions for pedestrian and bicycle movement throughout the precinct;* - *Provide guidelines for the provision of service areas for deliveries and waste disposal and access for large vehicles to minimise the impact on the amenity of adjoining uses; and* - *Demonstrate how the employment precinct will visually and physically connect with the surrounding neighbourhoods.*	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**10**
Amend dot point 3 of Section 4.5.3 'Planning and Design Guidelines: Activity Centres and Employment' to require an Urban Design Framework Plan to be prepared for the Employment Precinct prior to any building and works. Suggested wording is: *Before development starts an urban design framework must be completed for the employment precinct to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.*	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**11**
In addition to the inclusion of the non-contested additional 2 dot points to Section 4.7.3, Planning and Design Guidelines: Utilities and Energy, include the following as the 5th dot point: - *Any permit application for the use, development or subdivision of land within the 'heat flux zone' as shown on Plan 4 or in the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan, must be referred to Energy Safe Victoria for consideration and its advice taken into account in the decision.*	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**12**

Panel Recommendation **Greater Geelong Planning Scheme - Amendment C246**	**Summary Council Response**	**Adopted Council Position**	**Panel Report: Chapter 14 Rec #**
Amend Map 5 'Future Urban Structure' and other relevant plans to show the location of the eastern most park swapped with the eastern community centre to ensure the community centre is outside the heat flux zone. (Note: This will also require a change to the native vegetation precinct plan as the park in the current location has a small patch of native vegetation that will require an offset to be provided).	Supported. Note: the community centre will remain marginally within the pipeline measurement length as per ESV advice.	Amend Map 5 to relocate the eastern most park and amend the Lara West Native Vegetation Precinct Plan to reflect this additional offset requirement.	**13.I**
Amend Plans 5, 7, 8, 14, 15 and 16 to include an annotation that the road network in the rural residential areas of West Gateway and Patullos Road is 'indicative only'.	Supported. Additional text will also be inserted in the Lara West PSP Section 4.6 *Transport and Movement*.	Following Section 4.6.2, last dot point, insert the following: "Note: the road network in the Patullos Road Area and the West Gateway Area is indicative only and subject to detailed design within the PSP area generally, and more specifically, at the master planning stage for the individual Areas".	**13.II**
Replace Section 2.1 'Heritage' with the following wording: *There is one previously registered Aboriginal heritage site within the boundary of the LWP. The site comprises a single isolated artefact identified during monitoring of excavation of a gas pipeline trench. The existence of this site of relatively low significance is not envisaged to impact on future development. The presence of other areas of cultural heritage sensitivity external to but within close proximity of the boundary of the LWP, particularly in the north (within the Windermere Road and powerline easement intersection) and to the north-east of the LWP will trigger the need to prepare a Cultural Heritage Management Plan, prior to the development of affected lands.*	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.III**

Panel Recommendation **Greater Geelong Planning Scheme - Amendment C246**	**Summary Council Response**	**Adopted Council Position**	**Panel Report: Chapter 14 Rec #**
Amend Section 3.1.1 Sense of Place and Community to include the following wording: *Public art within the LWP will provide opportunities for local communities (and broader audiences) to relate in new ways to the natural and built environment. Art is an important element in the urban fabric, providing interest and opportunity for a deeper connection with place, environment, storytelling, way finding and community identity.*	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.IV**
Amend Section 3.1.3 Accessible and Vibrant Activity Centres, to include the following wording: *The NAC shall create a range of public art opportunities to enhance sense of place, interpret heritage and landscape and promote the identity and character of the LWP.*	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.V**
Amend the text within Section 3.2, the Land Use Budget at Table 1, and the Summary Residential Lot Yield Analysis at Table 2 to reflect the impact of the gas pipeline.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.VI**
Amend Section 4.1.3 Planning and Design Guidelines: Image and Character to include the following additional dot points: *Public art is encouraged and where provided should meet the requirements of the responsible authority;* *Planning for public art needs to identify opportunities of different types for artists to respond to the design of new development, its context and the makeup of the community.*	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.VII**
Amend dot points 3 and 4 of Section 4.2.3 'Planning and Design Guidelines: Subdivision and Housing' to replace the word 'must' with 'should'.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.VIII**
Amend Section 4.3.3 to acknowledge the preference for school sites to be serviced by three street frontages.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.IX**
Amend Plan 12, 'Landscape Master Plan' to show the extension of shared pathways in the gas pipeline easement.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.X**

Panel Recommendation **Greater Geelong Planning Scheme - Amendment C246**	**Summary Council Response**	**Adopted Council Position**	**Panel Report: Chapter 14 Rec #**
Amend the guidelines that must be met in Section 4.6.3 Planning and Design Guidelines for Transport and Movement as follows: • Include the following as the 4th dot point – *Any planning permit granted for development that increases traffic to the Bacchus Marsh Road/West Gateway intersection will include a condition to require an intersection upgrade, as appropriate.* • Insert at the end of the 5th dot point – *(i.e. all lots will not have direct access to Windermere Road)*. • Insert a new 7th dot point to read – *Where applicable, shared paths associated with any Connector Level 1 road category should be located on the side which is adjacent to the drainage reserve to create links with surrounding off-road shared paths.* • Modify the 9th dot point to change the reference from 'Director of Public Transport' to '*Public Transport Victoria'*.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.XI**
Amend the guidelines that should be met in Section 4.6.3 Planning and Design Guidelines for Transport and Movement as follows: Insert as the 4th last dot point – *Future Windermere Road intersection design should be consistent with the future Lara Transport Study*	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.XII**
Amend Plan 17, 'Public Transport', to identify the western, north-south collector road as a potential bus route.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.XIII**
Update the titles of all Figures in section 4.6.3 to reflect correct numbering.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.XIV**
Amend the O'Hallorans Road Cross Section – Connector Road Category 4 (new Figure C1) and the Patullos Road Cross Section – Connector Road Category 4 (new Figure C2) to include a 2.5m shared path.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.XV**
Amend the 'Connector Roads Level 1 with bus' cross section (new Figure D2), so that footpaths on both sides of the road are 2.5 metres wide, and a minimum road reservation of 25.4 metres.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.XVI**
Amend the 'Connector Street – Level 2' cross section (new Figure D3) to show 7 metre bus clearance and 2.5 metre shared path.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.XVII**

Panel Recommendation **Greater Geelong Planning Scheme - Amendment C246**	**Summary Council Response**	**Adopted Council Position**	**Panel Report: Chapter 14 Rec #**
Amend Section 4.7.2 Implementation Utilities and Energy to include the following as the 4th dot point: • *Figure A: APA Gas Easement and Pipeline (example cross section)*	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.XVIII**
Amend Section 4.7.3, Planning and Design Guidelines: Utilities and Energy to include the following as dot points 4 and 5: • *Any development (including roads, earthworks, landscaping, wetlands etc) within 60 metres of the powerline transmission easement must be referred to SPI Powernet for approval prior to the commencement of any works on site,* • *All permit applications for multi-lot or multi-lot staged subdivision in the south of the east-west connector road must be referred to ESV.*	Supported in part. The second dot point is not required.	Delete the second dot point from the PSP. Note, this dot point was replaced by Panel Report recommendation 14.12.	**13.XIX**
Replace references to the Department of Sustainability and Environment with the Department of Environment and Primary Industries.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**13.XX**
Schedule to the Urban Growth Zone			
Replace the exhibited version of the Schedule to the Urban Growth Zone with the *Panel Recommended UGZ Schedule* contained in Appendix C of this report.	Supported subject to minor changes from Maddocks Lawyers, DSDBI, ESV and DEPI.	Refer to the UGZ Schedule 4 in Appendix 5.	**3**
Lara West Native Vegetation Precinct Plan			

Panel Recommendation **Greater Geelong Planning Scheme - Amendment C246**	**Summary Council Response**	**Adopted Council Position**	**Panel Report: Chapter 14 Rec #**
Amend the Lara West Growth Areas Native Vegetation Precinct Structure Plan Incorporated Document by: I. Changing all references to the Department of Sustainability and Environment to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries; II. Permitting a native vegetation offset to be provided for the relocated eastern park (relocated to the south side of the east/west connector street and the eastern community centre relocated to the park site); and III. Updating references in light of the changes to the native vegetation framework contained in, Reforms to Victoria's Native Vegetation Permitted Clearing Regulations released on 22 May 2013 by the Minister for Environment and Climate Change.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**14**
Lara West DCP and Schedule to the DCPO			
Realign the boundary of Charge Area B in all LWDCP Maps to reflect the actual boundary of the Patullos Road area as identified in Plan 5 of the PSP.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**15**
Modify the Project Sheet for DI_C_2 (Western Multipurpose Community Centre – Construction) in Appendix 2 of the LWDCP by: • *Deleting the references to "and childcare" and "maternal and child health" from the project description;* • *Adding the words "Youth Resource Centre (self-contained)" to the project description; and* • *Deleting the reference to Charge Area "B" in the apportionment of costs entry.*	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**16**
Exclude the 20 metre wide APA gas easement from the extent of the Net Developable Area in the LWDCP and ensure that the change to the NDA flows right through all LWDCP calculations.	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**17**
Amend the various tables in the LWDCP and Schedule 5 to the DCP Overlay to reflect the correct calculations and inputs for all projects and charge areas as set out in 'Table B' of Hearing Document 9 (Mr Anderson's addendum explanatory report).	Supported.	As per recommendation.	**18**

Panel Recommendation **Greater Geelong Planning Scheme - Amendment C246**	**Summary Council Response**	**Adopted Council Position**	**Panel Report: Chapter 14 Rec #**
Modify the text in Clause 5 of Schedule 5 to the DCP Overlay so the sentence reads: *The Development Contributions Plan applies to all land in the Lara West Main Catchment Area, other than land required for the development of non-government schools, for a period of 20 years.*	Not supported.	Non-Government school are exempt from payment of Development Contribution in all Development Contribution Plans across the State of Victoria. This is implemented by a Minister direction date 25 January 2012. This position is also consistent with all of Council's other DCPs.	**19**
Clause 52.01 to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme			
Amend the Schedule to Clause 52.01 'Public open space contribution and subdivision' by including the following words in the column 'Type of location of subdivision': *See Lara West Urban Growth Area Diagram 4* and by including the following words in the column 'Amount of contribution for public open space': *10% (unencumbered).*	Not supported.	The Schedule to Clause 52.01 currently requires the subdivision of land zoned for residential purposes to provide a 10% open space contribution (for 10 or more lots). As a result, the Schedule does not need to be amended.	**4**
Other Recommendations			
That the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure investigate the need for an overlay control to recognise high pressure gas pipelines and their "heat flux zones" in planning schemes, to protect them from encroachment by inappropriate residential development or sensitive land uses and to ensure appropriate conditions are placed on land use and development within "heat flux zones".	Supported.	Included in the resolution is for Council to write to the DTPLI as recommended by the Panel.	**20**

Appendix 6 - C246 Amendment for Adoption

Planning and Environment Act 1987

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

AMENDMENT C246

INSTRUCTION SHEET

The planning authority for this amendment is the City of Greater Geelong Council.

The Greater Geelong Planning Scheme is amended as follows:

Planning Scheme Maps

The Planning Scheme Maps are amended by a total of 3 attached map sheets.

Zoning Maps

1. Amend Planning Scheme Map Nos. 11, 12, 17 and 18 in the manner shown on the attached 1 map marked "Greater Geelong Planning Scheme Amendment C246".

Overlay Maps

2. Delete Planning Scheme Map Nos. 12LSIO-FO, 17LSIO-FO and 18LSIO-FO in the manner shown on the 1 attached map marked "Greater Geelong Planning Scheme Amendment C246".

3. Insert new Planning Scheme Map Nos. 11DCPO, 12DCPO, 17DCPO and 18DCPO in the manner shown on the 1 attached map marked "Greater Geelong Planning Scheme Amendment C246".

Planning Scheme Ordinance

The Planning Scheme Ordinance is amended as follows:

4. In Local Planning Policy Framework – replace Clause 21.13 with a new Clause 21.13 in the form of the attached document.

5. In Zones – Clause 37.07, insert a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.

6. In Overlays – Clause 45.06, insert a new Schedule 5 in the form of the attached document.

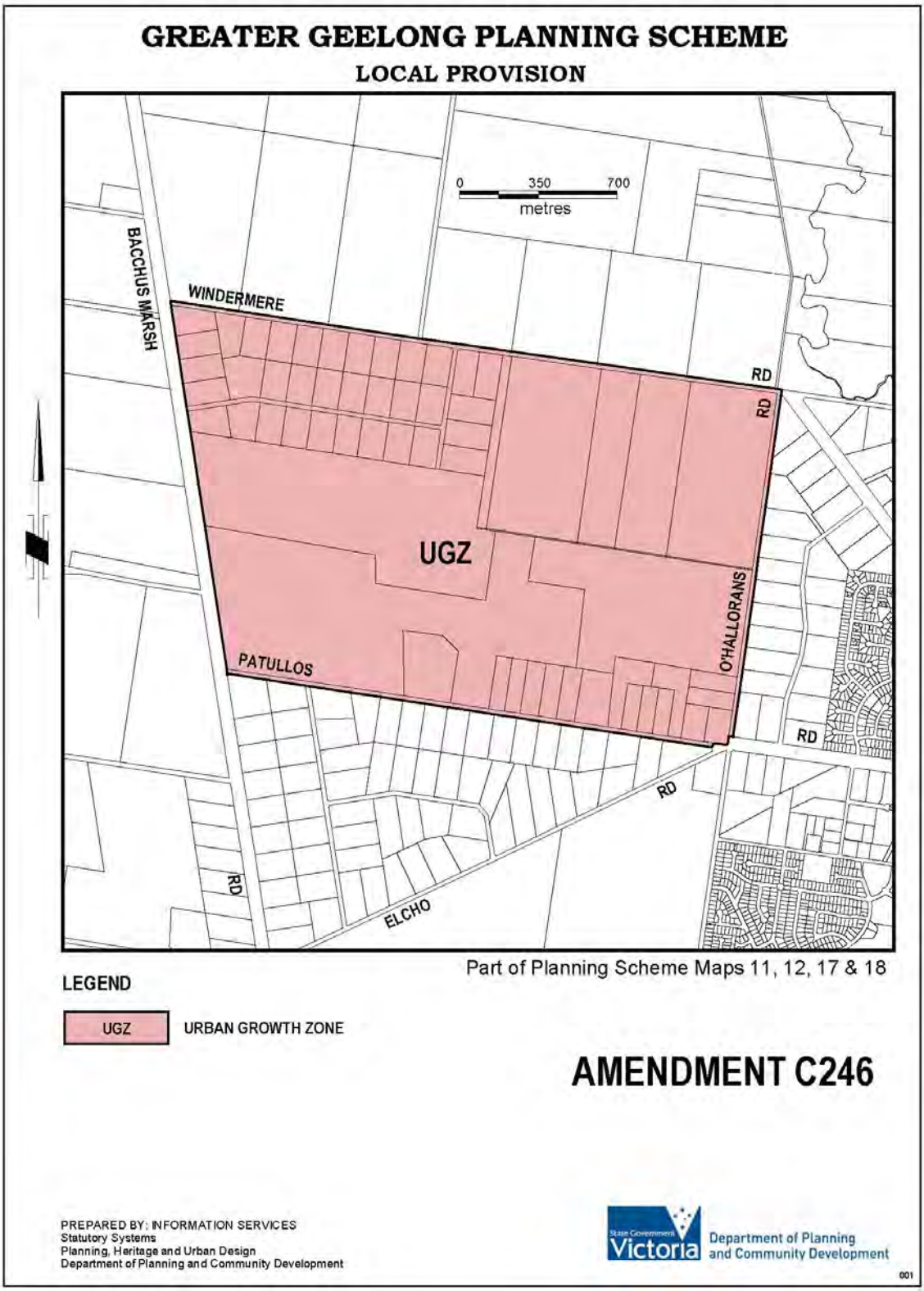
7. In Particular Provisions – Clause 52.16, replace the Schedule with a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.

8. In General Provisions – Clause 61.03, replace the Schedule with a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.

9. In Referral and Notice Provisions – Clause 66.04, replace the Schedule with a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.

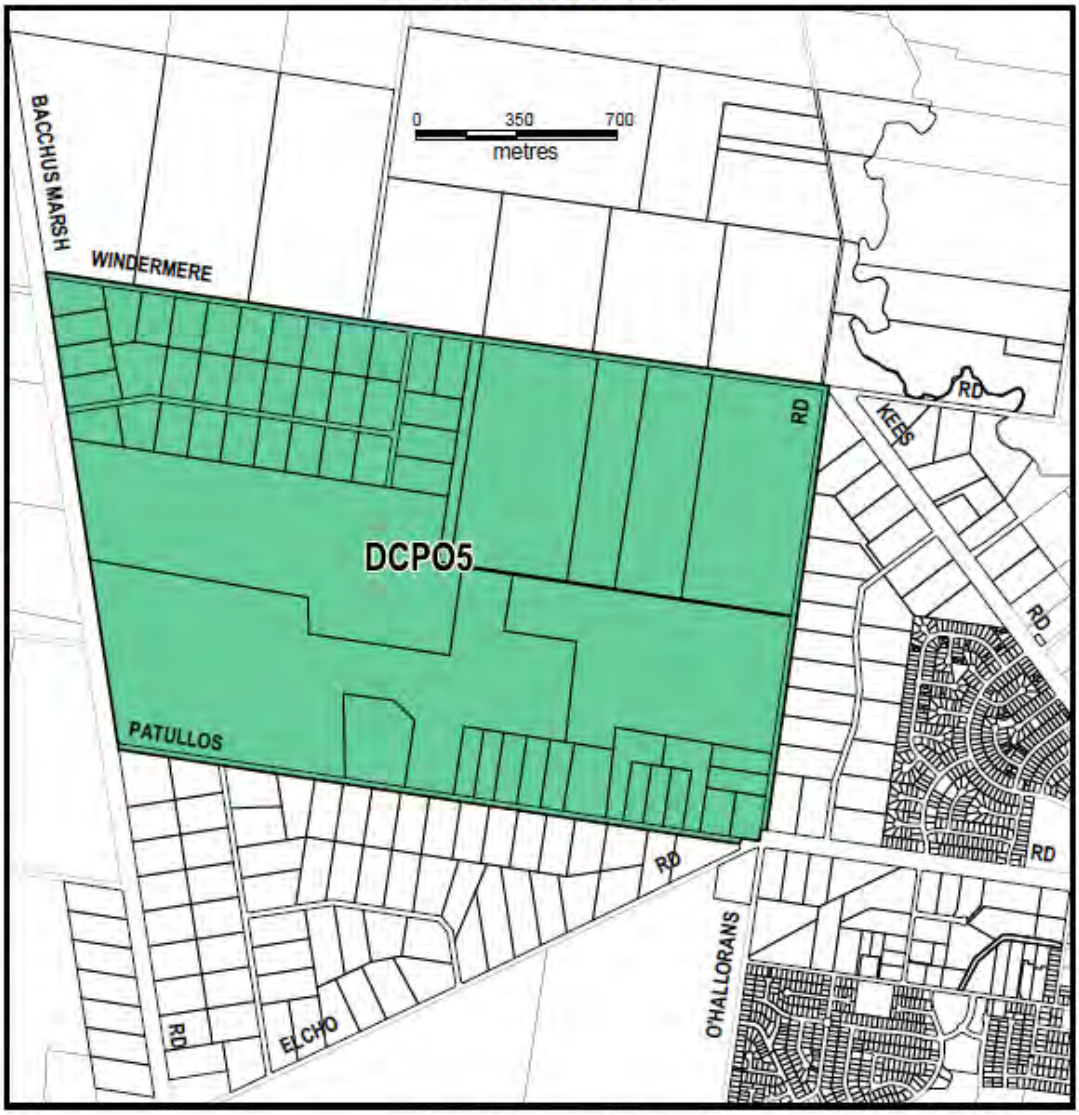
10. In Incorporated Documents – Clause 81.01, replace the Schedule with a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.

End of document


GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME
LOCAL PROVISION
0
350
700
metres
BACCHUS MARSH
WINDERMERE
RD
RD
UGZ
O'HALLORANS
PATULLOS
RD
RD
RD
ELCHO
Part of Planning Scheme Maps 11, 12, 17 & 18
LEGEND
UGZ
URBAN GROWTH ZONE
AMENDMENT C246
PREPARED BY: INFORMATION SERVICES
Statutory Systems
Planning, Heritage and Urban Design
Department of Planning and Community Development
Victoria
Department of Planning and Community Development
001

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

LOCAL PROVISION



Part of Planning Scheme Maps 11, 12, 17 & 18DCPO

LEGEND

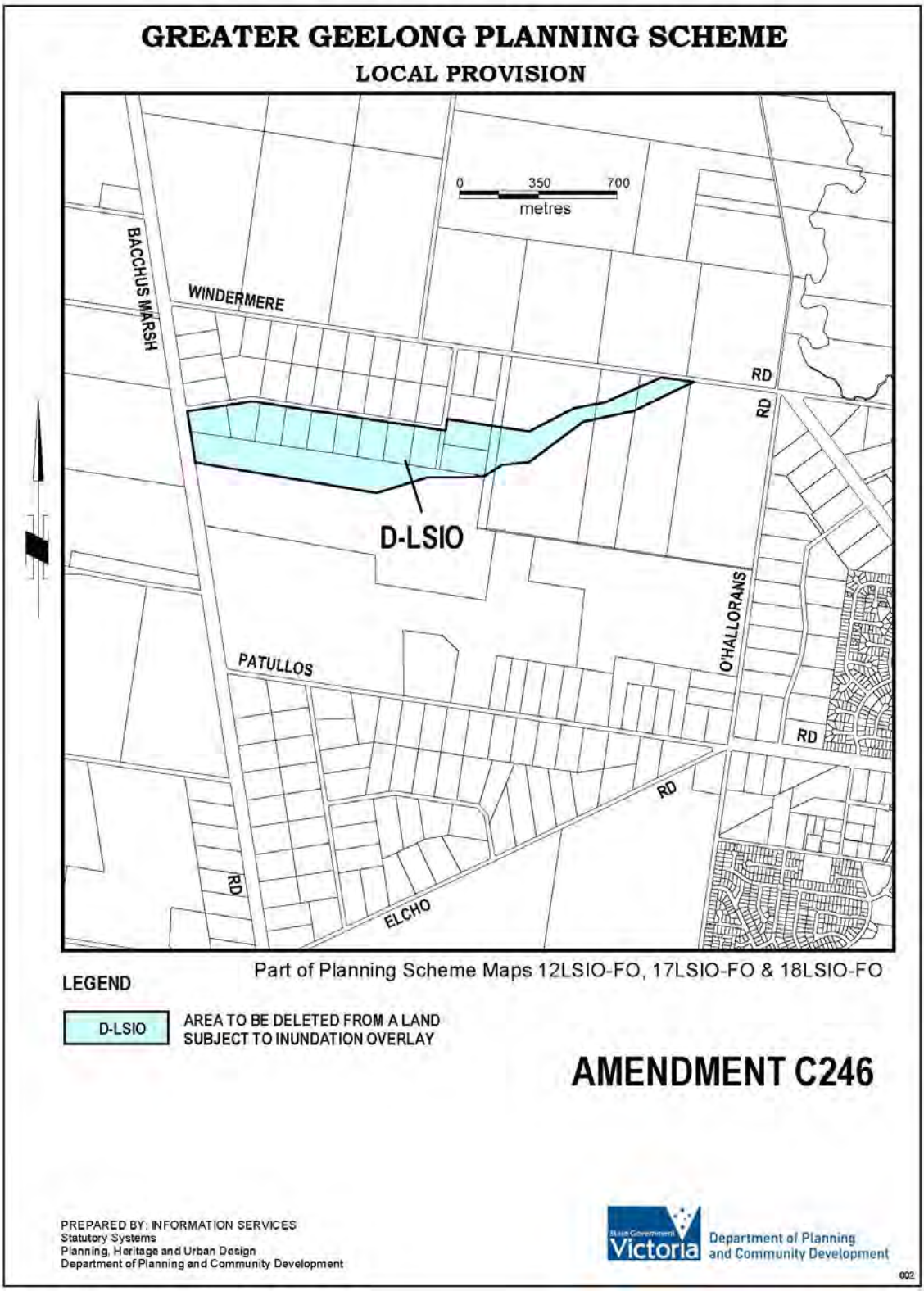
DCPO5 — DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN - SCHEDULE 5

AMENDMENT C246

PREPARED BY: INFORMATION SERVICES
Statutory Systems
Planning, Heritage and Urban Design
Department of Planning and Community Development

Victoria — Department of Planning and Community Development

036


GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME
LOCAL PROVISION
0
350
700
metres
BACCHUS MARSH
WINDERMERE
RD
RD
D-LSIO
O'HALLORANS
PATULLOS
RD
RD
RD
ELCHO
Part of Planning Scheme Maps 12LSIO-FO, 17LSIO-FO & 18LSIO-FO
LEGEND
D-LSIO
AREA TO BE DELETED FROM A LAND SUBJECT TO INUNDATION OVERLAY
AMENDMENT C246
PREPARED BY: INFORMATION SERVICES
Statutory Systems
Planning, Heritage and Urban Design
Department of Planning and Community Development
Victoria
Department of Planning and Community Development
002

SCHEDULE 4 TO THE URBAN GROWTH ZONE

"Insert Date"

C246

Shown on the planning scheme map as **UGZ4**

Lara West Precinct Structure Plan (2013)

1.0 The Plan

--/--/---

Map 1 shows the future urban structure proposed in the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan* (September 2013).

Map 1 – Lara West Precinct Structure Plan



2.0 Use and development

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2.1 The land

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The provisions specified in this schedule only apply to land in the Lara West Precinct (Map 1) that is zoned UGZ.

2.2 Applied zone provisions

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The provisions of the following zones in this scheme apply to the use and subdivision of land, construction of a building and construction and carrying out of works, by reference to Map 1 of this schedule.

LAND SHOWN ON MAP 1 OF THIS SCHEDULE	APPLIED ZONE PROVISIONS
Residential conventional	Clause 32.08 - General Residential Zone
Residential medium density	Clause 32.08 - General Residential Zone
Activity Centre - Neighbourhood Activity	Clause 34.01 - Commercial 1 Zone
Activity Centre - Local Activity	Clause 34.01 - Commercial 1 Zone
Community facilities	Clause 32.04 - Mixed Use Zone
Education centre	Clause 32.08 - General Residential Zone
Public open space - Unencumbered	Clause 36.02 - Public Park and Recreation Zone
Public open space - encumbered	Clause 36.02 - Public Park and Recreation Zone
Habitat conservation area	Clause 36.02 - Public Park and Recreation Zone
Lara West watercourse and floodway	Clause 36.02 - Public Park and Recreation Zone
Retarding Basins	Clause 36.02 - Public Park and Recreation Zone
Employment Precinct	Clause 34.02 - Commercial 2 Zone
Private school	Clause 32.01 - General Residential Zone

2.3 Specific provisions - Use of land

--/--/-- The use of land must be generally in accordance with the *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*.

The following provisions apply to the use of land.

USE	CONDITION
Display home on land shown as residential in Map 1 of this schedule	Despite any requirement under Clause 52.06, car parking must be provided to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
Shop on land shown as Employment Precinct in Map 1 of this schedule	Must provide for convenience services in conjunction with other Employment Precinct uses and must not include a supermarket.
Child care centre on land shown as Activity Centre - Neighbourhood Activity	Must have written approval of the Minister administering the Pipelines Act 2005.
Education centre on land shown as Activity Centre - Neighbourhood Activity	Must have written approval of the Minister administering the Pipelines Act 2005.

2.4 Specific provisions - West Gateway Area

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A permit must not be granted to use or subdivide land or construct a building and carry out works within the West Gateway Area in the *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*, until a Masterplan of the West Gateway Area has been prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

The Masterplan shall guide the future subdivision, use and development of land within the West Gateway Area.

The objective of this provision is to ensure development occurs generally in accordance with the *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*, and to require a range of detailed planning issues to be resolved prior to the commencement of development of the Area.

The Masterplan must show or address the following:

- General accordance with the *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*.
- The staging of the development.
- Delivery of infrastructure including stormwater management.
- Environmental issues including native vegetation.
- Integration with adjoining land including road layout.
- The location of public open space areas.
- The provision of a potential bus route as advised by Public Transport Victoria.
- Treatment of the Bacchus Marsh Road/West Gateway intersection as advised by VicRoads.
- A Detailed Land Use Budget by Property.

A permit may be granted before a Masterplan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority for the following:

- Construction of one dwelling on an existing lot, including outbuildings, provided it is the only dwelling on the lot.
- Agriculture and any buildings and works associated with the use of the land for agricultural purposes.
- Extensions, additions or modifications to any existing use or development.

Except with the consent of the responsible authority, a permit must be consistent with any Masterplan of the West Gateway Area which has been prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority under this provision.

This provision des not apply to land required as part of the integrated stormwater management for the Lara West Precinct.

2.5 Specific provisions - Patullos Road Area

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A permit must not be granted to use or subdivide land or construct a building and carry out works within the Patullos Road Area in the *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*, until a Masterplan of the Patullos Road Area has been prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

The Masterplan shall guide the future subdivision, use and development of land within the Patullos Road Area.

The objective of this provision is to ensure development occurs generally in accordance with the *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*, and to require a range of detailed planning issues to be resolved prior to the commencement of development of the Area.

The Masterplan must show or address the following:

- General accordance with the *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*.
- The staging of the development.
- Delivery of infrastructure including stormwater management.
- Environmental issues including native vegetation.

- Integration with adjoining land including road layout.
- The location of public open space areas.
- Treatment of the high-pressure gas pipeline following consultation with the Minister administering the Pipelines Act 2005.
- A Detailed Land Use Budget by Property.

A permit may be granted before a Masterplan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority for the following:

- Construction of one dwelling on an existing lot, including outbuildings, provided it is the only dwelling on the lot.
- Agriculture and any buildings and works associated with the use of the land for agricultural purposes.
- Extensions, additions or modifications to any existing use or development.

Except with the consent of the responsible authority, a permit must be consistent with any Masterplan of the Patullos Road Area which has been prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority under this provision.

This provision des not apply to land required as part of the upgrade to the Patullos/Elcho/O'Hallorans Road intersection.

2.6 Specific provisions - Neighbourhood Activity Centre

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A permit must not be granted to use or subdivide land, or to construct a building or construct and carry out works within the land identified as the Neighbourhood Activity Centre in the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan* until an urban design framework for the Neighbourhood Activity Centre has been prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

Unless the responsible authority agrees, the urban design framework must include all of the land in the Neighbourhood Activity Centre and must address and respond to Section 4.5 of the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan* and any other relevant part of the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan* as appropriate.

The urban design framework may be amended to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

2.7 Specific provisions - Employment Area

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A permit must not be granted to use or subdivide land, or to construct a building or construct and carry out works within the land identified as the Employment Precinct in the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan* until an urban design framework for the Employment Precinct has been prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

Unless the responsible authority agrees, the urban design framework must include all of the land in the Employment Precinct and must address and respond to Section 4.5 of the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan* and any other relevant part of the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan* as appropriate.

The urban design framework may be amended to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

2.8 Specific provisions - Buildings and works

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A permit is not required for the construction or carrying out of buildings and works associated with a display home on a lot over 300 square metres.

2.9 Specific provisions - Resolution of doubt

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If any doubt arises as to whether a provision specified in this schedule applies to land, a permit may be granted for any use or development if the responsible authority is satisfied that the use or development is in accordance with the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*.

3.0 Application requirements

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3.1 Environmental Assessment

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An application for a permit must be accompanied by site assessment of the land by a suitably qualified environmental professional including:

- detail of the nature of the previous and existing land use/activities on the land;
- an assessment of the potential level and nature of contamination on the land; and
- advice on whether the environmental condition of the land is suitable for the proposed use/s and whether an environmental audit of all, or part, of the land is recommended having regard to the Potentially Contaminated Land General Practice Note June 2005, DSE as amended from time to time.

3.2 Subdivision

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An application for subdivision must be accompanied by a site analysis and design response as detailed in Clause 56.01. In addition, the site analysis and design response must show or address the following to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

- A written statement that explains how the subdivision meets the objectives and planning and design guidelines for the Image and Character and Subdivision and Housing elements of the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan.*
- Integration with the existing or proposed subdivision of adjoining properties including through alignment and configuration of the street network and landscape character.
- The staging of the development.
- Where appropriate, the location of proposed planned community infrastructure, public open space areas and their recreation function.
- An assessment of the existing surface and subsurface drainage conditions on the site by a suitably qualified professional and the potential impacts on the proposed development, including any measures required to mitigate the impacts of springs on the development and the impact of the development on drainage.
- An environmental assessment is to be undertaken prior to development of any areas identified as being of potential environmental interest.

If the responsible authority is satisfied that an application requirement is not relevant to the assessment of an application, the responsible authority may waive any of the above requirements.

3.3 Referral

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Native Vegetation

Any permit application for land containing native vegetation identified to be retained in the Lara West Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, or land that is identified within the Native Vegetation Precinct Plan as an offset site must be referred to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries.

High Pressure Gas Pipeline

Any permit application for the use, development or subdivision of land within the high pressure gas pipeline measurement length (as defined in AS2885) as shown in the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan* must be referred to the Minister administering the Pipelines Act 2005.

Flood Mitigation

Any permit application for land that is shown to be subject to flooding in a 1 in 100 year event as detailed on Plan 19 (Flood Boundary for Existing Conditions Q100) in the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan* must be referred to the relevant Catchment Management Authority.

4.0 Conditions and requirements for permits

--/--/-- Any permit must contain conditions and requirements as appropriate which give effect to any relevant part of the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*.

4.1 Conditions for subdivision or building and works permits where land is required for community facilities, public open space, road widening and drainage

--/--/--

Public open space and community facilities

Land identified as public open space or community facilities in the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan* and specified on Plan 5 - Future Urban Structure, and in Table 1 -Summary Land Use Budget in the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*, or in any approved Masterplan as required under clause 2.4 and 2.5 of this schedule, or any applicable Development Contributions Plan, must be transferred to or vested in Council at no cost to Council unless funded by the applicable Development Contributions Plan.

Public open space must be provided in accordance with Plan 5 - Future Urban Structure and Table 1 - Summary Land Use Budget in the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*, or in any approved Masterplan as required under clause 2.4 and 2.5 of this schedule, prior to the issue of a Statement of Compliance (or as otherwise agreed with the responsible authority). These contributions are subject to an equalisation for unencumbered open space.

Any public open space provided at the applicants request in addition to that reflected in Plan 5 - Future Urban Structure and Table 1 - Summary Land Use Budget in the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*, or in any approved Masterplan as required under clause 2.4 and 2.5 of this schedule, must be transferred to or vested in Council at no cost to Council and is not subject to compensation.

Road widening

Land required for road widening including right of way flaring for the ultimate design of any intersection with an existing or proposed arterial road must be referred to or vested in Council or VicRoads at no cost to the acquiring agency unless funded by an applicable Development Contributions Plan.

Drainage

Individual stages of development must demonstrate compliance with the staged delivery of ultimate drainage infrastructure in accordance with Plan 19 of the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan.*

Requirements for Native Vegetation

Prior to issuing statement of compliance, or before the vegetation removal starts for Very High Conservation Significance Vegetation, the applicant must prepare and submit a Vegetation Offset Management Plan to the satisfaction of the Department of Environment and Primary Industries for approval by the responsible authority. When approved, the plan will form part of this permit.

4.2 Conditions for subdivision permits that allow for the creation of a lot of less than 300 square metres

--/--/--

Conditions for subdivision permits that allow for the creation of a lot of less than 300 square metres

Any permit for subdivision that allows the creation of a lot less than 300 square metres must contain the following conditions:

- The Small Lot Building Code forming part of the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan applies to the subdivision of land under this permit and the application of the Small Lot Building Code must be shown on any endorsed plans which are part of this planning permit.
- Before a plan is certified for a subdivision (or the relevant stage of a subdivision) where a building envelope is proposed, the plans endorsed under this permit must show a building envelope for each lot with an area less than 300 square metres that is in accordance with the Small Lot Building Code forming part of the Armstrong Creek West Precinct Structure Plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Where a building envelope plan is proposed and/or required, any permit for subdivision must contain the following conditions:

- The building envelopes must be applied as a restriction on the Plan of Subdivision or through an agreement under section 173 of the Act that is registered on the title to the land. The restriction or agreement must provide for:
    - The building envelope plan to apply to each relevant lot;
    - All buildings being constructed in accordance with the building envelope on the relevant lot;
    - The construction of a building outside the building envelope only with the written consent of the Responsible Authority;
    - A building envelope to cease to apply to any building on the lot affected by the envelope after the issue of a Certificate of Occupancy for the whole of a dwelling and any garage or carport on the land.

4.3 Conditions and requirements for all permits

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Environmental Audit

If the environmental site assessment recommends an environmental audit of all or part of the land, or if required by the responsible authority, then prior to the commencement of any use, for a sensitive purpose or prior to any buildings or works or the certification of a subdivision, whichever is earlier, the following must be provided to the responsible authority:

either:

- A certificate of environmental audit issued for the relevant land in accordance with Part 1XD of the Environmental Protection Act 1970,

or

- A statement by an environmental auditor appointed under the Environment Protection Act 1970, in accordance with Part 1XD of that Act that the environmental conditions of the relevant land are suitable for a sensitive use (with or without conditions on the use of the site);

If a statement by an environmental auditor is provided rather than a certificate of environmental audit and the statement indicates that the environmental conditions of the relevant land are suitable for a sensitive use subject to conditions, the owner of the land must enter into an agreement with the responsible authority under Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 before any development commences on the relevant land to provide for;

- ongoing compliance with all conditions in the Statement by the Environmental Auditor; and
- the responsible authority's reasonable legal costs and expenses of drafting / reviewing and registering the agreement to be borne by the owner of the relevant land.

4.4 Conditions and requirements for all permits for subdivision of land within the high-pressure gas pipeline measurement length (as defined in AS2885)

--/--/--

The owner of the land must enter into an agreement with the responsible authority under Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 before any development commences on the relevant land to provide for:

- Disclosure on all land titles of the high-pressure gas pipeline easement and its pipeline measurement length.
- Information to alert potential property purchasers to the site's proximity to the high-pressure gas pipeline easement and its pipeline measurement length.
- The responsible authority's reasonable legal costs and expenses of drafting, reviewing and registering the agreement and of assessing, negotiating and recording any proposed amendment to the agreement, to be borne by the owner of the relevant land.

The wording of any agreement must be in a form acceptable to the Minister administering the Pipelines Act 2005.

5.0 Advertising signs

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The advertising category is the category which is applicable for the relevant applied zone.

Despite the provisions of Clause 52.05, a permit may be granted to display an advertising sign that promotes the sale of land or dwellings, whether or not the advertising sign is located on the land for sale.

6.0 Decision guidelines

--/--/--

Before deciding on an application to subdivide, use and/or develop land the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- Whether the application is consistent with the *Lara Structure Plan*, City of Greater Geelong, 2011.
- Whether the application is consistent with the incorporated *Lara West Native Vegetation Precinct Plan*, September 2013.

- Whether the application is consistent with the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Development Contributions Plan*, September 2013.
- Whether the application is consistent with the incorporated *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan*, September 2013 including any approved Urban Design Frameworks.
- For any application within the gas pipeline easement and its pipeline measurement length (as defined in AS2885), as shown on Map 1: any risks associated with the operation of the high pressure gas pipeline.

7.0 References

--/--/-- *Lara West Precinct Structure Plan, September 2013*

Lara Lakes Heritage Due Dilligence Study and Implications for Development (October, 2011) prepared by Andrew Long and Associates Pty Ltd

Lara West Flora and Fauna Assesment (April, 2012) prepared by Brett Lane and Associated Pty Ltd

Lara West Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (September 2013) prepared by Brett Lane and Associated Pty Ltd

Lara West Surface Water Management Strategy (June, 2012) prepared by Neil M Craigie Pty Ltd

Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (July, 2011) prepared by SMEC Pty Ltd

Lara West Infrastruture Services Report (September, 2012) prepared by SMEC Urban Pty Ltd

Small Lot Housing Code Standards, GAA, August 2011

SCHEDULE 5 TO THE DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN OVERLAY

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Shown on the planning scheme map as **DCPO5**

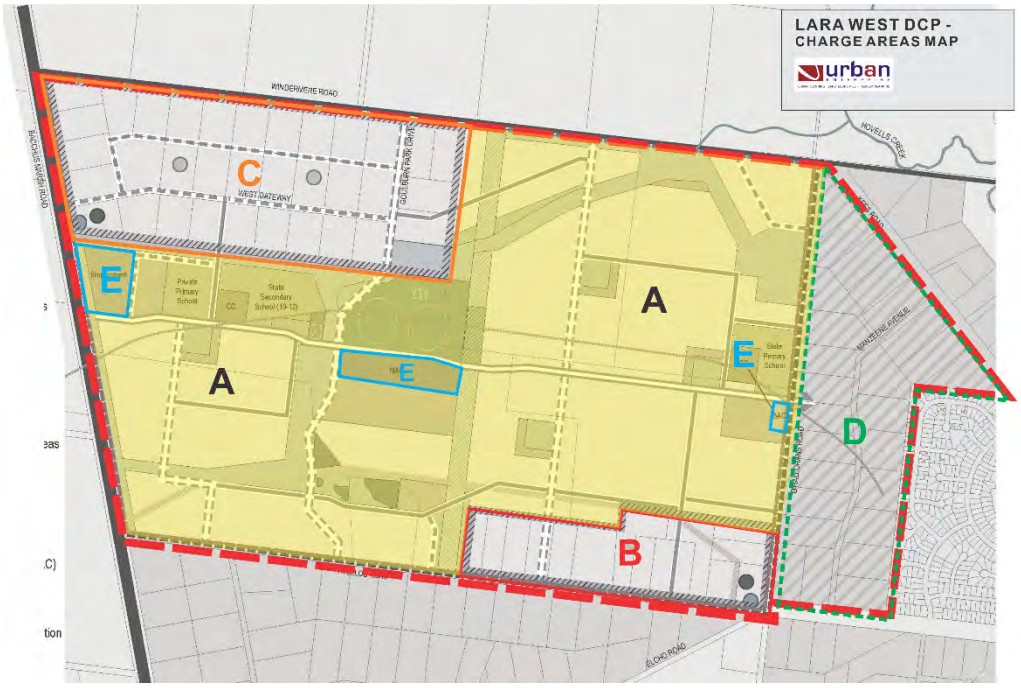
LARA WEST DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN

1.0 Area covered by this development contributions plan

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This Development Contributions Plan (DCP) applies to the Lara West DCP Main Catchment Area. This area is shown in the Lara West DCP and partially as DCPO5 in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme maps.

The Main Catchment Area and individual Charge Areas are shown below.



2.0 Summary of costs

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Item	Total cost $	Time of provision	Actual cost attributable to development $	Proportion of cost attributable to development %
Land Acquisition	$1,215,700	Refer to DCP	$1,215,700	100%
Roads and intersections	$8,208,800	Refer to DCP	$8,208,800	100%
Trails	$291,200	Refer to DCP	$291,200	100%
Open Space	$9,842,090	Refer to DCP	$6,329,449	64%
Community - DIL	$15,635,297	Refer to DCP	$15,635,297	100%
Community – CIL	$4,026,990	Refer to DCP	$4,026,990	100%
Strategic	$1,318,000	Refer to	$1,318,000	100%

Planning and DCP		DCP		
TOTAL	**$40,538,077**		**$37,025,436**	**91%**

Note: Contributions are listed in July 2012 values. Under the DCP the contributions are to be adjusted following annual indexation. These figures exclude GST.

3.0 Demand Units

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The Development Contributions Plan apportions cost based on demand units. In this DCP one demand unit is equal to one hectare of net developable land within the Lara West DCP Main Catchment Area (for the Development Infrastructure Levy), and one demand unit is equal to one dwelling within the Main Catchment Area (for the Community Infrastructure Levy).

Charge Area	Demand Units (Development Infrastructure Levy)	Demand Units (Community Infrastructure Levy)
Charge Area A	195.19	3,020
Charge Area B	15.33	230
Charge Area C	48.37	726
Charge Area D	37.22	558
Charge Area E	7.84	0
TOTAL	**303.95**	**4,534**

4.0 Summary of contributions

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C207

Charge Area	DIL per ha	CIL per dwelling
Charge Area A	$125,542.63	$888.12
Charge Area B	$83,941.92	$888.12
Charge Area C	$81,263.50	$888.12
Charge Area D	$80,421.16	$888.12
Charge Area E	$36,110.67	None specified

Note: Contributions are listed in July 2012 values. Under the DCP the contributions are to be adjusted following annual indexation. These figures exclude GST.

The Development Contribution for each demand unit must be adjusted as follows:

- In relation to the costs associated with all infrastructure items other than land, the cost must be adjusted and the contribution amounts recalculated according to the following method:
  - The capital costs of each infrastructure item must be adjusted by reference to the *Producer Price Indexes Australia, Victoria (Table 15 Selected Output of Division E - Construction industry, Building Construction Victoria (for buildings) and Road and Bridge Construction Victoria (for roads, bridges, trails, etc)* published by the ABS (Series 6427.0) or similar index.

- The revised infrastructure costs and the adjustment of the contributions must be calculated as at 1 July in each year.

- In relation to the cost of land required under the DCP, the land value must be adjusted by adopting a revised land value for each parcel of land to be acquired based on the same valuation principles used for the original valuations.
- The revised land value and the adjustment of the contributions must be calculated as of 1 July in each year.
- Within 14 days of the adjustments being made, the Responsible Authority must publish a notice of the amended contributions in a newspaper circulating in the municipality.

5.0 Land or development excluded from development contributions plan

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The Development Contributions Plan applies to all land in the Lara West Main Catchment Area for a period of 20 years.

This schedule sets out a summary of the costs and contributions prescribed in the development contributions plan. Refer to the incorporated development contributions plan for full details

21.13 LARA

05/04/2012 C225

Key issues and influences

11/08/2011

Lara is a township designated for urban growth and is strategically located between Geelong and Melbourne with excellent road, rail, seaport and airport links.

The rural landscape setting is important to the character of the town.

Key environmental, cultural and landscape features need to be protected and managed.

The Hovells and Serindip Creek systems have a propensity to flood and in low lying areas there is a lack of overland flood conveyance and grade for drainage systems putting constraints on development in these areas.

Retail and commercial expansion is required to meet the needs of local residents and to reduce the high level of escape expenditure.

There is a strong reliance on the private motor car as a form of transport and active and public transport infrastructure and services need to be improved.

The Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct, Avalon Airport and nearby land provide significant opportunities for employment and economic growth.

21.13-2 Objectives

05/04/2012 C225

- To maintain a compact urban form and provide for sustainable communities.
- To maintain and enhance the rural characteristics of Lara.
- To ensure an adequate supply of appropriately zoned and located residential and commercial land.
- To protect the rural landscape setting of the township particularly to the north overlooking the You Yangs.
- To consolidate retail and commercial activities at the existing Lara town centre.
- To ensure that any expansion of the Lara Town Centre integrates with the existing retail, commercial and community facilities in the Town Centre.
- To provide community and recreation services and infrastructure to meet the needs of the local and surrounding population.
- To protect and enhance key environmental, cultural and landscape features.
- To protect flood prone areas and areas that can not be readily drained from urban encroachment.
- To provide an efficient and integrated movement network for public transport, vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian movements.
- To protect Avalon Airport, Heales Road Industrial Estate and the potential intermodal transport facility from urban encroachment and sensitive uses.

Strategies

- Contain urban development within the defined settlement boundary in accordance with the Structure Plan map included in this clause.
- Support the development of areas identified for rezoning to Residential 1 and Low Density Residential in accordance with the Structure Plan map included in this clause.
- Support the rezoning of ‘future residential’ areas when a review of lot supply indicates rezoning is necessary to continue to achieve at least 15 years lot supply taking into consideration any infill opportunities that will not be realised in the short term.

- Ensure the sequential development of 'future residential' area west of O'Hallorans Road proceeds from east to west.
- Ensure new development incorporates sustainability principles including environmentally sustainable design, energy efficiency, connectivity and water sensitive urban design.
- Ensure new subdivision developments on Residential 1 zoned land incorporates urban design treatments that reinforce the rural characteristics of the town.
- Limit Rural Living to existing zoned land within Lara.
- Locate and integrate future education, community and recreation facilities to enhance their accessibility and to maximise joint use wherever possible.
- Provide additional bicycle and pedestrian opportunities and connections throughout the township including new footpaths and bicycle lanes.
- Support the implementation of the principles and objectives contained in the Lara Town Centre Urban Design Framework, including expanding the town centre to provide additional retail and commercial land including a full-line supermarket and community and transport infrastructure.
- Consider alternative town centre layout options provided that all the aims and strategies of the Lara Town Centre Urban Design Framework are satisfied.
- Limit the Patullos Road shopping strip to the existing Business 1 zoned land.
- Limit industrial uses within the township to land currently zoned for industrial purposes.
- Ensure that land use and development outside the settlement boundary does not prejudice the long term strategic directions identified in the Structure Plan map included in the clause including:
  - Retention of the rural landscape setting including views to the You Yangs;
  - Protection of agricultural land, particularly to the north of Lara and aquaculture or intensive agricultural production activities adjacent and complementary to Avalon Airport;
  - Protection of buffers to the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct;
  - Protection of opportunities for a potential intermodal transport facility
  - Protection of the current and future operations and development of Avalon Airport including associated or compatible uses.

21.13-3 Implementation

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These strategies will be implemented by:

Applying Zones and Overlays

Apply the Residential 1 and Low Density Residential zones to identified residential infill areas with appropriate Development Plan Overlay and Development Contribution Plan Overlay controls (or similar mechanisms).

Ensure future development for subdivision and use of land affected by the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan is generally consistent with the outcomes identified in this plan.

Apply the Urban Floodway Zone, Land Subject to Inundation Overlay and the Special Building Overlay to identified areas as a matter of urgency.

Apply appropriate zone/s required to facilitate commercial, retail and community development in the Lara town centre.

Further Work

Carry out the following further flooding and drainage work for Lara:

- update flood mapping data;
- develop a drainage infrastructure plan for the Lara area;
- introduce, as a matter of urgency, appropriate flood or inundation overlay controls in the planning scheme; and
- include drainage infrastructure in Developer Contributions Plans for future developments.

Support the preparation of an Avalon Airport Environs Study to consider the application of an Airport Environs Overlay.

Support the preparation of an environmental assessment of land within the vicinity of Avalon Airport to determine opportunities and constraints.

Support the detailed assessment of the proposed intermodal transport facility in the context of employment, road, rail and freight planning for this part of Victoria.

References

Lara Structure Plan, City of Greater Geelong, April 2011.

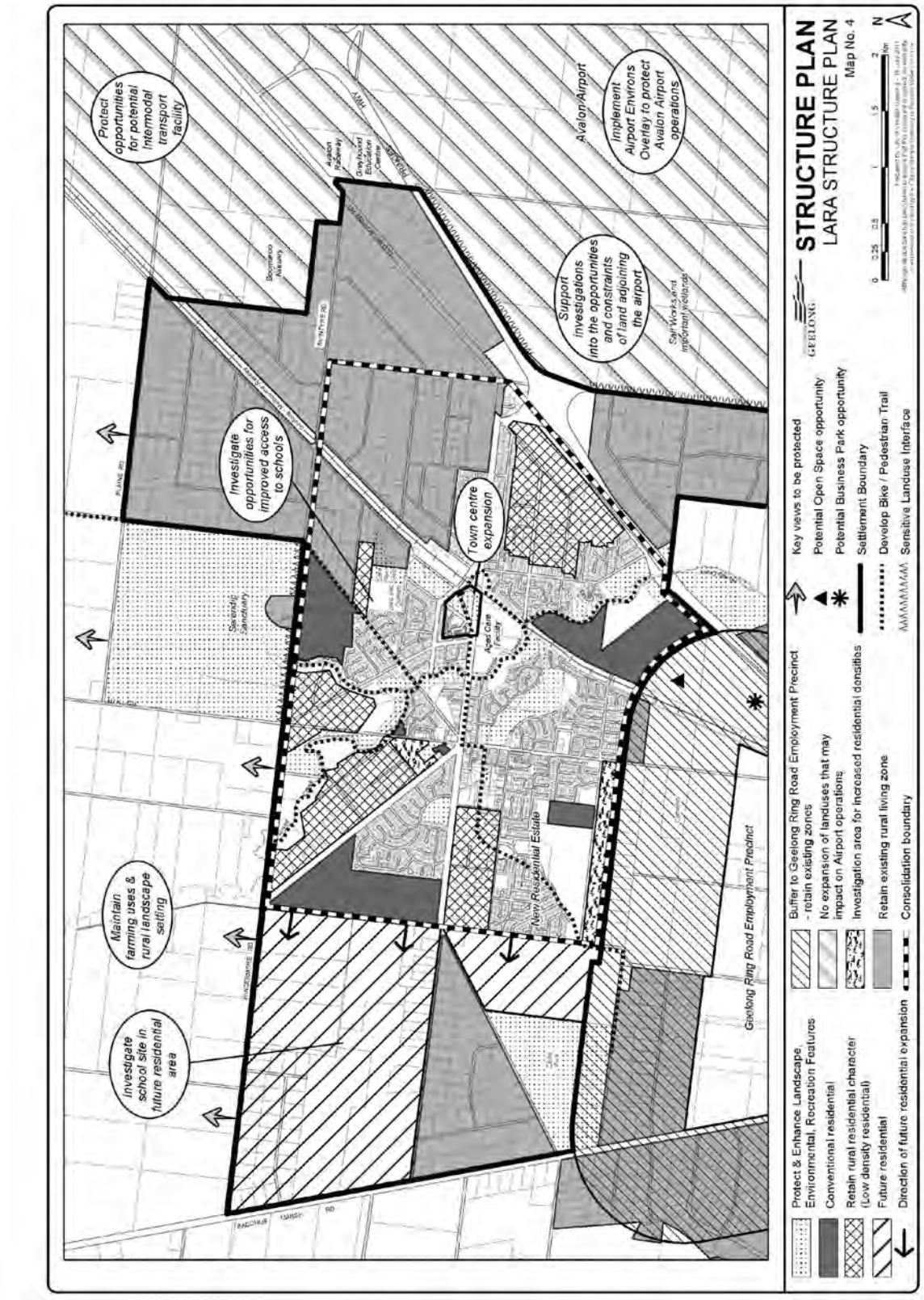
Lara Structure Plan Retail Development Issues, Tim Nott Retail Analysis + Strategy, March 2009

Lara Town Centre Urban Design Framework, David Lock Associates, March 2006.

Lara West Precinct Structure Plan, SMEC Urban, September 2013

21.13-4 Lara Structure Plan map

11/08/2011



12/09/2013
~~C243~~
Proposed C246

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 52.16

12/09/2013
~~C243~~
Proposed C246

1.0 Native vegetation precinct plan

Name of plan
Armstrong Creek East Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, May 2010
Armstrong Creek North East Industrial Precinct Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, May 2010
Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct, March 2013
Lara West Growth Area Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, September 2013

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 61.03

23/05/2013
~~C275~~
Proposed C246

Maps comprising part of this scheme:

- 1, 1VPO, 1SLO, 1WMO
- 2, 2ESO, 2VPO, 2SLO, 2HO, 2WMO
- 3, 3ESO, 3VPO, 3HO, 3LSIO-FO, 3PAO
- 4, 4ESO, 4HO, 4PAO
- 5, 5ESO, 5VPO, 5SLO, 5HO, 5WMO
- 6, 6ESO, 6VPO, 6SLO, 6HO, 6LSIO-FO
- 7, 7ESO, 7VPO, 7SLO, 7HO, 7LSIO-FO, 7PAO, 7WMO
- 8, 8ESO, 8SLO, 8HO, 8LSIO-FO, 8PAO, 8WMO
- 9, 9ESO, 9HO, 9LSIO-FO
- 10, 10ESO, 10HO, 10LSIO-FO
- 11, 11ESO, 11LSIO-FO, 11DCPO5
- 12, 12ESO, 12SLO, 12LSIO-FO, 12VPO, 12WMO, 12DCPO5
- 13, 13ESO, 13SLO, 13HO, 13VPO, 13WMO
- 14, 14ESO, 14VPO, 14LSIO-FO
- 15, 15ESO, 15PAO, 15VPO, 15HO, 15LSIO-FO
- 16, 16ESO, 16LSIO-FO
- 17, 17ESO, 17HO, 17DDO, ~~17LSIO-FO~~, 17VPO, 17DCPO5
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- 20, 20ESO, 20VPO, 20DPO, 20LSIO-FO, 20DDO
- 21, 21ESO, 21DPO, 21DDO, 21LSIO-FO
- 22, 22ESO, 22PAO, 22LSIO-FO
- 23, 23ESO, 23LSIO-FO
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- 85, 85ESO, 85WMO, 85DDO
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- 87, 87ESO, 87HO, 87SLO, 87SBO
- 88, 88ESO, 88HO, 88LSIO-FO, 88DDO, 88SBO
- 89, 89ESO, 89DDO14, 89WMO, 89SLO

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Proposed C246

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 66.04

Referral of permit applications under local provisions

Clause	Kind of application	Referral authority
Clause 5.0 of Schedule 3 to 42.01 (ESO)	An application required under Schedule 3 to Clause 42.01.	Secretary to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries
Clause 5.0 of Schedule 4 to 42.01 (ESO)	An application required under Schedule 4 to Clause 42.01.	Secretary to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries
Clause 5.0 of Schedule 3 to 37.07 (UGZ)	An application for the removal of 'retained vegetation' identified in the Armstrong Creek West Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, November 2012	Secretary to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries
Clause 5.0 of Schedule 3 to 37.07 (UGZ)	An application on land shown to be subject to flooding in a 1 in 100 year event as detailed in Plan 19 in the Armstrong Creek West Precinct Structure Plan, September 2012	Catchment Management Authority
Clause 3.0 of Schedule 4 to 37.07 (UGZ)	Any permit application for land containing native vegetation identified to be retained in the Lara West Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, or land that is identified within the NVPP as an offset site.	Secretary to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries
Clause 3.0 of Schedule 4 to 37.07 (UGZ)	Any permit application for the use, development or subdivision of land within the high pressure gas pipeline measurement length (as defined in AS2855) as shown in the incorporated Lara West Precinct Structure Plan.	Minister administering the Pipelines Act 2005
Clause 3.0 of Schedule 4 to 37.07 (UGZ)	Any permit application for land that is shown to be subject to flooding in a 1 in 100 year event as detailed on Plan 19 (Flood Boundary for Existing Conditions Q100) in the incorporated Lara West Precinct Structure Plan.	Catchment Management Authority

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 81.01

12/09/2013
~~C243~~
Proposed
C246

Name of document	Introduced by:
14 Shepherd Court, North Geelong, Cotton On Office Redevelopment, July 2011	**C257**
Advertising Sign Guidelines, City of Greater Geelong, November 1997.	**NPS1**
Armstrong Creek East Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, May 2010	**C206**
Armstrong Creek East Precinct Structure Plan, May 2010 Amended November 2011.	**C214**
Armstrong Creek East Precinct Development Contributions Plan, Version 4.1 Alternate Version November 2011.	**C214**
Armstrong Creek North East Industrial Precinct Development Contributions Plan, May 2010.	**C207**
Armstrong Creek North East Industrial Precinct Growling Grass Frog Conservation Management Plan, May 2010.	**C207**
Armstrong Creek North East Industrial Precinct Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, May 2010.	**C207**
Armstrong Creek North East Industrial Precinct, Precinct Structure Plan, May 2010.	**C207**
Armstrong Creek Urban Growth Plan Framework Plan, November 2008, Updated September 2012	**C240**
Armstrong Creek West Precinct Development Contributions Plan, February 2013	**C240**
Armstrong Creek West Precinct Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, November 2012	**C240**
Armstrong Creek West Precinct Structure Plan, September 2012	**C240**
Australian Standard AS 2021-1994, Acoustics - Aircraft Noise Intrusion - Building Siting and Construction. Standards Association of Australia 1994.	**NPS1**
Environmental Weeds, City of Greater Geelong, September 2008	**C129(Part 1)**
Geelong City Urban Conservation Study Vol. 1 Restoration and Infill Guidelines, Commercial and Civic Buildings, Graeme Butler for the City of Geelong, 1993	**C258**
Geelong Library and Heritage Centre Redevelopment, March 2013	**C287**
Geelong Ring Road – Section 4C Incorporated Document, June 2010.	**C232**
Geelong TAC Office Development, October 2006.	**C142**
Heritage and Design Guidelines, City of Greater Geelong, 1997.	**NPS1**
Key Development and Increased Housing Diversity Areas, July 2009, updated 2012.	**C254**
Jetty Road Urban Growth Area Development Contributions Plan, September 2011	**C230**

Name of document	Introduced by:
Lara West Precinct Structure Plan, September 2013	**C246**
Lara West Growth Area Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, September 2013	**C246**
Lara West Development Contributions Plan, September, 2013	**C246**
Melbourne Geelong Interconnection Project, June 2010.	**C229**
Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct, March 2013	**C243**
Newtown Heritage Study Review Report, Volume 3, City of Greater Geelong, 2008	**C191**
New Station Estate Restructure Plan, July 2010	**C187**
Rail Infrastructure Projects (comprising the Rail Gauge Standardisation Project, the Regional Fast Rail Project and the Fibre Optic Project), December 2002.	**VC17**
Rail Upgrades at Geelong Port Project, May 2010.	**C211**
Rippleside Comprehensive Development Plan, February 2000.	**C2**
Rippleside Urban Design Guidelines, June 2000.	**C2**
Thirteenth Beach Golf Resort Barwon Heads, Barwon Heads Comprehensive Development Plan, Land Design Partnership, Anthony Cashmore & Associates and the Planning Group, May 2001 amended September 2006.	**C54**
Waterfront Geelong Design and Development Code, Keys Young, July 1996	**NPS1**
West Fyans-Fyans Street Precinct Structure Plan, June 2009	**C205**

Appendix 7 - C246 Panel Report: Chapter 6

6 The high-pressure gas pipeline

6.1 What is the issue?

The land is traversed by a high-pressure gas pipeline owned and operated by APA Gasnet Australia (Operations) Pty Ltd. The 500 mm pipeline operates at 10,200 kPag and is one of three main natural gas pipelines supplying Melbourne. It is within a 20 metre wide easement and is underground with a cover of at least 1.2 metres. APA intends to install additional pipes within the easement (Submission 6).

The protection of the pipeline and the easement and the encroachment of more intense land uses and development within its vicinity under the proposed LWPSP is a matter that needs careful consideration.

6.2 Policy context of the issue

State Policy deals specifically with gas pipelines at Clause 19.03-6 of the planning scheme. Its aim is to plan for the development of pipelines subject to the Pipelines Act 2005 to ensure that gas is safely delivered at minimal risk to people, other critical infrastructure and the environment.

Strategies to achieve this are:

- *Recognise existing transmission-pressure gas pipelines in planning schemes and protect from further encroachment by residential development or other sensitive land uses, unless suitable additional protection of pipelines is provided.*
- *Plan new pipelines along routes with adequate buffers to residences, zoned residential land and other sensitive land uses and with minimal impacts on waterways, wetlands, flora and fauna, erosion prone areas and other environmentally sensitive sites.*
- *Provide for environmental management during construction and on-going operation of pipeline easements.*

6.3 Background

The significance of the pipeline emerged late in the LWPSP and Amendment C246 process. There is no reference to it Clause 21.13 of the planning scheme, which deals with planning for Lara and includes the Lara Structure Plan map. It does not appear to have been considered by the Panel that reported on Amendments C73 and C198 in 2010 (Document 14) and recommended in favour of the structure plan. It is not included in the Lara Structure Plan report adopted by Council in 2011 (Document 11).

In March 2012 the Council alerted the proponent's planners and engineers (SMEC Urban) to the existence of the pipeline and recommended contact with APA (Document 5). SMEC Urban's infrastructure services report of September 2012 referred to the pipeline and noted that it "*must be given due weight when considering subdivision design and layout alternatives for the overall development site*" Similar words were used in the exhibited LWPSP. Clause 4.7.3 of the exhibited plan, proposed to be included as a reference document under the Schedule to the UGZ, also refers to a requirement that subdivision permits include a condition requiring the installation of infrastructure to the satisfaction of APA and a requirement that development must retain and protect the existing easement.

In response to the exhibited amendment APA submitted that the major pipeline investments it was planning could be put at risk and that the encroachment of urban uses could impose operational constraints on the pipeline and "raise uncertainty about its long term land use role" (Submission 6). APA also said:

High pressure gas transmission lines have potential to cause catastrophic damage in the case of explosion. Gas lines of this nature are maintained and constantly monitored to ensure their integrity. The likelihood of explosion is extremely remote. Accordingly, there is no current requirement to provide additional buffers to safeguard against this unlikely outcome. APA have recommended, however that potential risks be considered in land use planning. It has been suggested that uses such as schools and hospitals be sited away from pipelines if possible.

APA advises that Energy Safe Victoria and Department of Primary Industries are reviewing the risks associated with development within the heat flux zones around transmission pipelines.

The DPI (Submission 50) advised that it was seeking ESV's advice as to whether the LWPSP provided sufficiently for human safety in the siting of residential areas in proximity to the pipeline.

Following the APA submission there were discussions between the Council, proponent and APA and a "Safety Management Workshop" including representatives of APA, Council, SMEC Urban and the proponent was held on 7 March 2013 as part of the preparation of a Safety Management Study by APA.

On 26 March 2013 the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) wrote to Council advising that it had received information in relation to the pipeline from Energy Safe Victoria but ESV was not yet satisfied that safety standards would be met and in particular, that the "*as low as reasonably practicable*" (ALARP) principle would be met in respect of risk. DPI further advised that there were ongoing discussions between APA and the proponent about managing risks that would result from the proposed land use changes. It indicated that once the ALARP principle has been demonstrated, ESV and DPI "will be in a position to support" Amendment C246.

At the Directions Hearing on 28 March 2013 a draft revised LWPSP map dated 28 February 2013 and labelled "for discussion" was tabled by Mr Tobin indicating a 320 m buffer either side of the gas pipeline.

Accordingly the Panel directed the proponent to circulate the outcome of meetings with Energy Safe Victoria and Department of Primary Industries regarding satisfying the ALARP principle and its proposed "Hearing Version" of the LWPSP by close of business on 12 April 2013.

In response Mr Tobin advised by letter dated 12 April that APA had met with ESV on 9 April and that ESV requested further revision of APA's draft Safety Management Study (SMS). The proponent believed that the likely final outcome of the SMS would confirm a requirement for a 320 metre "Gas Pipeline Heat Flux Zone" rather than a reduced zone as was expected to be the case at the time of the Directions Hearing. APA and ESV would not support residential use (at a density higher than 30 dwellings per hectare) school, employment or activity centre uses within this zone. A new draft LWPSP map was provided with amendments accommodating a 320 metre Heat Flux Zone ("C246 Hearing Version", being Revision S dated 12 April 2013).

On 12 April 2013, in response to the Panel's directions, the Council provided a revised draft of Schedule 4 to the UGZ and draft revisions to the LWPSP report.

In response to the Panel's Directions ESV advised the Panel on 17 April that APA's advice was that the area to which the ALARP principle should be applied is 550 m

from the pipeline, that it had not yet received APA's final report and that "any presumption of likelihood of ESV and DPI support for the Amendment is inappropriate".

APA provided a copy of its final Safety Management Study Report to ESV and the Panel on 26 April 2013. APA did not choose to be heard or call evidence in support of its written submissions.

6.4 Evidence and submissions

In its letter to the Panel of 26 April enclosing its Safety Management Study Report, APA said it had assessed the exhibited LWPSP and "expresses the need to reduce risk to the public to an acceptable level by locating medium density (greater than 30 dwellings per hectare) and Sensitive land uses preferably 554m away from the existing pipeline and not within 324m of the pipeline".

APA's report says that a Safety Management Study (SMS) was carried out in accordance with Australian Standard AS 2885.1-2012. This standard requires that the current pipeline safety management study for each pipeline be updated for any changes in the pipeline's operating environment. This was done by considering threats resulting from the land use and development changes proposed under the LWPSP. Generic threats, such as corrosion, are covered by the most recent study performed on the entire pipeline and "did not present a significant risk at this location".

APA says that the pipeline's design and construction is on the basis that the subject area has a Residential (T1) rating in accordance with AS 2885.1-2012. That is, the land within the "measurement length" (see below) of the pipeline:

… is developed for community living. Residential applies where multiple dwellings exist in proximity to each other and dwellings are served by common public utilities. Residential includes areas of land with public infrastructure serving the residential use; roads, railways, recreational areas, camping grounds/caravan parks, suburban parks, small strip shopping centres. Residential land use may include isolated higher density areas provided they are not more than 10% of the land use. Land used for other purposes but with similar population density shall be assigned Residential location class.

High Density (T2) is a higher rating location classification defined by AS 2885.1-2012 as:

Land that is developed for high density community use. High Density applies where multi storey development predominates or where large numbers of people congregate in the normal use of the area. High density includes areas of public infrastructure serving the high density use; roads, railways, major sporting and cultural facilities and land use areas of major commercial developments; cities, town centres, shopping malls, hotels and motels.

NOTE: In residential and high density areas the societal risk associated with loss of containment is a dominant consideration.

Within these primary classifications, a location can also be classified as a "Sensitive use (S)" location under AS 2885.1-2012 leading to requirements additional to those of the primary classification. The Standard defines this classification as:

The sensitive use location class identifies land where the consequences of a failure may be increased because it is developed for use by sectors of the community who may be unable to protect themselves from the consequences of a pipeline failure. Sensitive uses are defined in some jurisdictions, but include schools, hospitals, aged care facilities and prisons. Sensitive use location class shall be assigned to any

portion of pipeline where there is a sensitive development within a measurement length. It shall also include locations of high environmental sensitivity to pipeline failure.

The "measurement length" is the distance from the pipeline of relevant land uses and is based on the radius of the 4.7 kW/m2 heat radiation contour calculated under AS 2885.1-2012 for "full bore rupture" of the pipe leading to ignition of the escaping gas. The SMS puts this distance as up to 554 m from the pipeline. The effect of exposure to such heat will cause pain in 15 to 20 seconds and injury after 30 seconds exposure (at least second degree burns will occur).

The SMS also refers to the heat radiation contour of 12.6 kW/m2 as bringing a significant chance of fatality for extended exposure and high chance of injury. It puts this distance as up to 324 m from the pipeline.

The SMS included an "SMS Action Item List" based on the hazards identified exhibited plan relating to detailed design and construction management.

Mr Radojkovic of the Department of Primary Industries drew the Panel's attention to the responsibility of the Minister for Energy and Resources in administering the Pipelines Act 2005. The Minister is a prescribed Minister under regulation 8 of the Planning and Environment Regulations, 2005. As such he may require that an amendment not be approved by the Minister for Planning under Section 35(4) of the Planning and Environment Act, 1987 if he is of the opinion that the amendment may unreasonably prejudice the use of a pipeline permitted under the Pipelines Act.

In forming its recommendation to its Minister, DPI seeks the advice of Energy Safe Victoria. Mr Cronin of ESV drew the Panel's attention to the provisions of the Pipelines Act 2005, which requires a licensee (APA in this instance) to construct and operate pipelines in accordance with AS 2885 Parts 1, 2 and 3. In relation to land use planning he cited Section 4.7.4 of AS 2885.1-2012:

Where there are changes in land use planning (or land use) along the route of existing pipelines to permit Residential, High Density, Industrial, or Sensitive development or Heavy Industrial development in areas where these uses were previously prohibited, a safety assessment shall be undertaken and additional control measures implemented until it is demonstrated that the risk from a loss of containment involving rupture is ALARP.

The assessment is to include consideration of measures including reduction of pipeline pressure, upgrading of pipe to "no rupture", pipeline relocation, modification of the land use to separate people from the pipeline and physical and procedural protection measures that are effective in controlling threats capable of causing rupture of the pipeline.

Mr Cronin pointed out that "ALARP is achieved when the cost of further risk reduction measures is grossly disproportionate to the benefit gained from the reduced risk that would result" from implementing an alternative.

Mr Cronin confirmed that ESV understood the pipeline as having been designed to meet Residential (T1) conditions.

In response to the Panel's requests for clarification, ESV provided further written advice to the Panel dated 3 May 2013. In relation to the residential densities applicable to the T1 and T2 categories defined by AS 2885.1-2012 and the basis for them ESV advised:

The basis for differentiation is population density, and the numbers of people that would be killed or injured in the event of a full bore rupture or other loss of

containment. The standard does not provide a numerical delineation of population densities between 'T1' and 'T2' land use classifications.

APA has advised ESV that it considers a residential development of 30 lots per hectare in this case to be consistent with the 'T1' definition. ESV is satisfied with this advice.

In relation to the Hearing Version of the LWPSP map, ESV was asked to state its position with respect to:

- The form of envisaged urban development within the 'heat flux zone' shown on the plan (marked at 320 m from the pipe); and
- The location of schools and the Neighbourhood Activity Centre.

ESV responded:

The pipeline has been designed consistent with 'T1' type land use within the 'pipeline measurement' area (in this case within 554m of the pipeline) …

The Standard identifies schools as 'Sensitive' land use…

ESV has been advised by APA that the Neighbourhood Activity Area was treated as 'T2' by the participants of the Safety Management Study …

As stated at the hearing, ESV's position is that it would be prudent planning from a safety perspective to attempt to locate any 'Sensitive' or 'T2' land use further than 554m from the pipeline.

Further, APA has calculated that in the event of a full bore rupture, a distance of 324m from the pipeline in this case is consistent with "a thermal radiation level of 12.6 kW/m2 [which] represents the threshold of fatality, for normally clothed people, resulting in third degree burns after 30 seconds exposure."' ESV does not consider it appropriate that any 'Sensitive' or 'T2' land use should be planned within 324m of the pipeline.

However, with regard to the area between 324m and 554m from the pipeline, and given that "ALARP is achieved when the cost of further risk reduction measures is grossly disproportionate to the benefit gained from the reduced risk that would result", ESV acknowledges the possibility that the principle of ALARP could be met with 'Sensitive' or 'T2' land use between 324m and 554m from the pipeline. Also, ESV recognises that ALARP may be demonstrated differently for 'Sensitive' and for 'T2' land use given the different sectors of the community using the land.

ESV acknowledges that given the range of activities that could be permitted for the Neighbourhood Activity Centre and its proposed location between 324m and 554m from the pipeline, it would be feasible to achieve the ALARP principle, provided that the detailed design for the Centre has regard to a safety assessment carried out in collaboration with the pipeline licensee.

It is not clear to ESV from the version of the Precinct Structure Plan exhibited at the panel hearing how ALARP would be met for the schools that are shown to be within 554m of the pipeline. However, in an update of the Precinct Structure Plan that has been provided to ESV (revision V, or Draft 2), in which the schools are predominantly beyond 554m from the pipeline, the locations of the schools would be able to meet the ALARP principle given the physical constraint posed by drainage ditches to the north.

At the hearing ESV was asked questions about "credible" and "non-credible" threats of pipeline rupture as assessed in the SMS. ESV advised:

In the Standard, the term 'non-credible' when related to pipeline rupture has a specific meaning based on calculations of the extent of the damage to the pipeline resulting from threats to the pipeline identified as credible at the time of the safety assessment. In this instance the calculation was done on the basis of the threat of external interference from an excavator creating a puncture. Such an approach is consistent with industry practice.

It should not be assumed that the overall likelihood of full-bore pipeline rupture from all causes (which could include the action of horizontal boring or the use of 'trench rippers') throughout the operational life of the pipeline (likely to be another sixty-plus years), is non-credible in the commonly used sense. Particularly given the changes in drilling, boring, digging and other excavation technology that may take place in that time.

Mr Tobin described the proponent's response to the submissions of APA and subsequent discussions with APA, which led to the Hearing Version (Version S) of the LWPSP map (Document 10). This version of the LWPSP and the proponent's various expert evidence statements were prepared on the basis that APA and ESV "had not formally resolved their position with respect to the buffer area" and the proponent's understanding that APA's requirement was "likely to be 320-metre heat flux zone either side of the pipeline".

The changes to the exhibited LWPSP map included in the Hearing Version of the map were:

- the identification of the gas pipeline easement and the 320m "heat flux zone";
- relocation of the Employment Precinct to the northern side of the East-West Connector Road adjacent to Bacchus Marsh Road;
- realignment of roads to reduce the number of crossing points of the gas pipeline;
- positioning of the NAC, school and community facility sites beyond the "heat flux zone";
- the reconfiguration of medium density housing and open space; and
- a notation that within the "heat flux zone", medium density housing is less than 30 lots per hectare.

In relation to the actions recommended in Appendix B of the SMS, Mr Tobin submitted that these could be accommodated in the LWPSP document, the UGZ schedule and in detailed design.

During the course of the Hearing Mr Tobin submitted a further version of the LWPSP map, C246 Hearing Version – 554m Heat Flux Zone Draft 2 (Version V, 2 May 2013). This version relocates schools and community facilities generally beyond a distance of 554 metres from the pipeline. However, the district open space / sports fields and neighbourhood and local activity centres remain within the 554 m "heat flux zone".

In response to the Panel's question about whether the Amendment properly responds to Clause 19.03-6 of the SPPF, Mr Tobin submitted:

… the objective talks of minimal risk, not no risk. That a proposal of any kind is absent any risk is rarely possible. Certainly it is not the basis upon which the pipe has already been constructed through a rural residential area to the south.

Regarding the strategy of protecting pipelines from further encroachment by residential development or other sensitive land uses, unless suitable additional protection of pipelines is provided, Mr Tobin submitted:

Again, the words are not premised on no residential encroachment, only that encroachment which is absent suitable protection (as regards the pipe).

Mr Montebello submitted for the Council that while it is regrettable that the pipeline issue was not identified earlier:

… the impact on the PSP is not critical nor structural given that the Australian Standard seems to somewhat curiously concern itself with the density of population rather than population per se. It is observed that the approach taken in the SMS appears to be a conservative assessment and although it makes reference to a preferable 554 metre buffer, the analysis seems a tad casual.

It remains to provide some recognition of this issue in the planning framework being put in place. Council submits that Schedule 4 to the Urban Growth Zone should be amended to reflect the gravity of the issues under consideration. This could be best done by including a referral process for any application within the buffer area which ought to ensure that there is an appropriate consideration of any actual proposal.

In relation to the Dacland proposal for a NAC within the 324 m heat flux zone Mr Montebello submitted that it is "not possible in the context of the impact of the gas pipeline".

In closing submissions for the Council, Ms Eastaugh said that the revisions to the LWPSP made by the proponent in the course of the Hearing demonstrate:

While it may be possible to take other protective measures, it is also practical and relatively easy to comply with the Australian Standard by moving sensitive uses out of the 554 metre heat flux zone without causing any significant impact on the structure of the growth area. It also shows that it is possible to keep the activity centre elements out of the 324 metre heat flux zone. …

Accepting that the defined T1 uses are not an issue (according to the Australian Standard) because the pipeline was constructed to T1 standards, then the conventional and even medium density residential use of land is not inconsistent with clause 19 of the SPPF.

Ultimately, Council is reliant on bodies such as ESV and DPI in relation to this matter. Council does not have the necessary expertise where it comes to the pipeline issue.

Nevertheless Council only gave in-principle support to these changes because it had not had an opportunity to consider the various changes in detail. In this regard, in Council's closing submission, Mr Anderson indicated that the process has been "a bit on the run" and therefore "Council was not in a position to put a stamp on the Plan with finality". Mr Anderson also noted that internal referrals had not occurred in relation to the shifting of the open space.

Mr Tweedie submitted on behalf of Dacland Pty Ltd that the pipeline is a significant planning issue for the amendment, which the Council and proponent have not satisfactorily addressed and that the amendment "should not proceed further" until this has happened. In relation to Clause 19.03-6 he submitted:

… like all policy strategies, there is a need to balance this need for protection against the costs to the community of doing so. Ultimately, what is required is an assessment of the relative costs of protection against the relative benefits.

This, in turn, requires a rigorous and informed process of risk assessment. In Dacland's view, the assessment of risks associated with the pipeline has, to date, been neither rigorous, nor well informed. It has also not been a fair or a transparent process.

Part of this is as a consequence of the unsatisfactory way in which information has been provided to the Panel and other parties.

Mr Tweedie cited the fact that the final SMS was not circulated until 4.00pm on the last business day before the Hearing and that:

- the author of the SMS has not been identified, and the contents and conclusions of the SMS are unable to be tested.
- APA have not attended the Panel; and
- ESV has expressed concerns about the SMS, and whether or not any "sensitive use" can locate within 554 metres of the pipeline.

In relation to AS 2885 Mr Tweedie submitted:

… the proper interpretation of the Standard is that it does not operate as a planning tool to prohibit or regulate land use. Rather, it is a standard by which pipeline operators manage the risk of construction and operation of their pipelines in accordance with their obligations under the Pipelines Act 2005 under the regulatory control of ESV.

In relation to the Council submission that Dacland's NAC site is "not possible" because of the gas pipeline, Mr Tweedie submitted that the Panel is not is a position to make such a finding because this would be unfair and because the:

material before the Panel implies that the development of the Manzeene Avenue NAC is possible; provided a suitable SMS that assesses the proposed land uses and justifying that outcome is prepared

which Dacland is confident can be done.

Notifying Land Buyers

During the course of the Hearing the Panel raised the question of whether or not there should be a mechanism to advise purchasers of property within the "heat flux zone" of the proximity of the high-pressure gas pipeline. Mr Tobin opposed any notice mechanism for the following reasons:

- The construction standard accommodates residential use.
- The pipeline has co-existed since 1999 without incident with residents and other land users.
- "Sensitive" uses will be at appropriate distances from the pipeline.
- No party's use of the land will alter as a result of such notice.
- An administrative burden will be imposed on the Responsible Authority and other authorities.
- May lead to a need for additional approvals and delay.
- There is no planning scheme Overlay available.
- It "fails a test of broad relevance".

- The Calder Raceway example referred to by Mr Milner is one where there is a potential amenity impact and "notification is a means of managing the expectations of persons entering the area" but "the pipeline will have no day to day amenity impact".
- There is adequate control over subdivision of land affected by the pipeline easement.
- The easement will be transferred to council and landscaped appropriately.
- Until that happens the easement is registered on title.

In his written evidence Mr Milner said that the implications of the gas pipeline were not properly understood until recently. Accordingly he recommended:

… that arising from the experience in this matter, it would be appropriate for the City of Greater Geelong and the Department of Planning and Community Development to review how the relevant strategic and statutory planning tools can be used to properly draw attention to major infrastructure such as this.

At the Hearing Mr Milner further said that the way the pipeline issue had arisen in this case reflected a shortcoming of the Victorian planning system that the Panel should draw attention to.

In his verbal evidence Mr Milner said that ideally there should be a planning scheme overlay on the area affected by the pipeline to give effect to a required buffer. It would then be part of a vendor's statement of the matters affecting land being sold, issued under Section 32 of the Sale of Land Act.

In relation to the amendments to the exhibited LWPSP Mr Milner said:

Despite the revisions to the plan, l am satisfied that its impact has not unreasonably and detrimentally impacted upon the urban design framework that is at the heart of the LWSP. The important relationships of the location of the activity centre, its abuttal to the regional open space, the location and integration of the public transport route, and the co-location with community facilities has not been fundamentally disturbed.

Finally I note that the easement passes through proposed residential areas as well as along drainage and open space corridors. The design and treatment of this easement warrants more careful detailing. The diagram at Attachment 2 should be included in the LWSP to illustrate how this may be achieved.

The diagram referred to by Mr Milner was accepted by the Council.

Changes to the draft UGZ4 relating to the pipeline

At the request of the Panel the Council circulated a post-Hearing (20 May 2013) draft of the UGZ4 consolidating changes agreed by the Council and proponent. Those changes relevant to the gas pipeline are discussed below in the following section of this report.

6.5 Discussion and Findings

The Panel agrees with the Council that it is unfortunate that the significance of the pipeline did not become apparent early in the planning process for the area. Indeed it is an issue that deserved consideration at the Lara structure planning stage.

The Panel also agrees with Mr Milner that this reflects a shortcoming in the planning system that deserves attention. In accordance with Clause 19.03-6 it would be appropriate to "recognise existing transmission-pressure gas pipelines in planning

schemes" in a formal way, perhaps with high-pressure gas pipeline routes and associated "heat flux zones" marked on scheme maps with a dedicated Overlay control. This would require an amendment to the Victoria Planning Provisions.

The submissions of APA Gasnet (Operations) Pty Ltd were a critical element in the material before the Panel because they included the outcome of analyses reportedly conducted in accordance with Australian Standard AS 2885 and are put to justify controlling the type of land uses and the development intensity around the pipeline. The material put by APA, the owner and operator of the pipeline, was not supported by independent evidence and was not able to be tested by the Panel because APA did not appear.

Because of this state of affairs the Panel understands the frustrations of Mr Tweedie with the SMS submitted by APA. In particular, the Panel asked ESV at the Hearing about the basis for attributing a density of 30 lots per hectare to Residential T1 locations. The response at the Hearing was that this was understood to be the advice of a pipeline-engineering consultant advising APA. Given that many suburban areas are developed at a much lesser density than this and that the Growth Areas Authority aims to achieve 15 lots per hectare for PSPs it is responsible for, it would be worth understanding the basis for assigning a density of 30 lots per hectare in T1 areas.

However, the Panel does not agree with Mr Tweedie's submission that the amendment should not proceed. This is because the Panel gives considerable weight to the views of Energy Safe Victoria (ESV), the independent regulator responsible for electricity, gas and pipeline safety in Victoria under the Energy Safe Victoria Act 2005. The Panel notes ESV's acceptance of APA's assertion that the pipeline has been designed for "Residential (T1)" conditions and that this means development at up to 30 lots per hectare. Indeed the Panel has the comfort of relying on the veto powers of the Minister for Pipelines Energy and Resources should he feel that the encroachment of higher population density activities under the LWPSP threatens the pipeline.

Given ESV's submissions, the Panel is of the view that the LWPSP can proceed with suitable modifications.

Firstly, while it would be preferable for the NAC (as a "T2" location) to be located outside the 554 m "Heat Flux Zone", the advice of ESV that it may be possible to site the NAC between the 324 m and 554 m radii subject to a safety assessment of the detail design, allows the Panel to conclude that the NAC configuration in Revision V of the LWPSP map may be acceptable. However, it must be acknowledged that the development of the NAC site nominated by this plan could prove impossible for safety or cost reasons once detailed plans are prepared and assessed. The Panel is not in a position to judge the likely outcome of this process.

Secondly, it is the Panel's view that all Sensitive uses should preferably be at least 554 m from the pipeline. This should include all land set aside on the LWPSP for education centres, childcare centres, child and maternal health centres, residential aged care facilities, libraries and hospitals (if any). However, given the statements of ESV it appears that such facilities might be approved within the NAC (if beyond the 324 m "measurement length"), depending upon their character and design. Accordingly, the proponent's suggestion that some child care and education uses might be included in the NAC, supported by the Council, should not be ruled out. The Panel envisages that suitable siting and design of such facilities within a commercial centre building may be possible.

In relation to the configuration of the school sites shown on Revision V of the LWPSP map, the Panel does not accept that site constraints are such that any part of the school sites should be within 554 m of the pipeline. ESV's opinion about this was that the

locations of the schools would be able to meet the ALARP principle given the "physical constraint posed by drainage ditches to the north". However, Mr Craigie's evidence was that the engineering design of these drainage facilities is flexible. Similarly, the Panel considers that layout of the proposed road system is flexible enough to facilitate the further minor reshaping of the school sites so that no portion of them are within 554 m of the pipeline. Therefore the Panel can see no compelling reason why the design of the LWPSP should not be modified by adjusting the layout rather than compromising the preferred set back distance for schools.

The Panel also has some concern that under the latest version of the LWPSP map about half of the sporting fields and the stadium site remain within the 554 m "Heat Flux Zone". These facilities may fall within the ambit of the "High Density (T2)" location class under AS 2885.1, which includes "major … sporting facilities" where considerable numbers of people may gather in the open. Unfortunately, what is meant by "major sporting facilities" under the standard is unclear as there is no clarification of the term in the code. However, the Panel observes that there is little practical difference between a schoolyard and a sports field used for junior sport except perhaps in the frequency of use. The Panel is of the view that the location of these facilities is also reasonably flexible, that there is no overriding requirement that they be co-located with the NAC and that consideration could be given by the Council and proponent to relocating them to a location outside the 554 m "Heat Flux Zone".

Unfortunately the urban designers for the proponent (SMEC Urban) were not called to give evidence so the Panel was not in a position to assess the reasoning and assumptions behind the proposed layout of the LWPSP in its various drafts. Therefore the Panel is unable to properly consider the viability of moving various elements around as a way of reducing risk. However, the site is a very large flat area without many other constraints so the Panel feels there is likely to be more than one design solution possible.

Where does this leave the draft LWPSP map? The Panel's opinion is that the version tabled by the proponent on Day 4 of the Hearing (Revision V, Document 26) is a suitable basis for the maps to be included in the LWPSP and the UGZ Schedule subject to minor amendments to ensure that sites marked for schools and community facilities are entirely outside the 554 metre heat flux zone.

Mr Milner's suggested plans

The indicative plans of lots fronting the pipeline easement proposed by Mr Milner and accepted by the Council may be acceptable to ESV and APA but this has not been tested. It is noted for example that one of these sketches shows the creation of lot access driveways across the easement, which may be problematic. The Panel finds that these plans should only be included in the LWPSP if ESV and APA agrees.

Dacland's Manzeene Avenue site

The Panel makes no finding as to the effect of the high pressure gas pipeline on the NAC site proposed by Dacland, although it notes that in the context of this hearing, ESV's position is that it does not consider it appropriate that 'T2' land uses, which include areas of major commercial development, town centres and shopping malls should be accommodated within 324 m of the pipeline. Considerations arising from the proximity of the pipeline to the Manzeene Avenue site are a matter for Council, ESV, DPI, APA and Dacland in their assessment of the amendment requested by Dacland for the Manzeene Avenue area (C285).

Changes to the draft UGZ Schedule relating to the pipeline

The Council's post-Hearing (20 May 2013) draft of the UGZ Schedule includes the following suggestions relevant to the pipeline.

Council proposed a requirement in Part 2.5 that the Masterplan for the Patullos Road Area address the treatment of the pipeline following consultation with ESV and the pipeline licensee. The proponent agreed with this. The Panel supports the change.

It was agreed between the Council, the proponent and Dacland that a new referral requirement (Part 3.5) should include:

Any permit application for the use, development or subdivision of land within the gas easement heat flux zones as shown in the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan must be referred to Energy Safe Victoria.

The Panel agrees with this and supports indicating both the 554 m and the 324 m "Heat Flux Zones" on Plan 4 LWPSP. Map 1 shown in the post-Hearing draft Schedule does not show the heat flux zones and does not reflect the latest changes suggested by the proponent. The Panel finds that it should be modified to show both heat flux zones.

The proponent suggested that Table 2 in Part 2.3 include the uses "child care centre" and "education centre" if on land in the Neighbourhood Activity Centre with the condition "must have the written approval of the operator of the gas pipeline". This was supported by Council with the proviso that Energy Safe Victoria should approve in addition to or in replacement of the pipeline operator. While there is a clear preference for such sensitive uses to be outside the 554 m "Heat Flux Zone", the Panel agrees with this provision for the NAC (assuming it remains within the 554 m "Heat Flux Zone").

The proponent suggested that Part 4.0 (Conditions and requirements for permits) should include:

Any planning permit for subdivision of land containing the pipeline easement, building or works within or abutting the easement must include the following condition:

> *Prior to the commencement of any works a construction management plan must be prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority, having regard to the comments of the gas pipeline operator (who must be provided with a copy of the CMP). The CMP must include a description of all machinery to be used, the nature and specification of proposed works and reporting mechanisms prior during and after the works.*

The Council disagreed with this because it does not have the expertise to assess the risks associated with the pipeline. It relies on the referral to ESV and says that the requirements of a Construction Management Plan should be left to Energy Safe Victoria and APA. The Panel agrees with the Council that the need for and content of a construction management plan should be left to ESV.

In Section 6.0 Decision Guidelines of the Schedule Dacland suggested a new dot point, with the support of the proponent:

For any applications within the gas easement heat flux zone as shown on Map 1: any risks associated with the operation of the high pressure gas pipeline.

This, the Council says, is the purpose of the referral provisions and should be left to Energy Safe Victoria and APA. The Panel suggests that the following dot point be added instead:

For any applications within the gas easement heat flux zone as shown in the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan, the views of Energy Safe Victoria.

Changes to the LWPSP

On 12 April 2013 the Council circulated proposed changes to the LWPSP in accordance with the Panel's Directions. These changes are supported subject to the following modifications:

- Plan 4: Precinct Features to be updated to show the 554 m heat flux zone.
- A new section headed 2.5 APA Gas Easement and Pipeline to be included as proposed except for the last paragraph which should be modified as follows:

  The APA assessment identified a "Heat flux Zone" as being land up to 554 m from the pipeline where certain intense or sensitive land uses should be excluded and residential density should not exceed 30 lots per hectare. Any permit application for the use, development or subdivision of land within the "Heat Flux Zone" as shown in the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan must be referred to Energy Safe Victoria for consideration and its advice will be taken into account in the decision.

- The new last dot point proposed for section 4.7.3 should be amended to reflect referral of applications to ESV in accordance with the agreed change to the Schedule.

Notifying Land Buyers

While the proximity of high voltage power lines may or may not influence prospective property buyers in their location choice, the power lines are highly visible. On the other hand an underground pipeline passing through a 20 m easement may not be noticed even one or two lots away. Furthermore, the "Heat Flux Zone" extends for 554 m from the pipeline. For these reasons, the Panel believes some form of notice for newcomers buying into the area about the existence of the pipeline is reasonable. Indeed formal pre-purchase notice may help avoid post-sale disputes between purchasers and the developer or Council.

The reasons advanced by Mr Tobin for opposing notice arrangements are not accepted by the Panel. While the Panel agrees that the pipeline's design, construction and operation may render the risk to residents within the 554 m "Heat Flux Zone" acceptable to the pipeline operators and regulators, prospective land purchasers should be informed of the existence of the pipeline. They should be enabled to make their decision to invest and live in the area in the full knowledge that the pipeline exists and the risk is assessed as minimal by the relevant authorities.

The Panel does not agree with Mr Tobin that the provision of such information would lead to further approvals or delays and it need not lead to any added administrative burden of any significance to authorities. Nor does the Panel agree that some form of notice to purchasers would fail the test of relevance. In the Panel's opinion the provision of such information would meet an objective of planning in Victoria "to balance the present and future interests of all Victorians". It is in no-one's interest that land purchasers be ignorant of the presence of the pipeline or the risks associated with it.

Furthermore the Panel notes that under AS 2885.3, as part of the management of external interference threats, a pipeline licensee is required to have regular communication with the community and stakeholders "to raise and reinforce awareness of the presence of a pipeline and the constraints with respect to the use of land on and near the pipeline". The licensee is also required to place signs on the route of the pipeline. Notification of buyers at the time of purchase would complement these requirements. This could be achieved by a condition on subdivision permits within the 554 m "Heat Flux Zone" requiring a Section 173

Agreement registered on land titles. The wording of the notice should be developed by the responsible authority in consultation with ESV, APA and the proponent with the aim of ensuring an understanding of the nature of the hazard presented by the pipe. A provision to give effect to this could be included in Part 4 of the Schedule and is so recommended.

By way of summary, the Panel finds:

- Based on Energy Safe Victoria's advice, the Panel accepts that the location of the NAC on C246 Hearing Version Draft 2, Revision V, 02 May 13 of the LWPSP Urban Structure Plan between the 324 m and 554 m heat flux radii is acceptable for planning purposes, and that further safety assessments are still required in detailed design.
- The C246 Hearing Version Draft 2, Revision V, 02 May 13 of the LWPSP Urban Structure Plan should be further amended to ensure that sites marked for schools and community facilities are entirely outside the 554 m heat flux zone and that this outcome is achievable with minor modification to the road and drainage layout.
- A new referral requirement to Energy Safe Victoria should be included in the UGZ Schedule to require all permit applications to be referred to it for use, development or subdivision of land within the gas easement heat flux zones.
- It is in no-one's interest that prospective land purchasers are ignorant of the presence of the pipeline or the risks associated with it and therefore notice for newcomers buying into the area about the existence of the pipeline is reasonable. To achieve this, the Panel considers that a condition should be placed on subdivision permits within the 554 m "Heat Flux Zone" that requires a Section 173 Agreement be registered on land titles. The wording of the notice should be developed by the responsible authority in consultation with ESV, APA and the proponent with the aim of ensuring an understanding of the nature of the hazard presented by the pipe.
- The Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure should investigate the need for an Overlay control to recognise high-pressure gas pipelines and their heat flux zones in planning schemes.

6.6 Recommendations

The Panel recommends:

Changes to both the LWPSP and the UGZ Schedule

- **Adopt the "Urban Structure Plan - Revision V, 02 May 2013" (Hearing Document 26) as "Plan 5: Future Urban Structure" in the LWPSP and as Map 1 – Lara West Precinct Structure Plan in the UGZ Schedule subject to further refinement to ensure that sites marked for schools and community facilities are entirely outside the 554 metre "heat flux zone".**

Changes to the LWPSP

- **Amend Plan 4 – Precinct Features of LWPSP to indicate both the 554 m and the 324 m "heat flux zones".**
- **Amend the final paragraph of the 12 April 2013 version of the proposed section 2.5 of LWPSP headed APA Gas Easement and Pipeline to:**

  The APA assessment identified a "heat flux zone" as being land up to 554 m from the pipeline where certain intense or sensitive land uses should be excluded and residential density should not exceed

30 lots per hectare. Any permit application for the use, development or subdivision of land within the "heat flux zone" as shown in the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan must be referred to Energy Safe Victoria for consideration and its advice will be taken into account in the decision.

- **Amend Section 4.7.3 of the LWPSP to include the following:**

  Any permit application for the use, development or subdivision of land within the "heat flux zone" as shown in the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan must be referred to Energy Safe Victoria for consideration and its advice will be taken into account in the decision.

Changes to the UGZ Schedule

- **Amend the Schedule so that any permit application for the use, development or subdivision of land within the "heat flux zone" must be referred to Energy Safe Victoria and its views must be considered in determining the application.**
- **Amend the Schedule so that the Masterplan for the Patullos Road Area must address the treatment of the high-pressure gas pipeline following consultation with ESV and the pipeline licensee.**
- **Amend the Schedule to include the following:**

  Condition for subdivision of land within the high-pressure gas pipeline heat flux zones as shown in the Lara West Precinct Structure Plan.

  The owner of the land must enter into an agreement with the responsible authority under Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 before any development commences on the relevant land to provide for:

  - ***the giving of notice by the owner in a form approved by Energy Safe Victoria to all prospective owners of the location of the high pressure gas pipeline easement and its heat flux zones; and***
  - ***the responsible authority's reasonable legal costs and expenses of drafting, reviewing and registering the agreement and of assessing, negotiating and recording any proposed amendment to the agreement, to be borne by the owner of the relevant land.***

Other

- **That the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure investigate the need for an Overlay control to recognise high-pressure gas pipelines and their "heat flux zones" in planning schemes, to protect them from encroachment by inappropriate land uses and to ensure appropriate conditions are placed on land use and development within "heat flux zones".**

Appendix 8 - Energy Safe Victoria Letter to Council, 19 August 2013

energysafe VICTORIA
Creating a safe state with electricity and gas

ESV Ref: DOC/13/30298

19 August 2013

Mr Peter Schembri
Senior Strategic Planner, Strategic Implementation
City Development
City of Greater Geelong
PO Box 104
GEELONG VIC 3220

Sent via email: pschembri@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

Dear Peter

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C246
PANEL REPORT: LARA WEST PRECINCT STRUCTURE PLAN

As requested, here is ESV's formal response to your letter of 31 July 2013.

ESV's satisfaction regarding the demonstration that public safety risks from a licensed pipeline are 'as low as reasonably practicable' (ALARP) is based on these questions, in order, being adequately addressed:

- Can the risk be removed completely (for example, by separating land use incompatible with the original pipeline design, from the pipeline, by at least the pipeline's measurement length[1])? If the option is available (as I believe it should be during the planning phase of any development), then a conscious decision not to take it needs to be made and the reasons recorded (an example might be that, in order to maximise the utility of services to the local community, those services should be located as central to that community as possible).
- What physical barriers or controls are available to mitigate the risk? If any of them are not adopted, this needs to be based on a conscious decision and the reasons recorded.
- What procedural barriers or controls are available to mitigate the risk? If any of them are not adopted, this needs to be based on a conscious decision and the reasons recorded.

[1] I believe the panel have used of the term "heat flux zone" to refer to the "pipeline measurement length" as defined in AS2885.

Energy Safe Victoria
ABN 87 652 047 857
Level 5 Building 2
4 Riverside Quay
Southbank VIC 3006
PO Box 262
Collins St West VIC 8007
DX 212509 Melbourne VIC
(03) 9203 9700
(03) 9686 8147
www.esv.vic.gov.au

Item 1: location of the sporting fields
In discussion, you identified the importance of the sporting fields maintaining a central position in the Precinct Structure Plan (PSP), co-located with other key commercial uses on the main East-West road, in order to maintain the cohesion of the PSP as a whole. My understanding, on your advice, is that in the plan the sporting fields have been moved as far from the pipeline as is reasonable to achieve this (Hearing Version Draft 2, or Revision V as attached to your letter). This being the case, the question of whether the risk can be removed completely appears to have been considered.

Since the panel hearing, APA has undertaken further work to demonstrate that in this instance, given the proposed location of the sporting fields, the ALARP principle can be achieved with the physical and procedural controls identified by their safety management study of 7 March 2013 and subsequently.

On this basis, ESV would raise no objection to the proposed location of the sporting fields.

Item 2: location of the schools and community centres
As for Item 1, the risks can be demonstrated to be ALARP without the schools and community centres being entirely outside the pipeline measurement length.
My understanding, on your advice, is that in the plan the schools and community centres have been moved as far from the pipeline as is reasonable given: topographical limitations on the location of the encumbered drainage reserve; and the requirement to locate them adjacent to the community's main East-West road (Hearing Version Draft 2, or Revision V as attached to your letter). This being the case, the question of whether the risk can be removed completely appears to have been considered.

The further work undertaken by APA also demonstrates that in this instance, given the proposed location of the schools and community centres, the ALARP principle can be achieved with the physical and procedural controls identified by their safety management study of 7 March 2013 and subsequently.

On this basis, ESV would raise no objection to the proposed location of the schools or community centres.

Item 3: Mr Milner's options
This issue has been covered to ESV's satisfaction in the letter to you from APA of 9 August 2013.

If I have not adequately addressed your questions, or you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to contact me again.

Yours sincerely

Steve Cronin
MANAGER PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

cc. Daniel Tucci, Senior Concept Engineer, APA Group

Appendix 9 – Incorporated Documents

- **Lara West Precinct Structure Plan, September 2013**
- **Lara West Growth Area Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, September 2013**
- **Lara West Development Contributions Plan, September, 2013**

Appendix 9 Documents
Available Upon Request
Telephone: 5272 4244

3. AMENDMENT C298 COMBINED PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION FOR LAND AT 400 MELBOURNE RD, NORTH GEELONG- MCDONALDS RESTAURANT

Portfolio:	**Planning- Cr Macdonald**
Source	**Economic Development, Planning and Tourism- Strategic Implementation**
General Manager:	**Peter Bettess**
Index Reference	**Application: C298** **Subject: Council Reports 2013**

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council support to prepare and exhibit Amendment C298 to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme under Section 96A of the Planning & Environment Act 1987.

Summary

- Amendment C298 is a Council initiated amendment submitted under section 96A of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and is a combined amendment and planning permit application.
- The amendment affects land at 400 Melbourne Rd, North Geelong, forming part of Deppeler Park (also known as Seagull Paddock). The affected land (3278 sq. metres) includes a McDonalds restaurant and associated access and car parking arrangements. (See **Appendix 1** for site location plan).
- The site is currently zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone and is not affected by any overlay. (See **Appendix 2** for existing zoning plan).
- The amendment seeks to rezone the land from Public Park and Recreation Zone to Commercial 2 Zone and apply the Environmental Audit Overlay (See **Appendix 3**).
- The planning permit application seeks to subdivide the land from the balance of the Deppeler Park Reserve, remove the Reserve Restriction from the land to be subdivided and include a carriageway easement in favour of the new lot to be created (See **Appendix 5**).
- The City of Greater Geelong Council owns the affected land. Council leases the land to McDonalds Australia Ltd. McDonalds Australia Ltd. has occupied the site since the 1980's.
- The purpose of the combined application is to 'tidy-up' the site in planning (zoning and subdivision) terms, which will assist with the future sale of the site (*See associated Sale report that forms part of this Council meeting agenda*) and provide the future owner with a commercially usable and developable site.
- The combined planning scheme amendment and planning permit application will result in a good planning outcome.

3. AMENDMENT C298 COMBINED PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION FOR LAND AT 400 MELBOURNE RD, NORTH GEELONG- MCDONALDS RESTAURANT (CONT'D)

Cr E Kontelj moved, Cr Fisher seconded -

That Council resolves to:

1) **Support the preparation and exhibition of Amendment C298 to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme to:**

   - **Rezone the affected land (3278 sq. metres) at 400 Melbourne Road, North Geelong, from Public Park and Recreation Zone to Commercial 2 Zone.**
   - **Apply the Environmental Audit Overlay to the affected land to be rezoned.**

2) **Consider the application for a planning permit to:**

   - **Subdivide the land (3278 sq. metres) containing the McDonalds Restaurant and associated access and car parking facilities from the balance of the Reserve No.1 on Plan of Subdivision 424106U (Vol 10497 Fol 507);**
   - **Remove the Reserve restriction from Reserve No.1 on Plan of Subdivision 424106U (Vol 10497 Fol 507) for the land to be subdivided.**
   - **Include a carriageway easement in favour of the land to be subdivided for the entire length of the northern boundary.**

3) **Request the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation and exhibition of Amendment C298 and Planning Permit 782/2013.**

Carried.

Background

Amendment C298 is a combined planning scheme amendment and planning permit application submitted to Council under s96A of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

Council proposes to rezone, subdivide and sell the land which is occupied by the McDonalds restaurant. Prior to selling the land, it is proposed to 'tidy-up' the land through the rezoning and subdivision process, thereby, ensuring the appropriate controls are implemented.

The amendment proposes to rezone an area of 3278 sq. metres from Public Park and Recreation Zone to Commercial 2 Zone and apply the Environmental Audit Overlay over the land to be rezoned (See **Appendix 3**);

The planning permit application is for the subdivision of the land containing the McDonalds restaurant (3278 sq. metres) from Reserve No.1 on Plan of Subdivision 424106U (Vol 10497 Fol 507), remove the Reserve restriction from Reserve No 1 of Plan of Subdivision 424106U (Vol 10497 Fol 507) as it applies to the lot to be subdivide, and include a carriageway easement in favour of the land to be subdivided for the entire length of the northern boundary (62.2m) extending north to the face of the kerb. (See **Appendix 4** Existing Title and **Appendix 5** Draft Plan of Subdivision.)

3. AMENDMENT C298 COMBINED PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION FOR LAND AT 400 MELBOURNE RD, NORTH GEELONG- MCDONALDS RESTAURANT (CONT'D)

The existing zoning of the land is Public Park and Recreation Zone. Commercial 2 Zone and Industrial 1 Zone land lies to the north, Road Zone 1 to the east, Public Park and Recreation Zone to the south and west. (See **Appendix 2**.)

The affected land is roughly square in shape and relatively flat. It contains a McDonalds restaurant and associated access and car parking arrangements.

The affected land is owned by Council. McDonalds Australia Ltd. Has leased the land to be subdivided from Council since the 1980's. The lease is a ground lease with options up until 2048.

The land forms part of a wider Reserve and being part of Deppeler Park (also known as Seagull Paddock). The wider reserve is approximately 7.4ha. The broader parkland area fronting the Melbourne Road has a lake formed by a weir on Cowies Creek and walking paths, a major sewer pumping station owned by Barwon Water and a McDonalds restaurant.

The land in the Cowies Creek or Deppeler Park area is identified in the 2009 Qualitative Assessment of former Geelong landfill sites. It is likely that the subject land was a former landfill site between the late 1950's and early 1970's. The former landfill is provided with a 'low risk' assessment by the 2009 Qualitative Assessment mainly due to its relative isolation from residential land uses and the length of time the landfill site has been closed.

Discussion

The justification for the proposed rezoning and subdivision application is confirmed through the conflicting nature of the current use of the land in the Public Park and Recreation Zone and also, through the process of preparing Council owned land for sale.

The use of the land as a food and drink premises conducted by/on behalf of a private operator conflicts with the underlying purpose of the Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ). A purpose of the PPRZ is:

"*To recognise areas for public recreation and open space*."

The PPRZ is the main zone for public open space and public recreation areas. Generally, land in the PPRZ is overseen by a public land manager, for example, a Council, and any use is conducted on their behalf.

Ministerial Direction on *The Form and Content of Planning Schemes* advises that:

"*A planning scheme may only include land in a Public Use Zone, a Public Park and Recreation Zone or a Public Conservation Zone and Resource Zone if the land is Crown land, or is owned by, vested in or controlled by a Minister, government, public authority or municipal council*."

The land is in Council ownership but it is not available for public use or as a park and it has been leased to McDonalds since the 1980's. Should the land be sold to a private buyer whilst in the PPRZ, this would conflict with the Ministerial Direction.

To reflect the historic use of the land and to accord with the best practice advice provided by the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure (DTPLI) for the sale of public land, consideration must be given to the appropriate zone for the land. Clause 34.02 Commercial 2 Zone is the most appropriate zone.

3. AMENDMENT C298 COMBINED PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION FOR LAND AT 400 MELBOURNE RD, NORTH GEELONG- MCDONALDS RESTAURANT (CONT'D)

A purpose of the Commercial 2 Zone is:

"*To develop commercial areas for offices, appropriate manufacturing and industries, bulky goods retailing, other retail uses, and associated business and commercial services*."

The Commercial 2 Zone allows the current use of the land subject to obtaining a planning permit. Given the McDonalds restaurant is an established use, a permit is not required for the use in this instance. The Commercial 2 Zone is considered the most appropriate zone in the context of the current use of the site and the likely uses and development that Council would support in the future.

In addition to the above, the Best Practice Note (Page 7) advises that consideration be given to the highest and best use of the land being proposed for sale, whether subdivision would be appropriate, an environmental report where there is possible contamination, where contaminated, a strategy for remediation is prepared. Fundamentally, the preparation of land for sale should be cost-effective and be consistent with the nature of the land being proposed for sale as well as the circumstances which have led to the proposed sale.

The introduction of the Environmental Audit Overlay is in line with the above State Government guidance and with *Ministerial Direction No. 1 Potentially Contaminated*. Direction No.1 requires that planning authorities when preparing amendments to satisfy themselves that the environmental conditions of the land proposed to be used for a sensitive use defined as residential use, a child care centre, a pre-school centre or a primary school, or agriculture or public open space, are or will be, suitable for that use.

The proposed Environmental Audit Overlay recognises the previous use of the land for landfill and will ensure that the requirement of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme and Ministerial Direction No. 1 are met before the commencement of a sensitive use or any associated building or works. In the case of the proposed Commercial 2 Zone, a sensitive use could potentially be an "Education Centre"- a primary school.

The permit to subdivide the land from the Reserve and remove the Reserve restriction is a logical proposal and will facilitate the sale of the land. The subdivision of the land will form a new lot for the McDonalds site, including a carriageway easement over the Reserve land to the north in favour of the proposed lot, thereby ensuring continued rights of access (See **Appendix 5**).

Internal referrals were sent to Council's Engineering (Drainage) Unit, Environmental Health and Recreation and Open Space. A number of comments were received by these units, which have informed the initial assessment of the application. VicRoads was also notified and offered no objection.

3. AMENDMENT C298 COMBINED PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION FOR LAND AT 400 MELBOURNE RD, NORTH GEELONG- MCDONALDS RESTAURANT (CONT'D)

Council provides the following reasons of justification for the proposed rezoning:

- Deppeler Park has no immediate association with a residential area and will continue in its current role as a landscaped former land fill site with walking trails and wetland.
- There is no identified shortage of open space;
- The size of land owned by Council in the Deppeler Park area will be reduced by approximately 1.8% following the sale of the lot to be created.
- The land to be sold has not been used for public park purposes since the restaurant was constructed in 1980 and is unlikely to revert to a park in the future.
- The Council has sold parts of Deppeler Park in recent years to various owners and authorities. Council has no plans to sell other parts of the Park.

The combined planning scheme amendment and planning permit application is considered a logical proposal and will lead to a good planning outcome. It will assist Council to sell Council owned land that is considered to have a better financial outcome over leasing the property.

It is noted that this Council report, which seeks support to prepare and exhibit the combined planning scheme amendment and planning permit application, is supported by a Sale report prepared by Council. The Sale report discusses the detailed financial implications for the affected land.

Environmental Implications

The amendment and planning permit are unlikely to create any adverse environmental issues. The amendment process will ensure that on-site environmental conditions are suitable for sensitive land uses by introducing a planning control, namely the Environmental Audit Overlay.

Financial Implications

There will be associated planning scheme amendment costs (amendment fees, panel costs and representation as required) as part of the implementation process given this is a Council initiated amendment. Exact costs for specific stages of the amendment process are difficult determine at present. Nonetheless, this can be accommodated within the existing department budget.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

Amendment C298 is consistent with the State and Local Planning Policy Frameworks, that comprise part of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, as outlined below.

The State Planning Policy Framework is relevant to the assessment of this proposal in so far as it discusses the use of contaminated and potentially contaminated land, at Clause 13.03-1 of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. Clause 13.03-1 states that the objective is:

"*To ensure that potentially contaminated land is suitable for its intended future use and development, and that contaminated land is used safely*."

3. AMENDMENT C298 COMBINED PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION FOR LAND AT 400 MELBOURNE RD, NORTH GEELONG- MCDONALDS RESTAURANT (CONT'D)

The strategy for Clause 13.03-1 requires applicants to provide adequate information on the potential for contamination to have adverse effect on the future land use, where the subject land is known to have been used for industrial, mining or the storage of chemicals, gas, wastes or liquid fuel.

The Local Planning Policy Framework is of limited relevance to the planning scheme amendment.

The introduction of Clause 45.03 Environmental Audit Overlay to the land is considered a logical proposal. The purpose of the Environmental Audit Overlay is:

"*To ensure that potentially contaminated land is suitable for a use which could be significantly adversely affected by any contamination*."

Clause 45.03 requires:

Before a sensitive use (residential use, child care centre, pre-school centre or primary school) commences or before the construction or carrying out of buildings and works in association with a sensitive use commences, either:

- A certificate of environmental audit must be issued for the land in accordance with Part IXD of the Environment Protection Act 1970, or
- An environmental auditor appointed under the Environment Protection Act 1970 must make a statement in accordance with Part IXD of that Act that the environmental conditions of the land are suitable for the sensitive use.

The planning scheme amendment will be carried out in accordance with the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

Alignment to City Plan

The amendment aligns with the City Plan's strategic direction, How We Do Business, and the priority relating to "Responsible and Sustainable financial management". The amendment will assist Council in maintaining a strong financial position by rezoning, subdividing and selling the subject land**.**

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No Council officers or contractors involved in the proposed rezoning and planning permit have a direct or indirect interest in matters contained in this report.

Risk Assessment

There are no significant notable risks that would arise as a consequence of the combined planning scheme amendment and planning permit.

Consideration has been given to the previous use of the site, which formed part of a landfill between the 1950's and 1970's. It is proposed that the Environmental Audit Overlay will be applied to the affected land to ensure that if a sensitive use is proposed in the future, the requirements of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme and Ministerial Direction No.1 Contaminated Land, will be complied with, where relevant.

The preparation of the planning scheme amendment is in accordance with the requirements of Ministerial Direction No.1.

3. AMENDMENT C298 COMBINED PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION FOR LAND AT 400 MELBOURNE RD, NORTH GEELONG- MCDONALDS RESTAURANT (CONT'D)

Social Considerations

The planning scheme amendment is unlikely to result in any adverse social impacts on adjoining land uses. The site has been used by McDonalds Australia Ltd. since the 1980's and will remain in commercial use as a consequence of the proposed rezoning from Public Park and Recreation Zone to Commercial 2 Zone. One of the purposes of the Commercial 2 Zone is to ensure that uses do not affect the safety and amenity of adjacent, more sensitive uses.

Human Rights Charter

The amendment will not impact on any basic rights, freedoms, responsibilities as set out in the Charter. Planning legislation ensures an open community consultation process occurs enabling people to freely express their views and if necessary, obtain a fair hearing before an Independent Planning Panel.

Consultation and Communication

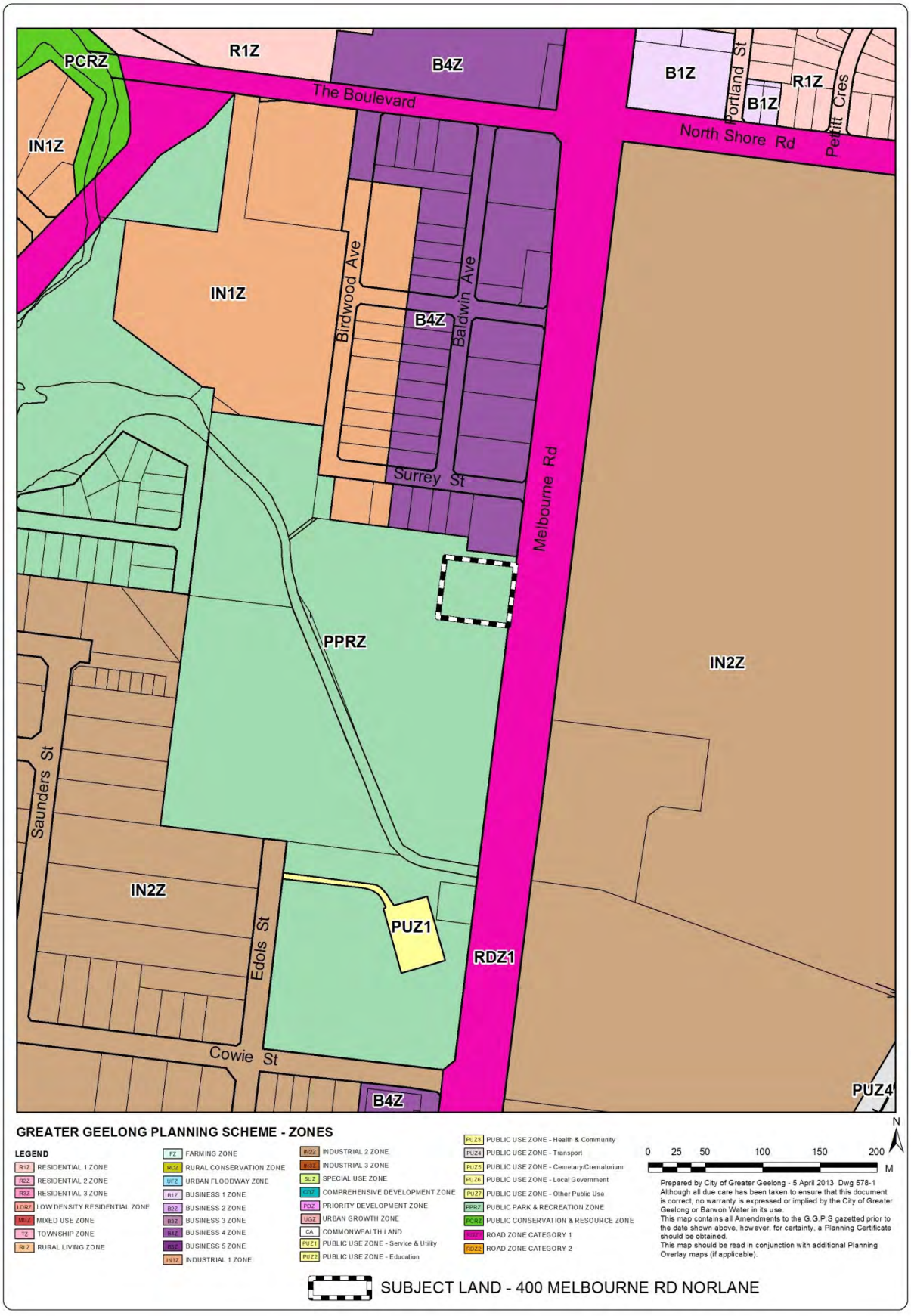
Should Council support the preparation and exhibition of the combined planning scheme amendment and planning permit, Council officers will request authorisation from the Minister for Planning to exhibit the application. The exhibition period will be for a minimum 30 days and will provide members of the public an opportunity to make a submission and be heard by an Independent Planning Panel, should it be necessary. The notice of exhibition for Amendment C298 will be published in the local newspapers and Government gazette.

Consultation with relevant referral authorities will also be undertaken during the exhibition of the application.

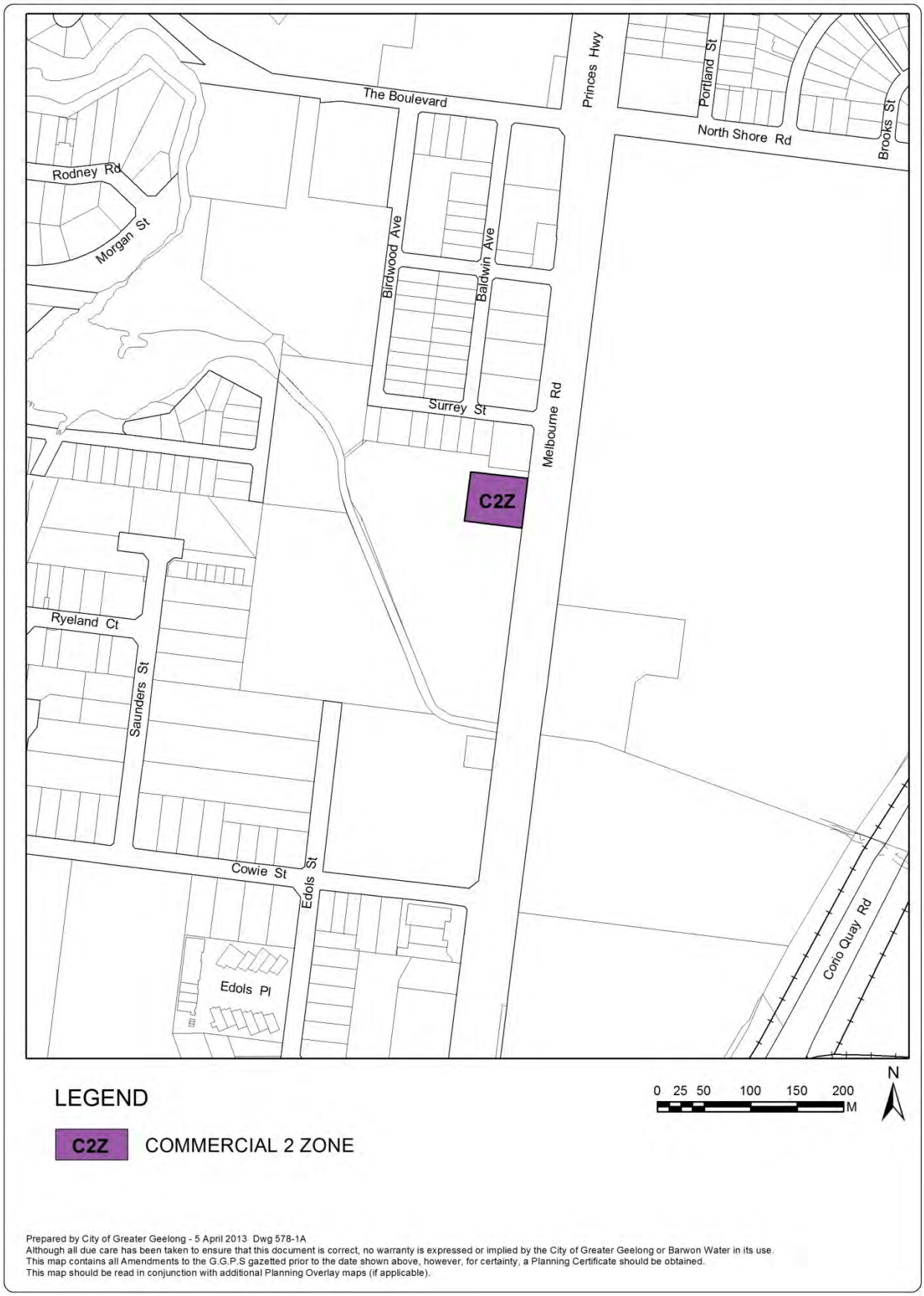
Appendix 1 Site Location Plan



Appendix 2 Existing Zoning Map



Appendix 3 Proposed Zoning and Overlay Maps




The Boulevard
Princes Hwy
Portland St
North Shore Rd
Brooks St
Rodney Rd
Morgan St
Birdwood Ave
Baldwin Ave
Surrey St
Melbourne Rd
EAO
Ryeland Ct
Saunders St
Cowie St
Edols St
Edols Pl
Corio Quay Rd
LEGEND
EAO ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT OVERLAY
0 25 50 100 150 200
M
N
Prepared by City of Greater Geelong - 5 April 2013 Dwg 578-1C
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This map contains all Amendments to the G.G.P.S gazetted prior to the date shown above, however, for certainty, a Planning Certificate should be obtained.
This map should be read in conjunction with additional Planning Overlay maps (if applicable).

Appendix 4

Existing Title- 400 Melbourne Rd, North Geelong

Register Search Statement - Volume 10497 Folio 507

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REGISTER SEARCH STATEMENT (Title Search) Transfer of Land Act 1958

VOLUME 10497 FOLIO 507 Security no : 124044292051U
Produced 24/12/2012 12:45 pm

LAND DESCRIPTION

Reserve 1 on Plan of Subdivision 424106U.
PARENT TITLES :
Volume 09203 Folio 969 Volume 09411 Folio 856
Created by instrument PS424106U 01/03/2000

REGISTERED PROPRIETOR

Estate Fee Simple
Sole Proprietor
GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL
PS424106U 01/03/2000

ENCUMBRANCES, CAVEATS AND NOTICES

Any encumbrances created by Section 98 Transfer of Land Act 1958 or Section 24 Subdivision Act 1988 and any other encumbrances shown or entered on the plan set out under DIAGRAM LOCATION below.

DIAGRAM LOCATION

SEE PS424106U FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND BOUNDARIES

ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 125 DAYS

NIL

DOCUMENT END

Delivered from the Landata ® System by SAI Global Property Division Pty Ltd
Delivered at 24/12/2012, for Order Number 10886890. Your reference: 400 Melbourne Road.

REVERSE IMAGE INKJET

	PLAN OF SUBDIVISION	Stage No /	LTO use only EDITION	Plan Number PS 424106U

Location of Land

Parish: Moorpanyal

Township:

Section:

Crown Allotment: 1(Part),2(Part),39(Part)

Crown Portion:

LTO Base Record: DCMB

Title Reference: V9411 F856,V9203 F989(Bal)

Last Plan Reference: CP151601

Postal Address: 402 Melbourne Road North Geelong 3215 (at time of subdivision)

AMG Co-ordinates (of approx centre of land in plan) ***E*** 287 880 ***Zone:*** 55 ***N*** 5 779 380

Council Certification and Endorsement

Council Name: City of Greater Geelong Ref: 4530

~~1 This plan is certified under section 6 of the Subdivision Act 1988~~

2 This plan is certified under section 11(7) of the Subdivision Act 1988
Date of original certification under section 6 20/ 7 / 99

3 This is a statement of compliance issued under section 21 of the Subdivision Act 1988

OPEN SPACE

(i) A requirement for public open space under section 18 of the Subdivision Act 1988 has/has not been made

~~(ii) The requirement has been satisfied~~

~~(iii) The requirement is to be satisfied in Stage~~

Council Delegate
~~Council seal~~
Date 11 / 2 / 2000

Re-certified under section 11(7) of the Subdivision Act 1988
Council Delegate
Council seal
Date / /

Vesting of Roads and/or Reserves

Identifier	Council/Body/Person
Reserve No1	City of Greater Geelong

Notations

Staging This ~~is~~/ is not a staged subdivision
Planning Permit No

Depth Limitation
Does not apply

The land being subdivided is shown enclosed within thick continuous lines

Lot 1 and the alignments of Surrey Street and the Princes Highway are the result of this survey

Subtract 7°02'20" for C/T V9411 F856
Subtract 7°00'20" for C/T V9203 F989

Survey This plan is/~~is not~~ based on survey

This survey has been connected to permanent marks no(s) 132,203,274

In Proclaimed Survey Area No

Easement Information

Legend A-Appurtenant Easement E-Encumbering Easement or Condition in Crown Grant in the Nature of an Easement R-Encumbering Easement (Road)

Easement Reference	Purpose	Width (Metres)	Origin	Land Benefited/In Favour Of
E-1	Drainage & Sewerage	See diag	LP12884	Lots in LP 12884
E-2	As provided for in Section 526 (2)(e) LGA 1958	See diag	Section 526 (2)(e) LGA 1958	Geelong Waterworks & Sewerage Trust
E-3	Sewerage	2.70	This plan	Barwon Region Water Authority

LTO use only

Statement of Compliance/ Exemption Statement

Received ☑

Date 6 / 2 /00

LTO use only

PLAN REGISTERED

TIME 12-30 pm

DATE 11 / 3 /00

Assistant Registrar of Titles

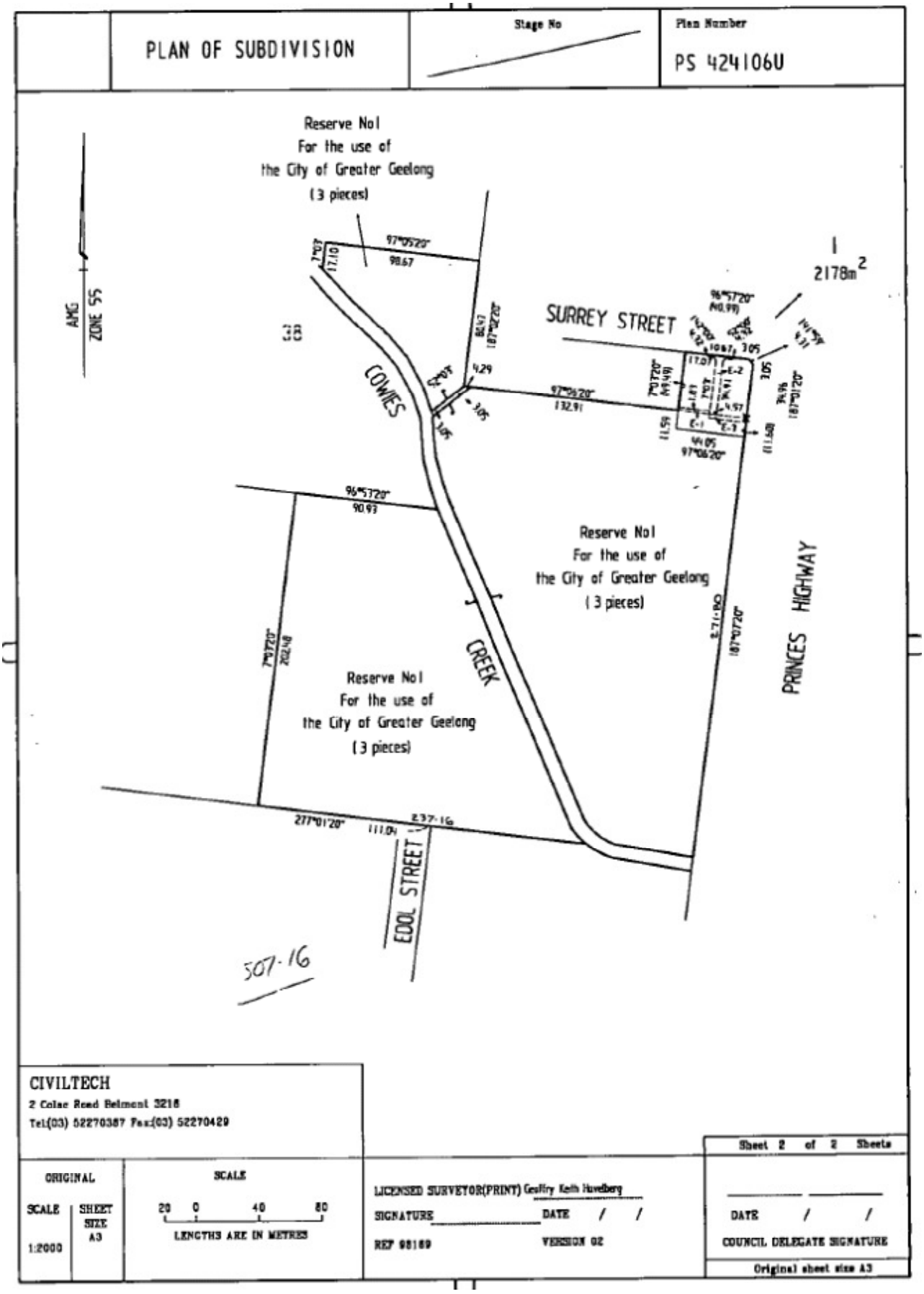
Sheet 1 of 2 Sheets

CIVILTECH
2 Colac Road Belmont 3216
Tel:(03) 52270367 Fax:(03) 52270429

LICENSED SURVEYOR(PRINT) Geoffry Keith Haveberg
SIGNATURE _____ DATE / /
REF 98169 VERSION 02

DATE / /
COUNCIL DELEGATE SIGNATURE

Original sheet size A3


PLAN OF SUBDIVISION
Stage No
Plan Number
PS 424106U
Reserve No1
For the use of
the City of Greater Geelong
(3 pieces)
AMG
ZONE 55
SURREY STREET
COWIES
CREEK
PRINCES HIGHWAY
EDOL STREET
2178m²
Reserve No1
For the use of
the City of Greater Geelong
(3 pieces)
Reserve No1
For the use of
the City of Greater Geelong
(3 pieces)
507-16
CIVILTECH
2 Colac Road Belmont 3216
Tel:(03) 52270387 Fax:(03) 52270429
ORIGINAL
SCALE
1:2000
SHEET SIZE A3
SCALE
20 0 40 80
LENGTHS ARE IN METRES
LICENSED SURVEYOR(PRINT) Geoffry Keith Huwdberg
SIGNATURE
DATE / /
REF 98189
VERSION 02
Sheet 2 of 2 Sheets
DATE / /
COUNCIL DELEGATE SIGNATURE
Original sheet size A3

Appendix 5

Draft Plan of Subdivision

PLAN UNDER SECTION 24A OF THE SUBDIVISION ACT 1988	LV USE ONLY EDITION 1	PS616247F

LOCATION OF LAND

PARISH : Moorpanyal
TOWNSHIP : ——
SECTION : ——
CROWN ALLOTMENT : 1(Part), 2(Part), 39(Part)
CROWN PORTION : ——
TITLE REFERENCE : Vol 10497 Fol 507
LAST PLAN REFERENCE : Reserve No 1 PS424106U
POSTAL ADDRESS : 400 Melbourne Road
(At time of subdivision) North Geelong 3215
MGA94 Co-ordinates
(of approx centre of land in plan) E 267880 N 5779440 ZONE: 55 GDA 94

GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL

VESTING OF ROADS AND/OR RESERVES

IDENTIFIER	COUNCIL/BODY/PERSON
Reserve No 1	City of Greater Geelong

NOTATIONS

DEPTH LIMITATION Does not apply

Survey: This plan is/is not based on survey.
To be completed where applicable.
This survey has been connected to permanent marks no(s)
In Proclaimed Survey Area No. ——

STAGING This ~~is~~/is not a staged subdivision.
Planning Permit No.

NOTATIONS

Purpose
Removal by Greater Geelong City Council of the reservation from the whole of Reserve No 1 on PS424106U & shown as lot 1 & Reserve No 1 (3 pieces) in the diagram
Grounds for Removal
Greater Geelong City Council Planning Permit No

Additional Purpose
To create new lot1 & Reserve No 1 (3 pieces) for the use of the City of Greater Geelong over the land in the plan

This plan is subject to the consent of Statutory Authorities and has been prepared for the purpose of obtaining a Planning Permit to Subdivide the land

The dimensions,area & connection for lot one are approximate & subject to final survey

EASEMENT INFORMATION

LEGEND: A - Appurtenant Easement E - Encumbering Easement R - Encumbering Easement (Road)

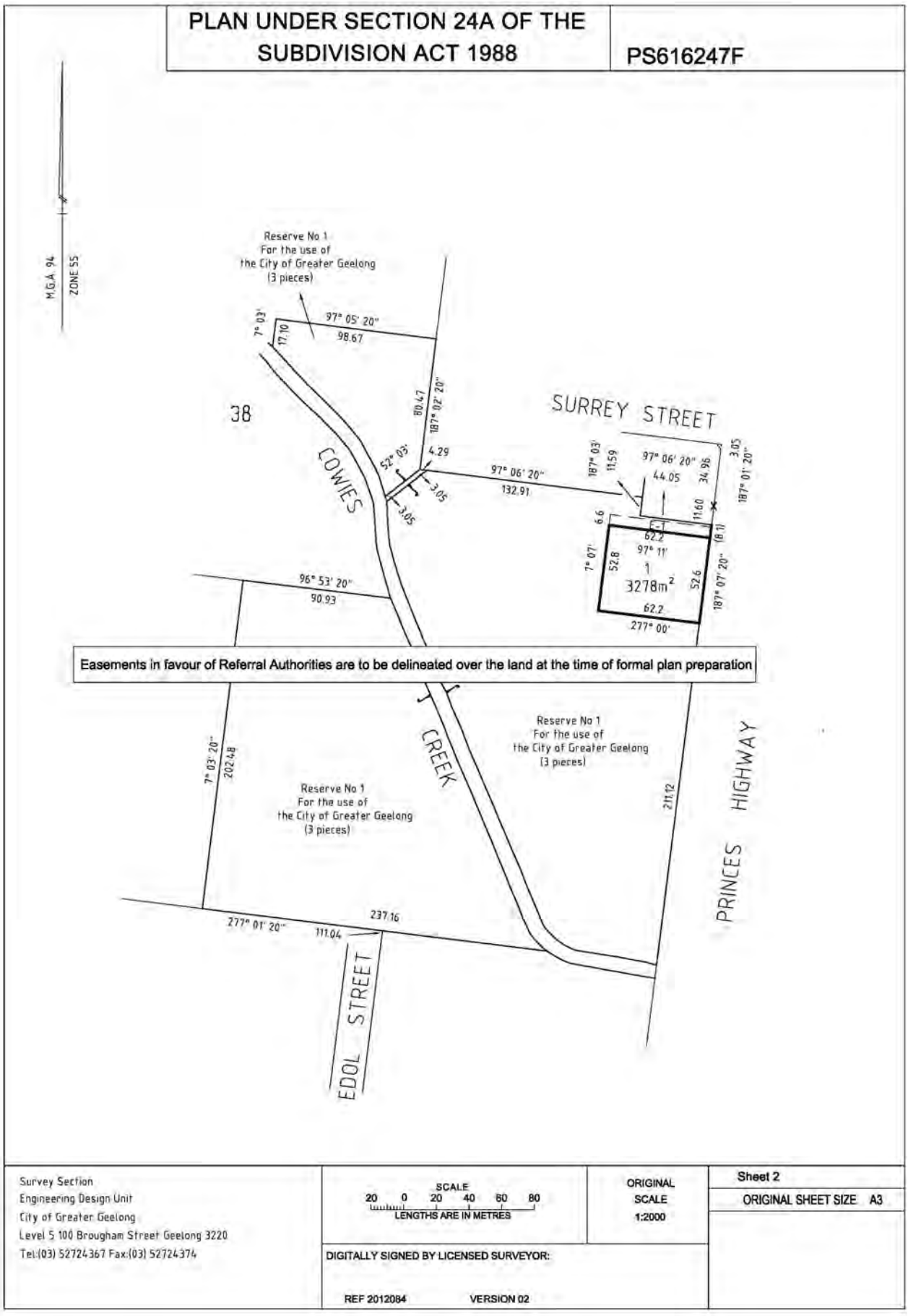
Easement Reference	Purpose	Width (Metres)	Origin	Land Benefited/In Favour Of
	Easements in favour of Referral Authorities are to be appropriated at the time of formal plan preparation The width of the carriageway easement E-1 is to be confirmed at the time of formal survey			
E-1	CARRIAGEWAY	6.6	THIS PLAN	LOT 1

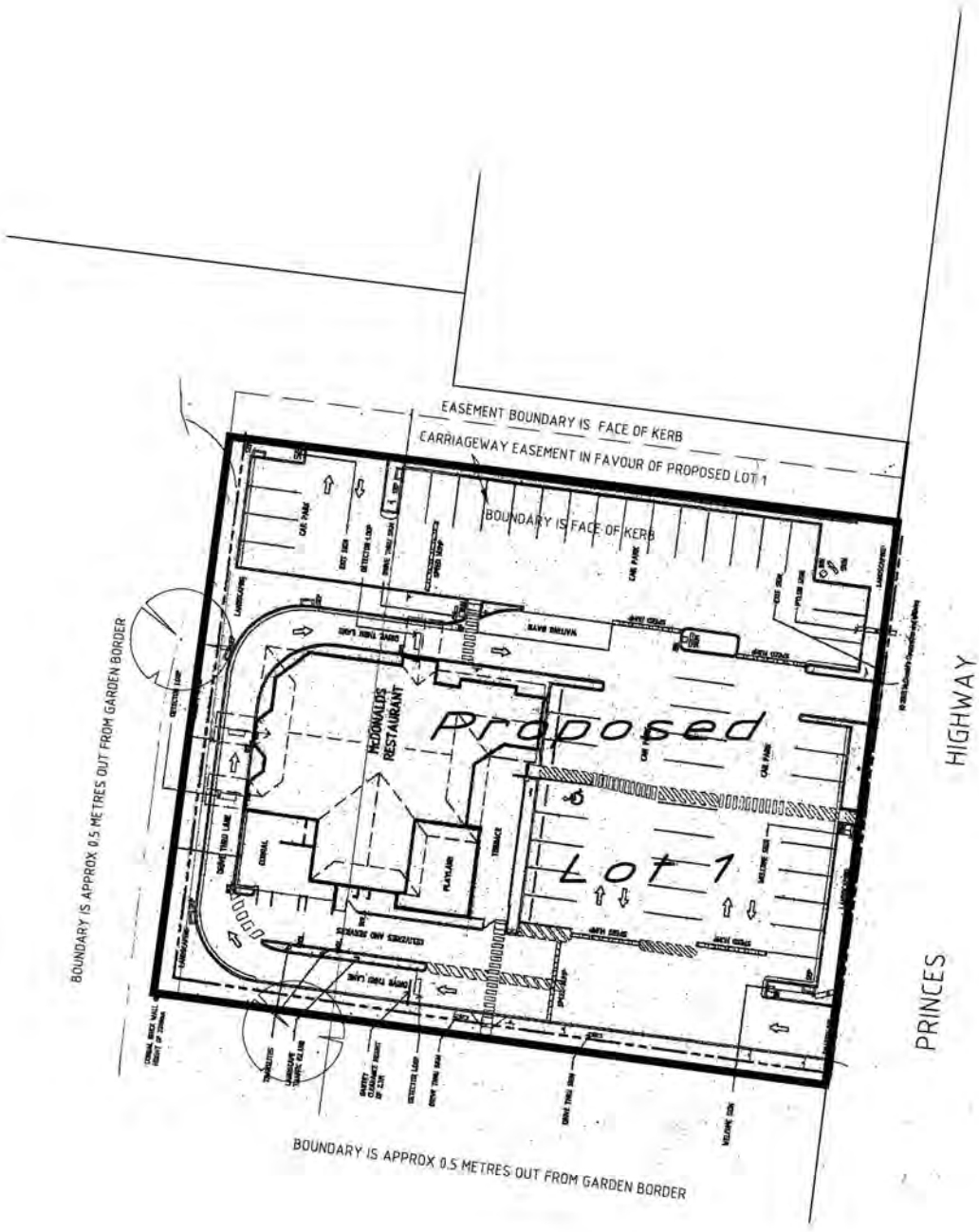
Survey Section
Engineering Design Unit
City of Greater Geelong
Level 5 100 Brougham Street Geelong 3220
Tel:(03) 52724367 Fax:(03) 52724374

DIGITALLY SIGNED BY LICENSED SURVEYOR:

REF 2012084 VERSION 02

Sheet 1 of 2 Sheets
ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE A3


PLAN UNDER SECTION 24A OF THE SUBDIVISION ACT 1988
PS616247F
M.G.A. 94
ZONE 55
Reserve No 1
For the use of
the City of Greater Geelong
(3 pieces)
97° 05' 20"
98.67
7° 03'
17.10
180.47
187° 02' 20"
38
SURREY STREET
COWIES
52° 03'
4.29
97° 06' 20"
132.91
3.05
3.05
187° 03'
11.59
97° 06' 20"
44.05
34.96
3.05
187° 01' 20"
11.60
6.6
62.2
(8.1)
97° 11'
1
3278m²
7° 07'
52.8
52.6
187° 07' 20"
62.2
277° 00'
96° 53' 20"
90.93
Easements in favour of Referral Authorities are to be delineated over the land at the time of formal plan preparation
CREEK
Reserve No 1
For the use of
the City of Greater Geelong
(3 pieces)
7° 03' 20"
202.48
Reserve No 1
For the use of
the City of Greater Geelong
(3 pieces)
211.12
PRINCES HIGHWAY
277° 01' 20"
111.04
237.16
EDOL STREET
Survey Section
Engineering Design Unit
City of Greater Geelong
Level 5 100 Brougham Street Geelong 3220
Tel:(03) 52724367 Fax:(03) 52724374
SCALE
20 0 20 40 60 80
LENGTHS ARE IN METRES
ORIGINAL SCALE
1:2000
Sheet 2
ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE A3
DIGITALLY SIGNED BY LICENSED SURVEYOR:
REF 2012084
VERSION 02



NOT TO SCALE

Survey Section
Engineering Design Unit
City of Greater Geelong
Level 5 100 Brougham Street Geelong 3220
Tel:(03) 52724367 Fax:(03) 52724374

PROPOSED SUBDIVISION
Mc DONALDS
400 MELBOURNE ROAD
NORTH GEELONG 3215

Surveyors Ref 2012084 Version 02

4. SALE OF LAND - 400 MELBOURNE ROAD NORTH GEELONG

Portfolio: **Finance - Cr S Kontelj**
Source **Corporate Services - Property Management**
General Manager: **Jeff Wall**
Index Reference **Subject: Land Sales**

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to recommend that the Council sell the McDonald's restaurant land at 400 Melbourne Road, North Geelong subject to the land being rezoned and subdivided.

Summary

- The Council is the owner of land at 400 Melbourne Road, North Geelong being Deppeler Park (Seagull Paddock). A McDonald's restaurant is located on the Melbourne Road frontage and it is recommended that the land containing the restaurant be subdivided and sold.
- The land is zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone and an application to rezone the land to Business 4 Zone and subdivide a lot of area 3,278m2 has been lodged.
- McDonald's Australia has occupied the site since 1980 and the current ground lease has options until 2048 with the tenant paying a current annual rent of $87,592. The tenant owns and maintains all improvements on the land.
- The land in the Deppeler Park area is identified in a 2009 Qualitative Assessment of former Geelong landfill sites and it is likely that the land proposed to be sold was a former landfill site between the late 1950's and early 1970's.
- The sale of the land currently zoned as a public park is justified as the land has not been used for a public park since 1980 and is not likely to be used for this purpose in future. Deppeler Park is surrounded by industrial and commercial uses and the sale of the land will reduce the park area by 1.8%.
- A financial analysis of the options of either leasing (holding) or selling the property has been carried out which indicates that in present day value selling the property is either comparable to or more advantageous than continuing to lease the property.
- Prior to selling the land Council is required to give public notice of its intention to do so under s189 of the Local Government Act and allow for the hearing of submissions. If submissions are received they will be heard by the Submissions Review Panel and a further report will be put to Council. If no submissions are received the land will be sold subject to approval of the rezoning.

4. SALE OF LAND - 400 MELBOURNE ROAD NORTH GEELONG (CONT'D)

Cr E Kontelj moved, Cr Fisher seconded -

That Council:

1) **Commence the procedures to sell land of 3,278m2 ("the land") located at 400 Melbourne Road, North Geelong on the following terms and conditions:**
   - **The land be sold by public auction;**
   - **The land being subdivided and rezoned prior to sale;**
   - **The price being no less than a certified valuation of the land obtained no more than 6 months prior to the date of sale;**
   - **Other appropriate terms and conditions; and**
2) **Commence the procedures under section 189 of the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act") to sell the land and that public notice of and the right of a person under section 223 of the Act to make a submission in relation to the proposed sale be given in the Geelong Advertiser and Geelong Independent; and**
3) **Appoint the Submissions Review Panel to hear and report to the Council on any submissions in relation to the proposed sale; and**
4) **Sell the land if no submissions are received; and**
5) **Authorise the General Manager – Corporate Services to execute the Contract of Sale; and**
6) **Sign and seal the Transfer of Land.**

** Cr S Kontelj entered the meeting room at 7.32pm*

Carried.

Background

The Council is the owner of land at 400 Melbourne Road, Norlane containing the McDonald's restaurant. The land is part of Reserve No 1 on PS424106U consisting of approximately 7.4ha and being part of Deppeler Park (also known as Seagull Paddock).

Deppeler Park consists of approximately 17.8 ha of open space and waterway extending from Cowie Street in the south to The Boulevard in the north and is adjoined on all sides by industrial and commercial land uses. The waterway is formed by a weir on Cowies Creek and the park contains walking paths, a major sewer pumping station owned by Barwon Water and a McDonald's Restaurant. The walking paths terminate a lineal trail extending some 2.7 km upstream along Cowies Creek to beyond the Ring Road.

The McDonald's facility consists of a single building housing a café, restaurant and drive through plus 49 on site car parking spaces. Separate points of access and egress are provided to and from the Melbourne Road and a single point of access and egress is provided to the internal road to Deppeler Park to the north of the facility (refer to Attachment 1).

McDonald's Australia has occupied the site since 1980 under a ground lease which was renewed in 2003 when the restaurant was reconstructed. The existing lease has options up until 2048 and the current rent is $87,592 per year and McDonald's owns all improvements on the land.
The land is zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone.

4. SALE OF LAND - 400 MELBOURNE ROAD NORTH GEELONG (CONT'D)

Discussion

Subject to the land being rezoned, the Reserve restriction being removed from the title and the land being rezoned to Business 4 Zone with an Environmental Audit Overlay, it is recommended land of 3,278m2 containing the McDonald's restaurant be sold by public auction. An application has been lodged with the Council's Planning Department to subdivide the restaurant land from the balance of the Council's Reserve and to have the land rezoned.

The justification for the recommended sale of the land takes into account the following:

- Deppeler Park has no immediate association with a residential area and will continue in its current role as a landscaped former land fill site with walking trails and wetland.
- There is no identified shortage of open space in the area.
- The size of land owned by Council in the Deppeler Park area will be reduced by approximately 1.8% following the sale of the lot to be created.
- The land to be sold has not been used for public park purposes since the restaurant was constructed in 1980 and is unlikely to revert to a park in the future.

Environmental Implications

The land in the Cowies Creek or Deppeler Park area is identified in a 2009 Qualitative Assessment of former Geelong landfill sites and it is likely that the land proposed to be rezoned and sold was a former landfill site between the late 1950's and early 1970's. The former landfill is provided with a low risk assessment by the 2009 Quantitative Assessment mainly due to its relative isolation from residential land uses and the length of time the landfill site has been closed.

Providing the land remains appropriately capped and any works penetrating the ground are appropriately managed and controlled, any potential adverse environmental effects can be effectively managed.

There is no significant native vegetation present on the land to be sold.

Financial Implications

The sale of the land will result in a reduction of annual rental income being replaced by a single payment of the sale proceeds. The sale proceeds will be accounted for as general revenue.

A financial analysis of the options of either leasing (holding) or selling the property has been carried out which indicates that in present day value selling the property is either comparable to or more advantageous than continuing to lease the property.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

Under the Local Government Best Practice Guideline for the Sale and Exchange of Land, the Council is required to ensure that "prior to being offered for sale, property should be appropriately zoned. This will ensure that the ultimate use of the land is determined by that zone and the highest possible sale price is achieved."

Under the same Guideline land is required to be sold by a public process and the recommended sale by public auction meets this requirement.

4. SALE OF LAND - 400 MELBOURNE ROAD NORTH GEELONG (CONT'D)

Section 189 of the Local Government Act ("LG Act") requires that Council obtain a certified valuation dated not more than six months prior to the sale of the land being the date of the contract of sale. Prior to sale a certified valuation of the land will be obtained and the final sale price will not be less than the Council's valuation.

The Council is also required to give public notice of its intention to sell the land and consider any submissions received. If any submissions are received they will be heard by the Submissions Review Panel followed by a report to Council. If no submissions are received the land will be sold by public auction.

Under the lease between the Council and McDonald's Australia the land may be sold by public auction. If the land is sold by any other means then McDonald's Australia has the right to purchase the land at a price not greater than and on terms no less favourable than those offered by another purchaser.

The Property Strategy Advisory Committee has considered this report.

Alignment to City Plan

The recommendation supports the action priority relating to Responsible and Sustainable Financial Management where the sale of assets no longer required will support the identified progress indicators.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officers or contractors involved in the preparation of this report have a direct or indirect interest in matters to which this report relates.

Risk Assessment

The risks associated with the subdivision and sale of this land are able to be managed following normal management procedures and processes.

Social Considerations

There are no social implications associated with the recommendations of this report.

Human Rights Charter

The recommendations of this report will have no effect on the human rights of individuals.

Consultation and Communication

Sport and Recreation does not consider that the site has any future recreation value.

Attachment 1

SALE OF LAND - 400 MELBOURNE ROAD NORTH GEELONG

Aerial View of the Land Proposed to be Sold



5. WOMEN IN COMMUNITY LIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Portfolio:	**Women in Community Life – Cr Farrell (Interim)**
Source	**Community Services**
General Manager:	**Jenny McMahon**
Index Reference	**Subject: Advisory Committees / Women in Community Life Advisory Committee**

Purpose

To seek Council approval to appoint the recommended applicants a position on the Women in Community Life Advisory Committee.

Summary

- In July 2013 Council approved the establishment of the Women in Community Life Advisory Committee. Applications were sought through a publically advertised process.
- 15 expressions of interest were received for a position on the Women in Community Life Advisory Committee.
- The Advisory Committee membership will comprise representation from organisations and individuals, with the Portfolio holder as chairperson, supported by Cr Jan Farrell as Council's nominated representative.
- Advisory Committee members are expected to be active and to report, share, and promote actions and deliberations from and to the organisations which they are connected to.

Cr Farrell moved, Cr Irvine seconded -

That Council appoints the following applicants to the Women in Community Life Advisory Committee:

1)	**Amanda Hyland**	**- Individual applicant (Geelong West)**
2)	**Antonia Halloran-Lavelle**	**- Organisation representative, Zena Women's Services**
3)	**Christine Couzens**	**- Organisation representative, Geelong Trades Hall**
4)	**Davina Montgomery**	**- Individual applicant (Leopold)**
5)	**Dianne Pont**	**- Individual applicant (Norlane)**
6)	**Hannah Teesdale**	**- Individual applicant (Lara)**
7)	**Helen Curmi**	**- Individual applicant (Geelong)**
8)	**Jennifer Wills**	**- Individual applicant (Portarlington)**
9)	**Justine Devonport**	**- Organisation representative, YWCA Victoria**
10)	**Priscilla Pescott**	**- Individual applicant (Belmont)**
11)	**Prof. Shurlee Swain**	**- Individual applicant (Geelong)**
12)	**Chelsea Hatherall**	**- Individual applicant (Geelong West)**

Carried.

5. WOMEN IN COMMUNITY LIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CONT'D)

Background

In July 2013 Council approved the establishment of the Women in Community Life Advisory Committee.

The Women in Community Life Advisory Committee is being established to provide advice to Council on matters relating to women's participation, representation and leadership in community life.

Specifically, the Committee has been established to:

- Identify barriers to women's participation in the civil, civic and political life of the Geelong Community.
- Increase opportunities and access for women to participate in leadership and decision making committees and processes.
- Increase active participation of women in community groups and networks.
- Be inclusive, representative and encouraging of women of all demographics.
- Invite comment and feedback from individuals, community groups and organisations on strategies that address local based priorities for increased women's participation.
- Provide advice on current or emerging gaps in gender equity in women's participation, representation and leadership.
- Promote open and transparent policies, processes and practices, and highlight the right of all persons to take part in public life, particularly women.
- Build on existing links between agencies and community groups.

The Advisory Committee membership will comprise representation from organisations and individuals, with the Portfolio holder as chairperson, supported by Cr Jan Farrell as Council's nominated representative, with support from a Council officer.

Advisory Committee members are expected to be active and to report, share, and promote actions and deliberations from and to the organisations which they are connected to.

Discussion

Following a municipal wide recruitment process during July and August 2013, Council received 15 applications. The Committee Terms of Reference proposes a membership of 8-10 people.

All applications were assessed against key selection criteria which were clearly identified in the Applicant Information Pack. This pack was distributed to all applicants.

The applicants recommended for appointment have met all of the selection criteria and have been able to demonstrate their capacity to be active members, have strong community networks and a passion for furthering equality and participation of women in civic and community life.

The recommended applicants represent a range of ages, experiences and backgrounds, ensuring a diversity in the make up of the Committee.

5. WOMEN IN COMMUNITY LIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CONT'D)

While the Terms of Reference nominates 10 members as the maximum number, it is recommended that 12 of the applicants be appointed. This will ensure a good number of participants are involved assuming some members may be unable to attend and that the committee is representative of the general community as possible. There is representation from across the City (geographically), age range and experience.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications linked to this report. All activities undertaken will be within current budget allocations.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The appointments are made in accordance with the criteria set out in the Committee Terms of Reference adopted by Council in July 2013.

Alignment to City Plan

The Advisory Committee aligns with City Plan through:

- Community Wellbeing

The Committee will advise Council on barriers to women's participation, emerging women's issues, aspirations and initiatives so as to further gender equity in the Geelong community.

- How we do business

The Committee will move between being proactive and responsive in matters, depending on the matter being raised.

Feedback on the development of policies and planning that impact on the women and community life through consultative processes will be documented in Consult and reported against in Corvu.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No Council officer involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest in the matter to which the report relates.

Risk Assessment

Not applicable.

Social Considerations

The Advisory Committee will provide an opportunity for Council to show active support in increasing participation of women in community and civic life.

5. WOMEN IN COMMUNITY LIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CONT'D)

Human Rights Charter

The rights listed in the Human Rights Charter promote the principles of freedom, respect, equality and dignity. These principles are incorporated in the Victorian Local Government Women's Charter.

Consultation and Communication

The Community Services Division is responsible for all communication relating to this report.

6. DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2013-2017 DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES POLICY 2013-2017

Portfolio:	**Community Development – Cr Fisher**
Source	**Community Services / Health & Local Laws**
General Manager:	**Jenny McMahon**
Index Reference	**Subject: Domestic Animal Management Plan**

Purpose

To inform Council of the results of the public submissions received in response to the Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan and Proposed Dogs in Public Places Policy, and to seek endorsement for the adoption of the Plan and gazetting of the Policy.

Summary

- An extensive community feedback and survey process was undertaken in June 2012 to inform the development of the new Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAM Plan) 2013-2017. 568 responses were received.
- On the 23 April 2013 Council resolved to place the Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013-2017 and the Proposed Dogs in Public Places Policy (DPPP) for community consultation for a period of four weeks.
- 40 submissions from individuals and organisations were received during this period.
- The majority of submissions were supportive of the proposed actions of the plan, particularly the mandatory desexing of cats. However many raised concerns regarding the potential costs to individuals for the desexing of animals, a perceived lack of enforcement for existing dog control orders, especially relating to “off-leash” areas and dog litter. A summary of the submissions is at Appendix 1.
- A high profile issue from an animal welfare environmental and neighbourhood amenity perspective is proposed to require mandatory desexing for all new cat registrations, and desexing of all current (registered) cats within the four year period of the plan. Options to provide low-cost desexing will be explored and reported to Council.
- All public open space areas shall be designated as “on-leash/controlled areas” (public open space areas include roads, footpaths, beaches, reserves, parks, playgrounds and other Council lands and buildings), unless otherwise designated by signage.
- The revised DAM plan and DPPP (see Appendix 2 and 3) provides for improved risk management which will require additional resources or a reallocation of resources if it is to deliver the level of compliance expected by the community, particularly in regards to “off-leash” areas. The community has strongly indicated that a visible enforcement presence is critical to the success of the plan.
- The importance of community partnerships was also identified, and during the life of the plan Council will seek assistance from veterinarian associations and clinics, local trainers and behaviourists and dog/cat clubs in the design and delivery of actions under the plan.

6. DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2013-2017 DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES POLICY 2013-2017 (CONT'D)

Cr Fisher moved, Cr Ansett seconded -

That Council:

1) **adopt the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013-2017 and the Dogs in Public Places Policy 2013-2017, with any additional expenditure to be referred to future budgets;**

2) **in accordance with S.10A of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* require all newly registered cats to be desexed, and for all existing (registered) cats to be desexed within the four year life of the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013-2017.**

Carried.

Background

In accordance with Section 68A of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, every Council must prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAM Plan), to promote animal welfare, responsible ownership of dogs and cats and to protect the environment. This plan must be updated every four years.

In addition, a revised Dogs in Public Places Policy (DPPP) was developed, which provides detailed information regarding the dog orders in the City of Greater Geelong. This is particularly relevant to the extensive "Off-leash – supervised" areas where owners are expected to maintain effective voice control over their dog.

Council has consulted extensively with the community, within Council, with experts and land managers.

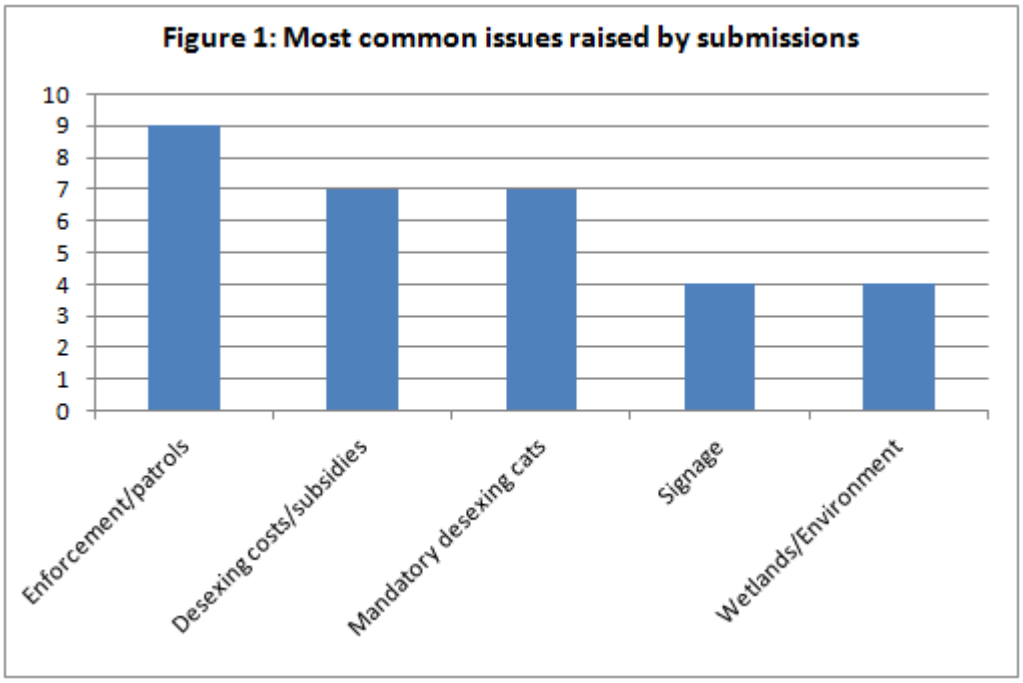
Discussion

The following details the results of the public submissions and explores further the key issues.

1. Results of public submissions

Forty submissions were received from individuals and organisations. The majority of submissions were supportive of the proposed actions of the plan, particularly the mandatory desexing of cats. However many raised concerns about the potential costs to individuals for the desexing of animals, a perceived lack of enforcement for existing dog control orders, especially relating to "off-leash" areas, and dog litter. A summary of the most commonly raised issues is presented in Figure 1, and a summary listing of all submissions is at Appendix 1.

6. DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2013-2017 DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES POLICY 2013-2017 (CONT'D)



Definitions:

Enforcement/patrols – the need for an increased visible presence of Council Officers to enforce the off-leash provisions and increase compliance with dog litter removal.

Desexing costs/subsidies – concerns regarding the costs to individuals for desexing, and support for a subsidy or discount for those on low-incomes.

Mandatory desexing cats – support for the mandatory desexing of cats.

Signage– the need to ensure that locations subject to dog control orders are clearly signed, including the meaning of "off-leash – supervised", where dogs are required to be under effective voice control at all times, and restrained when approaching other dogs or people.

Wetlands/Environment – concerns regarding the environmental impact of off-leash dogs in environmentally sensitive areas. The importance of appropriate signage and enforcement by Council Officers were highlighted as measures to reduce these concerns.

2. Ensuring the effectiveness of the Dogs in Public Places Policy.

An enhanced compliance strategy will be developed for the implementation of the DPPP. Times and frequencies of patrols to identify dogs at large, prevent dog attacks and ensure compliance with the Dog Control Orders will be extended. Enforcement activities of the animal management team will be publicised through CoGG's Facebook page and CoGG publications to increase their visibility to the community.

Emerging opportunities exist for the development of mobile applications to enable residents to obtain quick and accurate information relating to dog orders and other animal management issues. These will be explored further as part of future budget processes.

6. DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2013-2017 DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES POLICY 2013-2017 (CONT'D)

By adopting the revised DPPP, amendments will be required to existing signage/stencils and new signage will be required at specific locations.

3. Mandatory Desexing of Cats

The DAM Plan introduces the mandatory desexing of all new cat registrations, and the desexing of all registered cats over the four year period of the plan. This is to address the over-population of cats in the community, and high rates of impoundments. The feasibility of offering a low-cost/subsidised desexing program to assist with compliance with mandatory desexing will be investigated. Certain classes of dogs and cats are exempt from desexing requirements, including those registered with applicable organisations such as registered breeders or where veterinary advice exists that the health of the animal may be compromised by the procedure.

4. Partnerships

It was also recognised that the development of partnerships with local veterinary clinics, animals trainers/behaviourists and community groups has the potential to significantly "value-add" to Council's animal management regime, particularly in regards to the promotion of responsible pet ownership.

5. Bark control collars

CoGG has previously purchased a number of electronic bark control collars. Bark Count Collars will improve the investigation of dog barking complaints by providing reliable quantitative data to officers of the frequency and nature of barking in order to establish whether a nuisance exists.

6. Dog Park Scoping Study

Dedicated and fenced dog parks are becoming increasingly common in local government areas of Australia. They can range from simple fenced areas to facilities with elaborate exercise and enrichment equipment and furniture for owners. This scoping study will examine the factors which should be considered in the placement and operation of such parks,and identify areas in CoGG which may be suitable for their development.

7. Dog Patrols on Non-CoGG Managed Land

Council has in place dog control orders with two agencies Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) and Barwon Coast Committee of Management (BCCM), and is currently liaising with the Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management (BBFCM) on developing dog control orders that ensure safety and meet community expectations.

Council is continuing to work with the BBFCM and the BCCM to develop dog control orders that are in harmony with the CoGG orders outlined in the DPPP.

Council currently offers dog patrols and enforcement to CCMA and BCCM on a "user pays" system. The levels and frequency of patrols has been minimal and would appear to not meet the community's expectations of adequate coverage in this regard. There is scope in this area for Council to take a proactive prevention-based approach by increasing animal patrols in partnership with the agencies. This may include authorising officers from those agencies to undertake certain activities and duties to assist our officers with investigations.

6. DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2013-2017 DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES POLICY 2013-2017 (CONT'D)

Environmental Implications

Environmental considerations have been canvassed during the development of this plan. The risk of off-leash dogs accessing wetlands and waterways and interfering with wildlife was noted in a small number of submissions. These included instances where dogs had been witnessed accessing sensitive habitats and harassing water birds, while not under the effective supervision of their owners.

Under the DPPP, dogs are not permitted to enter waterways or wetlands, or to approach wildlife. Signage in these areas will clearly state these requirements. The proposed enhanced compliance strategy, involving weekend and after-hours patrols will enforce these provisions. Information from the community may assist Animal Control Officers to target "hot spots" of non-compliance.

Favourable outcomes should be achieved with the promotion that any CoGG litter bin being suitable for the disposal of dog litter when contained within a package or bag.

Financial Implications

The majority of actions arising from the DAM Plan and DPPP will be based on existing internal processes and funding. Community consultation identified several areas which may require additional expenditure, specifically the need for an increased compliance presence from Council Officers in the community, and signage which reflect the dog control orders. With the significant expansion of areas declared under dog control orders, there will be the need for the review of existing signage, the installation of additional signage and the identification of an appropriate asset manager. Community understanding of the dog control orders will also be enhanced through the development of a smartphone application, which will detail the orders and conditions for specific locations, and will add business functionality for registration renewals and the reporting of dog incidents.

The revised DAM plan and DPPP (see Appendix 2 and 3) provides for improved risk management which will require additional resources or a reallocation of resources if it is to deliver the level of compliance expected by the community, particularly in regards to "off-leash" areas.

6. DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2013-2017 DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES POLICY 2013-2017 (CONT'D)

Any additional cost implications will be factored into future budgets. An indicative listing of current and proposed future operational activities and expenditure is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Indicative Activities and Expenditure - DAMP 2013-2017						
Current Funded Program Activities	Funding type	Year 1 (2013/14)	Year 2 (2014/15)	Year 3 (2015/16)	Year 4 (2016/17)	Totals (2013-17)
Signage	Discretionary	40,000				40,000
Information materials	Discretionary	23,000				23,000
Activities/Funding Arising from Proposed DAMP 2013-2017						
Additional patrols (1 EFT & Vehicle)	Recurrent		90,000	92,700	95,481	278,181
Animal management app	Discretionary		25,000	2,000	2,000	29,000
Scoping study for dog parks	Discretionary		15,000			15,000
Online impoundment billboard	Discretionary		10,000	5,000	5,000	20,000
Additional signage for dog control orders	Capital		50,000	10,000	10,000	70,000
Asset management (signage upkeep)	Capital		5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
						427,181

Specific reports and budgets will be developed for Council as part of the annual and long-term budgeting process for activities covered in the ensuing years of this plan.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

Council is required to have a *Domestic Animal Management Plan* under the *Domestic Animal Act 1994*. Council's are responsible for the implementation of actions from the plan, and for enacting the requirements of the Act to protect the safety of the community and maintaining the welfare of cats and dogs.

Alignment to City Plan

While many of the actions from this plan align across all four of Council's strategic directions, it most closely aligns with the strategic priority of Community Wellbeing:

- Healthy lifestyles – encouraging recreation in public open space, facilitating and enjoying the benefits of companion animals through responsible pet ownership;
- Connected, creative and strong communities – increased social mixing and interaction by the provision of clear and fair local laws and orders for public open space; and
- Healthy environments – provision of safe, hazard and nuisance free environments.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No Officer involved in the production of this report and associated plans and policies have a Direct or Indirect Interest in these matters.

6. DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2013-2017 DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES POLICY 2013-2017 (CONT'D)

Risk Assessment

Extensive community consultation has been undertaken to ensure that, on balance, requirements contained within the plan and policy are consistent with community views.

Council may be subject to reputational risk if the requirements of the Dogs in Public Places Policy is not seen by the community as being effectively enforced.

The proposed changes to the DPPP represent a responsible approach by Council in effectively managing dogs in public places as so to minimise risk exposure.

Social Considerations

The majority of survey respondents and public submissions were supportive of the plan and policy. The promotion and management of responsible pet ownership in the community has tangible social benefits, including increased social mixing, increased outdoor exercise and psychological wellbeing.

Human Rights Charter

The DAM Plan and DPPP have been considered in light of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities, and are consistent with these rights and principles.

Consultation and Communication

The plan and policy have received 568 survey responses from the community, and 40 written submissions. Copies of the final plan will be printed and made available to the community. The final plan will also be placed on Council's website. Information resources from the plan and in support of the policy will be printed and made available through Customer Service Centres, community stakeholders and the website. Key aspects of the plan will be promoted in media and in information forwarded to all registered pet owners.

The education and enforcement activities which stem from the plan and the policy will be promoted using the CoGG social media resources and through regular communication channels such as CityNews.

Date Received	Theme	Specifics	CoGG Comments
10/05/2013	Add off-leash area	Kevin Kirby Reserve should be off-leash	The DDDP has provision to consider additional "off-leash - Supervised" areas in future
11/05/2013	Desexing registration	Desexing too expensive, should be subsidised, follow up chipped pups from petshops and breeders for registrations, should be more expensive registration for entire pets	Chipped animals sold by Domestic Animal Businesses are followed up for registration, registration fees are higher for entire animals, Council will examine ways of providing discounted desexing schemes
29/04/2013	On-leash signage	Signage near child play areas, example being Sparrow Park, West Geelong	All dog-related signage will be reviewed, off-leash areas near playgrounds will have appropriate signage
26/04/2013	Desexing, registration	Supports mandatory desexing of dogs, but with exemption for desexing for pedigree animals and animals for Dogs Victoria registered breeders, strongly support dog activity parks	Animals of Dogs Victoria certified breeders are exempt from desexing requirements, dogs will not have mandatory desexing, feasability of dog activity parks will be examined
25/04/2013	Off-leash areas - concern	Worried that her children won't be able to access Tim Hill Reserve in Wandana Heights due to offleash dogs, children have been chased before, restrict access times	Dogs off-leash are required to be "supervised" and under voice control of their owners. Council recognised that education and enforcement of these rules will be critical to their success
29/04/2013	Desexing	Concerned that compulsory desexing will lead to increased dumping of kittens. Suggests having set days at GAWS to drop off kittens for free	Compulsory desexing of cats may increase "dumping" in the short term, however the mandatory desexing of all cats will ensure a reduction in unwanted litters in future. Animals can be surrendered to the pound at no cost
28/04/2013	Desexing	Desexing should not be mandatory, should be case-specific, loss of democratic rights, abuse of power	Mandatory desexing will apply to cats only, which is in response to the substantial overpopulation of unwanted cats. Council's jurisdication in domestic animal management is determed by legislation enacted by the State Government of Victoria
24/04/2013	On-leash, faeces, cats, desexing	On-leash always, owners to carry clean up bags, dislikes wandering cats, supports mandatory desexing	The implementation of the DPPP will be accompanied by an enhanced compliance strategy, including increased frequency of patrols 7 days a week
17/05/2013	Hooded plover	Suggests altering Category 5 signage to reflect the actual nesting period of the HP, and would like increased enforcement at beginning of nesting period to reinforce signage	Flip-over signs in place for hooded plover nesting period, task to manage signs to be assigned to specific staff members
08/05/2013	On-leash	All public places should be on-leash, compliance by community is poor, wants more enforcement	All public areas are designated "on-leash" unless otherwise specified. The implementation of the DPPP will be accompanied by an enhanced compliance strategy, including increased frequency of patrols 7 days a week
16/05/2013	Permits for additional animals	Permits too expensive	The Local Laws which determine the permit fees will be reviewed in 2015.

Date Received	Theme	Specifics	CoGG Comments
16/05/2013	Dog attacks, responsible ownership, on-leash	Likes focus on dog attacks, stresses responsible ownership, more signage in "built-up" areas for on-leash requirements	Responsible pet ownership is a major focus of the DAMP, and education and enforcement will be critical to the success of the DPPP. Signage will be reviewed and updated during the implementation of the DAMP and DPPP, including the use of stencils in public places. All dogs must be on leash unless in a designated off-leash area.
13/05/2013	Off-leash areas - concern	Mt Duneed Rec Reserve has horseriding activities. Suggests requiring on-lead when horses present	Dogs not permitted off-lead during sporting or club events, including training. Signage will be reviewed in this area to ensure the message is clear
26/03/2013	On-leash	IHCA supports "on-leash" for full length of walking trail (Indented Head)	Walking trail will be on-lead at all times
06/06/2013	RDO, training	Public education highest priority, offers partnership with COGG for delivery of seminars, requests support for ongoing dog training sessions at Geelong Showgrounds. They have their own local accreddited trainers	Council recognises the importance of community partnership in the delivery of domestic animal management services. The development of relationships with groups like the BDAG is an action in the DAMP
17/05/2013	Desexing, privacy	Desexing should not be mandatory, should be ok to breed from own dogs, supports 5 metre buffer from path but bikes startle dogs and term adjoining is confusing, dogs need water access, microchipping and the national registry is an invasion of privacy and way of tracking people	Dogs are able to access the water at two sites (North of Queens Park Bridge on eastern side and south of carpark area off Hyland Street. Dogs are also able to access water at coastal sites that are "Off-leash - Supervised". Mandatory desexing will not apply to dogs. Breeders who are not members of Accredited Organisations may have two fertile dogs without qualifying as a Domestic Animal Business. The 5 metre buffer will be removed due to difficulties in its interpretation, and dogs will be required to be restrained when in close proximity to another animal or person. Microchipping registries should be updated when an animal moves to another premises or is rehomed. They are not used to track the movements or activities of dog owners
22/05/2013	On-leash - concerns	80% of dog walkers ignore on-leash requirements, dogs interfere with runners, walkers and local wildlife. Supports off-leash use of sports ovals, giving more room for dogs outside of parklands	Dogs off-leash are required to be "supervised" and under voice control of their owners. Council recognised that education and enforcement of these rules will be critical to their success. Under the DPPP, dogs are not permitted to interfere with wildlife.

Date Received	Theme	Specifics	CoGG Comments
22/05/2013	On-leash support, needs enforcement	On-lease needs enforcement, dogs shouldn't be allowed in wetlands, supports cat and dog desexing but phase in to avoid trauma for older dogs or excessive costs	Dogs off-leash are required to be "supervised" and under voice control of their owners. Council recognised that education and enforcement of these rules will be critical to their success. Under the DPPP, dogs are not permitted to interfere with wildlife or enter wetland areas. Mandatory desexing will not apply to dogs, but will be phased in for cats over four years. Exemptions will apply in the instance that a Veterinarian certifies that the desexing operation will be detrimental to the health of the animal.
16/05/2013	Desexing, rehousing	Doesn't support mandatory desexing, rural and farming areas should be exempt from desexing requirements, supports cat curfew, male desexing should be encouraged, animals available at shelter should be subsidised to increase rehoming, concerns regarding genetic diversity of domestic cats	Mandatory desexing will apply to cats only, which is in response to the substantial overpopulation of unwanted cats. The DAMP will investigate free registrations for animals rehomed from the shelter. The introduction of mandatory desexing for cats in a municipality is unlikely to impact on the genetic diversity of domestic cats in Victoria
22/05/2013	Desexing, off-leash concerns	Supports desexing of all cats, subsidise desexing for low income earners and entire dogs, increase enforcement of cat curfew, increase enforcement of dogs in public, dogs should be kept out of wetlands and waterways except bay/Surfcoast	The DAMP includes mandatory desexing of cats, scoping the provision of low-cost desexing, increased compliance with the Cat Curfew Order, and an enhanced compliance strategy to ensure compliance with the DPPP. Dogs are not permitted to enter water habitats that contain wildlife
22/05/2013	Desexing, off-leash concerns	As per previous submission	

Date Received	Theme	Specifics	CoGG Comments
22/05/2013	Evidence base, more enforcement	Statistics overstate the problem with dog attacks and are selective, breed-specific legislation doesn't work, mandatory desexing too expensive and will reduce gene pool, need more enforcement officers paid through registration revenue, the plan doesn't mention the health and lifestyle benefits of pet ownership	The statistics presented on dog attacks in the DAMP are based on Council service reporting and data from the Victorian Admitted Events Database (VAED). The VAED records details of all hospital admissions in Victoria in accordance with the International Classification of Diseases - Version 10 (ICD-10) which is the international standard for the definition and recording of health events. The population-specific rates of dog bite admissions were calculated by the Victorian Injury Surveillance Unit(VISU) of the Monash Injury Research Institute (MIRI). The declaration of breed-specific legislation is outside of Council's jurisdication, and we continue to advocate for legislation which will increase our ability to protect community safety. There is an absence of peer-reviewed literature in regards to the cost/benefits afforded by mandatory desexing programs. Anecdotal information suggests that subsidised desexing schemes may have the greatest impact on desexing rates. The DAMP will make the desexing of all cats compulsory over a four-year period and will also seek to implement low cost desexing to facilitate compliance and community acceptance of this order
22/05/2013	Off-leash concerns, needs enforcement, site specific advice	Supports mandatory desexing of cats, incentives for dog desexing, mandatory desexing, chipping and rego of animals from GAWS, other shelters and pet shops, increase patrols, warnings and fines to increase compliance, particularly in late afternoon/evenings and weekends, default dogs on leash unless signage indicates otherwise should be more prominent, dogs should be prohibited from inland waterways and wetlands, including riparian zones, offence to worry wildlife or cause environmental damage , all off leash areas need to be clearly signposted, show on maps that no shading = on leash all times. Edwards Point (Parks Vic) dogs are regularly along walking tracks on lead, supports prohibition from beaches/marshes, Red Gum Island has regular off-leash incursions by dogs, also dogs access Barwon River and erode riverbank and deter native species, lots of dog litter on Red Gum Island	Council cannot require the compulsory desexing of animals at the time of purchase from private suppliers or through petshops, animals obtained from GAWs and other shelters are routinely desexed, chipped and vaccinated. Council will implement an enhanced compliance program to increase patrols out of regular hours and over weekend periods to ensure compliance with the DPPP, dogs are prohibited from entering wetlands, environmentally sensitive areas and must not interfere with wildlife

Date Received	Theme	Specifics	CoGG Comments
10/06/2013	Regulation of registration, breeding	Purchase of animal should include registration, fines for unregistered should be increased, mandatory dog obedience school, desexing voluntary and subsidised, anyone breeding non-pedigree dogs should be registered for token fee	Council will explore the expansion of external registration agents, the fines for unregistered animals are set by the State Government but Council supports the use of penalties for compliance, there is no legal requirement to attend dog obedience school but Council acknowledges that this is an important part of reponsible dog ownership, desexing of dogs remains voluntary and Council will examine ways to offer low-cost desexing options, Council agree that the threshold for breeding operations to qualify as Domestic Animal Business is set too high and will lobby for this to be addressed through legislative reform
04/05/2013	Compulsory desexing - concern	Mandatory desexing will force purchase of purebred animals which is expensive, illegal dealers will florish, will hamper registration rates, increase dumping, overpopulation should be dealt with by promoting rescue schemes	Rehoming and rescue schemes will be actively promoted through the DAMP, mandatory desexing for cats is in response to overpopulation and is a long-term strategy to reduce impoundments and unwanted litters
10/06/2013	Potential partnerships	Reprint Walk Time with new maps and distribute through vet clinics, patient data indicates that more owned cats are unregistered than COGG figures, registration and roadshows can be promoted through clinics, Tag Time newsletter could include contributed article from local vet clinic, for brochures and material involving barking dogs and RPO involve local veterinary and animal behavioural input, provide dog poo bags and bins near vet clinics, encourage dog attack-related vet reports to be sent to COGG via central reporting address, education campaign of Pet Pep Program to primary schools, vets won't willingly report suspected restricted breed dogs, can assist in DNA testing and measurements against the standards, will refer any dogs with dubious behaviour to appropriate training providers, provide info material for vets to give clients on compulsory desexing, promote desexing schemes like National Desexing Network month in July	Agreed, and the 2013-2017 DAMP recognises the critical importance of partnerships with groups such as vet clinics and the Australian Veterninary Association in the management of domestic animals in CoGG
24/05/2013	Dogs in public places	Amend map past 42W which is managed by Barwon Water, urgently amend General Local Law for dog handlers to pick up dog litter on areas controlled by other land managers, add dates 18 Dec to 31 Jan to category 3 definition, increase community education and public enforcement through more local laws staff	Local Laws will be reviewed in 2015, Council intends to increase it's compliance patrolling out of hours and 7 days a week which will require additional staff, would be beneficial for Barwon staff to assist with information collection of local laws breaches to assist CoGG authorised officers in enforcement
17/05/2013	Dogs in public places	On-leash always unless in fenced, contained park, regulations should be more rigorously enforced	Off-leash "supervised" areas require dogs to be under effective voice control of their owners. Compliance with this requirement will be enforced. Fenced "dog parks" will be scoped in the DAMP and the findings reported to Council

Date Received	Theme	Specifics	CoGG Comments
18/05/2013	Hooded plover	Supports redefinition of purple category as per Birdlife Australia	Flipover signs in place for hooded plover nesting period, task to manage signs to be assigned to specific staff members
21/05/2013	Pound and euthanasia	Needs vision statement (all unwanted animals rehomed wherever possible), assist owners to rehome pets rather than surrender them, all impounds to be photographed and put on website, vets to reunite animals, highly specific procedural demands for pound.	The DAMP contains a vision statement which is consistent with Council's strategic directions, reclaimation and rehousing are strongly promoted, an online "bulletin board" of impounded animals will be developed in conjunction with Council's pound provider, Vets are required to surrender found animals to Council, the DAMP will investigate a scheme by which pets can be returned to owners without charge in the first instance
21/05/2013	Shared tracks and cyclists	Wants signs changed on shared tracks to indicate cyclists should slow down and ring bell on approach, particularly in off-leash areas	Signage on shared tracks will be considered during the implementation of the DAMP. It is noted that there are potential areas of "conflict" involving users of shared paths
22/05/2013	Pound and euthanasia	As per previous submission	
22/05/2013	Off leash	Angry that her highly trained dogs can't be exercised off leash.	There are a large number of areas where dogs can be exercised off-leash
22/05/2013	Many suggestions	Amend General Local Law to include dog litter provision for Crown land, Begola Wetlands in Ocean Grove should be on-leash for conservation, no reference to Puppy Farms, page 25 should support decrease of impounded animals, supports mandatory desexing of pets at time of registration, free rego for kittens and puppies will not instill sense of responsible pet ownership, electronic collars can harm the animal, fireworks times should be restricted, off leash zones should ideally be fenced, desex animals before returning to owner, concerned about after hours response to roaming dogs, stamp out illegal DABs and puppy farms, cap number of DABs, should have CALD strategy.	Local Laws will be reviewed in 2015, Begola wetlands are on-leash at all times, DABs are addressed in the DAMP, DAMP actions aimed at decreasing impound rates, electronic collars are not used by CoGG, fireworks are addressed in the DAMP, fenced "dog parks" will be investigated, Council does not have legal powers to desex animals before return to owner, Council will be increasing the times and days of patrolling for dogs at large and non-compliance with Dog Control Orders, Council will advocate for stricter regulation of DABs, CALD strategy or information provided as required
27/04/2013	Mandatory desexing	Supports mandatory desexing of cats and dogs, worried that costs would drive owners "underground", perhaps have subsidies to encourage	Mandatory desexing of cats will be enacted as a long-term strategy, the DAMP will examine low-cost desexing options to assist low-income earners
27/04/2013	Cat registration and enforcement	Doesn't think Council can enforce or regulate cat registrations, as they don't respond to complaints	Council has a dedicated Registrations Officer who visits properties to determine the presence of unregistered animals. The DAMP places a strong emphasis on cat containment and compliance with the Cat Curfew Order.

Date Received	Theme	Specifics	CoGG Comments
24/05/2013	Off leash concerns and enforcement	Poor understanding/compliance with "off-leash - supervised", needs much more enforcement, rego fees and enforcement fines should fund additional authorised officers, need signage to explain what "supervised" is, strongly opposed to Frank Mann Reserve being "off-leash" - their dogs attacked by off-leash dogs twice, have been attacked and charged along Barwon River, no evidence of enforcement	Enforcement and education will be critical to the success of the DPPP. Council will have additional patrols over an increased range of hours and days. Enforcement and appropriate signage will reinforce the need to have dogs effectively "supervised" when off-leash. Dog attacks should be reported to Council immediately for investigation and action
24/05/2013	Off leash concerns and enforcement	As per previous submission	
24/05/2013	Partnerships, business arrangements	Partner with CoGG for subsidised desexing through voucher scheme, partner with CoGG to provide registration and microchipping at roadshows, business implications of free registration schemes, input into "cat free zone" developments, will be stocking cat enclosures, networked into range of animal trainers/behaviourists, partner with CoGG for educational programs, only return animals once desexed, compulsory desexing at point of sale, need to cost potential increased opening hours of pound	Council recognises the importance of community partnerships in the delivery of the DAMP. GAWS and CoGG have regular meetings and opportunties for DAMP collaboration will be discussed. Promotion of cat enclosures is extremely welcome. CoGG cannot require desexing for reclaimed animals or those available for sale. Cost implications of any DAMP actions will be negotiated with the service provider.
22/05/2013	Euthanasia rates, mandatory desexing, low cost desexing	Euthanasia is convenience killing of pets, need for community reference group, welcomes the decrease in euthanasia, Council has duty of care to domestic animals, specific requirements for Council's pound contract to avoid euthanasia, decrease cost of reclaiming from pound, provide info on animal behaviourists and trainers to reduce surrender rate, euthanasia is determined by pound business model, do not support mandatory desexing as no evidence for effect, supports low cost desexing, trapping cats will increase euthanasia rate	Council's pound provider abides by legislation and Codes of Practice in regards to euthanasia of animals. The DAMP includes the compulsory desexing of cats and encouraging desexing of dogs which will decrease the overpopulation of animals in the community. Council also strongly supports rehoming and foster strategies for shelter animals. There is an absence of peer-reviewed literature in regards to the cost/benefits afforded by mandatory desexing programs. Anecdotal information suggests that subsidised desexing schemes may have the greatest impact on desexing rates. The DAMP includes provision for both strategies. The pound's business model favours the reclamation of pets.

Domestic Animal Management Plan

City of Greater Geelong

2013 - 2017

INTRODUCTION FROM THE MAYOR

Animal management is one of Council's key responsibilities. The City's Domestic Animal Management Plan for 2013 - 2017 provides a clear overview of our plans for the current and future management of animals within our municipality and ensures the City meets its statutory requirements.

In developing this plan, the City consulted widely with special interest groups, pet owners and other members of the community. This plan highlights the most important aspects of responsible pet ownership which, together with education, will be a core element in addressing behavioural change. In particular, there is a strong emphasis on community safety and the need to reduce the number of dog attacks and dogs at large.

The plan also discusses the importance of pet owners having their pets desexed, which will help reduce unwanted litters of puppies and kittens placing pressure on our pound services.

Basic pet ownership responsibilities such as picking up after your dog and ensuring your cat is contained between sunset and sunrise protects the environment and ensures our pets are kept safe and healthy. Registration and microchipping, controlling barking dogs and maintaining 'effective control' over your dog when out walking are all key responsibilities of pet ownership.

Our aim is to offer our community a fair and balanced environment – where people can enjoy our community and the many open public spaces to its fullest extent, regardless of whether they are a pet owner or not. For this reason, our Dogs in Public Places Policy has been reviewed. Residents will now have various dedicated Off Leash 'Supervised' Areas, including some beach locations and most sporting grounds. For the remainder of the municipality, owners are required to keep their dogs on leash at all times.

The City's Domestic Animal Management Plan for 2013 - 2017 will provide Council with the framework to work with the community to ensure our services are sufficient for the growing population of pets.

Pets can bring a lot of joy and purpose to our lives. If we all work together and do the right thing, they can also bring much vibrancy and joy to the community as a whole.

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Glossary

AMO	Animal Management Officer
BAW	Bureau of Animal Welfare (Department of the Environment and Primary Industries)
CCMA	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority
COGG	City of Greater Geelong
COP	Code of Practice
DAA	Domestic Animals Act 1994
DABs	Domestic Animal Business
DAM Plan	Domestic Animal Management Plan
DEPI	Department of the Environment and Primary Industry
DPPP	Dogs in Public Places Policy
GEMP	Geelong Emergency Management Plan
MERO	Municipal Emergency Resource Officer
POCTA ACT	Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986
RPO	Responsible Pet Ownership
RSPCA	Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty in Animals
VCAT	Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal
VDDR	Victorian Declared Dog Register

INTRODUCTION

The City of Greater Geelong has prepared a new Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAM Plan) to guide decision making in relation to the needs of domestic pets, their owners and addresses the concerns of the general public in a fair and even manner.

The aim of this plan is to facilitate the co-existence of pets, pet owners and the general population whilst addressing the welfare and legislative issues relating to animal management in the City boundaries. This plan also aims to promote responsible pet ownership and enhance the experience of animal ownership within the community, by so doing, make the City of Greater Geelong an even better place to live.

While the directive to create a plan is in line with the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* (DAA) which requires all Victorian councils to have a four year plan in place for the management of dogs and cats within their area (Appendix 1), the City has used a consultative process to consider opinions and concerns from all relevant groups and individuals.

It is now well recognised by the community and governments alike that there is more to animal management than merely collecting stray dogs and addressing compliances issues. Local government plays a key role in protecting and promoting responsible animal ownership in the community, essential to maintaining sustainable communities and a healthy environment.

This plan is designed to balance the needs of the community and at the same time manage the requirements of the Act. This is an evolving practice as the community grows and changes and environmental concerns play a more important role within our City.

A key aspect of this plan is to manage domestic animal issues in a professional and efficient manner, provide education to the community of the responsibilities of pet ownership where possible at the same time address and minimise the problems generated by irresponsible pet owners.

Overview of the City of Greater Geelong

The City of Greater Geelong has one of the largest animal populations of any Victorian municipality and currently has over 46,000 registered cats and dogs (based at April 2013).

The City has a total land area of 1,250 square kilometres, including a mix of coastal, rural and urban areas. Currently the municipality has a population of 215,151 with 95,753 dwellings. Annually the City has an average population growth of 1.51% and it is estimated by the year 2031, the population will be in excess of 303,000. With population growth, comes a likely increase in pet ownership.

Community Consultation

In developing this plan, Council consulted with the community to gain an understanding of community expectations in relation to animal management. Consultation involved a wide audience including community members, special interest groups, stakeholders and internal departments of the City of Greater Geelong.

The basis of this plan has been formed from a range of data gathered from Animal Behaviourists, staff experience and observations and responses from community consultations.

Review of the 2008-2012 DAM Plan

Community members were given the opportunity to provide feedback on the outcomes achieved during the life of the DAM Plan 2008 – 2012. A detailed online survey was launched in June 2012 and was also distributed directly to key stakeholders, including pet-related businesses, clubs and groups, and through libraries, community centres and health services.

A total of 568 responses were received. This included 349 online responses with 219 responses received via paper surveys.

The respondents' demographics included:

- 77% being aged between 35 and 69 years
- 75% of respondents were female
- Respondents came from 54 suburbs across the municipality with 81% of respondents residing in 20 suburbs
- 86% of respondents owned either a cat or dog with 14% being non pet owners.

In general, the respondents considered themselves responsible pet owners and were respectful of the Council remaining a dog and cat friendly municipality. The respondents were supportive of Council's compliance and regulatory presence to ensure that all pet owners comply with the dog and cat control orders.

The need to have an increased compliance presence in the community was strongly expressed, to address issues including non-compliance with dog control orders, dog waste, dog attacks, barking dogs, roaming cats and other nuisance issues. Respondents supported the issuing of infringements and increasing penalties if this would deter and improve poor behaviour of some pet owners.

Perceptions of the effectiveness of the animal management programs indicated that:

- The cat curfew and education on pet selection were seen to be the least effective (28% and 23% respectively)
- 39% of respondents indicated the on/off-leash areas were considered effective
- 32% were uncertain as to whether education on responsible pet ownership was effective
- The microchipping and registration roadshows were perceived to be the most effective program by 61% of respondents
- Compulsory desexing of cats and dogs was well supported with 97% supporting the desexing of cats from the pound, 82% agreed to desexing newly registered cats and 85% were supportive of desexing all registered cats. 64% of respondents were in support of desexing dogs
- 90% of respondents identified dog attacks as the most important issue to address for the future
- 67% indicated that the need for improved and clearer dog control orders. 77% indicated they wish to see a decrease in dogs at large.
- 49% felt that the 'Dogs On Leash on or within 5 metres of a pathway' a major challenge to understand and may contribute to incidents

Submissions to the 2013-2017 DAM Plan

The Draft 2013-2017 DAM Plan was presented to Council in April 2013, where it was decided to invite community submissions on the document for a period of four weeks. A revised Dogs in Public Places Policy was incorporated into the plan, and provided detailed maps and advice regarding the dog control rules and conditions that apply in open public spaces.

Forty submissions from individuals and organisations were received. The majority of submissions were supportive of the proposed actions of the plan, however many raised concerns regarding the potential costs to individuals for the mandatory desexing of animals, and a perceived lack of community enforcement for existing dog control orders. The critical importance of responsible pet ownership was also reinforced by the submissions, with responsible pet owners dismayed by the actions and behaviours of those who were unwilling or unable to adequately control and care for their animals.

Our Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

The City of Greater Geelong, like every Victorian Council, has a statutory obligation to animal management in its municipality. The Domestic Animals Act (1994), Council Local Laws, Policies and Procedures are the regulations that are adhered to for addressing animal management issues.

Animal management encompasses but is not limited to:

- The registration and identification of dogs and cats
- Protecting humans and animals from dog attacks
- The confinement of dogs and cats
- The overpopulation of dogs and cats
- Any impacts on the environment
- Nuisance behaviour
- Access to public open spaces by dogs and their owners
- The health and well-being of dogs and cats

Critical to animal management is the concept of responsible pet ownership as the mechanism for ensuring these issues are managed and setting parameters for dogs in public places. Council plays a leadership role enabling a well informed community and producing innovative approaches to managing domestic animals.

The following is a list of the policies, Orders and Local Laws that are relevant in animal management in the municipality.

Orders & Policy[1]

- COGG Dogs in Public Places Policy 2013 – 2017
- Corangamite Catchment Management Authority Dog Control Orders
- Barwon Coast Committee of Management Dog Control Orders
- Cat Curfew Order 2008

[1] Currently consulting with the Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee in the development of Dog Control Orders

General Local Law 2005

Within its General Local Law, Council has several clauses relating to the management of domestic animals within the municipality. These include:

Dog Excrement

A person:

- Must not permit excrement of a dog under his or her care of control to remain on a road or Council land; and

Who is in charge or control of a dog on a road or Council land must have in his or her possession a dedicated scooper device or bag for the purpose of removing from the road or Council any excrement from that dog deposited on the road or Council land.

Permitted number of Dogs and Cats without the need for a permit

- The permitted number of dogs and cats by various land use zones are based on preserving the amenity of the area and preventing nuisance or offensive/dangerous conditions to neighbouring properties

Animal	Residential	Other	Rural
Dog/s	2 allowed	4 allowed	No permit required
Cats	2 allowed	4 allowed	No permit required

- A permit is required to keep in excess of the number of listed animals. Council assesses each application on its merits to ensure that there is no impact on the neighbourhood prior to approving permits
- Residential area means zoned as residential under the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme[2]
- Rural area means zoned as rural under the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme
- Other area means zoned other than as Residential or Rural under the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme
- The Local Law also requires dog and cat owners to maintain yards and enclosures, in a clean and sanitary manner, and to control any nuisances and disturbances to others

Our Vision

The 2013-2017 DAM Plan was developed in-line with the Vision for our city:

Greater Geelong: building our community through enterprise, opportunity and innovation in a quality environment.

While many of the actions from this plan align across all four of Council's strategic directions, it most closely aligns with the strategic priority of Community Wellbeing:

- Healthy lifestyles – encouraging recreation in public open space, facilitating and enjoying the benefits of companion animals through responsible pet ownership;
- Connected, creative and strong communities – increased social mixing and interaction by the provision of clear and fair local laws and orders for public open space; and
- Healthy environments – provision of safe, hazard and nuisance free environments.

[2] http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/greatergeelong/home.html

The City of Greater Geelong is a municipality with great lifestyle and strengths that balances pet ownership with the needs of the community and the environment. The following principles underpin actions with regard to dogs and cats:

- The belief that pets contribute to our quality of life
- A requirement to balance the needs of those who own pets and those who do not
- To value responsible pet ownership
- Proactive animal management and education
- Ensuring the environment is protected from the negative impacts of dogs and cats
- To work in partnership with others
- Play a leadership role in animal management

OUR OBJECTIVES FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS

TRAINING OF ANIMAL MANAGEMENT OFFICERS

All Councils are required to ensure that all Animal Management Officers (AMOs) have sufficient training to effectively administer and enforce the requirements of the Domestic Animal Act 1994.

All AMOs are required to have qualifications in Certificate IV Animal Control and Compliance, Certificate IV in Government (Statutory Compliance) or possess higher-level qualifications to be employed with the City of Greater Geelong. Each Officer completes training in animal handling, and prosecutions, including the collection of evidence for possible court proceedings.

Council maintains a training register detailing all qualifications and training courses completed by each AMO. Annually a formal performance review is conducted at which time training and development opportunities for the subsequent year are discussed.

AMOs are also encouraged to undertake training events via the internal Corporate Training Calendar.

Animal Management Services in the City of Greater Geelong

As at June 2013 the City had:

- 32,055 registered dogs
- 9,967 registered cats, and
- 25 registered animal businesses including pet shops and boarding kennels

The City's Animal Management Team consists of the following Animal Management Officers:

- 1 x Team Leader Animal and Information Services
- 2 x Senior Animal & Information Services Officers
- 3 x Animal and Information Services Officers
- 1 x Animals Collection Officer
- 1 x Registration & Patrol Officer

Councils Policies and Procedures

- Learning and Development Policy
- Performance Management Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Health and Local Laws OH&S Operational Guidelines
- Corporate Training Calendar
- City Safe Training Calendar
- Work Instructions are available to guide Officers in the performance of their duties.

Our Plans

- Preferable to recruit all new staff who have gained a minimum of Certificate IV Animal Control and Regulation, and Certificate IV Government (Statutory and Compliance) qualification.
- Identify required training for AMOs and source appropriate training
- All staff to be encouraged to participate in Council's Corporate Training Calendar
- Review the Local Laws training register to ensure appropriate training is being undertaken.

Objective 1: Ensure Animal Management Officers possess adequate qualifications and skills and undergo appropriate training/re-training relevant to their role.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
1.1	Certificate IV Animal Control and Regulation	Ongoing	Preferable to recruit staff with these qualifications
1.2	Certificate IV Government (Statutory Compliance)	Ongoing	Preferable to recruit staff with these qualifications
1.3	All new staff to undertake internal induction program, including familiarisation with work instructions and specific animal management tasks	Ongoing	All new staff inducted, recorded in Annual Staff Review process
1.4	To incorporate the evaluation of training undertaken in the Annual Staff Review process	Annually	Identified in Annual Review Process
1.4	Additional corporate training such as OH&S, Customer Service, Risk Management, Community Education and Prosecutions	Ongoing	Completed
1.5	Participate in Bureau of Animal Welfare information and training days	Ongoing	Participation when available/relevant
1.6	Undertake refresher training as required	As required	Refresher training undertaken when required

REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION

Current Situation

The City of Greater Geelong has the highest number of domestic animals of all Victorian municipalities. The Domestic Animals Act 1994 requires all dogs and cats to be registered with Council at 3 months of age.

A high proportion of lost unidentified animals consequently become unclaimed because these animals are not registered. When a pet is registered with Council they are required to be microchipped and are provided with a registration identification tag. This enables Council to identify and return lost pets home.

The registration of cats and dogs also assists Council in the management of dangerous and restricted breed dogs, audits of Domestic Animal Businesses, nuisance and dog attack investigations and enforcement and to undertake patrols. On a state-wide level, animal registrations fund dog bite/attack education programs which are delivered to over 2600 pre-school and primary schools every year.

There still continues to be misunderstanding by the community on the benefits and requirements as to why an animal is to be registered or microchipped, despite significant promotion and education.

Registration trends for the last four years have remained consistent.

Animal Registrations	2009	2010	2011	2012
Registered Dogs	33,387	34,084	35,783	35,918
Registered Cats	10,950	10,717	10,912	10,958

Council Policies and Procedures

- State Legislation applies under the Domestic Animals Act 1994
- Work Instruction of Registration Procedures

Our current Education/Promotion Activities include:

- Annual Microchipping and Registration Roadshows
- Education workshops and seminars
- Extensive promotional/advertising of Microchipping and Registration Roadshows for dogs and cats via radio, local newspapers, Council's website, community billboards, Council's Community Update, letter box drops and Council's telephone on hold message system
- Extensive articles and media release promoting the benefits and requirements of microchipping and registration of dogs and cats in local media, on Council's websites, and Tag Time News (Council's annual newsletter to registered pet owners), and Council's Community Update
- The production of Council's *Tag Time News* for registered pet owners and the community
- Focused registration and microchipping marketing campaigns on "the ability to return dogs and cats home"

- Subsidised microchipping and half price registration at Microchipping and Registration Roadshows
- Trained and authorised Council Officers to implant microchips
- The distribution of registration brochures and other material to local Vets and pet retailers for client distribution
- The provision of a range of registration payment options
- Encouraged dog clubs to promote the benefits of registration and microchipping to their club members
- Promote registration renewal dates via various advertising mediums

Our Current Compliance Activities

The City's current compliance activities include:

- Registration and Microchipping Roadshows
- Annually issuing dog and cat registration renewal notices
- All non renewals are followed up with additional letters and property visits
- Conduct an annual update/audit of the registration database
- Carry out public patrols, conducting random dog and cat registration and microchipping checks
- Leave 'Sorry we missed you' cards detailing nature of call and contact name and number of Animal Officer
- Follow up on the sale of animals from Domestic Animal Businesses
- Ensure all advertisements for local dogs and cats for sale in media and internet sites contain microchip details of the animal being sold
- Ensure all seized and impounded animals are identified as required by Council and registered to their owner prior to their release
- Ensure all animal complaints are checked for registration and microchipping identification compliance as part of the process of dealing with the complaint
- All authorised officers are provided with mobile field technology enabling access to animal owner's details
- On the spot issue of infringement notices
- Provide online renewal service

Community Feedback

- At least 80% of respondents indicated that they had their dogs/cats registered, microchipped and desexed
- Registration rates were higher for dogs than cats (99% vs. 89%)
- Dogs were slightly more likely to be microchipped than cats (96% vs. 80%)
- Cats were slightly more likely to be desexed than dogs (96% vs. 91%)

*these statistics are likely to reflect the responses of engaged, responsible pet owners who were willing to complete the survey. Feedback from local veterinarians suggests that the actual proportion of local pets which are registered, microchipped and desexed is much lower.

Summary

Over the next four years Council will be seeking to increase the number of cats and dogs registered in the municipality. There is also a need to develop more accurate estimations of pet ownership rates across neighbourhoods to improve targeted service delivery, education and compliance activities in the future. These challenges will be met through random property

visits to identify unregistered animals, education programs, and registration checks of animals sighted during patrols.

A recent amendment to the Domestic Animals Act 1994 means that a reduced registration fee is no longer available for microchipped animals which are registered for the first time. Significantly discounted registration fees are now available for animals which are both microchipped and desexed.

The 2013-2017 DAM Plan will also require all newly registered cats to be desexed, and all other cats to be desexed over the next four years (some exemptions apply – See Appendix 2).

Our Plans

- To increase the number of dogs and cats registered in the municipality
- To increase awareness of the requirement to register dogs and cats
- To continue to promote animal registration and identification using various media sources and Council's web page
- To continue to undertake annual registration audits
- To have an Animal Management Officer assigned to visit properties to identify unregistered animals
- To investigate options for providing additional benefits to pet owners for registering their pets

Objective 2: Increase dog and cat registration numbers by 5% over the first 2 years of the plan. To be reviewed annually.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
2.1	A dedicated animal officer will identify unregistered animals in the municipality	Ongoing	Increase in registration numbers Local pet ownership rates analysed
2.2	Check all cats registered for the first time are microchipped and desexed prior to registration	Ongoing	All new cats are desexed and microchipped prior to registration
2.3	Develop a strategy to ensure all cats that are having their registration renewed are microchipped and desexed during the life of this plan (4 years)[3]	Year 1- Year 2	Strategy developed
2.4	Identify opportunities for funding and partnerships with local Veterinary services to deliver affordable desexing programs to the community	Year 1- Year 2	Source funding and partners
2.5	Explore opportunities to appoint additional registration agents external to Council	Year 2	Conduct feasibility study to explore options

[3] See Appendix 2 for categories of cats exempt from mandatory desexing

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
2.6	Explore the expansion of registration opportunities for the community, including online initial registration and mobile applications	Year 2	Opportunities scoped and recommendations produced
2.7	Conduct regular microchipping and registration roadshows annually	October – December Annually	Increase in registered and microchipped animals
2.8	Reconcile the National Pet Register and the Victorian Declared Dogs Register with Council's registration data prior to renewal period each year	Annually	All microchipped and VDDR animals are registered Registries updated
2.9	Investigate the benefit in Council making an additional Order requiring all dogs to be microchipped at time of registration (i.e. those registered prior to 1 May 2007)	Year 2	Investigation conducted and decision made
2.10	Investigate offering free initial registration for any dog or cat purchased from the Geelong Animal Welfare Society shelter or any other shelter in the Municipality at the point of sale. That such registration may be reversed after seven day cooling off period	Ongoing	Cost/benefit analysis completed with model processes and procedures developed
2.11	Investigate the use of SMS technology, email lists and social media to improve the timeliness of re-registration	Year 1 – Year 2	SMS technology and internet media investigated and recommendations made

Objective 3: To promote the benefits, value and opportunities of dog and cat registration to pet owners.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
3.1	To develop and distribute educational material about dog and cat topical issues and incorporate as part of the animal renewal process. Topical issues could be dog/cat containment, desexing etc	Ongoing	Material developed and distributed at registration renewal time
3.2	Promote the benefits of having dogs and cats being registered, microchipped and wearing registration tag Return identified pets at-large to owners on the day without being impounded	Ongoing	Education and promotion activities undertaken
3.3	Consider the implementation of a policy to return any lost/wandering dog or cat to its registered owner without penalty* where the dog/cat is currently registered and found at large for the first time. A formal warning to be issued in such circumstance	Year 2	Investigated the viability of introducing this action to improve registration rates and lower impound rates *Penalties may apply where negligence is established rather than misfortune

Objective 4: Develop relationships with visitors to the municipality – keeping them informed of options to keep their pet safe during their visit to the area.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
4.1	Explore opportunities to develop relationships with real estate agencies, accommodation houses and Visitor Information Centres to include relevant pet material in tenancy packs and visitor packs.	Year 3	Opportunities investigated Relevant material developed and distributed

NUISANCE

Current Situation

With a current registered dog and cat population of 42,195 the City experiences a significant number of cat and dog nuisance complaints. With continued population growth, pet numbers are also expected to increase. Unless a range of measures are adopted and put into place, nuisance complaints will increase, affecting the well being of the community.

Each of Council's Animal Management Officers (AMOs) is responsible for community education and compliance patrols in a specific geographic area of the municipality. In some areas such as the Barwon River, Ocean Grove and Barwon Heads these patrols are undertaken in conjunction with the relevant land managers of the area who have established the dog controls – e.g. Corangamite Catchment Management Authority, Barwon Coast Committee of Management and is under discussion with Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management. During August – March the coastal dog control orders (Ocean Grove, Barwon Heads and Breamlea) change to protect the Hooded Plover during its breeding season.

In the City of Greater Geelong, the Cat Curfew Order requires all cats to be confined to the residence, or a cat enclosure, between sunset and sunrise. This Order exists to prevent nuisances such as spraying and fighting, and to protect native wildlife. At all times, it is an offence for a cat to enter the yard of another person unless they have been invited. Cat containment measures, such as cat-proof fencing, should be utilised by all cat owners.

Dog Incidents	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Menacing & rushing dogs	306	318	376	289	323
Dog attacks	163	182	117	177	175
Dogs at large	2981	2820	3435	3635	3370
Barking Dogs	473	463	603	404	510
Total Dog Incidents	**3923**	**3783**	**4531**	**4505**	**4378**

Cat Incidents	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Cat impounds by Council	645	1185	1050	645	856
Cat Impounds by Other (handed in)	1627	1669	1279	1154	1542
Total Cat Incidents	**2272**	**2854**	**2329**	**1799**	**2398**

Community Feedback

- 34% of respondents had experienced barking dog problems
- Only 24% believed the cat curfew program had been effective

Council's Dogs in Public Places Policy

Under the 2008 DAM Plan, Council developed and adopted relevant dog control orders to provide pet owners with the information on where they could walk their dog/s on and off-leash.

Through the number of community complaints and incidents including dog attacks, menacing and rushing dogs and dog litter controls, there is an indication that dog owners were having difficulty in understanding the regulations and/or were choosing to ignore the signage.

Community Feedback

- 55% of respondents felt the "Pick Up Dog Litter" sign was the clearest sign, however only 26% believe the observance of the sign to be effective
- 37% of respondents felt the "Dogs Under Effective Control" sign was clear and only 21% found the observance of the sign to be effective
- 49% of respondents believed the "Dogs on Leash At All Times" sign was clear with only 24% found the observance of the sign to be effective
- 30% of respondents felt the "Dogs on Leash on and within 5 Metres of the Path" sign was clear with only 19% finding the observance of the sign to be effective.

The interpretation of the "Dogs on Leash on and within 5 Metres of the Path" order has been a major challenge for dog walkers to clearly understand. The correct interpretation of this dog control allows for dog owners to move 5 metres off the path where dogs are then permitted off-leash but under effective control. Otherwise the dog is to remain on-leash as it is walked down the path, and the area abutting the path up to and including 5 metres.

In practical terms not only is this a difficult dog control order for the community to understand, it is very difficult for Councils Animal Officers to monitor for compliance, especially when trying to establish proof following an incident. Furthermore a number of incidents involving pedestrians, cyclists and other dogs have eventuated due to this confusion.

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

All nuisances

- Provide information on cat and dog confinement, barking, dogs at large etc, cat curfew to new cat/dog owners in registration information each year
- Provide information on Council's website, Tag Time Newsletter, local newspapers and radio about the types of nuisances and relevant Local Laws and Orders, and how to report a nuisance and record ongoing nuisances as well as submitting support documentation (eg barking dog diary)

- Distribute relevant brochures, fact sheets and other material developed by the Bureau of Animal Welfare and/or Council via, vets, pet shops, breeders, shelters , schools and Council's Customer Service Centres
- Held responsible dog/cat ownership courses and highlight nuisance issues

At large and trespass (see 'All nuisances' and the following)

- Promote DIY cat enclosures booklet, information on commercially produced cat enclosures, dog and cat containment fencing, confinement of cats to residence, via Council website, Council newsletters, vets, pet shops, shelters, breeders, local papers and registration information packs
- Encourage desexing of pets to reduce wandering
- Provide the use of 'loan' cat traps for residents experiencing trespassing cats, complete with operating and well being instructions for the cat
- Provide clearly identifiable designated off-leash areas to meet the 'free-running' and playing needs of dogs
- Provide clear signage and walking maps (eg Walk Time – pocket size dog map) which clearly Identifies those open public places that are either off-leash, on-leash or excluded areas in which dogs are required to be effectively controlled/on-leash, during certain times
- Hand out 'Well done and Thank you' cards to those dog owners complying with requirements – e.g. walking dog on leash, 'scooping the poop', having dog under effective control, registering and microchipping animal, observing dog control signage

Barking dogs (see 'All nuisances' and the following)

- Provide information on the causes of excessive barking, including: separation anxiety, boredom, external stimuli (passers-by, other dogs barking, cats trespassing), territorialism (when there are visitors to the property), communication with other dogs
- Encourage owners of barking dogs to seek advice from Council/professional dog trainer/animal behaviourist on how to reduce their dog's barking

Dog poo (see 'All nuisances' and the following)

- Advise dog owners of legal requirements relating to cleaning up of dog poo, by distributing education material (see 'All nuisance' section for methods), providing owner/person in charge of dog in parks and other public places with information and dog poo bags during patrols
- Provide signage regarding requirement for owner/person in charge to pick up and dispose of dog poo in litter bins
- Provide complimentary *Dog Pooch Paks* enabling dog owners to carry a supply of dog poo bags on their dogs leash
- Provide free dog poo bags at community events and high use areas
- Provide dog poo bag dispensers and disposal bins in parks (in high use areas) to encourage owners/person in charge of animal to clean up the animal's poo

Our current Compliance Activities

All nuisances

- Record all nuisance complaints on a database to track resolutions, repeat offenders

- Investigate nuisance complaints within Council guidelines
- Ensure nuisance investigation timeframes are as short as possible to reduce complainants' frustration
- Review Council policies and procedures relating to nuisance as per Council guidelines
- Ensure notices to comply, notices of objection, infringements, prosecutions are in line with Council Policy and Procedures
- Referring civil matters for mediation/private action

At large and trespass (see 'All nuisances' and the following)

- Patrol public places to check for dogs or cats at large or in prohibited public areas
- Increase patrols during holiday periods
- Seek community compliance with cat owners with the cat confinement order
- Seek community compliance with dog owners on the Dogs in Public Places Policy
- Provide loan cat cages (free of charge) to local residents for trapping cats trespassing on their property (specify whether use is free of charge, deposit required, or fee charged)
- Purchase additional cat cages that are compliant with POCTA Regulations on confinement traps
- Ensure Council has the required local laws to enforce the need for excess animal permits

Barking dogs (see 'All nuisances' and the following)

- Encourage complainant to contact owner of barking dog and advise them of their concerns as first step to resolving issue
- If not resolved, contact owner of barking dog and provide them with information and ideas to reduce barking to attempt rapid resolution
- Encourage parties to seek mediation where possible
- Carry out investigation following protocols to establish nuisance or otherwise
- Provide for the loan of anti-bark collars (citronella), provide information to owners regarding requirements under POCTA Regulation 19 for electronic collars
- Note barking dogs can also be considered unreasonable noise under Section 48A of the Environment Protection Act 1970, according to the EPA publication 'Annoyed by Noise?'

Dog poo (see 'All nuisances' and the following)

- Seek community compliance of Council's Local Law regarding the compulsory collection and disposal of dog poo by owner/person in charge of the dog.

Summary

As part of Council's recent community consultation process a section of the survey was devoted to the 2008 Dogs in Public Places Policy, which largely addresses where dog walkers are permitted to walk their dogs on or off leash during relevant times. The feedback received from the community together with stakeholders, animal behaviourists and Officers input has formed the basis for the 2013 -2017 Dogs in Public Places Policy.

The most significant change to this policy has been the removal of the dog control 'Dogs on Leash on and within 5 Metres of the Path' and the subsequent introduction of a large number of dedicated Off Leash 'Supervised' Areas that must be used in conjunction with conditions of

use. These conditions have been specifically implemented to reduce dog attacks, allowing all community members to feel safe whilst enjoying the public open spaces of the municipality. The remainder of the municipality will remain as an 'On Leash Controlled Area' which is consistent with the 2008 policy.

Council will continue to seek compliance and provide education and information to address barking dog nuisance complaints, as well the Cat Curfew Order which is in existence. Animal Management patrols will be intensified to ensure compliance with the 2013 – 2017 Dogs in Public Places Policy with a strong focus on dog owners having effective control over their animal in "Off-Leash Supervised Areas" and carrying a litter receptacle and pick up their dog's waste. Community submissions to the plan identified that a strong, visible enforcement presence will be required to effectively manage the "Off-Leash – Supervised" areas. Council will publicise their compliance activities to raise community awareness of enforcement actions and the expectations of responsible pet ownership.

To assist the community in meeting the requirements of the Dogs in Public Places Policy, public signage will need to be reviewed and updated, and a mobile "app" will be considered to ensure that the dog control orders in any given area are easily identifiable and understood.

Consultation with the community identified numerous partnership opportunities which could be utilised to reduce the impact of pet nuisance behaviour. Council will seek to establish collaborative relationships with local veterinarians, pet clubs, animal trainers and behaviourists to assist the community in accessing strategies to address nuisance behaviour in their pets. In this way, it is hoped that pet owners will be able to develop the skills and knowledge to anticipate and manage potential nuisances without the need for Council enforcement or sanctions.

Technology has also become available which can assist in understanding potential nuisance behaviour, particularly dog barking. Dog bark collars record the nature, time and frequency of barking over a period of days. This can assist AMOs and the dog owner in establishing whether a nuisance is occurring, identify any contributing factors which may exist and the most appropriate course of remediation.

With recent changes to Council's waste collection vehicles, all general waste bins will now be available to be used to deposit dog litter rather than just the purpose-built bins. The message of "all bins" using "any bag" will be promoted and will provide the community with substantially increased options for dog waste disposal.

Dedicated dog activity parks ("dog parks") are fully enclosed activity areas for dogs and their owners. Dog parks have become increasingly common throughout Victoria, and can range from a simple enclosed open space to quite elaborate dog playgrounds with extensive equipment and infrastructure. An action of this plan is to investigate the viability and capital and recurrent costs of such developments to assist future decision making in this area.

The majority of the community surveyed for this plan (87%) supported the implementation of a volunteer dog walking program for those who are unable to walk their dog through ill health, age or disability. A program of this type currently operates in the City of Wyndham, and the feasibility of implementing a similar program for the CoGG community will be scoped during the life of this plan.

Our Plans

- To reduce cat nuisance problems within the community particularly trespassing cats
- To reduce barking dog complaints within the community
- To promote the benefits of Responsible Pet Ownership
- To seek community compliance with the Dogs in Public Places Policy
- Implement changes to improve the rate of dog litter removal in the community

Objective 5: To reduce cat nuisance problems within the community particularly trespassing cats.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
5.1	Increase community awareness of the Cat Curfew and confinement requirements, including penalties Provide education material on cat enclosures, modified boundary fencing and nuisance issues with registration information packs, on website, at Customer Service Centres, and Microchipping and Registration Roadshows	Ongoing	Measure community awareness during next review of the current plan Material developed and distributed
5.2	Amend registration forms to include prompt "does your property comply with the Cat Curfew order ie Cat confined to premises or enclosure between sunset and sunrise. Yes/No"	Year 1	Registration forms amended and information recorded
5.3	Advocate for amendments to legislation to allow reduced registration fees for compliance with Cat Curfew and property confinement measures (subject to certification)	Ongoing	Submissions presented for consideration to proposed changes to legislation Submission to the Victorian Government advocating for additional benefits for responsible pet owners
5.4	Provide residents experiencing cat trespassing problems with loan cat traps for trapping nuisance animals	Ongoing	Record number of traps issued to determine problem level
5.5	Review the Local Law as to the number of cats permitted on a property (particularly for areas located closely to wetlands and environmentally sensitive areas).	Year 2 – Year 3	Review of the Local Law undertaken
5.6	Liaise with Planning Department to explore options to introduce "Cat Free Zones" in new residential subdivisions, especially those that are located close to wetlands and environmentally	Year 2 – Year 3	Options explored

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
	sensitive areas		
5.7	Explore new partnerships with local veterinarians and community groups to address cat nuisance issues and other animal welfare matters	Ongoing	Established community networks and collaboration with local veterinary practices, pet businesses and community groups

Objective 6: To reduce barking dog complaints and nuisance behaviour in the community

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
6.1	Update barking dog information kits to provide to owners of alleged barking dogs. Review material with local veterinary practices and animal behaviourists	Year 1 – Year 2	Barking dog kit updated
6.2	Establish relationships with local animal behaviourists/trainers with the view of having the community access beneficial information and knowledge	Ongoing	Relationships established
6.3	Review and update website with information to assist owners of barking dogs and complainants on what options are available, including remedial animal behavioural assessment/therapy	Year 1	Review of current material undertaken and website updated
6.4	Implement the use of bark count collars to assist in nuisance investigations	Year 1 – Year 2	Bark count collars supported by Council's information technology systems Work instruction for use of bark count collars developed Bark count collars available for investigations

Objective 7: To promote the benefits of Responsible Pet Ownership (RPO)

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
7.1	Provide and promote RPO education programs and material for cat and dog owners with a focus on: • Preventing dog attacks • Keeping your cat and dog contained to prevent straying and possible euthanasia	Ongoing	Promotion of RPO programs via a variety of mediums Funding and

	• Barking dogs • Keeping the environment clean • Where to walk your dog • Benefits of desexing your dog and cat • Benefits of registration and microchipping • Legislation changes Funding and partnership opportunities will be explored to assist in the provision of RPO education		partnership opportunities scoped Review of compliance indicators (number of complaints, incidents, returned animals etc)
7.2	Provide advice to pet owners on pet care during fireworks, thunderstorms and holidays, including local options for boarding.	Ongoing	Place updated information on website Promote in local media
7.3	Provide information resources to the community on appropriate pet selection to ensure that pets are compatible with owner's lifestyle, capacities, current or future family arrangements and residential circumstances	Year 1	Information resources developed and promoted to the community

Objective 8: To seek community compliance with the Dogs in Public Places Policy 2013 - 2017

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
8.1	Develop education and compliance strategy to implement the Dogs in Public Places Policy 2013-2017: • Education material for website, Tag Time, CityNews and local print media • Hardcopy resources, including updated Walk Time, for distribution to Customer Service Centres, Vet clinics, DABs, community centres and for AMOs to provide to public when on patrol • *Dog Pooch Paks* available from Customer Service Centres • Develop promotional items for distribution during Microchipping Roadshows and community events • Scope the development of a Smartphone/mobile app with the functionality to identify areas with dog control orders, conditions of use and responsible pet ownership information. This app may also include business functionality ie registration renewals, reporting dog incidents etc. • Prioritise information regarding the conditions of use for "Off-leash – supervised" areas and picking up dog litter	Year 1 – Year 4	Education material developed and distributed Mobile app development scoped and costed Enhanced compliance strategy developed, funded and implemented Develop, procure and distribute promotional items Review of compliance indicators relevant to DPPP

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
	• Develop enhanced compliance strategy with AMOs to increase visible enforcement of policy and orders, operating seven-days a week, particularly in regards to off-leash areas • Increased resources to support enhanced compliance strategy		
8.2	Update compliance signage to conform to the Dogs in Public Places Policy 2013 – 2017	Year 1	Signage updated
8.3	Promote the availability of all public general waste bins for the disposal of dog litter using any type of bag	Year 1 – Year 2 Ongoing	Information provided through community education material Coordinate with Waste Services for the provision of "scoop the poop" decals on public waste bins at high-use areas
8.4	Scope the feasibility of implementing a volunteer dog walking program for eligible dog owners (due to ill health, age, impairment or disability)	Year 2 – Year 4	Scoping complete following consultation with Wyndham City Council, and relevant internal stakeholders
8.5	Scope the feasibility of establishing Dog Activity Parks, including an evaluation framework for suitable site identification and indicative costings	Year 2 – Year 3	Present findings and recommendations to Council for consideration
8.6	Maintain relationships and continue to liaise with land management stakeholders eg Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management, Barwon Coast Committee of Management and Corangamite Catchment Management Authority to promote consistency with Dog Control Orders, community education and compliance activities	Ongoing	Dog Control Orders reviewed and updated as required Education and compliance activities undertaken as agreed Harmonisation of Dog Control Orders

DOG ATTACKS

Current Situation

Injury statistics relating to dog bites within the City of Greater Geelong were obtained from the Victorian Injury Surveillance Unit of the Monash University Injury Research Institute.[4]

The study identified that hospital admissions for dog bite injuries among Greater Geelong residents compared unfavourably with Victorian residents between 2002/03 – 2010/11. Over the nine year period, there has been an increase from 7.6 dog bite hospitalisations/100,000 population in 2002/03 to 15.9/100,000 in 2010/11.

In the three-year period from July 2008 to June 2011, there were 112 dog bite hospital admissions among Greater Geelong residents compared to 1,749 admissions among residents of the rest of Victoria for dog bite injury. This represents 6% of the state totals, but a substantially higher rate of admissions of 17.3 per 100,000 population compared with 11.4/100,000 for all of Victoria. The rate of admissions for young children is particularly high, with a rate of 40.8/100,000 compared to a Victorian rate of 20.9/100,000.

The number of dog attacks reported to Council for the financial years 2008/2009 – 2012/13 was 814, an average of 163 per year. While 2010/11 had very low numbers (117), the frequency of attacks have remained stable with an average of 163 per year. Many of these attacks are associated with dogs which are not adequately confined to their owner's property and are at large. If dog owners were diligent in ensuring their animals could not leave their property, up to 80% of dog attacks in public places could be prevented.[5]

Council Policies and Procedures:

- Policy relating to seizure of dogs found at large or not secured to owner's premises (s.24)
- Work procedure relating to attacks or bites by dogs (s.29)
- Procedure for serving notices of seizure relating to seizing of identified dogs (s.84H)
- Procedure for owners when recovering dogs that have been seized by Council (s.84M)
- Policy associated with disposal of seized dogs (s.84O)
- Policy associated with registration of dogs and the fee structure for registration) (Schedule to the Act)
- Policy and procedure associated with seizure and impounding of dogs after a dog attack
- Enforcement strategy associated with issuing notices to comply, infringement notices and filing charges for prosecution regarding dog attacks

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

- Raise awareness of risk of dog attacks in the home, in the street and in parks and how to reduce these risks

[4] Hospital treated dog bite injury among Greater Geelong residents, 2008/09 – 2010/11. Victorian Injury Surveillance Unit, Monash University Injury Research Centre, August 2012.

[5] Van de Kuyt, N. (2001) Prevention of dog attacks in public places – A local government strategy adopted by 11 Victorian Councils. *Urban Animal Management Conference Proceedings 2001*.

- Provide residents with information on how to report dog attacks – if bitten or witness an attack on a person or animal. Promote and encourage the reporting of dog attacks whether on public or private property
- Identify clearly those public places that are off-leash areas, areas in which dogs are required to be effectively controlled/on-leash, and areas in which dogs are prohibited at all times/certain times – by signage, in brochures, and produced pocket fold-out map 'Walk Time'
- Promote effective confinement and control of dogs
- Provide residents with information on implications for their dog and themselves if the dog attacks a person or animal
- Promote desexing of dogs to reduce aggressive tendencies and wandering at large
- Promote early socialisation of dogs to other animals and humans
- Promote puppy pre-school and dog obedience training, provide web links to these on Council website
- Promote regular exercise of dogs
- Provide police with dog cages for out of hours service
- Promote environmental enrichment for dogs at home
- Issue press releases at strategic times to minimise risk of dog attacks on livestock (e.g. lambing season, calving season)

Our current Compliance Activities

- Dog attack investigation and enforcement policy and procedures
- Respond to/attend dog attack reports immediately and as the top priority for animal management officers
- After hours number to report dog attacks
- Identify numbers of dog attacks in the community on a monthly basis, including information relating to the attacks: date, time, location, breed of dog, person attacked, animal attacked, category of injuries sustained, any information about owner/person in charge
- Conduct regular patrols at locations where there is a high incidence of attacks. Conduct patrols during periods of the day when there is a high incidence of attacks
- Conduct regular patrols to make sure dogs are confined to premises
- Ensure all reported dog attacks are recorded and investigated to meet all points of proof provided in the Act. Seize dogs and prosecute owners in accord with Council's enforcement strategy
- Enforce on-leash requirements – if not in an off-leash area, dogs must be on leash
- Proactive in declaring dogs dangerous or menacing (using the provisions of Sections and 34 and 41A respectively)
- On an as needs basis inform construction workers in new estate areas, etc, of the requirement to prevent their dogs from roaming
- Conduct patrols to minimise risk of dog attacks in holiday areas
- Ensure unclaimed dogs at the pound are temperament tested to determine whether they are suitable for rehoming

Community Feedback

- 34% of respondents reported they had experienced dogs at large whilst 20% of respondents reported experiencing menacing/rushing dogs with 12% involved in some form of dog attack

Summary

The change to the *Dogs in Public Places Policy* providing designated Off Leash 'Supervised' Areas, including conditions of use, will assist in reducing dog attacks in public open space. Community consultation identified that a visible enforcement and educative presence from CoGG would be critical to the success of the plan. Council will also be proactive in updating the community on compliance activities, such as actions taken and local areas of focus.

Further education and enforcements on dog attacks is a key priority as is the importance to encourage victims to report the incidents. Dog owners are strongly encouraged to conduct regular backyard checks to ensure their dog is properly contained to the property.

Recent changes to legislation designed to assist Councils to manage dog attacks have been demonstrated to have a range of limitations, particularly when involving legal action against dogs and their owners. Council will continue to advocate for further legislative reform to ensure it can effectively undertake it's duties in regards to animal management and community safety.

Our Plans

- To continue to investigate the incidents of dog attacks, reducing and minimising the risk
- Raise community awareness on how to prevent them occurring and encourage reporting of all dog attack incidences
- Seek to reduce the number of dog attacks in the community each year
- Promote the benefits of containing dogs to backyards
- Advocate for legislative reforms to ensure that the safety of the community is considered paramount when dog attack incidents are subject to prosecution or appeal.

Objective 9: Reduce the risk of dog attacks in public areas through enhanced patrols and encouraging the reporting of dog attacks and menacing behaviour to Council.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
9.1	Increase AMO patrol activity to seven-days per week and after-hours in accordance with Objective 8 (page 25-26) to reduce the risk of attacks from dogs at large, or off-leash and inadequately supervised dogs.	Ongoing	Enhanced compliance strategy implemented. Patrols operating after-hours and seven-days per week
9.1	Dog attack reporting can be highlighted in all relevant information material that is a) available and b) to be developed Community also to be encouraged to report dogs which repeatedly escape from their owner's properties	Ongoing	Ensure dog attack reporting is prominently promoted Promote the reporting of dogs at large

Objective 10: Increase awareness of dog attack prevention strategies to the community

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
10.1	Produce and distribute information material regarding dog attack prevention strategies Ensure the resources *We are Family* and Dogs 'n Kids are distributed to appropriate settings In conjunction with regional Councils, investigate the options for introducing Responsible Pet Ownership education for Grades 11-12	Ongoing	Information materials distributed and ongoing supplies maintained Liaise with regional Councils regarding options for RPO education in secondary educational settings

Objective 11: Advocate and educate dog owners to contain their dogs to their property to reduce dogs at large and subsequent dog attacks

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
11.1	Produce educational material targeting backyard containment including: A checklist to ensure your backyard is safe and secure for containing your dog with regular community reminders Reminder of fence heights for rural residential blocks	Year 1	Backyard containment material produced Checklist developed and available on website, through mailouts and Customer Service Centres
11.2	Investigate the feasibility of local hardware retailers providing workshops on cat and dog property containment	Year 2 – Year 3	Feasibility scoped Implemented if feasible
11.3	Advocate for legislative reform for increased penalties and sanctions for the owners of dogs who have been involved in multiple incidents (ie. Dogs at large, menacing behaviour or attacks) Support State Government proposals for suspending dog ownership rights for repeat offenders	Ongoing	Provide feedback to BAW during information and training days Provide submissions to proposed legislative changes

DANGEROUS, MENACING AND RESTRICTED BREED DOGS

Current Situation

Council takes very seriously any reports of suspected Restricted Breed Dogs and inspect and investigate these promptly to eliminate the risk to the community. Council will continue to utilise all available legislation to control and manage restricted breeds and dangerous dogs within our municipality. As at December 2012 the following information was applicable:

- Number of declared Dangerous Dogs/Guard Dogs registered – 26
- Number of Dangerous Dogs - 19
- Number of declared Menacing Dogs registered - 13
- Number of Restricted Breed Dogs registered - 17
- Number of compliance inspections conduced (Dangerous and Restricted) in the past 12 months - 75

Council Policies and Procedures

- Work Instruction associated with the declaration of a Dangerous and Menacing Dog
- Work Instruction associated with the declaration of a Restricted Breed Dog
- Work Instruction with investigating dog attacks and rushing dogs
- Dog Incident Work Instruction associated with seizure and impounding of dangerous and restricted breed dogs
- Council's animal registration form requires all owners of dogs to sign a declaration stating that the dog's breed has been correctly identified and if it is or is not a restricted breed dog. Registration can be refused if this declaration is not signed
- All proposals to declare dogs to be menacing or dangerous are considered by Senior Council officers and declarations signed off by the Manager, Health & Local Laws.
- Council includes the steps in DPI's flowchart for Restricted Breed Declaration and Process in conjunction with COGG's Identification and Declaration Process form. These forms include the approved breed standard for any dog that falls within the standard of pit bull terrier
- A nominated Administration Officer enters details of all declared dogs on the Victorian Declared Dog Registry. This officer also updates the Victorian Dangerous Dog Register (VDDR) with details of declared dogs destroyed
- The VDDR is audited annually to ensure the details of all declared dogs in COGG are up to date
- All notices to comply, infringement notices and filing of charges for prosecution regarding dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs is undertaken in accordance with Council's enforcement guidelines
- Operational procedures including work instructions are available to guide Officers in the performance of their duties. These are kept in Council's Document Management System
- Authorised Officers will attend VCAT hearings to hear appeals of declared dog owners when required
- Dog Handling Procedure and associated Risk Assessment

Our Current Education/Promotion Activities

- Provide residents with information on:
  - The types of declared dogs and how they are to be identified and kept in compliance with the Act and Regulations, including prescribed collars, signage at premises, housing requirements, muzzling, etc
  - How to report menacing dogs, dog bites
- Ensure all owners of declared dogs are aware of their obligations under the Act regarding identification and keeping these dogs by providing them with relevant sections of the Act, brochures, fact sheets/develop information kit
- Patrol industrial sites or building sites that may have guard dogs to promote legislative requirements
- Promote the Dangerous Dogs Hotline 1300 101 080

Our Current Compliance Activities

- Ensure all declared dogs are accurately registered on the VDDR and that details regarding change of owner/change of address/death of dog are updated as soon as possible.
- Conduct inspections of declared dogs annually to ensure they are identified and being kept in compliance with the Act and Regulations
- Follow-up non-compliance issues until owner complies
- Respond to complaints regarding menacing dogs/dangerous dogs within Council guidelines
- Establish Council policies and procedures for non-compliance – infringements, prosecutions
- Patrol industrial and commercial areas/non-residential premises after hours to check dangerous dogs guarding premises have been declared, are identified as required (collar of the kind prescribed), and are being kept in compliance with the Act and Regulations
- Ensure all declared dogs are implanted with a microchip by scanning prior to renewal of registration
- Examine registrations on Council database to identify and follow-up on suspected (non-declared) restricted breed dogs
- Seize unregistered, suspected restricted breed dogs
- Actively prosecute owners of restricted breed and declared dogs involved in serious dog attacks
- Review all dog attack cases to determine if it is appropriate to declare a dog dangerous and commence the statutory declaration procedure

Summary

Over the next four years, Council will work to ensure that all dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are kept in a manner which is compliant with the Code of Practice.

To achieve this aim Animal Management Officers will regularly conduct inspections to monitor compliance. Where breaches of the code are observed, enforcement will be swift. Officers will work actively with the community to detect breaches and investigate complaints, providing education and information to help ensure a safer community.

Our Plans

- To continue to identify and register all Declared Dogs in the municipality
- Inspect and audit all Declared Dog premises to ensure that they adhere to the keeping requirements identified in the DAA
- Identify all suspected unregistered Restricted Breed Dogs and enforce the provisions of DAA
- To lobby for legislative change to ensure that Council can meet it's obligations to the community in regards to dangerous, declared and menacing dogs

Objective 12: Identify and register Declared and Restricted Breed Dogs in the municipality

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
12.1	Inspect all industrial properties in the municipality for dogs housed or kept for guarding purposes	Ongoing	Number of patrols conducted
12.2	Educate the community about what is a declared dog, and encourage community reporting of suspected Restricted Breed Dogs to the Dangerous Dogs Hotline	Year 1	Website updated Media articles published Promotional materials
12.3	Ensure Council has specific declaration procedures for each of type of declaration: - dangerous dogs - menacing dogs - restricted breed dogs Lobby for legislative change to strengthen Council's powers of declarations and reduce the opportunities for these to be overturned on appeal	Ongoing	Procedures developed

Objective 13: Effectively inspect and audit all declared dog premises annually to ensure they are following the keeping requirements.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
13.1	Undertake annual program of audits of all properties that house declared dangerous dogs and restricted breeds using inspection templates to ensure all requirements are in place	Annually	Documented evidence of inspections and Notices issued Full compliance with all the legislative requirements

OVERPOPULATION AND HIGH EUTHANASIA

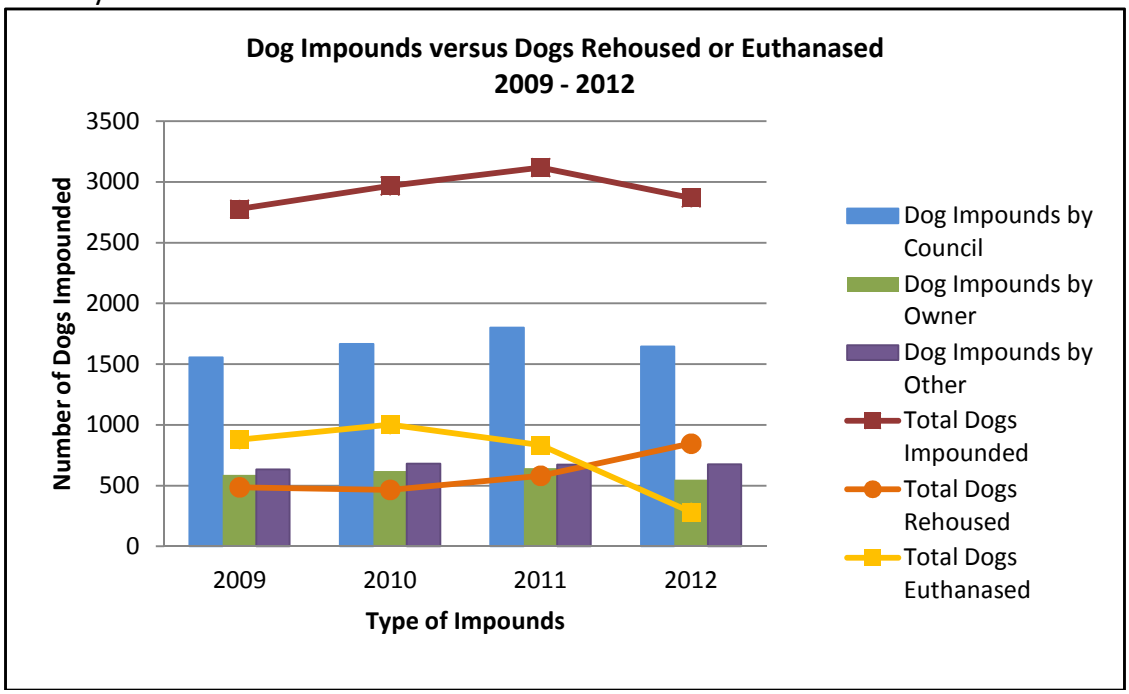
Current Situation

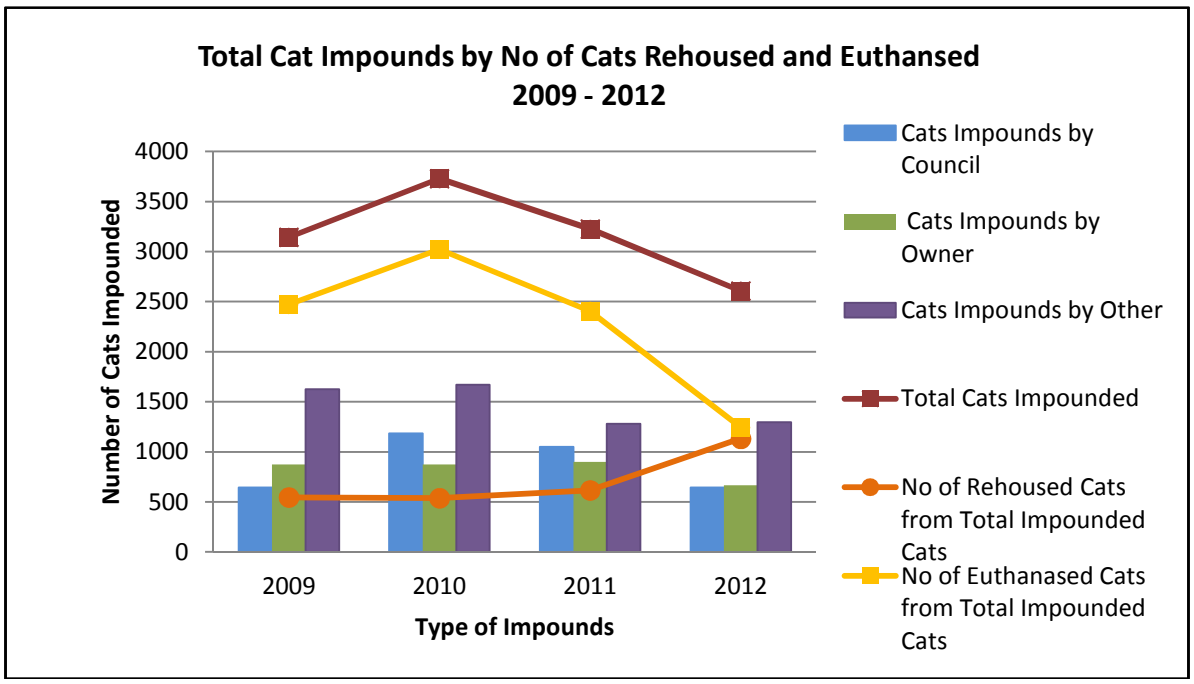
While there has been a significant reduction in euthanasia rates for impounded animals in recent years, the population of unwanted and unidentifiable cats in Geelong remains unacceptably high. Of the 3,227 impounded cats in 2011, only 205 cats were claimed by their owner, 616 were rehoused and 2,406 were euthanased. Many of those euthanised cats were kittens.

In comparison dogs are more likely to be reunited with their owner. In 2011, of the 3,119 impounded dogs, 1,704 were claimed by their owner, 582 were rehoused and 833 dogs were euthanased. Not all dogs are suitable for rehoming due to temperament issues.

One unspayed cat and her offspring can produce 420,000 cats within seven years. Desexing cats prevents unexpected/unwanted litters and reduces roaming and nuisance behaviour which can extend the lifespan of the animal.

The extremely low rate of impounded cats being claimed by their owners indicates that most are not registered and microchipped. Microchipping and registration can ensure that lost animals are reunited with their owners. While it is difficult to determine whether a cat which cannot be identified is "owned" or not, the majority of impounded cats show a degree of socialisation with people that suggests previous contact either through being an unwanted litter from an owned cat, or a litter from a stray or semi-owned cat. Monash University research has identified that approximately 20% of the community have fed a cat that didn't belong to them. This behaviour supports a significant population of unidentifiable and fertile cats which in turn promotes uncontrolled and unwanted litters in the community. Unowned cats also have a higher rate of disease and accidents, and have a substantially shorter life expectancy than owned cats.





Council Policies and Procedures

Procedures associated with seizure and impounding of dogs and cats in the community
Enforcement strategy associated with issuing notices to comply, infringement notices and filing charges for prosecution regarding dogs and/or cats that are not desexed

State legislation is applicable in regards to:

- Seizure of documents
- Written agreements with animal shelters or community foster care networks to provide impounding or rehoming services
- Attendance at VCAT to hear appeals of dog and/or cat owners

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

- Promote the benefits of desexing – no surprise litters, fewer unwanted animals in the community, fewer animals euthanased, reduced aggression, reduced wandering
- Distribute desexing, overpopulation and high euthanasia rate brochures, fact sheets and other material developed by the Council
- Continue registration and microchipping programs to ensure pet cats and dogs can be returned to their owners (see 'Registration and Identification' section for activities), to reduce euthanasia rates
- Provide information on how to find a lost pet on Council website, and other material distributed by Council

Our current Compliance Activities

- Determine whether the municipality has an overpopulation of cats and/or dogs by analysing relevant statistics and other information
- Investigate reports of animal hoarding
- Investigate reports of unauthorised 'backyard breeders' to ascertain whether they should be registered as a domestic animal business
- Provide loan cat cages (free of charge) to local residents for trapping trespassing cats
- Review policies and procedures for impounded animals to investigate rehoming options

- Review policies and procedures on temperament testing of dogs and cats admitted to the pound
- Conduct patrols to pick up feral and stray cats and dogs to reduce breeding
- Introduced a cat curfew to reduce incidence of breeding with unowned cats, to decrease the number of unwanted litters in the community

Summary

During the life of this plan, all cats in the City of Greater Geelong will be required to be desexed, and all new registrations will require the cat to be desexed. Desexed animals with microchips qualify for an ongoing reduction in registration fees, which is expected to provide a strong incentive to the community.

City of Greater Geelong recognises the benefits in partnerships and works closely with their pound provider to develop business practices with an increased focus on rehousing animals. Council has also entered into a number of agreements with other Animal Shelters and Animal Rescue Groups in order to increase the opportunities to find homes for unclaimed dogs and cats which has significantly lowered the euthanasia rate over the past 18 months.

Council will also investigate ways of offering subsidised desexing to people with low incomes to alleviate cost pressures and facilitate community acceptance and compliance. Many of the larger Victorian municipalities support subsidised desexing through Council-funded voucher programs, or through partnerships with other agencies. Not-for-profit organisations are also able to apply for grants, such as through the Victorian Animal Welfare Fund (raised from animal registration fees) for the provision of low/no-cost desexing programs.

Our Plans

- Increase desexing rates of registered dogs and cats
- Raise the awareness of semi-owned cats and promote taking ownership to reduce unwanted litters
- Promote reclaiming and rehoming of dogs and cats through Council's pound provider

Objective 14: Increase desexing rates of registered dogs and cats

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
14.1	Introduce a compulsory desexing order: • All newly registered cats are to be desexed • All existing registered cats to be desexed during the life of the plan (4 years)[6]	Year 1	Order adopted by Council and implemented

[6] See Appendix 2 for categories of cats exempt from mandatory desexing

14.2	Scope strategy for implementation of a subsidised desexing scheme for low-income earners. Partnerships with local vet clinics and shelters will be investigated for service delivery. Implementation plan for delivery of scheme	Year 1 – Year 2	Strategy scoped, report to Council for decision on recommendations
14.3	Promotion of voluntary desexing of dogs and cats through education and registration fee differential. Provide information regarding the benefits of desexing with registration/renewal approvals, including a visual demonstration of the "cat population pyramid".	Ongoing	Promotion on website materials, opportunistic media opportunities Desexing information distributed for registrations and renewals

Objective 15: Raise awareness about semi-owned cat population and undertake to identify the cat populations contributing to over-population

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
15.1	Support the "Who's for cats?" campaign and encourage the community to take ownership of semi-owned cats.	Annually	Provide link to "Who's for cats?" Produce information regarding the challenges posed by semi-owned cats
15.2	Investigate options to estimate the population of semi-owned, unowned and feral cats in the City, and appropriate management strategies to reduce the volume of cats being impounded	Year 2 – Year 4	Options scoped

Objective 16: Promote reclaims and rehoming rates of impounded dogs and cats from Council's pound provider

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
16.1	Promote online adoption program of dogs and cats in animal shelters – provide links on Council website to shelters to promote adoption of unclaimed animals to prospective new owners	Year 1	Links established on Council's website
16.2	Investigate the feasibility of increasing the opening hours of the pound to increase reclaiming rates	Year 1-2	Pound opening hours reviewed in consultation with the pound operator
16.3	Develop an online "billboard" with images of impounded animals in conjunction with Council's pound provider to increase reclaiming rates	Year 1	Billboard developed and implemented

16.4	Work in partnership with Council's pound provider to promote the benefits of adopting animals from the shelter and from rescue organisations	Ongoing	Benefits promoted Rehousing rates increased

DOMESTIC ANIMAL BUSINESSES

Current Situation

Council takes very seriously any reports of suspected 'backyard breeders' and any Domestic Animal Businesses (DABs) that may not be operating in accordance with the DAA and relevant Codes of Practice. Council will inspect and investigates these reports promptly to protect the welfare of animals involved. Council will continue to utilise all available legislation to control and manage Domestic Animal Businesses and eliminate any 'backyard breeders' within our municipality. As at December 2012 the following information was applicable:

- 10 registered Domestic Animal Businesses
- 15 boarding establishments
- 1 dog training business under consideration

All DABs are audited annually and followed up on non-compliance issues. Council also monitors all animals sold to ensure they have been microchipped and registered.

Council Policies and Procedures

- State Legislation applies to the management and operation of Domestic Animal Businesses
- Forms for registration and information DAB's are available on Council website and at Council offices
- All DABs must be registered and audited annually
- Each registration to be individually considered against checklist as to whether specific conditions are required
- Council maintains a standard record/audit sheets on database of registered DABs
- Education and enforcement strategy associated with issuing notices to comply, infringement notices and filing charges for prosecution regarding management of dogs and cats
- Operational procedures including OHS Work Instructions are available to guide officers in the performance of their duties.
- Authorised Officers will attend VCAT hearings to hear appeals of proprietors of domestic animal businesses when and if required

Our Current Education/Promotion Activities

- Provide all DAB's with relevant Codes of Practice
- BAW fact sheets on DABs available in Council offices and with website links established

Our Current Compliance Activities

- Register all DABs
- Conduct an annual audit of all DAB's including relevant audit documentation
- Follow up any non-compliance as required
- Regular patrols for new/non-registered DAB's – on notification

- Conduct random inspections of DABs
- Regular 'Google' and local paper check to search for possible undiscovered DABs
- Follow up registration on animals sold from DAB's
- Conduct annual re-registration audits annually to allow any non compliance to be addressed
- Ensure that any non compliance with permit conditions is rectified using notices to comply, information sheets etc
- In cases of serious non compliance, permits may be suspended or cancelled
- Non complying DABs will not receive re-registration until legislative requirements are met
- Procedures in place for DAB's to notify Council of any animals sol or given away
- Investigate all reported complaints about DAB's within operational response timeframes
- Provide educational information to people making queries about setting up a DAB to let them know of all the requirements involved, before they start making too many plans
- DAB registration fees are set to reflect the cost of annual audits and inspections
- Investigate reports of unauthorised 'backyard breeders' to ascertain whether they should be registered as a DAB

Summary

Over the next four years, Council will work to ensure that all Domestic Animal Businesses are compliant with the Code of Practice and that 'backyard breeders' are eliminated.

To achieve this aim Council Officers will regularly conduct inspections to monitor compliance. Where breaches of the code are observed, enforcement will be prompt and relevant action taken in accordance with the Act. Council Officers will actively work within the community to detect breaches and investigate complaints particularly in relation to 'backyard breeders', providing education and information to protect the welfare of animals.

Council is of the view that the criteria by which a dog or cat breeding enterprise[7] qualifies as a Domestic Animal Business is set too high. Dog or cat breeding businesses who are members of an Applicable Organisation (such as Dogs Victoria) only qualify as a Domestic Animal Business where there are ten or more fertile females. A dog or cat breeding business who are not members of an Applicable Organisation qualify as a Domestic Animal Business where there are three or more fertile females. Given the significant and widespread community concerns regarding "backyard breeders", Council consider that a regulatory presence in lower volume breeding situations is warranted.

Our Plans

- Manage existing Domestic Animal Businesses in the municipality and identify unregistered breeding operations for compliance and enforcement
- Ensure that all Animal Management Officers (AMOs) and their supervisors are updated on the legislation in relation to DABs
- Annually inspect and audit all registered DABs and investigate any suspected unregistered DABs

[7] Where the animals are sold, whether a profit is made or not

- Advocate for legal criteria to qualify as a DAB to be reduced so that more animal breeding enterprises are subject to regulation and compliance audits

Objective 17: Ensure that all Animal Management Officers (AMOs) and their supervisors are updated on the legislation in relation to DABs.

	Activity	When	Evaluation
17.1	Establish a working group within council of AMOs to review and provide feedback on information products, strategies and plans developed from the DAM Plan.	Ongoing	Working group established
17.2	Provide submissions to revisions of Code of Practice for Breeding and Rearing Establishments	Ongoing	Make a Council approved submission on the Breeding Code review at formal public comment stage
17.3	Advocate to lower the threshold definition of a Domestic Animal Business to ensure that lower-volume breeders are subject to audit and inspection	Ongoing	Provide feedback to BAW during information and training days Provide submissions to proposed legislative changes

Objective 18: Annually inspect and audit all registered DABs and investigate any suspected unregistered DABs.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
18.1	AMOs will audit all DABs in their relevant geographic area of responsibility	Annually	All DABs audited Number of prosecutions
18.2	AMOs will conduct random patrols of all DABs in their relevant geographic area of responsibility	Annually	Number of new DABs identified Number of prosecutions
18.3	Investigate any report of unregistered DAB within operational response timeframes	Ongoing	Number of reports Number of prosecutions

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Current Situation

- AMOs provide assistance to our community during emergencies and periods of community need. AMOs provide assistance to the emergency services when required during the response to, and recovery from, emergencies.

Council Policies and Procedures

- Operational procedures including OHS Work Instructions are available to guide Officers in the performance of their duties
- City of Greater Geelong Emergency Management Plan (GEMP)

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

- Advise residents of Council organised events involving fireworks in City News so owners can reduce animal fear and escape

Our current Compliance Activities

- Develop contact list for regarding animal emergency planning – Council contacts, shelters, animal welfare organisations, DPI. And work out your arrangements with those contacts in the event of emergencies.
- Annual inspection of excess animal permit properties, particularly those with permit for large number of animals
- Establish Animal Management Liaison Group with neighbouring Councils for sharing of ideas, policies and procedures, etc
- Seek assistance from RSPCA and other authorised POCTA Act officers as required

Summary

Our Plans

- Promote emergency planning to ensure the welfare of animals in emergencies

Objective 19: Promote emergency planning to ensure the welfare of animals in emergencies:

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
19.1	Liaise with breeding and boarding DABs regarding their emergency plans	Ongoing	Guidance provided to DABs regarding emergency planning
19.2	Integrate animal welfare plans into existing emergency management arrangements	Ongoing	Animal welfare plans integrated into emergency management arrangements
19.3	Provide education to residents regarding planning for their pets in emergencies	Ongoing	DPI information distributed and link available on website

ANNUAL REVIEW OF PLAN AND ANNUAL REPORTING

Council must:

- Review its domestic animal management plan annually and, if appropriate, amend the plan
- Provide the Department of Primary Industries' Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan
- Publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in its annual report.

Each year Council conducts a review of the Domestic Animal Management Plan. A copy of this review is presented to Council for information. This report is then forwarded to the Department of Primary Industries' Secretary with any proposed amendments. Additionally a copy of this report is included in Council's Annual Report which community have access to via Council's website.

Annual and Ongoing activities will be reported in the following format

Objective	Activities Undertaken	Evaluation
Training of Authorised Officers	▪ Conducted annual performance review ▪ Attended workshops and seminars ▪ Conducted refresher training in house	

Yearly activities will be reported in the following format

Objective	When evaluated	Activities Undertaken	Evaluation
To reduce barking dog complaints and nuisance behaviour in the community	Year 1	Update barking dog information kits to provide to owners of alleged barking dogs. Review information material with local veterinary practices and animal behaviourists	Barking dog kit updated

APPENDIX 1

Domestic Animals Act – 1994 (Part 1)

Purpose of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 (as amended)

The purpose of this Act is to promote animal welfare, the responsible ownership of dogs and cats and the protection of the environment by providing for:

- A scheme to protect the community and the environment from feral and nuisance dogs and cats;
- A registration and identification scheme for dogs and cats which recognises and promotes responsible ownership;
- The identification and control of dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs;
- A registration scheme for domestic animal businesses promoting the maintenance of standards of those businesses;
- Matters related to the boarding of dogs and cats;
- The regulation of the permanent identification of dogs, cats, horses and other animals;
- Payments to the Treasurer from fees received by Councils under this Act; and
- Other related matters.

Domestic Animal Management Plans

Under Section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act, every Council must prepare a domestic animal management plan, as follows:

68A Councils to prepare domestic animal management plans

1) Every Council must, in consultation with the Secretary (*of the Department of Primary Industries*), prepare at 4 year intervals a domestic animal management plan.
2) A domestic animal management plan prepared by a Council must—
   a) set out a method for evaluating whether the animal control services provided by the Council in its municipal district are adequate to give effect to the requirements of this Act and the regulations; and
   b) Outline programs for the training of authorised officers to ensure that they can properly administer and enforce the requirements of this Act in the Council's municipal district; and
   c) Outline programs, services and strategies which the Council intends to pursue in its municipal district—
      i) To promote and encourage the responsible ownership of dogs and cats; and
      ii) To ensure that people comply with this Act, the regulations and any related legislation; and

iii) To minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals; and

iv) To address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats; and

v) To encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats; and

vi) To minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance; and

vii) To effectively identify all dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in that district and to ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with this Act and the regulations; and

d) Provide for the review of existing orders made under this Act and local laws that relate to the Council's municipal district with a view to determining whether further orders or local laws dealing with the management of dogs and cats in the municipal district are desirable; and

e) Provide for the review of any other matters related to the management of dogs and cats in the Council's municipal district that it thinks necessary; and

f) Provide for the periodic evaluation of any program, service, strategy or review outlined under the plan.

3) Every Council must—

a) Review its domestic animal management plan annually and, if appropriate, amend the plan; and

b) Provide the Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan; and

c) Publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in its annual report.

APPENDIX 2

Exemptions from mandatory desexing orders

10B Dogs and cats that are exempt from desexing

(1) The following dogs and cats do not have to be desexed to be registered or to have their registration renewed by a Council—

(a) a dog or cat that is owned by a person or body that conducts a domestic animal business under which dogs or cats are bred and the dog or cat is used for breeding purposes in connection with that business;

(b) a dog or cat that is owned by a person who is a current member of an applicable organisation and the animal is registered with that organisation;

(c) a dangerous dog that is kept as a guard dog for non-residential premises;

(d) a dangerous dog that has undergone protection training in accordance with any relevant Code of Practice made under section 59;

(e) a dog or cat that is the subject of written veterinary advice that the health of the dog or cat is liable to be significantly prejudiced if it is desexed;

(f) a dog or cat that is of a class of dog or cat that is exempt under a resolution made under section 10A from a requirement to be desexed.

(2) A Council may, in any resolution made under section 10A, exempt a class of dog or cat from any requirement to be desexed for the purposes of registration or the renewal of registration.

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply to a dangerous dog or a restricted breed dog.

COUNCIL POLICY

DOG CONTROLS IN PUBLIC PLACES	Document No:	CPL
	Approval Date:	22/10/13
	Approved By:	Council
	Review Date:	
Responsible Officer: **General Manager Community Services**	Version No	
Authorising Officer:	**Chief Executive Officer**	

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to recognise that dog controls in public places is necessary, and implemented on a balanced approach, for the benefit of all members of the community.

The policy will guide the community with respect to understanding dog control rules within the municipality and conditions that apply in open public spaces to ensure community safety, environment protection and fair and equitable access to such spaces.

2. SCOPE

The policy applies to all areas within the municipality.

3. REFERENCES

- Domestic Animals Act 1994
- Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013 - 2017

4. DEFINITIONS

- Road has the same meaning as ascribed to it by Section 3 of the Local Government Act

5. COUNCIL POLICY

The following principles will be used for the implementation of this policy:

Off Leash 'Supervised' Areas

Locations

Dogs are allowed off leash and supervised in specific designated public open space areas and/or any area as indicated by the relevant signage. This includes, amongst other designated public open spaces;

- Those paths and adjoining land located on the Fyansford Common and the shared path on the northern side of the Barwon River upstream from the Queens Park Bridge to Fyansford Common including Zillah Crawcour Park);
- Sporting grounds/ovals (playing area) outside times when being used for organised sports, including training (as defined by a formal booking with council)
- Sporting complexes/reserves – outside times when being used for organised sports, including training (as defined by a formal booking with council)
- A range of Reserves as listed in the attachment to this policy
- A range of broad open space parks as listed in the attachment to this Policy and as represented by Map 2.

Council will review the effectiveness of these 'Off Leash – Supervised Areas' on an ongoing basis and will also consider any request for new 'Off Leash – Supervised Areas' to be established based on the following criteria, which will ensure safety, and equitable access to such spaces. These include:

- Linear open public spaces (i.e. green corridors, easements) may be considered if there is sufficient width to ensure safe use and passage
- Public open spaces that do not contain a playground or where the playground is fully enclosed/fenced. Open public spaces with centrally located playgrounds are not suitable as an 'Off Leash - Supervised Area'
- Public open spaces that are located at a safe distance from busy roads
- Any other public open space not mentioned above that is not adjoining/adjacent to a water body and where no wildlife is present
- Places where there is no detriment to public safety or the environment through the use of such open public spaces
- Suitable open spaces will be reviewed annually to monitor performance and identify any additional reserves that may be suitable as "Off Leash - Supervised Areas'.

Conditions Applicable to 'Off Leash - Supervised Areas'

The following conditions must be followed when using the 'Off Leash - Supervised Areas':

The handler must have a dog lead in their possession and place their dog back on the leash when leaving the off leash area.

- The handler must be able to demonstrate audible control of the dog.
- Dogs must remain in visual and audible range of their handler to allow it to be effectively recalled at any time.
- When encountering other people or animals using this area, the dog must be recalled and restrained until both parties have moved apart at a safe distance.
- Dogs must not enter water habitats that contain wildlife, beach nesting birds or chase wildlife in these areas;
- Dogs attracted to the motion of wheels must be controlled at all times;

- Dogs that are aggressive to people or other dogs, behave in an anti social manner, or are over excitable should be muzzled when in public and not to be off leash; and
- Dogs declared menacing/dangerous/restricted breed are not permitted to be walked off-lead in 'Off Leash – Supervised Areas'.

Signage

- Signs will clearly indicate those parks, reserves or public open spaces where dogs are permitted to be off a leash and supervised.

On Leash 'Controlled' Areas

- Within the City of Greater Geelong, unless otherwise designated by signage, all public open space areas shall be designated as 'On Leash - Controlled Areas' (public open space areas includes roads, footpaths, beaches, reserves, parks, playgrounds and other council lands and buildings).

More specifically this includes:

- All roads and footpaths/nature strips/shared paths.
- Shopping centres.
- High use areas pedestrian and/or cycling areas (for example the Waterfront Precinct in Geelong).
- Sporting complexes and reserves (not including playing area) during times of organised sports (as defined by a formal booking with council which includes times booked for sports practice/training).
- At Council sanctioned/approved events, markets etc.
- Shared use paths or walking paths and including areas either side of the abutting edge of the path; (except those in designated 'Off Leash – Supervised Areas').
- Dogs being within and/or tethered within ten (10) metres of children's play equipment.
- Dogs being within and/or tethered within ten (10) meters of picnic and barbecue areas (as defined by council provided barbecues and/or tables and associated seating).
- In areas designated as environmentally significant
- Jetties and piers.
- Water bodies such as creeks, rivers, lakes, and beaches (ocean, bay) unless signposted as a dedicated swimming area for dogs.
- Beach foreshore and coastline areas (except those designated otherwise).

Conditions applying to all 'On Leash Controlled Areas' and 'Off Leash Supervised Areas'

- The handler must at all times have a means to pick up and dispose of dog droppings – penalties apply.

- Dogs when tethered must never be left unattended anywhere e.g. play equipment, shopping precincts.
- Leads must not exceed 2 metres in length.
- Retractable leads must be restricted to 2 metres in length in 'On Leash – Controlled Areas'.

Dog Control Categories

Dog Control Categories (applicable to coastline areas and other public open spaces as designated) apply to reflect the needs of all public open space users and ensure community safety and environmental protection.

Category 1 (Green) – Off leash 'Supervised' Area

- Areas where dogs are permitted off leash and supervised all year round.

Category 2 (Yellow) – Conditional Off Leash 'Supervised' Area

- Allow dogs off leash and supervised during specified times all year round; in the mornings prior to 10.00 a.m. and in the evenings after 5.00 p.m. Dogs would be required to be on leash at all other times.
- On land managed by the Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management, allow dogs off leash and supervised at any times between May 1 and October 31 each year. Dogs would be prohibited during all other periods.

Category 3 (Blue) – Conditional On Leash 'Controlled' Area

- On land managed by the Barwon Coast Committee of Management, allow dogs on leash and controlled at any times between 1 December to 17 December and 1 February to 30 April each year. Dogs permitted off leash and supervised between 1 May to 30 November.
- Dogs would be prohibited at other times in designated areas as signed.

Category 4 (Brown) – On Leash 'Controlled' Area (Environmentally Sensitive Areas) and/or high use pedestrian/tourist precincts

- Areas where dogs are required to be on leash all year round due to:
  - environmental sensitivity
  - where there is an Order by Council
  - the land management authority (not being Council) has regulated dog access under their own rules or legislation
  - high use pedestrian/tourist precincts

Category 5 (Purple) – Conditional On Leash 'Controlled' Area (Hooded Plover and Wildlife Zones)

- Allow dogs on leash during specified periods as designated by signage including periods during the hooded plover nesting season and/or other periods dedicated to protecting other wildlife (i.e. seals, penguins). Dogs are permitted to be off leash and supervised at other times/periods.

Category 6 (Red) - Exclusion Area All Year Round

- Areas that will have dogs prohibited for reasons of:
  - extremely high environmental sensitivity;
  - where there is an Order by Council;
  - the land management authority (not being Council) has prohibited dogs under their own rules or legislation (effected by a dog control order).

Designated 'Off Leash - Supervised Areas'

TABLE 1: Designated 'Off Leash - Supervised Areas'			
Park/Reserve	**Location**	**Zone**	**Melways Reference**
North Zone			
Elcho Park	125 Elcho Road Lara	North	422 B7
Abe Wood Reserve	300 Evans Road Lovely Banks	North	431 A3
Sutcliff Reserve	240-268 Plantation Road Corio	North	431 J4
Stead Park	190-216 Princess Highway Corio	North	432 C10
Myers Reserve	5-35 Bluestone Bridge Road Bell Post Hill	North	441 C1
Seagull Paddock	380-400 Melbourne Road North Geelong	North	441 K3
Fyansford Common	Deviation Road Fyansford	North	451 A2
South Zone			
Rotary Centennial Park	188A West Fyans Street Newtown	South	451 E6
Frank Mann Reserve	5 Heal Street Ceres	South	450 C11
Grinter Reserve	125-177 Coppards Road Moolap	South	453 B12
Brearley Reserve	Grove Road Marshall	South	465 K4
Breakwater Road Reserve	Breakwater Road Belmont	South	466 C1
East Zone			
Portarlington Recreation Reserve	4-22 Sproat Street Portarlington	East	444 F6
Drysdale Recreation Reserve	30 Duke Street Drysdale	East	456 G11
Charles McCarthy Memorial Reserve	Leviens Road St Leonards	East	459 K11
Kingston Park Recreation Reserve	8-52 Adco Grove Ocean Grove	East	484 C9
Collendina Reserve	93A Sunset Strip Ocean Grove	East	484 E12
Beacon Point Reserve	Beacon Point Road Clifton Springs	East	457 A2

TABLE 2: Sporting Grounds/Ovals (playing area only) available as an 'Off Leash - Supervised Area' Outside times when being used for organised sports, including training (as defined by a formal booking with Council))		
Reserve	**Address**	**Melways Reference**
Abe Wood Reserve	Evans Road, Lovely Banks	431 A3
Anakie Reserve	Demotts Road, Anakie	Key Map 11 A
Bakers Oval	Shannon Avenue, Geelong West	441 G12
Barwon Heads Reserve - CROWN LAND	Barwon Heads Road, Barwon Heads	497 A2
Belmont Common North- CROWN LAND	Settlement Road, Belmont	451 K8
Belmont Common South- CROWN LAND	Breakwater Road, Belmont	466 A1
Breakwater Reserve	Tanner Street, Breakwater	466 D2
Burdoo Reserve	Wingarra Drive, Grovedale	465 E9
Ceres Reserve - CROWN LAND	Cochranes Road, Ceres	450 B12
Collendina Reserve	Sunset Strip, Ocean Grove	484 D12
Corio Community Reserve	Hendy Street, Corio	432 C7
Drysdale Reserve - CROWN LAND	Wyndham Street, Drysdale	456 F10
Eastern Park - CROWN LAND	1-45 Garden Street, East Geelong	402 P6
Elcho Park	Elcho Road, Lara	422 A7
Elderslie Reserve	Read Street, Newtown	451 D2
Ervin Reserve	Richard Street, Newcomb	452 K9
Evans Reserve	Sparks Road, Norlane	431 K12
Flinders Peak Reserve	Hendy Street, Corio	432 C7, D6
Frier Reserve	West Fyans Street, Newtown	451 G7
Grinter Reserve	Coppards Road, Newcomb	453 B12
Grovedale Reserve - CROWN LAND	Reserve Road, Grovedale	465 H7
Hamlyn Park	Calvert Street, Hamlyn Heights	441 F10
Herne Hill Reserve	Finchaven Street, Herne Hill	451 D1
Highton Reserve	95-105 Barrabool Road, Highton	451 C10
Howard Glover Reserve - CROWN LAND	Limeburners Road, Geelong	452 H6
Hume Reserve	Thompsons Road, North Geelong	441 H5
Harold Hurst Reserve	Douglass Street, Herne Hill	441 E11
King Lloyd Reserve	Windsor Road, Newtown	451 E8
Lake Lorne Equestrian	Reserve Road, Drysdale	470 F1
Lara Reserve	Walkers Road, Lara	423 B5
Leopold Reserve	Melaluka Road, Leopold	468 D2
McDonald Reserve	Reynolds Road, Belmont	465 D1
Mount Duneed Reserve	Russells Road, Mount Duneed	479 A4
Myers Reserve	Creamery Road, Bell Post Hill	441 A2
Ocean Grove Reserve	Draper Street, Ocean Grove	483 J11
Osborne Park	Osborne Avenue, North	442 A8

	Geelong	
Peter Lowe Reserve	Minerva Road, Herne Hill	441 F1
Portarlington Reserve	Sproat Street, Portarlington	444 F6
Queen's Park Reserve	150 Queens Park Road, Highton	451 B4
Rees Reserve	Old Melbourne Road, Little River	200 E9
Richmond Crescent	Richmond Crescent, South Geelong	452 C7
St Albans Reserve	Boundary Road, Whittington	452 G12
St Leonards Reserve	McLeod Street, St Leonards	460 A10
Shell Reserve	Purnell Road, Corio	432 B8
Shell Road Reserve (Surfside)	Shell Road, Ocean Grove	484 C10
South Barwon Reserve	Barwon Heads Road, Belmont	451 K10
Stead Park	St Georges Road, Corio	432 B10
Thomson Reserve	Godfrey Street, Thomson	452 F8
Tim Hill Reserve	Wandana Drive, Wandana Heights	450 K11
Vines Road	Vines Road, Hamlyn Heights	441 E10
Wallington Reserve	Wallington Road, Wallington	483 D4
Wathaurong Reserve	Collins Street, Drysdale	456 K9
Western Oval	Church Street, North Geelong	441 J11
Windmill Reserve	Mayfair Drive Newtown	451 D5
Windsor Park	Rose Avenue, Norlane	432 B12
Winter Reserve	Kidman Avenue, Belmont	465 F2

Table 3: Reserves available as an 'On Leash - Controlled Areas'		
Reserve	**Address**	**Melways Reference**
Aitken Park	7 Aitken Court, Whittington	466 H1
Bank Reserve	20 Bank Street, Lara	423 A6
Belmont Heights Neighbourhood Park	Cnr Regent Street and Amundsen Street, Belmont	451 H10
Bennett Reserve	6A Bennett Street, Highton	451 B9
Buckingham Reserve	66 Buckingham Road, Newtown	451 E6
Cara Reserve	5A Cara Road, Highton	451 D9
Chandos Reserve	4A McGill Court, St Albans	466 G2
Clunies Reserve	10 Clunies Court, Corio	431 H6
Cornthwaite Reserve	2 Cornthwaite Crescent, Leopold	468 G2
Crane Reserve	9 Crane Court, Ocean Grove	483 J10
Fairmont Reserve	21 Fairmont Road, Newtown	451 E6
Fairnie Reserve	1A Fairnie Street, Hamlyn Heights	441 D9
Ferndale Reserve	6A Ferndale Parade, Highton	451 E10
Herd Reserve,	2A Regent Street, Belmont	451 J11
Hollywood Reserve	12 Hollywood Boulevard, Point Lonsdale	499 J10
Iona Reserve	28A Iona Avenue, Belmont	451 D12
Ising Reserve	8 Ising Street, Newcomb	452 H8
Janet Reserve	3 Janet Court, Newcomb	452 J9
Kindale Reserve	10 Kindale Court, Belmont	465 C3
Kyle Reserve	2A Kyle Avenue, Belmont	451 H9
Lambhill Reserve	282 Mt Pleasant Road, Highton	451 A9
Lancaster Reserve	11 Nelson Avenue, Newcomb	452 K10
LJ Keavy Park	25 Eureka Street, Geelong West	451 G3
Maynooth Reserve	4A Maynooth Drive, Norlane	431 H10
McShane Reserve	6 McShane Court, Rosewall	432 F5
Milton Reserve	Milton Street, Bell Park	441 F7
Morris Reserve	18A Morris Street, Belmont	451 G10
Osborne House	78 Osborne Avenue, Nth Geelong	441 H7
Pitman Avenue Reserve	2-6 Silver Street, Newcomb	452 J9
Rippleside Park	42 Bell Parade, Rippleside	442 A10
Rodborough Reserve	23A Rodborough Crescent, Corio	432 B6
St Helens Park	9-21 Holden Avenue, Nth Geelong	
Stan Swain Childrens Playground	50 Westmoreland Street, Whittington	466 H1
Stork Reserve	26A Stork Avenue, Belmont	465 H1
Stradling Reserve	6 York Street, Geelong	452 A1
Thornbury Reserve	3A Thornbury Lane, Highton	451 C8
Tilly Reserve	7 Tilly Court, Newcomb	452 J9
Vincent Park	59 Truscott Street, Whittington	452 J11
Wilton Avenue Reserve	25 Wilton Avenue, Newcomb	452 H9

Dog Controls in Coastal and Other Open Space Areas

The following maps (19 in total) show various coastal beaches, reserves and open space areas within the City of Greater Geelong. The maps commence at the south western boundary of the municipality and work around the coastline to the north eastern boundary near Little River.

MAP NO	DESCRIPTION
Map 1	Overview of Municipality Coastline.
Map 2	Designated 'Off Leash - Supervised' Areas within Sporting Complexes and Reserves.
Map 3	Redgum Island, Fyansford Common – Barwon River.
Map 4	Breamlea Beach and Bancoora Beach.
Map 5	Ocean Grove, Collendina and Point Lonsdale Beaches.
Map 6	Black Rock; Thirteenth Beach; Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove. Land is managed by Barwon Coast Committee of Management who has determined existing dog controls. Council has adopted these dog control controls.
Map 7	Swan Bay and Edwards Point. Land is managed by Parks Victoria.
Map 8	8A: Portarlington 8B: The Esplanade 8C: Indented Head 8D: St Leonards 8E: St Leonards to Edwards Point Land is managed by Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management who determines their dog control orders. Council at its discretion may adopt such orders.
Map 9	Ramblers Road; The Dell; Jetty Road and west of Jetty Road Beaches Clifton Springs.
Map 10	Point Henry (east and west side).
Map 11	Waterfront Precinct, Geelong.
Map 12	Western Beach; Rippleside Beach and St Helens Beach.
Map 13	Moorpanyal Beach, North Shore; Shell Foreshore (beach area); Grammer School beach; Limeburners Lagoon and Avalon Beach.
Map 14	Batesford Reserve, Batesford.
Map 15	Land along Barwon River from Queens Park Bridge to Breakwater. This land is managed by Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (with a small portion managed by Barwon Water near the MacIntyre Footbridge). Existing dog controls have been implemented by these land managers and Council does not have the authority to amend these controls.

Colour coding of the maps demonstrates dog controls at a glance. The category of controls in turn relate back to Council's Policy on Dogs in Public Places
It should be noted that the maps are not inclusive of all open space areas within the City of Greater Geelong. The areas depicted are those where Council has made a decision in relation to dog controls. As the plan evolves more open space areas may become subject to 'On Leash – Supervised' requirements.

6. QUALITY RECORDS

Quality Records shall be retained for at least the period shown below.

Record	Retention/Disposal Responsibility	Retention Period	Location
Domestic (Feral and Nuisance) Animals Act 1994	Victorian Government	N/A	N/A
Domestic Animal Management Plan			

7. ATTACHMENTS

Dog Controls - Beaches - Map 1

LEGEND

Off - Leash "Supervised" Area (Category 1)
Allow dogs off leash and supervised. Conditions of use apply.
Dogs must be on leash during Council sanctioned events, markets and sporting activiites.

Conditional Off - Leash 'Supervised' Area (Category 2)
Allow dogs off leash and supervised during specified times all year round; in the mornings prior to 10.00 a.m. and in the evenings after 5.00 p.m. Dogs would be required to be on leash at all other times.

Conditional On Leash 'Controlled' Area (Category 3) - to be used as determined
Allow dogs on leash in the mornings prior to 10.00 a.m. and in the evening after 5.00 p.m.
Dogs would be prohibited at other times in designated areas as signed.

On Leash 'Controlled' Area (Environmentally Sensitive Areas) Category 4
Areas where dogs are required to be on leash all year round due to:
- environmental sensitivity
- where there is an Order by Council
- the land management authority (not being Council) has regulated dog access under their own rules or legislation
- high use pedestrian / tourist precinct

Conditional On Leash 'Controlled' Area (Hooded Plover & Wildlife Zones) Category 5
Allow dogs on leash during specified periods as designated by signage including periods during the hood plover nesting season and/or other periods dedicated to protecting other wildlife (i.e. seals, penguins).
Dogs are permitted to be off leash and supervised at other times/periods.

Exclusion area all year round (Category 6)
Areas that will have dogs prohibited for reasons of:
- extremely high environmental sensitivity
- where there is an Order by Council
- the land management authority (not being Council) has prohibited dogs under their own rules or legislation (effected by a dog control order)

GEELONG WATERFRONT PRECINCT

privately owned

privately owned

Point Lillias

Point Wilson

Corio Bay

St Helens south to Victoria St

Rippleside Park Foreshore

SEE ENLARGEMENT

Griffins Gully Jetty

Point Henry

Clifton Ave

privately owned

Griggs Creek

CLIFTON SPRINGS

Ramblers Rd

privately owned

PORTARLINGTON

Authority - Bellarine Bayside subject to separate order

INDENTED HEAD

ST.LEONARDS

Authority - Parks Victoria subject to separate order

Swan Bay

QUEENSCLIFF

SHIRE

POINT LONSDALE

Lake Connewarre

Authority - Barwon Coast subject to separate order

OCEAN GROVE

BARWON HEADS

BREAMLEA

0 1 2 4 6 8 Km

N

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Dog Controls - Map 2
Designated Off Leash 'Supervised' Area - within sporting complexes and reserves

LEGEND

Off - Leash 'Supervised' Area (Category 1)
Allow dogs off leash and supervised. Conditions of use apply.
Dogs must be on leash during Council sanctioned events, markets and sporting activities.

Sporting grounds/ovals (playing area only) outside times when being used for organised sports, including training (as defined by a formal booking with Council)
Please note: This is an example of the Sporting Grounds. For a full list please see attached.

Conditions of use in Off Leash 'Supervised' Areas

The handler must have a dog lead in their possession and place their dog back on the leash when leaving the off leash area.

- The handler must be able to demonstrate audible control of the dog.
- When encountering others/other dogs using this area, the dog must be recalled and restrained until both parties have moved apart at a safe distance.
- Dogs must remain in visual and audible range of their handler to allow them to be effectively recalled at any time.
- Dogs must not enter water habitats that contain wildlife or chase wildlife in these areas;
- Dogs attracted to the motion of wheels must be controlled at all times.
- Dogs declared menacing/dangerous/restricted breed are not permitted to be walked off-lead in off leash supervised areas, and

Dogs that are aggressive to people or other dogs or are unsocialised and extremely excitable are to be preferably muzzled and advised not to be off leash.

ANAKIE RESERVE ANAKIE
LARA RECREATION RESERVE LARA
ELCHO PARK LARA
ABE WOOD RESERVE LOVELY BANKS
SUTCLIFFE RESERVE CORIO
STEAD PARK CORIO
EVANS RESERVE NORLANE
MYERS RESERVE BELL POST HILL
SEAGULL PADDOCK NORTH GEELONG
HUME RESERVE BELL PARK
OSBORNE PARK NTH GEELONG
Corio Bay
Point Henry
PORTARLINGTON
PORTARLINGTON RECREATION RESERVE
CLIFTON SPRINGS
BEACON POINT RESERVE
Authority - Bellarine Bayside subject to separate order
INDENTED HEAD
ST.LEONARDS
CHARLES MCCARTHY MEMORIAL RESERVE
DRYSDALE RECREATION RESERVE
FYANSFORD COMMON
ELDERSLIE RESERVE NEWTOWN
EASTERN PARK EAST GEELONG
ROTARY CENTENIAL PARK NEWTOWN
ERVIN RESERVE NEWCOMB
ST ALBANS RESERVE THOMSON
GRINTER RESERVE WHITTINGTON
FRANK MANN RESERVE CERES
TIM HILL RESERVE WANDANA HEIGHTS
BELMONT COMMON
BREAKWATER RESERVE
LEOPOLD MEMORIAL RESERVE
McDONALD RESERVE BELMONT
BREARLEY RESERVE GROVEDALE
GROVEDALE RECREATION RESERVE
BURDOO RECREATION RESERVE GROVEDALE
Lake Connewarre
Authority - Parks Victoria subject to separate order
Swan Bay
KINGSTON PARK
COLLENDINA RESERVE
QUEENSCLIFF
SHIRE
BARWON HEADS VILLAGE PARK
OCEAN GROVE
POINT LONSDALE
BARWON HEADS
BREAMLEA

0 1 2 4 6 8 Km

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Fyansford Common

Red Gum Island

Queens Park

The Parade

Hyland St

Road

Hamilton Hwy

Carroll Rd

Lower Paper Mills Rd

Buckley Falls Rd

Kooyong Pl

Willowfield Ct

Mccurdy Rd

Deviation Rd

Deviation Rd

Raith Tce

Read St

Patten Ct

Gaylard Ave

Garlick Ave

Aberdeen St

Heathfield Ct

Noble St

Noble St

Meylair Dr

Dog Controls - Barwon River - Map 3

Legend:

Off - Leash "Supervised" Area (Category 1)

Allow dogs off leash and supervised. Conditions of use apply.

Dogs must be on leash during Council sanctioned events, markets and sporting activiites.

On Leash 'Controlled' Area (Environmentally Sensitive Areas) Category 4

Areas where dogs are required to be on leash all year round due to:

- environmental sensitivity
- where there is an Order by Council
- the land management authority (not being Council) has regulated dog access under their own rules or legislation
- high use pedestrian / tourist precincts

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7. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY REVIEW

Portfolio:	**Governance - Cr Harwood (Acting Mayor)** **Finance – Cr S Kontelj**
Source	**Office of Chief Executive Officer**
Chief Executive Officer:	**Stephen Griffin**
Index Reference	**CT Management**

Purpose

To release the Public Report of the independent Financial Sustainability Review undertaken by CT Management Group and confirm implementation actions.

Summary

- CT Management was appointed to undertake a high level Financial Sustainability Review of Council and to provide recommendations on the overall efficiency and economy of its operations.
- The review methodology included interviews with the Mayor and Councillors, Chief Executive Officer, General Managers and Managers. Staff were also provided an opportunity to complete a survey and to identify areas where they considered improvements could be achieved.
- The City is a financially sustainable organisation. Council has choices, if the current expenditure requirement is to be maintained then rate revenue will need to increase or operating and capital expenditure will need to decrease.
- CT Management confirms that Council is challenged with the dual pressure of managing growth, and renewing its aging infrastructure and maintaining an affordable and acceptable service level across 120 services
- Benchmarking and comparative analysis demonstrate positive financial indicators across revenue, expenditure, capital and balance sheet ratios.
- The Four Priority findings from this review are the need for:
    - Greater emphasis on Strategic Asset Management;
    - A review of the Strategic Resource Plan, 10 year long term financial plan and 10 year Capital Works Program;
    - Introduction of Service Planning to enable comparative choices to be made about the range of services and level of services provided and operating costs; and
    - Revision of the Budget process incorporating the outcomes of Service Planning and improved capital evaluation processes.
- A number of activities relevant to the Four Priority findings have commenced in order to influence the 2014/2015 budget process and beyond.

7. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY REVIEW (CONT'D)

Cr Harwood moved, Cr S Kontelj seconded -

That Council:

1) **receives the Financial Sustainability Review – Public Report (Appendix 1;)**

2) **endorses the Key Actions being undertaken in response to the Financial Sustainability Review key findings.**

Carried.

Background

At the completion of a quotation process consultants CT Management Group were appointed to undertake a high level Financial Sustainability Review.

The consultants brief detailed that a key objective for Council is to maintain a financially sustainable position whilst keeping future rates and charges increases at affordable levels. In the medium term Council will also be challenged with managing a number of emerging budget issues that include:

- Funding Defined Benefit Superannuation Shortfalls
- Grants Commission reductions
- Increased demand for service and running/maintenance costs for new facilities
- Waste Collection, processes and remedial costs
- Growth of subdivision assets

These issues add to the complexity of ensuring Council applies its resources in the most efficient manner and in the right areas. To assist with these decision processes Council sort the independent strategic review of the overall efficiency and economy of its operations.

The review was to provide information to assist consideration of whether a more detailed examination will be undertaken to focus on special operations, services, processes or projects.

Scope of Consultancy

The review and assessment of Council operations from an overall financial sustainability perspective was to include:

- Whether Council is employing the appropriate amount of resources to achieve service level objectives set by Council.
- Opportunities for improved efficiencies in organisation cost structures and cost management.
- Potential service improvements and opportunities for operational efficiencies that can be considered.
- The effectiveness of the Budget process for determining operational expenditure, disbursements and capital expenditure allocations.
- Current Procurement procedures - in the context of legislative requirements - to ensure value for money outcomes.
- How services and the overall performance of Council compares with other like sized Council around Australia

7. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY REVIEW (CONT'D)

Methodology

The review included interviews with the Mayor and Councillors, Chief Executive Officer, General Managers and Managers. Staff were also provided the opportunity to complete a survey and to identify areas where they believed improvement could be achieved.

CT Management also prepared Functional Span Maps and Activity Statements as a foundation to support future service planning.

Analysis was also undertaken to identify potential underutilised assets, services that are not commonly provided by Victorian Councils and surplus land.

Recommendations have identified resource allocation changes aimed at improving internal effectiveness and efficiency.

Discussion

Financial Sustainability Review Findings

The Financial Sustainability Review has confirmed that the City of Greater Geelong is challenged with the dual pressure of managing growth and renewing its ageing infrastructure and maintaining an affordable and acceptable service level across a vast array of approximately 120 services. The City is going through a transition with priority investment in new infrastructure in growth areas required to service demand. This outlay is competing with the measurable need to reinvest and renew current infrastructure to underwrite ongoing service provision.

The review has determined that the City of Greater Geelong is a financially sustainable organisation. The Council has choices: if the current expenditure requirement is to be maintained the rate revenue will need to increase, or operating and capital expenditure will need to decrease.

Benchmarking and comparative analysis demonstrate positive financial indicators across revenue, expenditure, capital and balance sheet ratios. Council is in a strong position to make decisions to secure its long term future.

The Four Priority findings from this review are the need for:

- **Greater emphasis on Strategic Asset Management;**
- **A review of the Strategic Resource Plan, 10 year long term financial plan and 10 year Capital Works Program;**
- **Introduction of Service Planning to enable comparative choices to be made about the range of services and level of services provided and operating costs; and**
- **Revision of the Budget process incorporating the outcomes of Service Planning and improved capital evaluation processes.**

As part of the review CT Management identified potential one off capital savings through potential asset sales of between $27 million and $56 million, with potential recurrent savings and income sources of between $2.4 million and $6.7 million.

It was acknowledged that a number of savings and efficiencies would require community consultation with respect to the impact of any potential changes in service levels arising from any decisions.

Savings and efficiencies are targets over the life of City Plan.

7. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY REVIEW (CONT'D)

A copy of the CT Management Financial Sustainability Review – Public Report is provided as Appendix 1.

An extract from the conclusion (Page 25 Financial Sustainability Review – Public Report) confirms the following:

"This has been an intensive review of the financial sustainability of the City of Greater Geelong and the recommendations are designed to improve the City's sustainability. We have modelled our results in our Long Term Financial Plan and look forward to reviewing these with Council and Management. Overall, management was dedicated to the delivery of this project and was supportive throughout. Significant amounts of information were made available in a timely manner by all participants –there is a culture committed to continuous improvement and quality service delivery amongst management."

Financial Sustainability Review Implementation – Key Actions

A number of activities relevant to the four priority findings have commenced in order to influence the 2014/2015 budget process and beyond.

Strategic Asset Management

Funding for maintenance of ageing infrastructure is a major cost pressure for Councils nationally. For Council to address this issue there needs to be a review of the existing approach with an emphasis on a longer term perspective.

This will involve determining what assets are required to sustain the defined range and level of service provision and explore opportunities to rationalise assets holdings over the medium to long term. Refer CT Management commentary on potential asset sales.

Council also needs to reassess the level of asset renewal investment versus new asset creation in order to reduce the renewal gap which is currently estimated at $19m.

Service Planning

As development and growth will continue to occur within the municipality so will the community demand for services. These growth issues are important and significant from a financial, strategic and resource management perspective. A detailed service planning project will enable Council to make meaningful decisions about the level of operating costs which are sustainable and the range and level of services it wishes to provide to the community. Armed with this information Council will be able to consult with the community and determine where their priorities are with respect to the services provided.

The completion of service plans will not only update Council's 10 year financial plan, but they will enable comparative choices to be made about the range and levels of services provided by Council and their associated operating costs.

The timeframe for completion of the Service Planning Project is approximately 4 to 6 months.

Long Term Financial Planning, Budget Process and Project Management

While Council currently has a 10 year financial plan, CT Management recommends its revision based on integrating the outcomes of the proposed service planning reviews and strategic asset management review which encapsulates deliberations on renewal versus new and the potential disposal of surplus assets etc. Savings arising from these reviews will enable redirection of funds to meet the increasing demand for services required by the community.

7. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY REVIEW (CONT'D)

CT Management also recommends a review of the community priorities funding program of $7.2m, to include Council policy and guidelines that manage the allocation of budget expenditure with a consistent approach that generates high levels of community engagement.

In terms of Council's budget process CT Management has recommended further refinement particularly in the areas of project development, capital evaluation and whole of life costing and community priorities. From a project development perspective, roles and responsibilities need to be clarified in respect to the various stages of a project e.g. planning, development and delivery of capital works, with the objective of realising savings.

In terms of capital evaluation CT Management has recommended enhancements to the concept and business case preparation with the view to obtaining more accurate whole of life costing of proposed projects, including ongoing maintenance obligations.

A review of the project development process will also be undertaken by relevant Officers.

Procurement

While the review confirmed that Council has well developed policies and processes necessary to carry out best practice procurement. CT Management recommended the development of an organisation wide procurement strategy that aligns with City Plan objectives. It also recommended introduction of best and final offers with short listed tenderers, for some larger projects.

Environmental Implications

There are no environment implications associated with the review. Any decision to achieve one off savings or recurrent reductions will need to assess environmental impacts.

Financial Implications

The Financial Sustainability Review determined that Council is a finically sustainable organisation that needs to make strategic choices if the current expenditure requirements are to be maintained.

The review implementation will have a substantial impact on Council's medium to long term financial planning process.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

Any review and or change in the level of service provision will need to be cognisant of statutory or regulatory requirements.

Alignment to City Plan

How we do business.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest.

7. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY REVIEW (CONT'D)

Risk Assessment

All services are currently risk assessed.

Social Considerations

Any change to service levels will take into consideration the social implications of any proposed changes.

Human Rights Charter

The service level reviews will consider the main principles of equity, fairness, dignity and respect.

Consultation and Communication

All staff have been advised of the findings of the Financial Sustainability Review and a copy of the Public Report will be made available to the public.

The implementation of the key actions emanating from the review will involve Staff, Council and Public consultation as required.



FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY REVIEW
AUGUST 2013

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CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

CONTENTS

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12.0 CONCLUSION

13.0 ANNEXURE A – FINANCIAL BENCHMARKS

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The City of Greater Geelong (CoGG) is located in south west Victoria and has a population of 210,000.
The CoGG is one of the largest local governments in Australia and is responsible for the management of a recurrent expenditure budget of $268 million, delivering over 120 services and a capital works program of $91.2 million in 2012/13.

Over the past two decades reform, restructure and community expectations have led to significant changes in Council's role in the community. From a focus on compliance and maintenance of operations, Councils now facilitate economic development, advocate to State and Australian Governments and provide a broader range of community services. Not only have core services, scope and expectations evolved, but the need to increase renewal and maintenance funding for ageing infrastructure has challenged the financial capacity of the local government sector.

In Victoria for example, the annual renewal gap for infrastructure (that is the investment gap between required funds versus funds allocated by Councils), is estimated at **$235 million** per annum by the Municipal Association of Victoria. More recently the demands of defined benefits superannuation calls have required the Victorian local government sector to pay **$458 million** to Vision Super to comply with the requirements of an APPRA regulated Commonwealth Superannuation fund - the City's share being **$23 million.**

The **City of Greater Geelong** is a financially sustainable organization. However it faces challenges with its capacity to deliver the capital works program and services in the long term future.

The Council has choices. If the current expenditure requirement is to be maintained, either the rate revenue will need to increase, or operating and capital expenditure will need to decrease to maintain its current sustainable position.

A strategic change in direction is required to sustain Council's financial position into the future – the current investment in services and capital is not sustainable. Options are canvassed in the report including identification of savings, efficiencies and discussion around reviewing the quantum, processes and priorities for capital investment and other resource allocation priorities. In overall terms CT Management Group believes there are one off capital savings available between **$27M** and **$56M**, with projected recurrent savings between **$2.4M** and **$6.7M**. These savings are achievable over the life of the current City Plan.

The demands of growth and the need to provide for new residents at CoGG has compounded many of these sector wide challenges. The choice between investment in growth, legacy investment in infrastructure, growing service demands and economic development are all competing priorities that cannot be sustained within the current funding framework.

The demands, expectations and diversity of investment requirements need to be constrained or the funding sources increased – the criteria need to be developed to ensure Council decisions with respect to these comparative choices are made in an informed and considered manner.

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2.0 THE BRIEF

The newly elected Council has completed its City Plan for the 2013 to 2017 period together with the 2013/14 Budget and four year Strategic Resource Plan.

It is acknowledged that a key objective for Council is to maintain a sustainable financial position whilst keeping future rates and charges increases at affordable levels.

Furthermore, in the medium term Council acknowledges it will be challenged with managing a number of emerging Budget issues that include; funding defined benefit superannuation shortfalls, Grants Commission reductions, increased demand for services, operations/maintenance costs of new facilities, waste collection processing and remedial costs and the impact of growth of subdivision assets.

Council required a review and assessment of its operations from a financial sustainability perspective with respect to resources, operational efficiencies, service improvements, effectiveness of the Budget process, procurement processes and how overall performance compares to like sized Councils in Australia.

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3.0 WHAT IS FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY?



WHAT IS FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY?

The concepts most people use in their personal and business lives are similar to those that can be applied to local government; however, those concepts need some modification. Councils are perpetual corporations that manage intergenerational community services and assets. Councils provide the legal framework by which communities collectively own infrastructure and assets.

The Australian Local Government Association's definition of financial sustainability is worth noting:

"A Council's long-term financial performance and position is sustainable where planned long term service and infrastructure levels and standards are met without unplanned increases in rates or disruptive cuts to services."

It is against this definition then that the sustainability of the City of Greater Geelong can be assessed.

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4.0 METHODOLOGY

After seeking quotations, Council engaged the CT Management Group (CTMG) to conduct this financial sustainability review. Council was seeking independent strategic advice to understand how effectively the organisation is operating and to identify where there are potential opportunities for improved financial sustainability in order to deliver better outcomes for ratepayers.

As part of this Review, CTMG has undertaken the following activities:

- Savings and Efficiencies Assessment through interviews and analysis;
- Services and Functions assessment through the 'Functional Span Mapping' and Activity Statement processes;
- Identified opportunities for savings and efficiency gains;
- Reviewed Council's Procurement process and outcomes in detail; and
- Reconstructed Council's Long Term Financial Plan and Capital Works Program,
- Reviewed Asset Management, project planning, service planning and management processes.

CTMG conducted interviews with the Mayor and Councillors, Chief Executive Officer, General Managers and Managers.

The interviews were informative and assisted CTMG to focus on the key financial sustainability issues. CTMG, in conjunction with management, prepared Functional Span Maps (FSM) detailing all of the services provided, systems and processes used by the departments.

From these FSM's CTMG developed Activity Statements detailing the current service levels, workload and performance indicators, net costs to Council and a list of current and future trends.

Council now has details of the current range of services and current level of service at department level.

CTMG has also analysed areas for potential savings by focusing on underutilised assets, services that are not commonly provided by Victorian Councils, potential surplus land and buildings; and made recommendations around resource allocation designed to improve Council's efficiency.

CTMG also made recommendations based on improved re-allocation of Council's functions specifically to the Chief Executive Officer with an emphasis on improving internal effectiveness and efficiency.

Together the savings, FSM and resource allocation recommendations combine to provide real savings and potential efficiency improvements that will potentially lead to further savings into the future.

Finally CTMG also reconstructed Council's 10 year Long Term Financial Plan and Capital Works Program, through CTMG's capital evaluation program, and analysed significant and relevant documentation supplied by the Council officers.

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5.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is unlikely that the local government sector will realise significant additional financial support from the Australian or State Government in the future. Property taxes are the primary revenue source for Councils and so generating more rate revenue is likely to be the only feasible alternative for many Councils. In order to do so Councils will need to ensure that the structure of their rating strategy reasonably meets sound tax design criteria principles and consider the circumstances of their communities - capacity to pay versus demand for services.

The City of Greater Geelong is challenged with the dual pressure of managing growth and renewing its ageing infrastructure and maintaining an affordable and acceptable service level across a vast array of approximately 120 services. The City is going through a transition with priority investment in new infrastructure in growth areas required to service demand. This outlay is competing with the measurable need to reinvest and renew current infrastructure to underwrite ongoing service provision.

The City of Greater Geelong is a financially sustainable organisation. The Council has choices: if the current expenditure requirement is to be maintained the rate revenue will need to increase, or operating and capital expenditure will need to decrease.
Benchmarking and comparative analysis demonstrate positive financial indicators across revenue, expenditure, capital and balance sheet ratios. COGG is in a strong position to make decisions to secure its long term future.

The options to address future challenges are canvassed in this report and include identification of savings, efficiencies and discussion around reviewing the quantum, processes and priorities for capital investment and other resource allocation priorities.

The FOUR PRIORITY findings from this review are the need for:

- Greater emphasis on Strategic Asset Management;
- A review of the Strategic Resource Plan, 10 year long term financial plan and 10 year Capital Works Program;
- Introduction of Service Planning to enable comparative choices to be made about the range of services and level of services provided and operating costs; and
- Revision of the Budget process incorporating the outcomes of Service Planning and improved capital evaluation processes.

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5.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In overall terms CTMG believe there are one off capital savings available between $27M and $56M, with projected recurrent savings per annum between $2.4M and $6.7M.

Any assessment of the financial performance and position of the City of Greater Geelong needs to have regard to the fact that Council is 'asset and labour intensive' in service delivery. Many of Council's services come from long-lived infrastructure that requires increasing levels of maintenance as it ages and ultimately requires renewal or replacement.

SAVINGS & EFFICIENCIES	IDENTIFIED FOR SALE AND/OR LIKELY	REALISABLE OR UNDERPERFORMING
Total Savings – Capital (One off)	$27,000,000	$56,000,000
Total Rationalisation of Service Levels - Recurrent	$2,000,000	$6,000,000
Total Managed Efficiencies – Recurrent	$400,000	$700,000
GRAND TOTAL	$29,400,000	$62,700,00

Total asset sales of $27 - $56M

Potential recurrent savings @ 2% and 1% for procurement.

Potential recurrent savings, managed efficiencies and new income sources $2.4M to $6.7M

We acknowledge that for many of these savings and efficiencies to be realised, Council will need to consult the community with respect to the impact of potential changes in service levels that may arise from these decisions.
Savings and efficiencies are targets over the life of the current City Plan.

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6.0
ASSET MANAGEMENT

Funding for maintenance of ageing infrastructure is a major cost pressure for Councils nationally.



The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) has calculated an annual infrastructure spending shortfall of $230 million per annum for Victorian Councils over the next five years (equivalent to an annual average 12 per cent rate increase).

To address this infrastructure renewal gap and prevent it from growing, Councils nationally need to significantly increase spending on asset renewal within their capital works programs. With a limited capacity to raise revenue to upgrade, replace and maintain ageing infrastructure, local government must implement a range of options including rate rises, asset rationalisation, borrowing money and potentially service level reductions in other areas of Council.

Infrastructure underpins many of Council's services so its condition, whether it is fit for purpose, how it is maintained etc. are all key issues in managing assets through their lifecycle.

Assets underpin many Council services (roads, parks, drainage, bridges, libraries, child care centres) so their renewal and maintenance is key to residents enjoying a safe and acceptable quality level of service.

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6.0
ASSET MANAGEMENT

There needs to be a change in approach to asset management at CoGG with increased emphasis on a longer term 10 year perspective and greater clarity as to the assets required to provide the current nominated range of services. The key question is what assets are required to sustain the defined range and level of services provided?

ASSET INVESTMENT - CoGG

Many Councils asset portfolio contains assets whose useful life has expired, or community expectations have changed to render the asset unfit for purpose.

CoGG is custodian of assets to the value of $1,781,511,000 (WDV on a Greenfields basis) with a Brownfield replacement value of $2,236,955,000 as at June 30 2012. Asset Management within the organisation currently operates under a dispersed model with various asset categories being managed and maintained through different departments. This has led to varying approaches to asset management (condition assessment, valuations, renewal demand calculations, intervention levels etc.). There is an understatement of funding in the Long Term Plan for renewal demand. Councils Long Term Plan is based on affordability and greater allocation is required for renewal of existing infrastructure rather than new works.

CTMG believes there needs to be a relative increase in renewal investment and proportionately less investment in new assets – this will support Council's reduced renewal gap from the current average level of **$19M** per annum over the ten year planning period.

Council can work to close the renewal gap through resource allocation decisions by reallocating the current capital investment in new assets to renewal - see Chart 1.

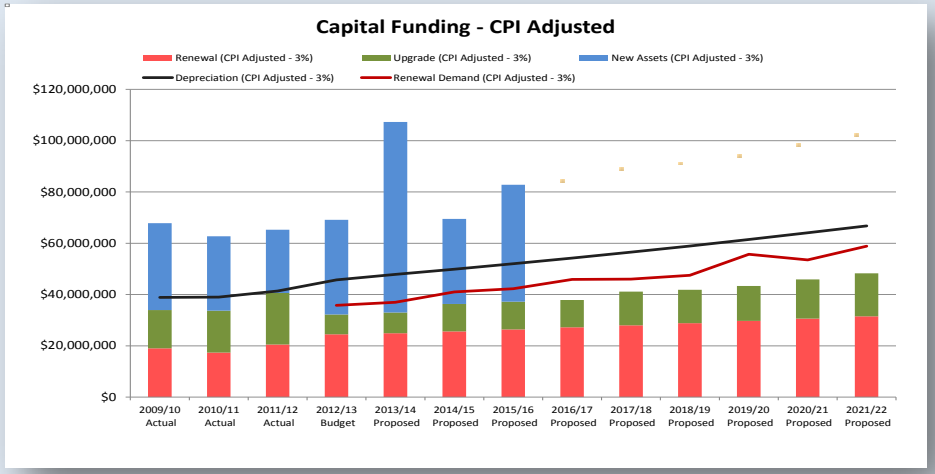


Chart 1 – Capital Funding (Indexed)

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6.0
ASSET MANAGEMENT

Council's investment, based on its current classification of renewal, upgrade and new, is at 68.4 per cent of what it needs to be to ensure levels of service are maintained with this investment projected to decrease over time.



ASSET INVESTMENT - CoGG

Council can improve strategic asset management including increased investment levels for renewal, rationalisation of surplus assets, consistency in Asset Management Plans and improved resource allocation through maintenance modelling, scheduling etc.

From a capital investment, perspective the quantum of new works may not be sustainable and an increase allocation to renewal as opposed to new assets (investment mix) is recommended.

Further analysis is recommended on the impact of increased renewal investment and its impact on the future levels of maintenance expenditure. These resource allocation decisions are the key to ensuring ongoing financial sustainability.

Under performing assets have the potential to place considerable demand on Council's Budget and should be reviewed through service planning processes.

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7.0 SERVICE PLANNING

The Organisation needs consistent, formal documented understanding of services provided to community to inform decisions about potential savings and service levels.

Some departments are more advanced than others but overall there is a need for a consistent approach through Service Planning.

The purpose of levels of service is to describe, quantify and cost the services provided to the community by Council.

RANGE AND LEVELS OF SERVICE

By establishing the range of services and levels of service Council can:

- Inform community of the services to be provided and what level of service is intended to be provided;
- Enable the community to assess suitability, affordability and equity of the services offered;
- Enable Council to report to the community on its performance in providing a service;
- Provide a means to change the range of services and level of service provided by Council to the community; and
- Make comparative choices as to what level of service can be provided/afforded at what cost;

The development of levels of service is the responsibility of Council's Service Managers. The organisation through CTMG's Span Mapping exercise and the accompanying Activity Statements, has documented the current range of services, their net costs, and details of current and future trends at departmental level.

This process has established a sound foundation for the recommended Service Planning process. It is only post this Service Planning exercise that Council can make meaningful decisions about the level of operating costs - the range of services it wishes to provide the community and the level of service the community is able to afford over a longer timeframe.

Armed with this information Council will be able to consult the community to determine where the community priorities lay with respect to services provided by Council. Council can then make comparative choices with an improved strategic focus on the range and level of services provided, the level and type of capital investment and the rating/revenue requirements needed to sustain these offerings to the community.

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7.0
SERVICE PLANNING

The difficulty in determining the potential "savings " from services, and exercising choices as to what services remain and which are reduced, is the organisation does not have consistent formal documented understanding of the level of service it presently provides to the community.

RANGE AND LEVELS OF SERVICE

We recommend as part of the Service Planning Process:

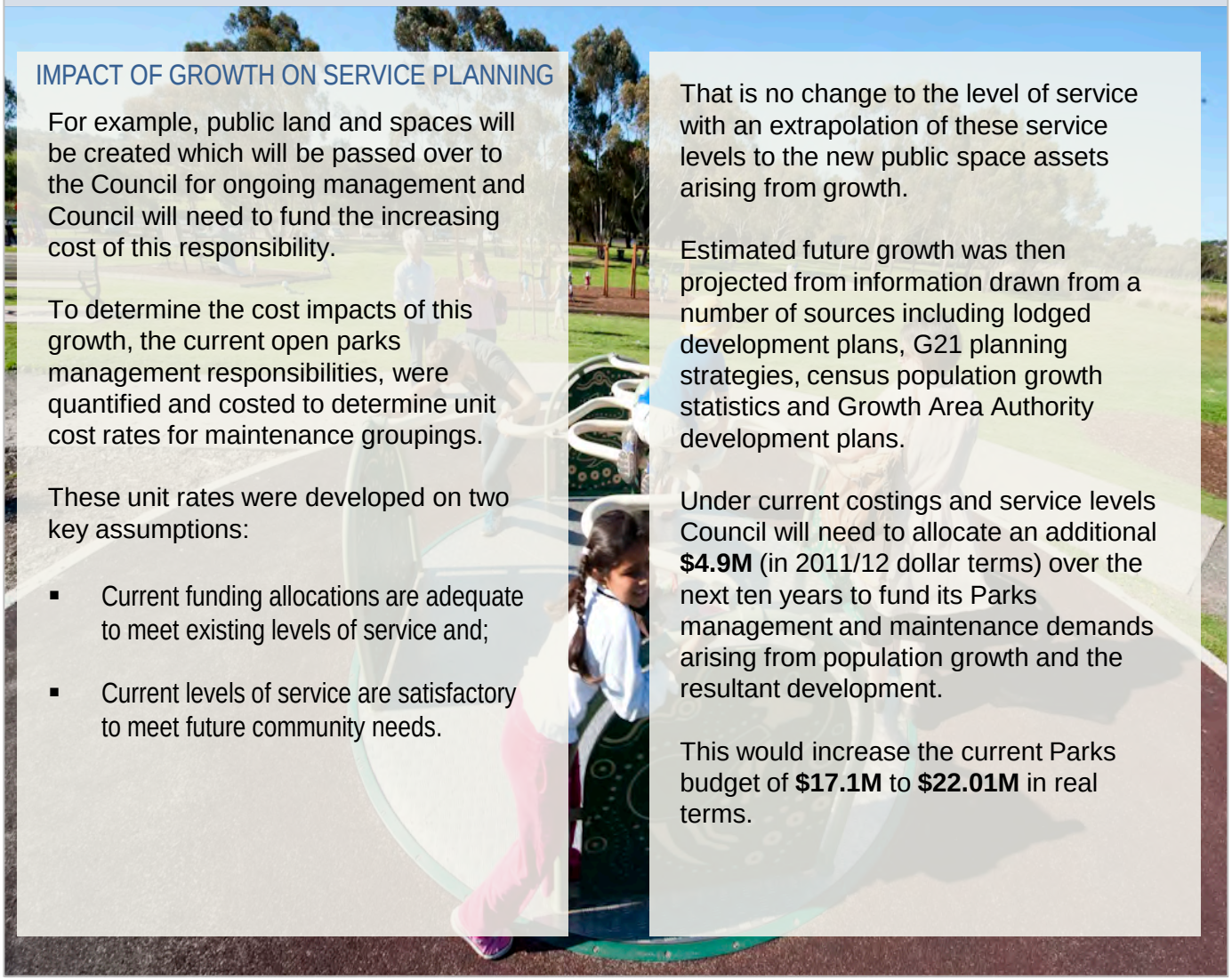
- Functions currently provided on a centralised or decentralised basis be examined to determine how business is most efficiently delivered going forward - that is whether all of these functions (divisional accounting, facilities management, etc.) are best centralised or decentralised, or the current model is appropriate.
- The organisation approach Service Planning with a target to reduce operating costs by 2.0 per cent.
- Additional support be provided to Operations Infrastructure, Parks and Waste departments to implement the Maintenance Management System to reap the potential efficiencies of improved resource allocation sooner. The Operations Infrastructure and Waste Department has developed impressive productivity and efficiency data that it is accelerating and supporting cultural change – an example of sound Service Planning that will assist in the organisation wide introduction

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7.0 SERVICE PLANNING

The impact of growth needs to be factored into Councils' assessment of the sustainability of its services.

As development and growth occur at CoGG, pressure will apply to many of Council's services – more children in Childcare, additional people to care for in Aged Services, increasing portfolio of roads to maintain and renew, extra public open space to care for etc. etc.



IMPACT OF GROWTH ON SERVICE PLANNING

For example, public land and spaces will be created which will be passed over to the Council for ongoing management and Council will need to fund the increasing cost of this responsibility.

To determine the cost impacts of this growth, the current open parks management responsibilities, were quantified and costed to determine unit cost rates for maintenance groupings.

These unit rates were developed on two key assumptions:

- Current funding allocations are adequate to meet existing levels of service and;
- Current levels of service are satisfactory to meet future community needs.

That is no change to the level of service with an extrapolation of these service levels to the new public space assets arising from growth.

Estimated future growth was then projected from information drawn from a number of sources including lodged development plans, G21 planning strategies, census population growth statistics and Growth Area Authority development plans.

Under current costings and service levels Council will need to allocate an additional **$4.9M** (in 2011/12 dollar terms) over the next ten years to fund its Parks management and maintenance demands arising from population growth and the resultant development.

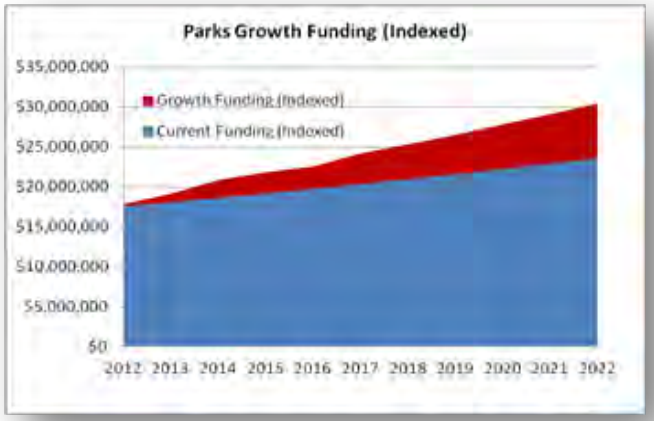
This would increase the current Parks budget of **$17.1M** to **$22.01M** in real terms.

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7.0 SERVICE PLANNING

Sustainable affordable services aligned to the City Plan aspirations is the ultimates goal.

IMPACT OF GROWTH ON SERVICE PLANNING



When inflationary costs have been added (assumed 3 per cent each year) this amount increases to $30.4M in nominal terms by 2022.

These growth issues are important and significant for Council's Financial Sustainability and we recommend they be incorporated into the Service Planning exercise and the results factored into Council's Long Term Financial Plan.

We recommend this exercise be undertaken on a service by service basis and the Long Term Financial Plan updated to determine whether the current level of service with growth is sustainable into the future.

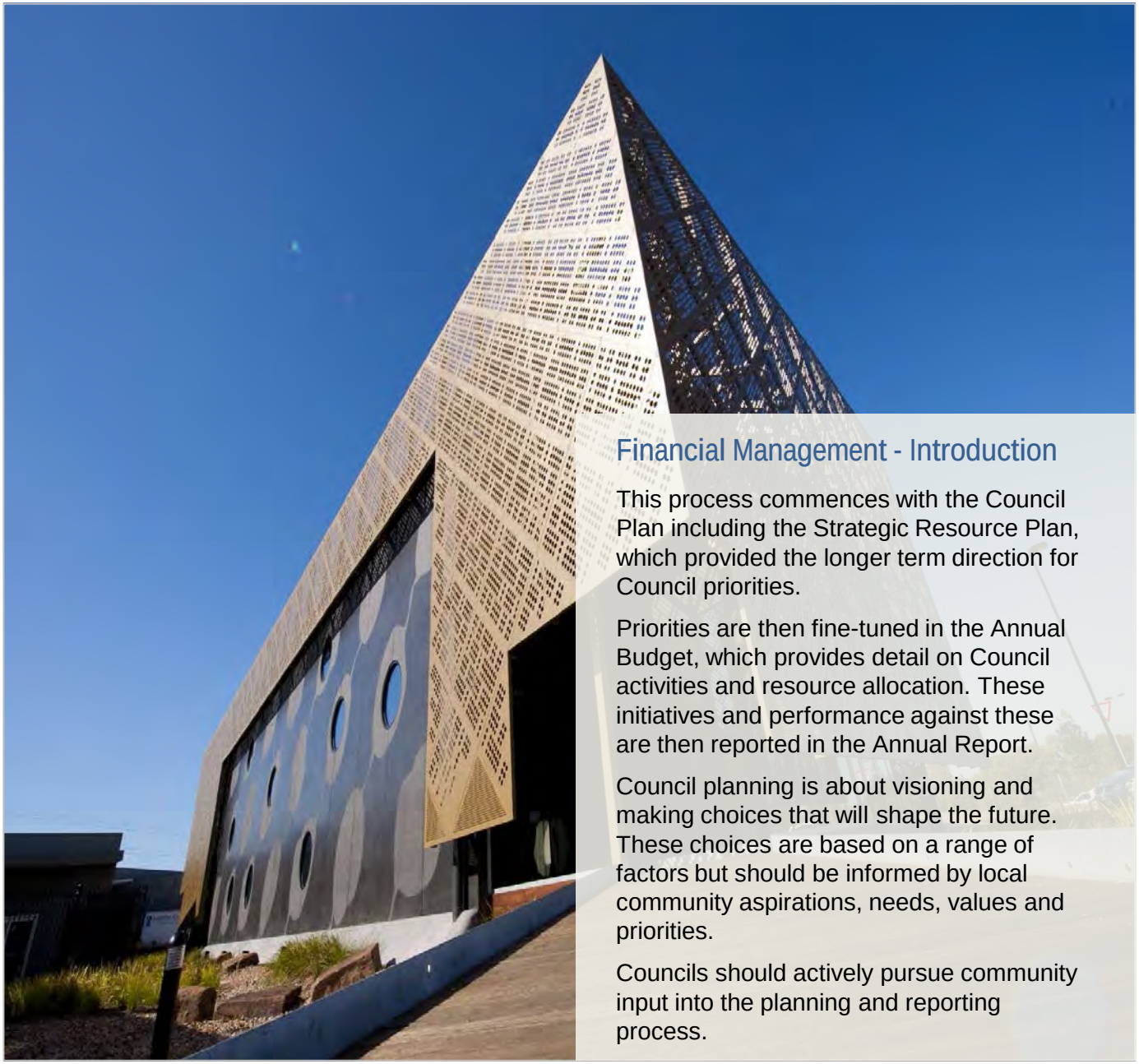
Post this exercise, Council will be able to make comparative choices about the:

- Range and level of service delivery it can afford to provide;
- Consult the community on their preferences;
- Determine the range and level of service Council is able to sustainably provide;
- Determine and fund the right "mix " of capital works between new, upgrade and renewal; and
- Acknowledge the rating levels required to fund the agreed services and capital investment.

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8.0 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Councillors are responsible for the overall allocation of funds to provide services to their community. This is achieved by establishing levels of service and through funding strategies such as the setting of rates and charges to generate the revenue required to provide services.



Financial Management - Introduction

This process commences with the Council Plan including the Strategic Resource Plan, which provided the longer term direction for Council priorities.

Priorities are then fine-tuned in the Annual Budget, which provides detail on Council activities and resource allocation. These initiatives and performance against these are then reported in the Annual Report.

Council planning is about visioning and making choices that will shape the future. These choices are based on a range of factors but should be informed by local community aspirations, needs, values and priorities.

Councils should actively pursue community input into the planning and reporting process.

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8.0 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Council has legislative obligations with respect to financial management.

Resources are limited and Councillors are accountable to consider, in all investment decision making, community need within available resources and a long-term outlook. Section 136 of the Local Government Act requires Councils to implement the principles of sound financial management, which are to:

a. Manage financial risks faced by the Council prudently, having regard to economic circumstances;

b. Pursue spending and rating policies that are consistent with a reasonable degree of stability in the level of the rates burden;

c. Ensure that decisions are made and actions are taken having regard to their financial effects on future generations; and

d. Ensure full, accurate and timely disclosure of financial information relating to the Council.

As part of this project, CTMG constructed Council's Long Term Financial Plan and Capital Works Program and believe the Council's rate of new capital expenditure is putting significant strain on the fiscal resources.

- Council's Operations produce a cash flow surplus of **$68.7M** in 2013/14 growing to **$95.7M** over the 10-year financial plan. The capital investment in 2013/14 is proposed at **$81.9 M** and is targeted at **$103.8M** in 2023/24 (indexed) .This program is supported by **$94M** of borrowings in the next four years. The cost of operations benchmarks favourably against like Councils nationally..
- **Having established levels of service along with a capital investment program (renewal, upgrade and new) Council is in a position to review its current long term financial plan , funding and investment strategies to ensure ongoing financial sustainability. Council will be in a position to:**
  - ✓ Review and document its rating strategy, debt policy, capital investment quantum and mix, asset management and services in a detailed Strategic Resource Plan (SRP) and this policy document supported by a revised 10 year Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP);
  - ✓ Review the capital program and operating costs to determine where the priority for reduced expenditure is and /or review the mix between renewal, upgrade and new; and
  - ✓ Determine the utilisation and quantum of loan funds required to fund intergenerational new projects.

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8.0 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Council's Strategic Service Plan and long term financial plan should be reviewed post the service planning exercise.

Our Observations

- Council's Operations are sustainable from a benchmarking perspective and produce a sound consistent surplus cash flow over the 10 year planning timeframe.
- Council's liquidity could be improved throughout the 10-year period of the Long Term Financial Plan.
- Two options to improve and secure council's financial sustainability are to reduce operating expenditure or capital investment. A combination of these measures (is a more feasible and realistic option, along with the gradual implementation of the savings program.
- Based on the current financial trends and if there was no change in approach, increases in rate revenue in the order of **2.0 per cent** per annum above the current rating level will be required to meet the current cost of services and level of capital investment.
- An additional option for Council is to review the use of debt through this transitional investment phase, given the high investment in new capital works during the 2014/15 and 2015/16periods. As at 30 June 2012 **4 cents** in the dollar was funding repayment of debt - principal and interest.
- The preferred combination will be an outcome of the Service Planning review and the revised capital works program within the context of a revised Strategic Resource Plan where Council can consider these options around "funding", service levels and the quantum and mix of capital investment.
- The financial ratio benchmarking to like sized Councils as detailed in Section 11 indicates Council's operating expenditure, when benchmarked with like Council's nationally, is on the average of the benchmark group and Council's rating effort is below average.
- Any decisions around reduction in the range of services and level of service should only be made post the completion of the Service Planning process as previously outlined. The solution may be to increase funding to the organisation, particularly if there is no need or willingness to change the current service levels or reduce capital investment.

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9.0 ANNUAL BUDGET PROCESS

The Annual Budget should reflect the priorities and objectives of the Council Plan and establish performance measures and targets for key strategic activities to monitor performance. The Budget reflects the first year of the Strategic Resource Plan and must contain the Standard Statements and a description of the activities and initiatives to be funded.

Annual Budget Process

The annual budget process should also provide information about services, capital works to be provided, and how they will be funded. At the CoGG, we believed there are three areas where the Annual Budget process could be improved:

- Project Development;
- Community Priorities; and
- Capital Evaluation and whole of life costing.

Project Development

One of the impediments to project delivery is the efficiency of the processes that precede it namely project development. The analysis of the Capital Works process has recognised it can be broken up into two distinct processes – one being Project Development and the other Project Management. The two go hand in hand, however the main impact on the current performance (79 per cent delivery in 2012/13) are challenges in the project development/planning area rather than in project management.

We believe a focus on improving and documenting project development stages will improve role clarity and responsibility across the organisation around the planning, development and delivery of capital works. Projects in the City are achieving and setting higher standards, (at higher cost) and improvements in project planning recommended in this report will assist improve the management of these decisions, and the control of costs at the evaluation stage. It is appropriate for the City to achieve high standards provided these standards are acknowledged and appropriately funded prior to the project commencing, and are sustainable into the future. One of the elements affecting project planning and development is the Community Priorities Program of Council.

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9.0 ANNUAL BUDGET PROCESS



Community Priorities

The Community Priorities Funding allocation of **$7.20M** is a resource allocation decision made by Council as part of the Annual Budget. In respect of the 2012/13 allocation, **$5.07M** was invested in capital works, **$0.680M** went to non-capital and **$1.44M** was allocated as disbursements.

The current Community Priorities process at COGG should be supported by Council Policy and Guidelines that manage the distribution of funding with a consistent approach that generates high levels of Community engagement.

The Policy would address the:

- Purpose and scope of the Community Priorities Program;
- Eligibility criteria for all requests (types of works, Council asset, Council strategy etc.);
- Development of a Public Register detailing the application of the funds; and
- Management of disbursements also needs similar criteria developed.

Guidelines may then be developed and eligible community groups be encouraged to apply for funds and relevant agreed criteria be applied to prioritise these requests. These allocations would need to be part of the broader capital evaluation process of Council and their significance weighted accordingly.

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9.0 ANNUAL BUDGET PROCESS

The City of Greater Geelong delivers a Capital Works Program to its community of between $70M and $90M each year. Council delivered 79 per cent of the annual planned capital works in 2012 against a target of 90 per cent.



Capital Evaluation

Council's Capital Program over the ten year timeframe is substantial with a real value of **$817,279,000** and nominal value of **$939,863,280** after applying a construction index of **2.75 per cent**.

Council's renewal demand on infrastructure, in the ten year timeframe we calculate at **$489,143,000** with the Budgeted/estimated value of the renewal investment at **$296,676,000** resulting in a renewal gap in the 10 year planning period of **$192,467,000** or $**19.24M** per annum.

Council's approach to capital evaluation needs to be reviewed – the choice of new projects, how they are classified and supported in the planning phase, the standard of deliverable, calculation of the whole of life costs, etc. requires review to assist improved resource allocation decisions.

The full impact of new projects operations and costs are not fully reflected in the Long Term Financial Plan which is based on affordability parameters.

Revised classification of projects between renewal, upgrade and new will improve the Long Term Financial Plan. Finally the Community Priorities process needs to be integrated into the formal capital evaluation process that is supported by policy and guidelines.

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10.0 PROCUREMENT

CoGG is purchasing goods / services and works to a value of approximately $160M - $200M per annum. The objective of the Procurement review was to understand the “as is” Procurement framework for service delivery at COGG and then ensure it is being properly complied with.

PROCUREMENT

The Procurement Audit revealed no issues of concern for Council. An extensive 94 page review and detailed audit was undertaken and the Council’s compliance performance was rated as excellent.

Policies and processes at the CoGG have been rated as well developed to reduce effort required to carry out best practice procurement and these are straight forward and consistently applied. CoGG should be confident that the staff interviewed are aware of the Local Government requirements relating to procurement and are operating in accordance with approved Council policy frameworks.

To improve procurement practices at Council, attention needs to be focused on the development of a strengthened organisation wide procurement strategy aligned to the City Plan that incorporates key performance measures.

A less risk averse approach based on clearly developed processes and management practices to negotiate best and final offers will enhance confidence that Council is achieving the best possible price when negotiating a contract.

The implementation of category management initiatives incorporating savings targets will assist in focusing and driving improvements.

We also recommend a 1 per cent savings target be established on the **$160M** currently invested in procurement of external services and products.



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11.0 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKING

The City compares favourably on all financial benchmarks.

Benchmark Group

Annexure A details a number of financial indicators that when benchmarked against other Councils show the COGG in a favourable light. The benchmark group includes other Victorian regional cities, large outer metropolitan Councils and other major national Councils including Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Stirling in Perth and Glenorchy City Council in Hobart.



Comparative Analysis

The COGG is in a financially sustainable position and all indicators are positive. Our analysis reviews Council's financial ratios under the auspice of the Victorian Auditor General, revenue indicators, expenditure indicators capital comparative indicators and balance sheet indicators (debt, depreciation, assets and liabilities).

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11.0 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKING

Annexure A makes specific comments against the twenty eight indicators however in general terms:

- Council's underlying operating position is a break even under the Victorian Auditor General methodology and compares favourably with the benchmark group;
- CT Management Group calculation backs out the capital income and all forms of non-operating costs – under this methodology COGG is slightly worse off, as are the other Councils in the benchmark group;
- Council's working capital is low in comparison with the benchmark group;
- Council's indebtedness ratio is on the average;
- Council's debt servicing is at **4 cents** in the dollar – ratepayers pay **4 c**ents in the dollar to retire principal and interest per annum;
- On a total debt to assets basis Council is well below the average therefore the use of debt to fund growth in the transitionary phase of the city's development may be a feasible approach.
- Council has been extremely successful in its ability to attract recurrent grants to various services and functions it manages;
- Council's rating charges are below the industry average of **$1,500** per assessment at **$1,424** per assessment;
- Council's average residential rate per assessment at **$1,500** is below the average of **$1,800** per assessment in the benchmark group;
- Structurally Council has a lower percentage of rates and charges as a percentage of its adjusted revenue at **59 per cent** - this is a contributor to the lower levels of working capital and cash;
- Adjusted total operating expenditure is on the average of the benchmark group at **$2,100** per assessment;
- Depreciation on infrastructure is at **3.2 per cent** of the value of the infrastructure which is higher than the **2.5 per cent** average .We recommend this be reviewed as this is impacting on the value of the underlying operating position;
- Council achieved **79 per cent** of its capital program in 2011/12 financial year compared to the average of **85 per cent**; and this is due to current accounting practice that fully funds all projects – some which are spread over multiple financial years.
- Council is on the average of the rates affordability indicator (rates per assessment /Annual Household Income) at **2.5 per cent**.

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12.0 CONCLUSION

This has been an intensive review of the financial sustainability of the City of Greater Geelong and the recommendations are designed to improve the City's sustainability. We have modeled our results in our Long Term Financial Plan and look forward to reviewing these with Council and Management. Overall, management was dedicated to the delivery of this project and was supportive throughout. Significant amounts of information were made available in a timely manner by all participants – there is a culture committed to continuous improvement and quality service delivery amongst management.

Equally staff participation was good with over 200 responses coming from employees across the organisation. This feedback was positive and constructive and has been passed onto management to review and implement.

We also look forward to assisting Council as part of this continuous improvement program to facilitate enhanced organisational capability and performance. We believe our consultative process with its focus on organisation culture, coupled with our functional span mapping and other analytical processes will support an already positive environment and an efficient structure to improve performance. Following a shift in strategic direction, Council should see improvement in long term financial sustainability and capacity to meet future challenges.

Council can make comparative choices to ensure its "long-term financial performance and position is sustainable where planned long term service and infrastructure levels and standards are met without unplanned increases in rates or disruptive cuts to services."

It is against this definition ultimately that the financial sustainability of the City of Greater Geelong will be assessed by the community

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13.0 ANNEXURE A – FINANCIAL BENCHMARKS

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13.1 VAGO Comparative Financial Ratio Graphs

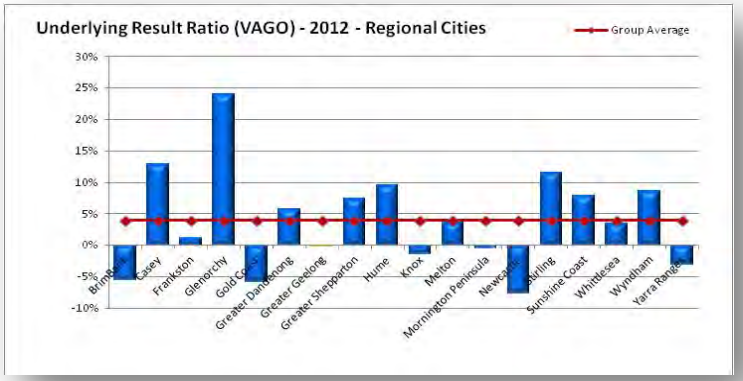


Chart 1 – Underlying Result Ratio (VAGO) 2012

COGG has a minimal underlying operating result in accordance with the Victorian Auditor General Office (VAGO) calculation. This is a position that should be retained or improved in the 10 year Long Term Financial Plan timeframe.



Chart 2 – Underlying Operating Position (from Financial Performance as a comparison to above VAGO Underlying Result Ratio) 2012

CT Management Group calculation backs out the capital income and all forms of non-operating costs – under this methodology COGG is slightly worse off, as are the other Councils in the benchmark group.

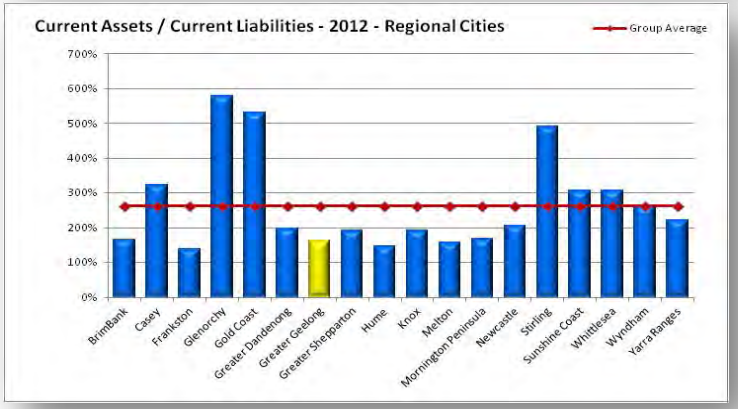


Chart 3 – Current Assets / Current Liabilities 2012

Council's working capital is low in comparison to the benchmark group at 270 per cent. Improved cash flow is recommended with an annual target of approximately 150 per cent recommended.

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13.1 VAGO Comparative Financial Ratio Graphs

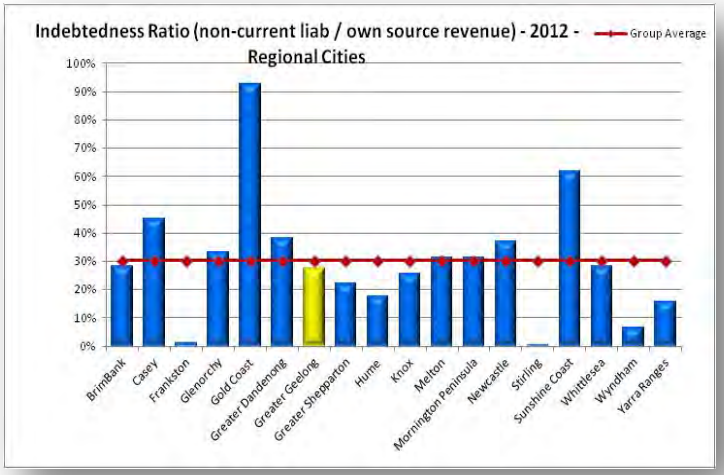


Chart 4 – Indebtedness Ratio (non-current liab / own source revenue) 2012

Council's indebtedness ratio is on the average. Council has capacity to extend its debt and we would recommend a firm policy be developed as to when Council debt is appropriate to be used, particularly in the "transition period" where Council is investing in new assets.

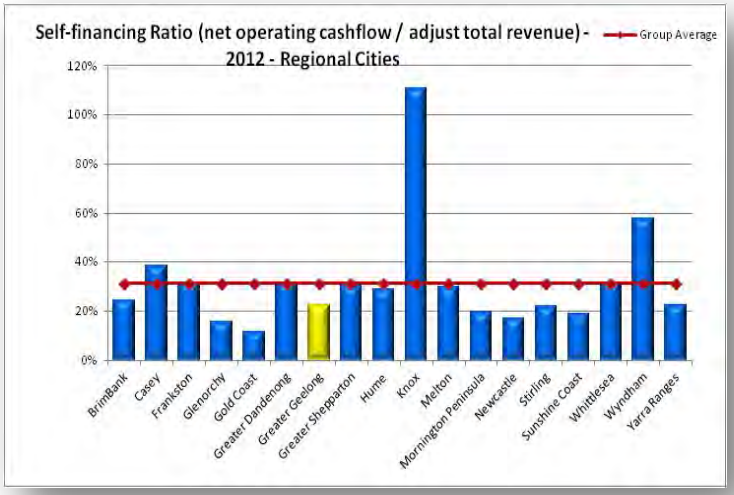


Chart 5 – Self-financing Ratio (net operating cashflow / adjust total revenue) 2012

Council is below the average of the benchmark group due to its low working capital – cash flow management will continue to be a challenge for Council going forward.

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13.2 Revenue Comparative Financial Ratio Graphs

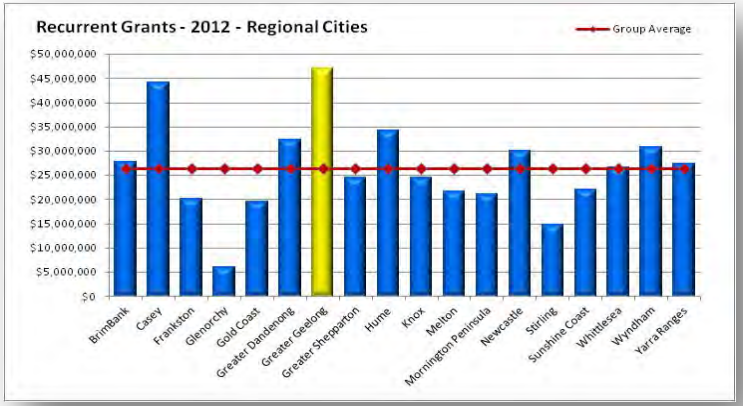


Chart 6 – Recurrent Grants 2012

Council has been extremely successful in its ability to attract recurrent grants to various services and functions and is clearly well above average.

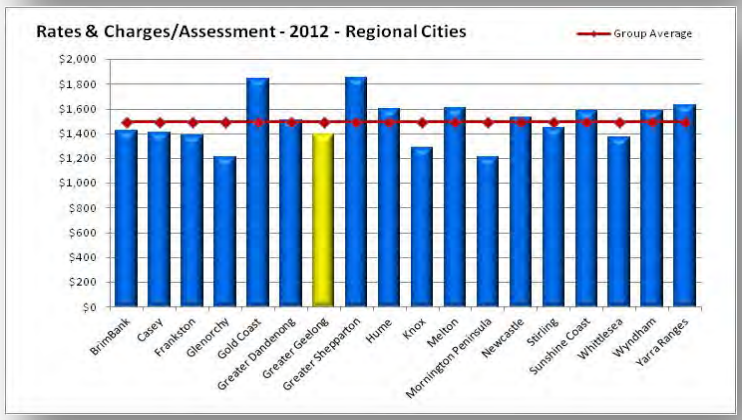


Chart 7 – Rates & Charges / Assessment 2012

Council's rating effort though is below average at $1424 per assessment. If Council persists with investment in new infrastructure the community may need to be called upon to contribute more by way of rate revenue. Conversely if the capital investment is redirected into renewal the need may not be as urgent. This result will also be impacted by any redistribution from lowering of rate revenue from the three key ageing industrials – Shell, Alcoa and Ford

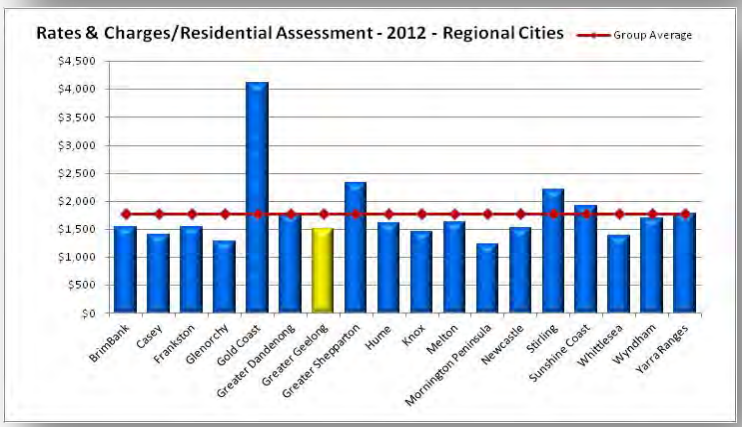


Chart 8 – Rates & Charges / Residential Assessment 2012

Council is again below the average at $1500 per residential assessment.

We would recommend Council review its Rating Strategy both from a quantum and distribution perspective.

The Rating Strategy should model various levels of impact from the potential revenue reduction from the three ageing industrials

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13.2 Revenue Comparative Financial Ratio Graphs

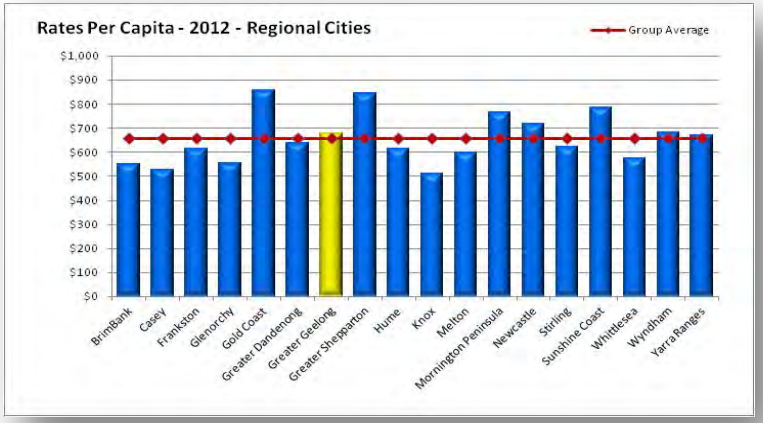


Chart 9 – Rates per Capita 2012

On a rates per capita basis Council is about average at $690.

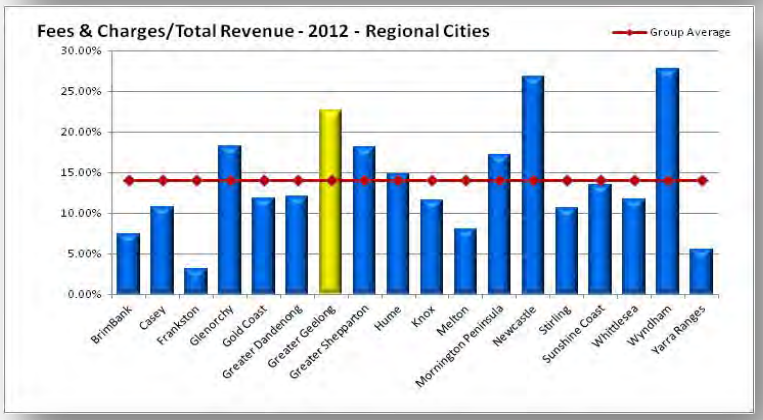


Chart 10 – Fees & Charges/Total Revenue 2012

Council's fees and charges as a proportion of total revenue are above average. Councils vary in terms of their fees and charges and capacity to raise fees and charges. This indicator does not imply Council's individual fees and charges are greater than other municipalities in the benchmark group.

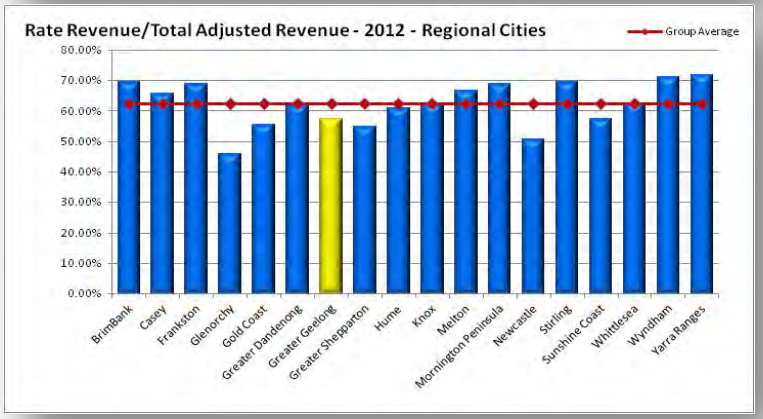


Chart 11 – Rate Revenue / Total Adjusted Revenue 2012

Structurally Council has a lower percentage of rates and charges as a percentage of its total adjusted revenue at 59 per cent – this is a contributor to lower levels of working capital and cash.

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13.3 Expenses Comparative Financial Ratio Graphs

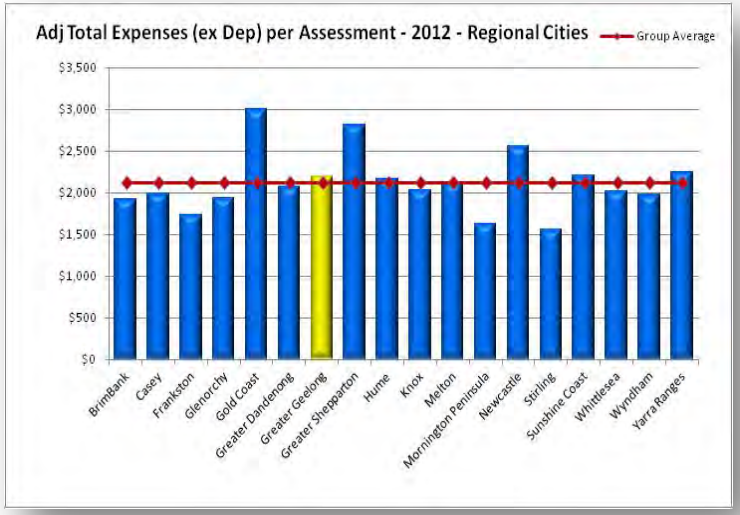


Chart 12 – Adj Total Expenses (ex Dep) per Assessment 2012

Council's level of expenditure on operations is on the average of the benchmark group at $2,100 per assessment. The adjustment to expenditure removes depreciation charges from the equation. The levels of service and range of services impact on Council's results under this indicator.

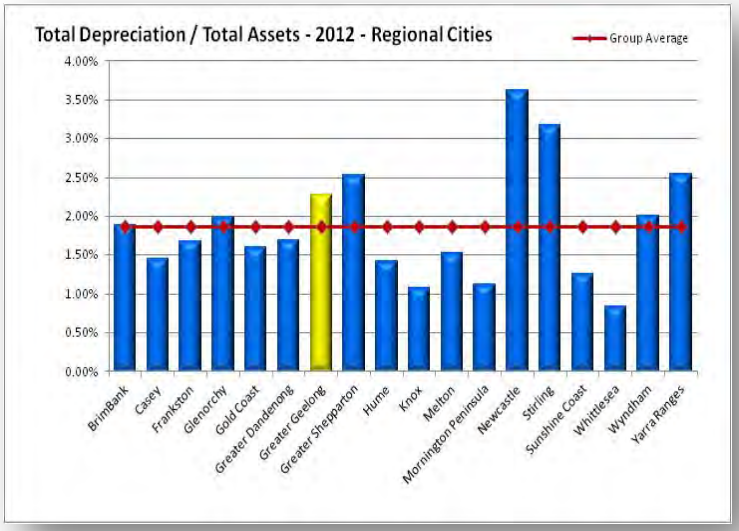


Chart 13 – Total Depreciation / Total Assets 2012

Depreciation charges on total assets are on average higher at CoGG at 2.4 per cent when compared to the benchmark group. These additional charges do impact on the calculation of the underlying operating position.

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13.3 Expenses Comparative Financial Ratio Graphs

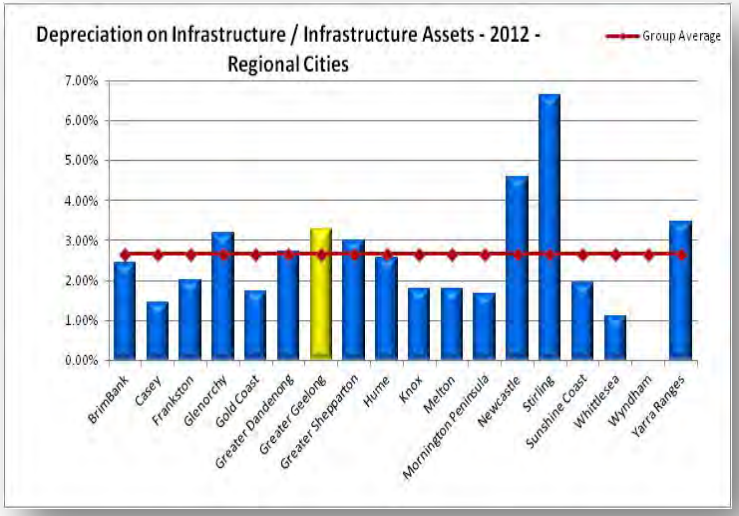


Chart 14 – Depreciation on Infrastructure / Infrastructure Assets – 2012

Depreciation charges are on infrastructure assets are on average higher at COGG at 3.2 per cent when compared to the benchmark group.
This will increase Council's Operating Costs proportionately more than the benchmark group, and increase Council's underlying operating position.

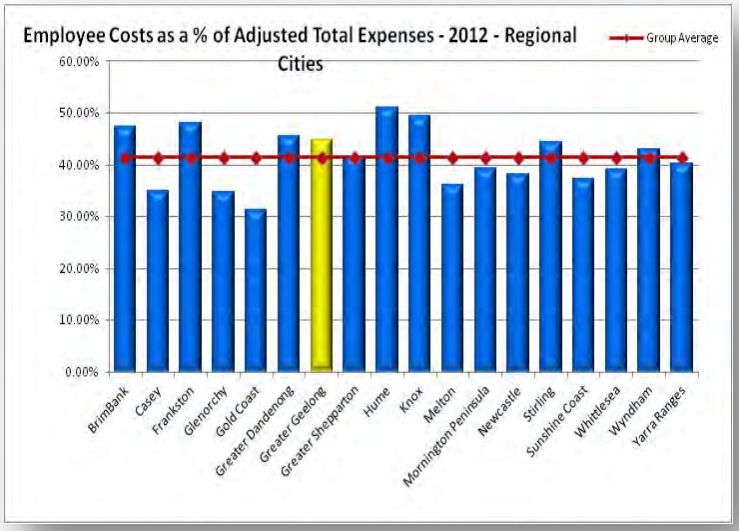


Chart 15 – Employee Costs as a % of Adjusted Total Expenses 2012

Employee costs are higher than the average at 42 per cent of the benchmark group. Council's level of expenditure on operations is on the average of the benchmark group indicating that Council uses employees to deliver services at a higher proportion than others in the benchmark group.

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13.4 Capital Comparative Financial Ratio Graphs

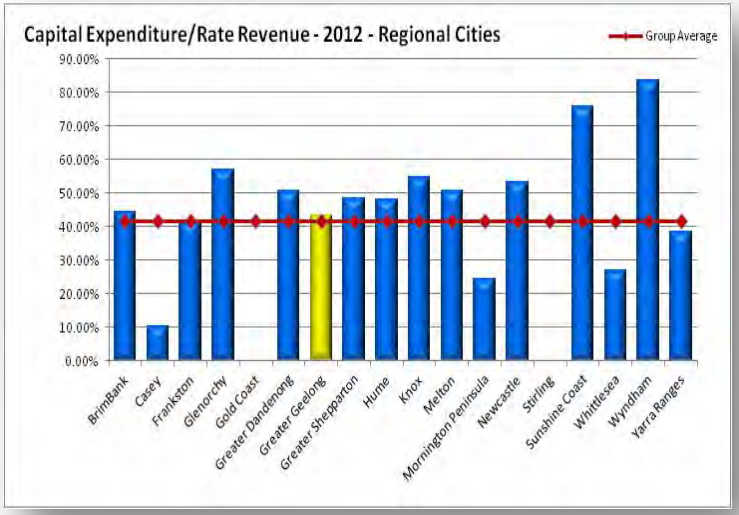


Chart 16 – Capital Expenditure / Rate Revenue 2012

Council invests on the average of the benchmark group at 40 per cent of its rate revenue being invested in capital works.

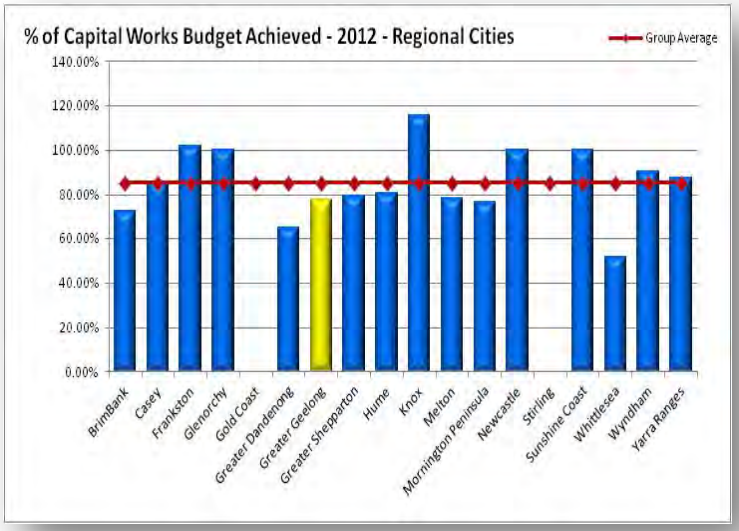


Chart 17 – % of Capital Works Budget Achieved 2012

Council achieved 79 per cent of its program in 2012 compared to the average of 85 per cent – a commendable effort. Some of Council's capital programming practices amended would improve this result- the use of working capital investment rather than carrying projects in this capital program is also recommended..

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13.5 Debt Comparative Financial Ratio Graphs

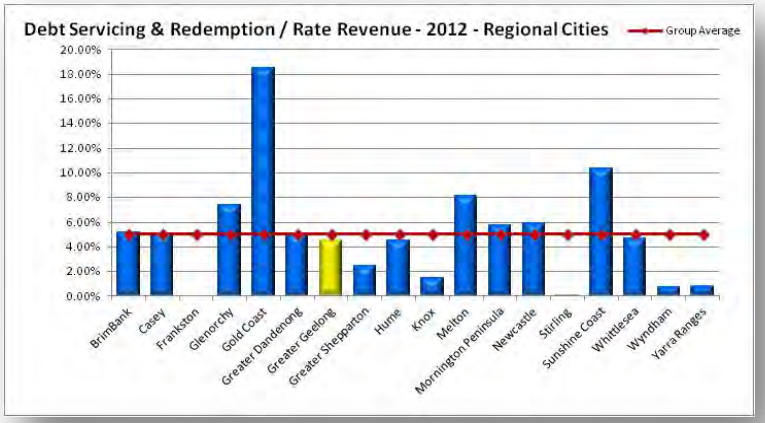


Chart 18 – Debt Servicing & Redemption / Rate Revenue 2012

Rate payers at Geelong pay 4 cents in the dollar off Council debt compared to the average of 4.5 cents. Council could review the use of debt to fund intergenerational projects. The use of debt through this transition period is recommended.

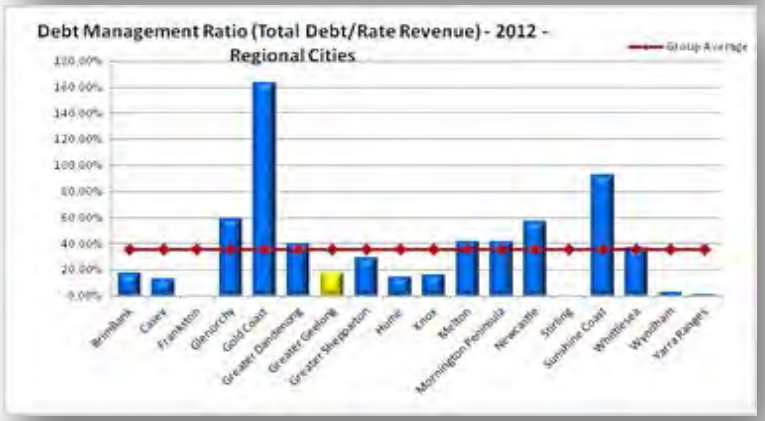


Chart 19 – Debt Management Ratio (Total Debt / Rate Revenue) 2012

Council is below the average of the benchmark group. Council could review the use of debt to fund intergenerational projects.



Chart 20 – Debt Per Capita 2012

Council is below the average of the benchmark group.
Council could review the use of debt to fund intergenerational projects.

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13.6 Financial Performance Comparative Financial Ratio Graphs

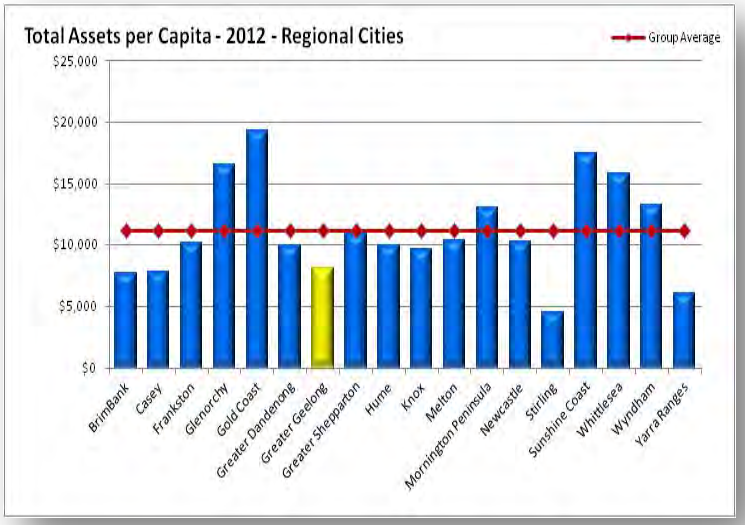


Chart 21 – Total Assets per Capita 2012

Council is below the benchmark group which may indicate a conservatism in Council's Greenfield valuation rates – this may be the source of the higher than average depreciation rates and should be investigated. Revaluation of Council's roads will cause a spike in 2013/14 financial year. The seven year gap between revaluations is recommended to be reduced to three years.

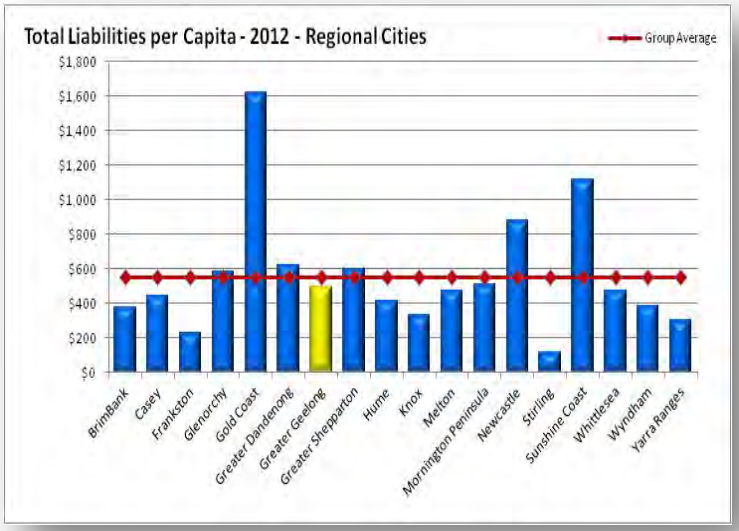


Chart 22 – Total Liabilities per Capita 2012

Total liabilities per capita are in line with the majority of the benchmark group.

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13.6 Financial Performance Comparative Financial Ratio Graphs

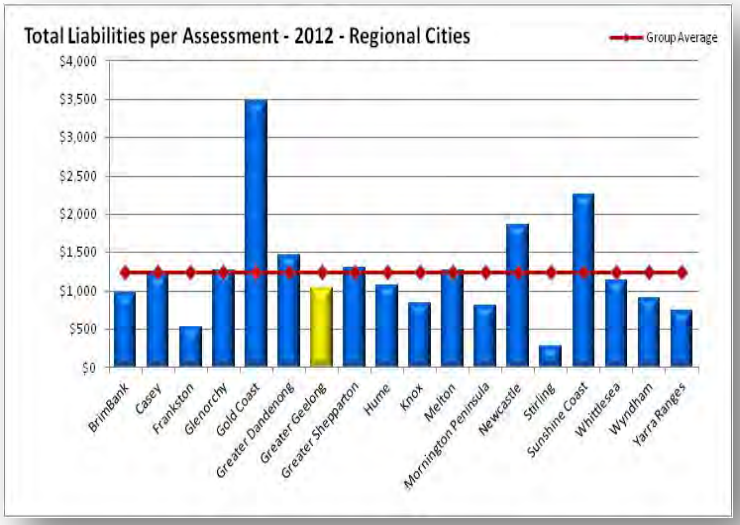


Chart 23 – Total Liabilities per Assessment 2012

Total liabilities per assessment are in line with the majority of the benchmark group

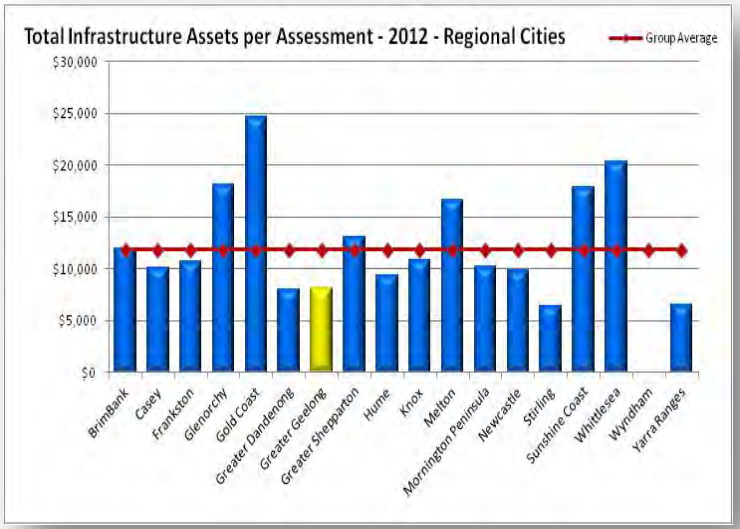


Chart 24 – Total Infrastructure per Assessment 2012

Council is below the benchmark group which may indicate a conservatism in Council's Greenfield valuation rates – this may be the source of the higher than average depreciation rates and should be investigated. The 7 year gap between revaluations of Council's road assets would contribute to this result..

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13.6 Financial Performance Comparative Financial Ratio Graphs

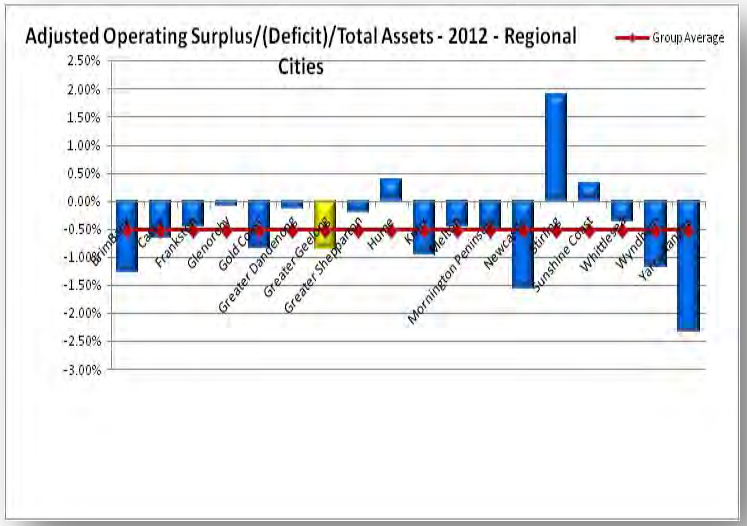


Chart 25 – Adjusted Operating Surplus / (Deficit) / Total Assets 2012

Council is just above the average, though reviewed depreciation charges would assist this result

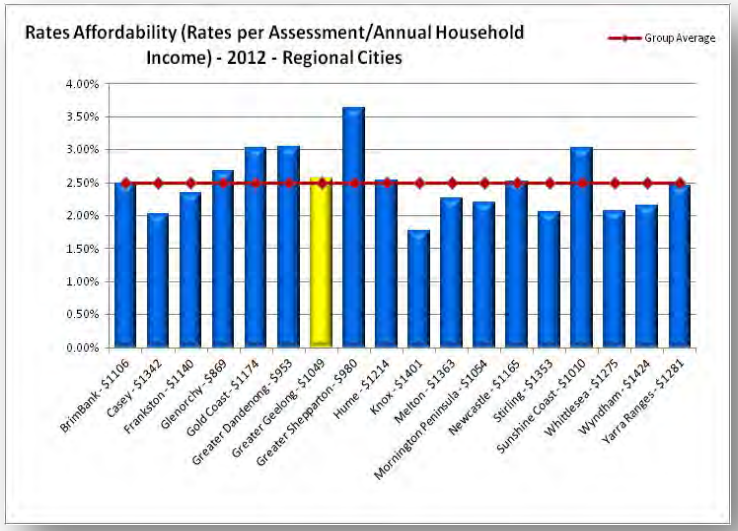


Chart 26 – Rates Affordability (Rates per Assessment/Annual Household Income) 2012

Council is on the average of the rates affordability indicator at 2.5 per cent.

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8. GEELONG MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2013-2017

Portfolio: **Community Development – Cr Fisher**
Source **Community Services - Aged and Disability Services**
General Manager: **Jenny McMahon**
Index Reference **Subject: Municipal Public Health Plan**

Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Council to formally adopt the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 (see Appendix 1) for submission to the Minister for Health by the due date of 31 October 2013.

Summary

- The purpose of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 is to demonstrate how Council will work to improve the health and wellbeing of the community over the next four years.
- The Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 legislates that all Victorian Councils prepare and adopt a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan within 12 months of Council elections.
- The draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan was released for public consultation from 27 August to 25 September 2013.
- The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 as proposed meets the requirements of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008.
- During the consultation period, one submission was received which was in favour of the Plan, and no changes were requested.

Cr Fisher moved, Cr Irvine seconded -

That Council adopt Health the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 and forward to the Minister for Health.

Carried.

Background

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan builds on the work of previous Council health and wellbeing plans; most recently the 2009-2013 Geelong Health and Wellbeing Plan and fulfils the requirements of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008.

Council, at its meeting on 27 August 2013, approved the draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 being released for public comment for a period of four weeks. The public comment period closed on 25 September 2013.

8. GEELONG MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2013-2017 (CONT'D)

Discussion

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 aligns with:

- City Plan 2013-2017;
- The Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015;
- G21 Region Public Health and Wellbeing Strategy (currently in draft);
- Geelong Region Physical Activity Strategy (currently in draft).

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 is a plan of action for the next four years as well as demonstrating how the Council already works to improve health and wellbeing.

The plan operates on three levels:

1. *Guiding principles for health and wellbeing planning* – the core values and philosophy that have been used to develop this plan and will guide future decisions.
2. *Improving how we do business in health and wellbeing* – actions designed to improve Council's ability to address local health and wellbeing needs.
3. *Health and wellbeing priorities* – the key health behaviours Council aims to address in partnership with the community and stakeholders. These are:
   (i) Accessible and nutritious food;
   (ii) Physical activity and active communities;
   (iii) Social inclusion and community connectedness;
   (iv) Reducing harm from alcohol, drugs and problem gambling;
   (v) Reducing tobacco use.

An Action Guide has been developed for each health and wellbeing priority and the 'improving how we do business' section of the plan.

Actions will become part of departmental business plans and will be reported to Council on an annual basis to satisfy the legislative requirement regarding the ongoing monitoring and review of the plan.

During the public comment period, copies of the draft plan were made available at all City of Greater Geelong Customer Service Centres and via Geelong Australia website.

One submission was received during this period from Leisure Networks Chief Executive Officer, Libby Mears, who offered her congratulations and articulated Leisure Networks commitment to "working in partnership at a strategic and operational level in community health promotion initiatives with the City of Greater Geelong". No changes were requested.

8. GEELONG MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2013-2017 (CONT'D)

With the conclusion of the public comment period, it is recommended that Council formally adopt the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017. Once adopted by Council the plan is required to be submitted to the Minister for Health by the 31 October 2013 to meet the requirements of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008.

Environmental Implications

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 has been developed to meet the requirements of the Climate Change Act 2010, which is in accordance with the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008.

There are a number of actions contained within Council's Climate Adaptation Strategy that will have significant implications for the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017, particularly in relation to vulnerable communities.

Financial Implications

Any financial implications arising from the Geelong Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan will be referred for consideration to future budgets.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 fulfils the requirement of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008. That is, all Victorian Councils prepare and adopt a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan within 12 months of Council elections.

The plan also meets the requirements of the Climate Change Act 2010 by having 'regard to climate change'.

Other Acts and regulations that are implicated in the plan include the Food Act 1984 and the Tobacco Act 1987 (see page 8 of the Plan for a more comprehensive list).

Alignment to City Plan

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 is aligned to City Plan 2013-2017 in that its vision mirrors that of the Community Wellbeing strategic direction and all actions seek to address the City Plan's three strategic priorities for Community Wellbeing: Healthy Lifestyles, Healthy Environments and Connected, Creative and Strong Communities.

A diagram articulating how the plan aligns both with City Plan and other strategies and plans that guide the work of Council in health and wellbeing is contained on page 12 of the Plan.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any direct or indirect interest relative to the advice provided in the report.

8. GEELONG MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2013-2017 (CONT'D)

Risk Assessment

Beyond the need to meet the statutory requirements of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 and the Climate Change Act 2010, the City of Greater Geelong has a funded requirement to VicHealth through the BE ACTIVE initiative to ensure that the VicHealth Physical Activity Framework has been considered in the development of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

Social Considerations

The purpose of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 is to demonstrate how the Council will work to improve the health and wellbeing of the local community over the next four years. A major approach to helping the organisation deliver on its Community Wellbeing priorities as outlined in City Plan is to work on the social determinants of health (as discussed on page 7 of the Plan).

Human Rights Charter

The guiding principles section of the plan articulates the core values and philosophy that have underpinned the development of the plan and intended to guide the work of Council in all areas. It captures the need to explicitly consider issues relating to diversity, equity and community participation and empowerment.

Consultation and Communication

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 will be produced into a full version and a summary version suitable for community use and made available via the Geelong Australia website and at Customer Service Centres by the end of November.

During the public exhibition period, copies of the draft plan were made available at all City of Greater Geelong Customer Service Centres and online, with the consultation period then being promoted in the following ways:

- Media release
- City News
- 'Have Your Say' sections of the Geelong Australia website
- Direct email to relevant stakeholder groups
- CAOS Newsletter
- Greater Geelong Childhood and Education e-bulletin.

Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017

The City of Greater Geelong acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of the lands in our region – the Wathaurong people – and pays respect to their Elders both past and present.

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Executive summary

The purpose of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 is to demonstrate how the City of Greater Geelong will work to improve the health and wellbeing of the local community over the next four years.

The plan fulfils the requirement of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* that all Victorian Councils prepare and adopt a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan within 12 months of Council elections. It also meets the requirements of the *Climate Change Act 2010* by having 'regard to climate change'.

A number of developments globally and locally have shifted the way governments and health agencies are seeking to influence health. Australia has one of the best health systems in the world. However the system is under pressure from a rapidly growing and ageing population and the increasing prevalence of preventable chronic diseases.

This has shifted the focus of health planning from service delivery to prevention. In effect, planning has become focused on addressing behaviours that are linked to increasing levels of lifestyle-related chronic disease, such as nutrition and insufficient physical activity. The establishment of the National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health is evidence of this shift.

Since the development of the *Environments for Health* framework in 2001, local governments have been using public health plans to create better health through the management of built, social, economic and natural environments. However, changes to legislation and health policy means there is currently an unprecedented level of interest in how local governments work in this space.

At the same time, the launch of the Healthy Together Geelong and BE ACTIVE initiatives have given our organisation more resources and more opportunities to find new and better ways of doing this work .

It is in this context that the City of Greater Geelong's Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing 2013-2017 Plan has been developed.

The plan is based on the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015, but has been adapted to suit the local context and maintain alignment with *City Plan 2013-2017* and the *G21 Region Public Health and Wellbeing Strategy*.

As well as demonstrating how the City of Greater Geelong already works to improve health and wellbeing, it is also a plan of action for the next four years.

The plan operates on three levels:

Guiding principles for health and wellbeing planning – the core values and philosophy that have been used to develop this plan and will guide our future decisions

Improving how we do business in health and wellbeing – actions designed to improve our ability to address local health and wellbeing needs

Health and wellbeing priorities – the key health behaviours we aim to address in partnership with our community and stakeholders. These are:

- Accessible and nutritious food
- Physical activity and active communities
- Social inclusion and community connectedness
- Reducing harm from alcohol, drugs and problem gambling
- Reducing tobacco use.

An Action Guide has been developed for each health and wellbeing priority and includes:

- a quick snapshot of the issue
- evidence that highlights the need for action
- a list of actions we aim to achieve over the next four years to address the issue
- indicators that will be used to monitor change at the population level
- a list of desired outcomes.

A similar guide has been included for the 'improving how we do business' section of the plan.

Actions will become part of our business plans and will be reported to Council on an annual basis as part of the ongoing monitoring and review of the plan.

These actions will build on the existing work that Council already does to improve the health and wellbeing on the community.

Part 1 - Background to the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan

What is a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan?

The purpose of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 is to demonstrate how the City of Greater Geelong will work to improve the health and wellbeing of the local community over the next four years.

The plan fulfils the requirements of the Victorian Government *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* that all Victorian Councils prepare a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan within 12 months of Council elections. It also meets the requirements of the *Climate Change Act 2010* by having 'regard to climate change'.

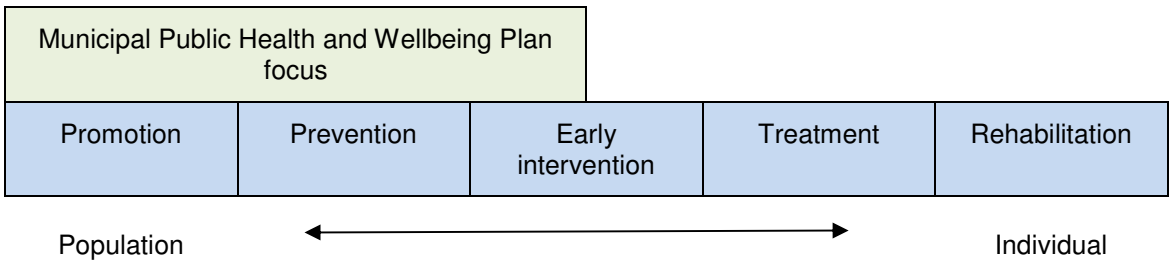
What is the role of local government in health?

Since the development of Environments for Health in 2001, there has been an increased level of interest in Victoria about how local government can act as an 'agent for change' in influencing environments and communities in ways that support health.

This has been mirrored globally with initiatives such as the Healthy Cities movement, the EPODE program in Europe and the achievements of the City of New York reinforcing the contribution that local government leadership, underpinned by strong community engagement and partnerships, can make to improving health outcomes (Department of Health, 2013a).

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 describes the ways in which the City of Greater Geelong will work to positively impact on the health of our local community. Actions in the plan focus on the core roles of local government in health protection, promotion and prevention.

BELOW: Diagram depicting the areas of health which are the focus of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.



"Local government is therefore ideally placed to develop, lead and implement policies to influence many determinants of health" (Department of Health, 2011).

How is the plan prepared?

The City of Greater Geelong Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 was developed with the support and guidance of a cross council planning group and has been informed by:

- International, national, state, regional and local policy context
- Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015
- Victorian Department of Health '*Guide to municipal public health and wellbeing planning'*
- Heart Foundation '*Creating heart healthy communities: Working with local government'*
- VicHealth Local Government Action Guides
- VicHealth Physical Activity Framework
- City of Greater Geelong City Plan 2013-2017
- City of Greater Geelong City Plan 2013-2017 Summary of Community Engagement
- G21 Region Public Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Geelong Region Physical Activity Strategy
- A review of demographic and health data for the City of Greater Geelong

Policy context

Following is discussion of the current policy that is guiding health at the international, national, state, regional and local levels. For a full list of resources and web links, please refer to Appendix 1.

International

> *"The social determinants of health are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age. These circumstances are shaped by the distribution of money, power and resources at global, national and local levels. The social determinants of health are mostly responsible for health inequities - the unfair and avoidable differences in health status seen within and between countries."*
>
> *World Health Organisation*

In March 2005, the World Health Organisation (WHO) established the Commission on the Social Determinants of Health to support countries and global health partners in addressing the social factors leading to ill health and health inequities.

The Commission aimed to draw the attention of governments and society to the social determinants of health (see above) with the aim of creating better social conditions for health.

In October 2011, member States adopted the Rio Political Declaration at the World Conference on Social Determinants of Health, calling upon member states to act in five areas:

- Adopt improved governance for health and development
- Promote participation in policy-making and implementation
- Further reorient the health sector towards promoting health and reducing health inequities
- Strengthen global governance and collaboration
  Monitor progress and increase accountability

National

The National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health (NPAPH) is an initiative of the Commonwealth and State and Territory Governments through the Council of Australian Governments. The initiative is providing $932.7 million over nine years from 2009-10. This is a significant investment by the Australian Government in health prevention (Department of Health and Ageing, 2012).

The aim of this agreement is to tackle the unhealthy lifestyles and environments that are contributing to rising rates of overweight and obesity and preventable chronic diseases. The NPAPH has supported initiatives targeting *Healthy Children*, *Healthy Workers* and *Healthy Communities* and launched national social marketing campaigns, such as *MeasureUp*.

State

Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

The *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* articulates the important role of the State and local governments in promoting and protecting the health and wellbeing of Victorians. In addition there are a number of other Acts and regulations that contribute to this aim, examples of which are listed below:

- Food Act 1984
- Tobacco Act 1987
- Environmental Protection Act 1970
- Climate Change Act 2010
- Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005
- Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978
- Safe Drinking Water Act 2003
- Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981
- Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015

For the State to meet its responsibilities outlined in the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act*, the State Government has prepared the *Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015*.

The overall aim of this plan is to improve the health and wellbeing of Victorians by engaging communities in prevention, and by strengthening systems for health protection, health promotion and preventive healthcare across all sectors and levels of government.

A key action in the plan is the development of the Prevention Community Model, now known as Healthy Together Victoria.

Healthy Together Victoria provides a coordinated framework of action based on the latest available prevention evidence to improve people's health where they live, learn, work and play. The initiative, which is being delivered in 14 local government areas including the City of Greater Geelong, aims to address the underlying causes of chronic disease.

Guide to municipal public health and wellbeing planning

This guide to municipal public health and wellbeing planning was developed by the Department of Health to: provide a summary of legislative and policy requirements; outline key elements and a six-stage cycle for effective planning and provide reference to tools and resources for additional information.

The guide is intended for use with the *Environments for health municipal public health planning framework* which was developed in 2001 to assist local governments to consider the impact on health and wellbeing of factors across any or all of the built, social, economic and natural environments (Department of Health, 2013a).

Creating heart healthy communities: Working with local government

The *Creating heart healthy communities: working with local government* resource developed by the Heart Foundation (Victoria) identifies three priority areas for local government to reduce the risk of heart disease: food and nutrition; active living; and smoke free outdoors. The document provides recommendations for inclusion in Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plans and Municipal Strategic Statements.

"The Heart Foundation (Victoria) works with local government to address risk factors for heart disease and create heart healthy communities." (Heart Foundation, 2013).

VicHealth Local Government Action Guides

VicHealth has developed a series of ten local government action guides that Councils may utilise when preparing their Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plans, Municipal Strategic Statements and other council strategies.

The guides outline recent solid research and evidence based ideas for local action on ten public health topics (VicHealth, 2012b).

Regional

G21 - Geelong Region Alliance (G21) is a formal alliance of government, business and community organisations working together to improve the lives of people within the Geelong region across five municipalities – Colac Otway, Golden Plains, Greater Geelong, Queenscliffe and Surf Coast.

Central to the operation of G21 are eight pillar groups representing the region's key priorities. Each pillar is made up of key decision makers and subject experts within each category who meet on a regular basis.

Both the Health and Wellbeing Pillar and the Sport and Recreation Pillar are undertaking regional planning processes that are closely connected to the development of this Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (see below).

G21 Region Public Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The aim of the *G21 Region Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017* is to improve the health and wellbeing of communities through the G21 region.

The regional plan represents a new collaboration in public health & wellbeing planning across five municipalities in the G21 region.

The regional plan will strengthen the ongoing effort to address some of the more complex and entrenched issues underlying public health and wellbeing across the region.

This will enhance councils' ability to partner with service providers, other sectors and government departments to maximise effort and resources.

Geelong Region Physical Activity Strategy

The aim of the *Geelong Region Physical Activity Strategy* is to provide an evidence base to guide policy and decision making at a regional and municipal level to create environments that support physical activity.

The strategy is intended to complement the work being done in the health and wellbeing area, whilst maintaining a distinct focus on physical activity.

This Strategy is due for completion in September 2013.

Local

City Plan

City Plan 2013-2017 is the key document that will guide the City of Greater Geelong's activities during the four year term of the current Council.

It sets out our vision and identifies the strategic directions, priorities and strategies we will pursue to ensure that the Geelong region remains the best place to live, not only today but into the future.

City Plan has four strategic directions – also shown in diagram 1 below:

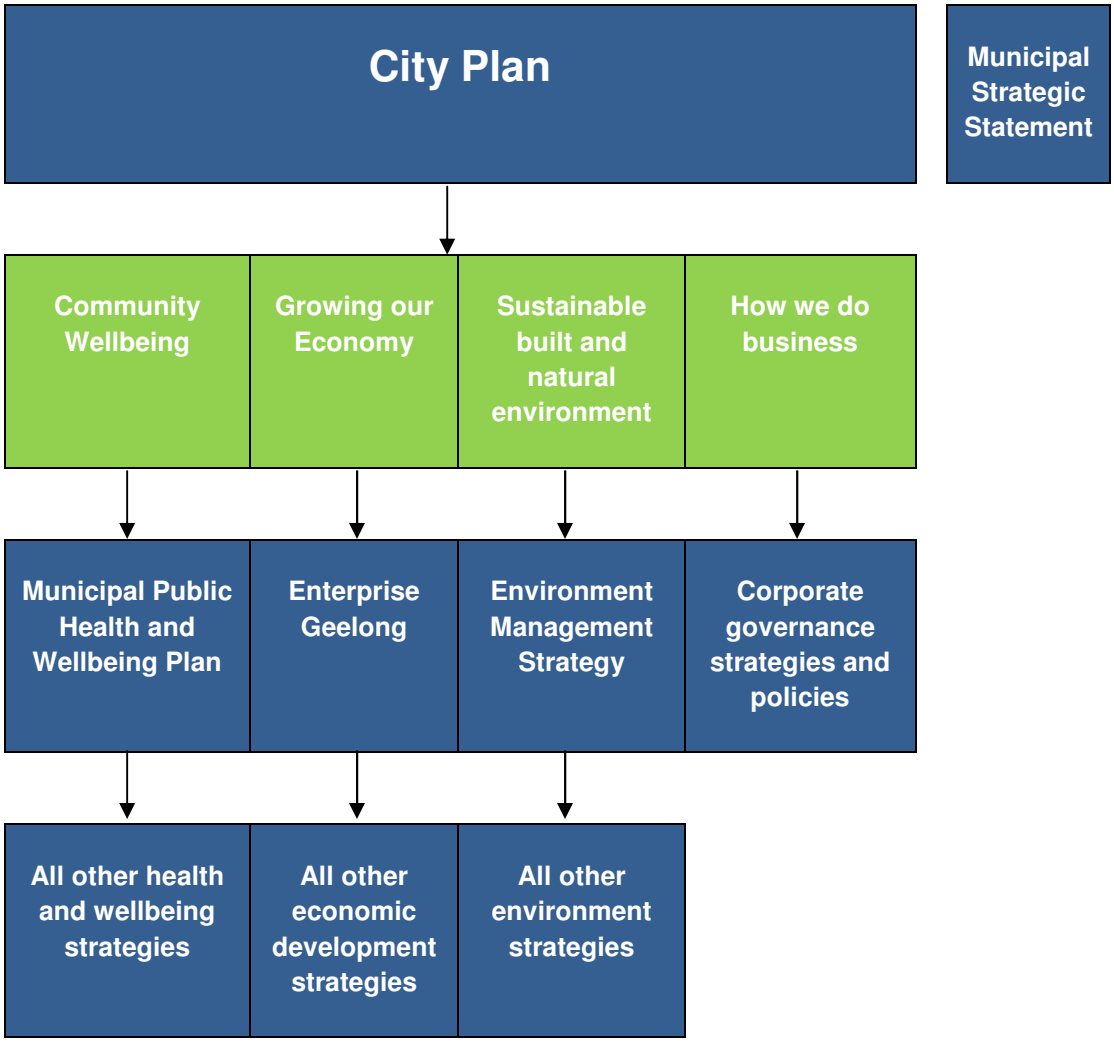
Community wellbeing: focuses on 'Healthy Together Geelong' - enhancing the health, wellbeing and quality of life of people in Greater Geelong (this statement is also the vision for the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017).

Growing our economy: is about securing Greater Geelong's economic future through encouraging more employment and investment.

Sustainable built and natural environment: is about partnering with our community to protect and enhance our natural ecosystems, as well as encouraging sustainable design and reduced resource consumption.

How we do business: focuses on building effective working relationships to deliver the strategic directions and cost effective services that seek to meet our community's needs.

BELOW: Diagram explaining how strategic directions in City Plan (highlighted in green) link to key Council plans and initiatives



Below is a selection of the key strategies, master plans and initiatives that will assist in delivering Community Wellbeing priorities:

- Municipal Early Years Plan – Creating Communities for Children
- Live Well Positive Ageing Strategy
- GEEYOUNG: Youth Strategy
- Healthy Together Geelong
  Greater Geelong Cycle Strategy
- Multicultural Action Plan
- Municipal Strategic Statement
- Public Art Strategy
- Disability Action Plan
- Geelong Play Strategy
- Municipal Emergency Management Plan
- Community Fire Management Plan
- Drug Action Plan
- Domestic Animal (Dogs and Cats) Management Plan
- Climate Adaptation Strategy
- Bellarine Peninsula Strategic Plan
- Geelong Community Safety Strategy
- Location-specific Future Provision of Community Infrastructure Plans
- Whittington Works! Strategic Action Plan
- Corio Norlane Structure Plan
- Gaming Policy
- Asset Management Plans
- Study of Open Space Networks
- Recreation reserve master plans that guide the management and future development of reserves

Healthy Together Geelong

Healthy Together Geelong is the name of the partnership between the City of Greater Geelong, Barwon Health and Bellarine Community Health aiming to achieve sustained reductions in the growth of preventable chronic diseases and create lasting improvements in local health and wellbeing.

Through local partnerships and a skilled health promotion workforce, the initiative is working to encourage healthy eating and physical activity and reduce smoking and harmful alcohol use. Actions will be focused on communities, early childhood services, schools and workplaces.

BE ACTIVE

VicHealth, in partnership with Sport and Recreation Victoria, have established BE ACTIVE to complement the Victorian Government's Healthy Together Victoria initiative.

The aim of BE ACTIVE is to address the lack of safe, accessible and inclusive environments restricting people's capacity to participate in physical activity.

To assist with this, VicHealth has developed a Physical Activity Framework to help review and guide local government work in this area. This framework has been used to inform both the development of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 and the Geelong Region Physical Activity Strategy.

In the longer term, the action resulting from the initiative will hopefully increase physical activity participation for children and older people, contribute to stronger and more resilient families and improve civic engagement through volunteerism in Victorian communities.

Health and climate adaptation

The *Victorian Climate Change Act* came into effect on 1 July 2011. *The Act* addresses both climate change mitigation and adaptation (see definition in box below) and requires key government decision makers to 'have regard to climate change' when making certain decisions.

Section 14: Schedule 1
It is expected that Local Government will state in the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan how they have had regard to climate change, in order to demonstrate they have met their obligations under the Climate Change Act.

Local communities will be affected by future climate change in many ways. In particular, through decreased rainfall, heat waves in summer and increased severity and frequency of floods, storms, storm surges and bushfires.

Likely challenges for local government may include:

- Increased number of assets failing due to heat stress (from building cooling systems to road surfaces)
- Higher rates of infectious and water borne disease
- Increased heat-related stress and mortality among aged and 'at risk' populations
- More pressure on storm water systems
- Faster deterioration of buildings
- Planning challenges for coastal areas
- Increased insurance costs
- Reduced availability of sporting fields

These impacts will have consequences for our services including infrastructure, recreation, health, planning, natural resource management and water services.

CLIMATE CHANGE: MITIGATION VERSUS ADAPTATION

To date most action on Climate Change has focused on *mitigation*, or the reduction of green house emissions.

Adaptation, unlike mitigation, is concerned with how we manage impacts caused by climate change. The two concepts are related because the more mitigation we get the less adaptation we will need.

Although mitigation is best addressed at the global scale (through international frameworks and national-level carbon policies), adaptation is best managed on a local scale as this is where impacts of climate change will be directly expressed.

City of Greater Geelong Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

How is the City of Greater Geelong preparing for climate change?

In 2011, the City developed a *Climate Change Adaptation Strategy* to improve understanding of the risks of climate change and guide responses to climate risks. Thermal imagery to map areas of possible heat stress is one example of how we are doing this.

We have also developed a *Climate Change Adaptation Toolkit* for use by Council employees to assess climate change risks and adaptation responses across the organisation.

Having regard for Climate Change in the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan

When considering the health impacts of climate change, these are usually divided into direct and indirect impacts.

Direct impacts are those that occur immediately and suddenly during or after a climate change event and typically affect physical and mental health. Examples might include injury, illness or death caused by extreme weather events. Traumatisation may also be considered a direct effect.

Generally direct health impacts of a climate change event will be addressed in emergency management response plans such as the Municipal Heatwave Plan and the Municipal Emergency Management Plan.

Indirect impacts are those that occur gradually or later in time after a climate change event and might even be geographically distant from an event. Examples might include the spread of disease, respiratory illness due to reduced air quality or anxiety and other mental illnesses caused by impacts on livelihoods during drought (Fuenfgeld, 2013).

Indirect health impacts, which may cause changes to the determinants of health or the conditions of daily living and may exacerbate existing health vulnerabilities and inequalities, have been considered throughout this plan.

City of Greater Geelong Demographic and Health Profiles

Fast Facts

- **Estimated resident population*:** 217,574
- **Area:** 1,247km^2
- **Population growth rate*:** 0.95 per cent
- **Population born overseas*:** 15.9 per cent
- **Population age structure*:**

  0-17yrs: 22.3 per cent

  18-59 yrs: 54.9 per cent

  60+ yrs: 22.8 per cent
- **Average household size:** 2.4 persons
- **Rateable properties:** 110,448
- **Number of businesses in municipality**:** 16,175
- **Labour force, municipality**:** 101,040
- **Trade through Geelong Port:** 15.4M tonnes
- **Coastline and rivers:**

  45km of coastline

  120km of streamside frontages
- **Wetland reserves:**

  114 individual wetlands totalling 11,639 hectares
- **Trees:**

  120,000 maintained annually
- **Roads:** 2,057km
- **Off road paths (bike and walking trails):** 200km
- **Open space for sports and recreation:** 900 pieces of open space comprising 17,000 hectares. This includes 84 formal recreation reserves, 46 netball courts, 163 tennis courts, 11 shared courts and 12 skate parks.
- **Council buildings maintained:** 800
- **Public toilets maintained:** 140
- **Libraries:** 13 plus one mobile library
- **Neighbourhood Houses:** 14
- **Public Playgrounds:** 281
- **Annual overnight and day-trip tourists including the Otways:** 6.4 million

** id Profile and Population forecast, June 2011*
*** CoGG Economic Indicators Bulletin 2012*

To inform the development of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, the City of Greater Geelong has prepared the following data resources:

City of Greater Geelong Demographic Profile

The Demographic Profile was populated using data from the Census of Population and Housing and presented on profile.id for the City of Greater Geelong. The Census is the largest statistical collection undertaken by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and was last conducted on 9 August 2011.

City of Greater Geelong Health Profile

The Health Profile has been populated using data compiled and presented by Community Indicators Victoria (CIV).

The CIV framework is based on a set of approximately 80 community wellbeing indicators, covering a broad spectrum of community life.

For full copies of the City of Greater Geelong Demographic and Health Profiles, please go to www.geelongaustralia.com.au or contact Council Customer Service on 5272 5272.

Community engagement

According to the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, Council's "municipal public health and wellbeing plan must provide for the involvement of people in the local community in the development, implementation and evaluation of the public health and wellbeing plan". The following consultation processes have been used to achieve this aim.

Citizen engagement

In late 2012, the City undertook a community engagement process to inform the development of City Plan (see page 9 for more information about City Plan).

Five hundred and sixty-one people participated in the process both online and through a series of workshops (see break out box). A total of 9888 individual comments were received.

"Each issue raised by a person was given equal weight, and as far as possible classified under each of the City Plan Strategic Directions: Community Wellbeing; Growing the Economy; and Sustainable Built and Natural Environment. In addition, comments were received about the general operations of Council, its decisions and implementation. These were classified under a Governance heading" (City of Greater Geelong, 2013a).

Stage one of the City Plan engagement process

- An initial workshop with City of Greater Geelong Council;
- Six community workshops at Belmont, Drysdale, Geelong CBD, Hamlyn Heights, Lara and Norlane;
- Tailored workshops with Indigenous, disability groups and ethnic communities;
- A dedicated website including online forum (across 6 questions) and survey;
- A hardcopy survey (featuring the same questions as the online survey); and
- One workshop involving City of Greater Geelong leadership (managers and coordinators).

Stakeholder engagement

As part of the G21 Region Health and Wellbeing Strategy development, a stakeholder session was held in late May 2013 to discuss the key issues that should be considered in the development of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

A number of organisations were represented on the day including:

- City of Greater Geelong
- Department of Health
- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
- Department of Planning and Community Development
- Barwon Health
- Bellarine Community Health
- Leisure Networks
- Barwon Medicare Local
- Vision Australia
- Food Skil
- The Grinter Garden
- Lara Community Garden
- Active After School Communities Program
- The CO-OPs Collaboration (Deakin University)

Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Planning Group

An internal working group was formed in March 2013 and met monthly to support and guide the development of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

The group was made up of Council officers representing the following Departments within the organisation:

- Aged and Disability Services
- Recreation and Open Space
- Parks and Support Services
- Community Development
- Engineering Services
- Health and Local Laws
- Corporate Strategy
- Family Services
- Environment and Waste Services

Layout of the plan

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan is based on the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015, but has been adapted to suit the local context and maintain alignment with *City Plan 2013-2017* and the *G21 Region Public Health and Wellbeing Strategy*.

As well as demonstrating how the City of Greater Geelong already works to improve health and wellbeing, it is also a plan of action for the next four years.

The plan operates on three levels:

Guiding principles for health and wellbeing planning – the core values and philosophy that have been used to develop this plan and will guide our future decisions

Improving how we do business in health and wellbeing – actions designed to improve our ability to address local health and wellbeing needs

Health and wellbeing priorities – the key health behaviours we aim to address in partnership with our stakeholders and the community. These are:

- Accessible and nutritious food
- Physical activity and active communities
- Social inclusion and community connectedness
- Reducing harm from alcohol, drugs and problem gambling
- Reducing tobacco use.

An Action Guide has been developed for each health and wellbeing priority and includes:

- a quick snapshot of the issue
- evidence that highlights the need for action
- a list of actions we aim to achieve over the next four years to address the issue
- indicators that will be used to monitor change at the population level
- a list of desired outcomes.

A similar guide has been included for the 'improving how we do business' section of the plan.

Actions will become part of our business plans and will be reported to Council on an annual basis as part of the ongoing monitoring and review of the plan.

A framework summarising the layout of the plan has been included in Appendix 2.

Part 2 - Achieving our objectives: The next four years

City Plan Vision for Community Wellbeing

Healthy Together Geelong: to enhance health, wellbeing and quality of life of Greater Geelong communities.

City Plan Strategic Priorities for Community Wellbeing

The City of Greater Geelong City Plan 2013-2017 commits us to addressing three priority areas over the next four years.

Healthy lifestyles

We will work with the individuals, families and communities that live, learn, work and play in our municipality to support them to make healthy lifestyle choices.

Healthy environments

We will provide safe and vibrant physical environments and infrastructure to support healthy living and connected communities.

Connected, creative and strong communities

We will use inclusive programs and events to foster community spirit and help build social connectedness and a sense of community identity.

Regional Health and Wellbeing Priorities

The following three priorities have been selected for the whole region to work on collaboratively for the next four years.

Physical activity

To increase levels of physical activity across our population and develop evidence of which environments provide the most preferred opportunities for a range of groups in our community

Community connectedness / Social inclusion

To capture the economic, social and educational benefits in delivering on shared action involving the community directly with key organisations and businesses

Evidence based planning and practice

To develop a secure, highly reliable and credible evidence base to enhance stakeholder understanding and accounting for their role in the health and wellbeing across the region

Desired outcomes

Our aim is to achieve improvements in health outcomes at an individual, organisational, community and, in the longer term, societal level (see examples below).

Individual / family

- improved physical and mental health
- more socially connected
- more involved in community and group activities
- more physically active
- eat more fruit and vegetables
- increased access to affordable, nutritious , culturally appropriate safe food

Organisations / clubs

- are safe, accessible and inclusive
- have policies and structures in place to support healthy lifestyles
- promote respect for all
- adhere to local laws and regulations
- improved productivity and lower absenteeism
- greater workforce retention
- increased partnerships

Community

- improved healthy lifestyles
- increased community connectedness
- Increased levels of volunteering
- are safe, accessible and inclusive
- reflect awareness of health issues
- more resilient to societal and environme6+ntal change

Societal

- appropriate resource allocation to support healthy lifestyles
- a sustainable and resilient food system
- citizens who actively engage in a positive food culture
- citizens who feel safe, supported and connected
- reduced health inequalities

Guiding principles for health and wellbeing planning

The following principles have been developed to guide our planning and decision making. The principles are based on the social model of health (see page 7) and have underpinned the development of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-17.

Address the environmental, social and individual determinants of health

Consider the most basic needs that impact on health including housing, education and employment.

Embrace an equity approach aimed at reducing social and health inequalities and disparities of access

Help all individuals, families and community groups benefit from living, learning and working in a health promoting environment.

Explicit consideration of diversity including gender, culture, ethnicity, age, disability and sexual orientation

Be sensitive to differences and adapt strategies to accommodate this.

Emphasise active consumer and community participation

Encourage people to have a say about what influences their health and wellbeing and what would improve it.

Empower individuals and communities

Help people and communities identify the resources necessary to take control of their own lives.

Base activities on the best available data and evidence

Adopt evidence based strategies that target the whole population as well as specific population sub groups, particularly those facing the greatest barriers.

Work in partnership

Work at a regional and local level and across multiple sectors to achieve the greatest impact on health.

Consider health impacts of climate change

Build awareness and understanding of the health and social impacts of climate change.

NB: Principles adapted from the *Integrated Health Promotion Resource Kit* (Department of Human Services, 2008a), the S*ustainable Communities: Infrastructure Guidelines* (City of Greater Geelong, 2010) and The *Toronto Charter for Physical Activity: A Global Call for Action* (Global Advocacy Council for Physical Activity, 2010).

Priority settings for action

"Health and wellbeing are influenced by the places in which people live, learn, work and play. Engaging with individuals and families in these settings is often one of the most effective ways to enable people to make decisions that improve their health status and reduce their risk of ill-health" (Department of Health, 2011).

The priority settings for the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 have been selected to align with the Victorian Health and Wellbeing Plan. These are:

Local communities and environments

Local government has always had an important role in managing the built and natural environment. Our understanding of how this impacts upon health has become increasingly sophisticated since the development of the *Environments for Health* framework in 2001, but in many ways it has always been our core business. Actions we may carry out to promote health include:

- master planning
- building of cycling and walking infrastructure
- improvement of community spaces
- management of parks, recreation and leisure centres and facilities
- support for community markets
- major and minor events
- public art installations

Most actions in this setting seek to address the needs of both people and place at the same time for maximum impact.

Workplaces

Nearly three million Victorians are in full or part time work (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2011). With employees spending about one third of their total hours at work, the workplace provides significant opportunities for promoting health and wellbeing (Department of Health, 2011). Being part of a workplace also plays an important role in helping individuals to maintain income security and feel connected.

Historically, the City of Greater Geelong has always worked to support industry with the aim of enhancing the local economy and securing employment. However, with the introduction of Healthy Together Geelong and the Victorian Prevention and Health Promotion Achievement Program, this role has been greatly expanded (see Appendix 3 for more information).

Early childhood and education settings

"*As children and young people develop the knowledge, skills and behaviour for lifelong health and wellbeing, preventive efforts focussed early in life are likely to be effective and long – lasting*." (Department of Health, 2011)

As a local government, we have a vital role to play in creating communities for children to ensure they get the best possible start in life.

This is achieved in numerous ways including: health promotion activities within Maternal and Child Health services; delivery of child care, kindergarten services and playgroups; addressing the needs of vulnerable populations through projects like Best Start; facilitating affordable child and family-friendly events; and creating and maintaining natural and recreation play spaces.

With the adoption of Kids – 'Go For Your Life' in Geelong in 2006, the role of the City in promoting health in this setting was greatly expanded. The introduction of Healthy Together Geelong in 2011 has seen an evolution of this work in schools and early learning centres through the application of the more holistic Victorian Prevention and Health Promotion Achievement Program (see Appendix 3 for more information).

What is the City of Greater Geelong already doing?

There are many different ways that local government works to improve health and wellbeing.

Some of these actions fulfil our obligations outlined in the *Local Government Act* and are therefore core business. Other activities are funded and directed by other levels of government. Finally, as the level of government most closely aligned with the community, we have a vital role in responding to local needs.

This section of the plan describes what we currently do to support health and wellbeing. It is organised under the following subheadings:

- Health Protection
- Keeping People Well
- Strengthen Preventive Health

These subheadings have been chosen to be consistent with the *Victorian Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015*.

Health Protection

There are a number of legislative and regulatory mechanisms that guide the work of local governments in protecting public health.

Examples of these include:

- *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*
- *Tobacco Act 1987*
- *Food Act 1984*
- *Children's Services Regulations*
- *Aged Care Regulations*
- *HACC Act 1985.*

Whilst regulation is one way we to protect the health of the community, staff work in a range of different settings and utilise a number of methods.

Environmental Health Officers are highly effective change agents who use statutory regulation, applied risk management and education in their roles. Their work encompasses a broad range of responsibilities, including food safety, disease control, environmental protection and sustainability, community safety and amenity, emergency management and tobacco and liquor laws.

Animal control and local law officers protect the safety and amenity of local neighbourhoods through animal and pest control, traffic safety and school crossings, litter enforcement and regular patrols to ensure safe public spaces. They have a major role encouraging responsible pet ownership and balancing the needs of the community with the significant health benefits of companion animals.

Some of the key ways we work to protect health and wellbeing in Geelong communities include:

Safe and Healthy Environments

- Application of education and statutory measures to manage the quality of air, water and soil for new and existing developments.
- Management of "off-leash" areas for dogs encouraging physical activity and social connection amongst pet owners.
- Monitoring of rooming houses and accommodation businesses.
- Providing community information about potential hazards such as asbestos and lead.
- Implementing community safety initiatives to enhance perception of safety in Geelong and the Geelong Regional Liquor Licensing Accord.

Licensing and regulation

- Assessing social and economic impacts when considering applications for liquor and gaming licenses.

Communicable disease prevention and control

- Investigating cases of notifiable diseases and implementing preventative measures to reduce the risk of further illness.
- Monitoring communicable disease trends to identify opportunities for intervention and to prepare preventative strategies.
- Providing information and resources to the community and industry sectors to assist in the management of infectious diseases.
- Implementing an annual mosquito control and eradication program to reduce the risk of vector-borne diseases, such as Ross River Virus and *Mycobacterium ulcerans*.
- Educating the community about issues of local importance, such as the emergence of *Mycobacterium ulcerans*.
- Establishing research partnerships to further identify prevention opportunities.
- Establishing the Geelong Centre for Emerging Infectious Disease in partnership with Barwon Health, Deakin University and CSIRO (Australian Animal Health Laboratory).

Immunisation

- Delivering national immunisation program services through Family Services Department and Barwon Health.
- Monitoring community vaccination rates to identify areas for improvement and target promotional activities.
- Educating the community about blood-borne viruses and infection control in personal care and body art premises and promoting the Hepatitis B vaccine for staff and patrons.

Food safety

- Inspecting and monitoring retail food premises in the community to ensure premises are meeting their legal obligations regarding food hygiene and safety.
- Monitoring and reviewing quality assurance programs to ensure all food safety risks are being appropriately managed in services catering to vulnerable individuals, such as childcare centres and aged care facilities.
- Delivering education programs for food handlers and proprietors to encourage compliance with food hygiene legislation and continuous improvement in practices.
- Supporting community groups who wish to sell or provide food to the public, and helping them to meet legislative requirements.

Incident and emergency response

- Planning and delivering response and recovery operations during an emergency – an important role with climate change expected to increase the frequency and magnitude of a range of natural emergency events, including bushfires, floods and heatwaves.
- Collaborating with State and Federal Governments, emergency services, and community groups.
- Carrying out regular emergency management exercises to test preparation and aid with future planning.
- Establishing the Municipal Emergency Control Centre (MECC) under the direction of Victoria Police, during an emergency.
- Undertaking post-impact assessments and recovery activities to support the community to "return to normal".
- Preparing emergency management plans for specific scenarios, including influenza pandemics and heatwaves.

Partnerships

- Establishing and contributing to professional networks regarding 'best practice' in health protection.
- Contributing to multidisciplinary approaches addressing complex and sensitive issues, such as hoarding and homelessness.

Children's services

- Complying with regulations and service quality standards within Council's childcare services (which include City Learning and Care, Family Day Care, Occasional Child Care and Outside School Hours Care) to maintain healthy environments for children

Keeping people well

Health promotion is the process of enabling people to increase control over the determinants of health and thereby improve their health (Australian Health Promotion Association, 2013). The goal is to increase the factors that build wellbeing and protect health, and reduce the factors that put individuals and communities at risk of illness and create threats to wellbeing.

Health behaviours, be they health supporting or health detracting, are complex. The social determinants of health (see page 7) provide way of thinking about the factors that impact upon health, however it is important to understand that these influences are "*operating at individual, societal and systemic levels, and at different stages of wellbeing*." (Department of Health, 2011).

Additionally, none of these issues stand alone. For example, employment status as a determinant of health may impact on a range of behaviours (from food choices to social connectedness) for the individual and their family.

Partnerships are vital to success as many of the influences on health and wellbeing exist outside of local government's direct control.

Some of the key ways we work to 'keep people well' include:

Healthy Lifestyles

- Delivering health promotion and education programs, services and events such as Best Start, SunSmart, Walk2School and Ride to Work Day.
- Providing a wide range of recreational, sporting, community, health and fitness facilities that include indoor leisure centres, outdoor swimming pools, golf courses and sport and entertainment centres.
- Delivering programs for target populations, such as the Youthlinx personal development programs for young men and women.
- Supporting work of local initiatives such as 'FoodSkil' 2&5 social enterprise in the North of Geelong and Port Produce Project on the Bellarine.
- Providing information and education about healthy lifestyles through services, such as the Maternal and Child Health Service.
- Helping older people build their capacity and maintain independence through incorporation of the Active Service framework into services provided through Aged and Disability Services.

Healthy Environments

- Providing and maintaining important community spaces such as libraries, open spaces, playgrounds and sporting fields.
- Implementing community safety initiatives covering a broad range of areas including licensed venues, injury prevention, road safety and emergency management.
- Improving the natural and built environment through revegetation programs and urban revitalisations projects.
- Creating more welcoming environments for people from diverse backgrounds through strategies and projects, such as the Multicultural Action Plan and the GASP project for same sex attracted and sex and gender diverse young people.
- Advocating for better public transport through the Street Access Committee.
- Developing responses to priority transport gaps including use of electronic mobility aids.
- Improving opportunities for active transport through ongoing construction and maintenance of safe walking and cycling routes.
- Working with local communities and stakeholders to minimise or remove negative impacts of commercial, industrial, recreational or passive land use activities on health and well being.

Connected, creative and strong communities

- Providing support for parents and families through programs and services such as the Regional Parenting Service, supported play groups and school holiday programs.
- Developing a strong, diverse and growing economy with sustainable employment growth through initiatives such as Enterprise Geelong Small Business Festival Supporting key community organisations such as neighbourhood houses, senior citizens clubs, men's sheds and sporting clubs as important local assets where people can maintain their social connections and be part of their local community.
- Providing financial and in-kind support to community groups through programs such as the Community Grants Program and the Arts Bulletin.
- Supporting and delivering community events, such as Children's Week, the Geelong Seniors Festival, SKAART Festival, RUOK day and Pako Festa.
- Supporting arts and cultural activity in the municipality through delivery of services, information, programs, festivals and events.
- Continuing partnerships with key cultural institutions, such as Courthouse Arts and the Geelong Gallery.
- Providing ongoing support for place-based initiatives.
- Advocating on key issues such as family violence, which is being addressed through the G21 Accord to Prevent and End Violence Against Women.
- Improving links and information sharing within local communities through networks such as the CAOS Network, the Geelong Hoarding Network and the Geelong Interfaith Network
- Improving access to community information through initiatives such as the Community Directory and Community Update.

Strengthen Preventive Health Care

According to the Victorian State Health and Wellbeing Plan, preventive health care is largely about screening. Screening is an important part of a preventive health system as it aims to find precursors to, or early stages of, disease before it causes symptoms. This is when treatment can be most effective. Screening is offered to people who may have an increased risk of a particular disease because of their age, gender or other factors.

Services delivered by the City of Greater Geelong have a fairly small role to play in screening. However, most services provided by local government play a vital role in early intervention – that is assessing risks and intervening early to tackle existing or emerging problems that may affect the health and wellbeing of those receiving our services. Examples of how we do this are given below.

Children's Services

- As well as health promotion and education, all children attending our Maternal Child Health service are given health and developmental checks and referred to other appropriate services where required.

- Staff within our child care and kindergarten services (including City Learning and Care, Family Day Care, Occasional Child Care and Outside School Hours Care) assess the development of children attending the centre and provide support, advice, and education for parents where required.

- We create networks and linkages between local early childhood, allied health, and family support services to improve service coordination and integration, build partnerships and improve outcomes for children, families and communities.

- We monitor local data against key early childhood health and development indicators to identify local issues requiring intervention.

Youth Services

- Our youth development unit plays a crucial role in providing supported pathways for young people to access services including General Practitioners, mental health services, drug and alcohol support, school welfare officers, housing support and general wellbeing services with appropriate referrals made when required.
- Our Youthlinx program provides ongoing personal support and advocacy where appropriate, to young people, who have been part of the program.

Aged and Disability Services

- As part of the Home and Community Care (HACC) and Community Aged Care Package (CACPs) Programs we provide a Living at Home Assessment service which covers:

    - Health behaviours - nutrition, smoking, alcohol use and physical activity
    - Health needs - health conditions, falls risk ,vision and hearing impairments
    - Needs for assistance with activities of daily living and accommodation; and
    - Financial needs.

From this assessment, clients are referred to experienced health professionals where required to prevent longer term impacts to health and wellbeing.

- In line with positive ageing and WHO age-friendly cities concepts, we promote accessibility and inclusion in our planning and delivery of services which helps to prevent lifestyle and health-related issues.

What does the City of Greater Geelong plan to do?

This section of the plan sets out what we plan to achieve over the next four years.

When reading this section of the plan, it is important to note the following:

Links to existing plans and strategies

Our organisation has a number of important plans and strategies that guide our work in health and wellbeing (see list on page 11).

It is not the intention of this plan to reproduce actions we have already committed to in other plans. Rather, the aim is to look for new opportunities and those where an increased level of focus on a particular issue has the potential for greater gains.

Where possible, we have referred to local plans and strategies relevant to the issue being covered.

How does it relate to what the City of Greater Geelong already does?

The actions that are listed here are additional to the work the organisation is currently doing to support health and wellbeing (see page 24 for more information).

For ease of use, we have created the following 'Action Guides' to host the actions:

- *Action Guide 1: Improving how we do business to enhance health and wellbeing*
- *Action Guide 2: Accessible and Nutritious Food*
- *Action Guide 3:Physical Activity and Active Communities*
- *Action Guide 4: Social Inclusion and Community Connectedness*
- *Action Guide 5: Reducing Harm from Alcohol, Drugs and Problem Gambling*
- *Action Guide 6: Reducing Tobacco Use*

As well as being part of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017, each Action Guide has also been written as a stand-alone document.

What does the plan seek to change?

Action Guide 1 is focused on the City of Greater Geelong as an organisation and changes that we can make to help us better address health and wellbeing needs.

Action Guides 2-6 are focused on particular health priorities. For each priority, we have listed a number of measures that we will use to help us monitor our progress. To be consistent with City Plan, these measures have been categorised as follows:

Key	Type of indicator
D	Direct – Council has a direct influence on the measure result
I	Influence – Council has an influence on the measure result but other external factors outside our control also impact it
M	Monitor – Council has no influence on the measure result but monitors it to assist in future planning

Action Guide 1: Improving how we do business in health and wellbeing

There is growing evidence worldwide that continuing with a single-issue programmatic approach to prevention, particularly in relation to complex challenges such as obesity, is likely to have limited effect on improving population health outcomes and on reducing health disparities.[1]

To improve how we do business to enhance health and wellbeing will require: leadership; an evidence focus (or information systems); partnerships; community participation and engagement; resource allocation and workforce development.[2]

Why a systems approach to health and wellbeing?

'The government is seeking to position Victoria as a world leader in prevention'. The Victorian Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015

To achieve improvements in health outcomes at a population level, a system is required that delivers a responsive, integrated and coordinated approach.

Consistent with World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendations, the approach to developing a prevention system in Victoria focuses on five major 'system building blocks' or enablers.

These are:

- Governance and leadership
- Information systems
- Financing and resource allocation
- Partnerships
- Workforce development

In 2009, the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) developed the '*Cities for Safe and Healthy Communities'* program that categorised the key action mechanisms available to local government to foster healthy communities[3]. Whilst similar to the WHO 'system building blocks' they identified other mechanisms of local government influence as follows:

- Land use and urban planning
- Licensing and regulation
- Community engagement
- Facilitation, advocacy and leadership
- Workforce development

To accommodate both the similarities and differences in these two ways of addressing preventive health, we will demonstrate commitment and support initiatives across the following five WHO 'system building blocks' and three ICLEI mechanisms.

Strategic Goal

The City of Greater Geelong is committed to building the capacity of the organisation to more effectively address the health and wellbeing needs of our community.

Strategic Actions

Governance and Leadership

- Support and strengthen a chain of leadership that understands and champions the integration of health and wellbeing across all Council business and decision making areas which includes the Mayor and Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer, the Executive Management Team and the Community Wellbeing Arena in addition to staff across the organisation.
- Develop a governance structure that will support the implementation and review of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.
- Develop a health and wellbeing policy that formally endorses the guiding principles of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan to inform all council decision making.
- Review the organisation's preparedness for the challenges presented by climate change and urban heat impacts, particularly in relation to vulnerable populations.

Information systems

- Demonstrate accountability for health and wellbeing outcomes by:
    - providing a common evidence base for guiding action
    - informing council decision making
    - demonstrating accountability at all levels
- Develop a system for reporting and monitoring implementation of the Municipal Public Health Plan that aligns with other council reporting processes
- Develop a system that will allow people of all abilities to access Council information

Partnerships

- Facilitate a process that will allow the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan to evolve into a municipal-wide plan.
- Develop a partnership engagement strategy to define the role of external agencies in the development, implementation and monitoring of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

Community engagement

- Develop a strategy to ensure meaningful and respectful community engagement in decisions affecting the health and wellbeing of citizens.

Financing and resource allocation

- Opportunities for funding will be explored for each phase of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing planning stage. This includes resources and timeframes to:
    - gather and analyse data
    - engage the community and stakeholders
    - determine priorities and evidence based interventions

- support implementation
- carry out monitoring and evaluation

Workforce development

- Develop a workforce development strategy that identifies the core skills and competencies required across the organisation to support health and wellbeing planning.

Land use and urban planning

- Ensure the Municipal Strategic Statement supports the development of healthy and safe environments.
- Continue to highly regard regional facility developments that promote informal social and recreational opportunities for all abilities.

Licensing and regulation

- Identify opportunities to use local government fiscal and regulatory powers to increase healthy environments that support improved health and wellbeing outcomes.

Desired outcomes

An organisation that:

- has leaders that understand and champion the integration of health and wellbeing
- has endorsed policies and structures to support the integration of health and wellbeing
- considers health and wellbeing in all decision making processes
- uses evidence based information in decision making
- ensure staff have the required skills to integrate health and wellbeing across all council business
- has established collaborative relationships with partner organisations to support the achievement of health and wellbeing outcomes
- engages the community in planning and decision making that impacts upon their health and wellbeing
- creates environments supportive of health outcomes
- leads the agenda on health and wellbeing issues impacting on the local community

References

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Action Guide 2: Accessible and Nutritious Food

Healthy eating is the foundation of a healthy population and a productive workforce[1]. The health and wellbeing of individuals and populations can be significantly improved by better nutrition which can also decrease chronic disease and associated healthcare costs for society.

The City of Greater Geelong can play an important role in supporting healthy eating by helping residents to access healthy food and developing practical long-lasting strategies to tackle food insecurity and low fruit and vegetable consumption.

Geelong strategies, policies and programs

Key strategies, policies and programs that are already guiding the organisation's work on this issue include:

- Healthy Eating Action Plan
- Municipal Early Years Plan
- Multicultural Action Plan
- Corio Norlane Structure Plan 2012
- Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
- Rural Land Use Strategy
- Future Proofing Geelong / Low carbon Growth Plan
- Healthy Together Geelong

Why is accessible and nutritious food a health and wellbeing priority?

- 55.7 per cent of adults living in Geelong do not eat sufficient fruit and vegetables to meet their nutritional requirements.[2]
- It has been estimated that inadequate fruit and vegetable intake is responsible for 30 per cent of coronary heart disease, 20 per cent gastrointestinal cancer and 14 per cent of stroke.[1]
- Unhealthy eating contributes to chronic diseases. The proportion of people in Geelong with diabetes, high cholesterol and overweight/obese is higher than the Victorian average.[3]
- 53.8 per cent of people living in the City of Greater Geelong are overweight or obese. This is higher than the Victorian average of 48.54 per cent[3]. Obesity levels are higher in areas of socioeconomic disadvantage.[3]
- Soft drink consumption has been linked to unhealthy weight. More people in Geelong drink soft drink daily as compared to the Victorian average.[3]
- Fast foods have a higher energy density, higher levels of fat and salt and are served in larger portions than food prepared at home. Areas of socioeconomic disadvantage in the City of Greater Geelong have 2-2.5 times as many fast food outlets as those in higher socioeconomic status.[4]
- Groups most at risk of food insecurity include women; young people; people with low income; and those in rural and regional Victoria or living in unstable housing[5]. In the City of Greater Geelong, areas of socioeconomic disadvantage have higher proportions of these groups in their communities.[6]
- One in 20 Victorians have reported running out of food and being unable to purchase more[7]- a measure of food insecurity. Local evidence suggests that up to 1 in 6 people in at-risk populations may be food insecure.[8]
- 96 per cent of surveyed community support agencies in the City of Greater Geelong identify food insecurity as an issue for their clients.[8]

- The local issues consistently identified as barriers to accessing nutritious food are: the high cost of healthy food; low density of nutritious food outlets; and associated transport challenges.[8]
- Local food production contributes significantly to the economy and impacts nutritious food access. The number of outdoor fruit and vegetable producers in the City of Greater Geelong has decreased by 25 per cent and 33 per cent amongst cattle and sheep producers in the past 20 years. The proportion of commercially farmed land has decreased by 14 per cent in this period.[6]
- The City of Geelong's current population is approximately 220,000. By 2031, the City of Greater Geelong is forecast to have a population increase of 35 per cent[9], increasing the demand for food. Residential developments are planned for a number of rural areas where arable land exists, reducing local capacity to produce food.

Partnerships

The key organisations that the City of Greater Geelong will work with to help achieve the actions outlined in this plan include:

- Bellarine Community Health
- Barwon Network Neighbourhood Houses
- Barwon Health
- Local settings including schools and early childhood services and workplaces
- Local Social Food Enterprises
- Department of Health
- G21 Food Security Network
- Department Education and Early Childhood Development
- Community Gardens Network

Strategic Goal

The City of Greater Geelong will work to improve the supply of and access to a variety of affordable, culturally appropriate, safe and nutritious foods to meet the communities' dietary needs.

Strategic Actions

Healthy Lifestyles

- Implement all five components of the *Healthy Food Connect* framework to improve a healthy food supply and access to address identified nutrition issues for subpopulation groups, especially vulnerable populations.
- Implement *Healthy Together Geelong* health promotion initiatives for early childhood services, schools and workplaces that support healthy eating, as well as implementing community based programs that include initiatives to encourage healthy eating.

Healthy Environments

- Develop and implement a Food Policy for Geelong that addresses all facets of the food system, including the socioeconomic determinants of health and the impact of climate change
- Ensure the Municipal Strategic Statement contains healthy built environment components that support healthy food access through local level retail provision.

- Integrate '*The Food Sensitive Planning and Urban Design'* principles into planning processes for existing and future urban growth areas.
- Identify opportunities to use local government fiscal and regulatory powers to increase supply of healthy food and decrease supply of unhealthy foods.
- Ensure that sites for access to nutritious foods are identified, zoned or designated in precinct or structure planning processes within council.
- Develop the 'Greater Geelong Healthy Choice Strategy' to increase access to nutritious foods.

Connected creative and strong communities

- Develop and implement a 'Local Food Culture' strategy that promotes the City of Greater Geelong as a diverse and active food producing region.
- Build the capacity of the Emergency Food Relief Network to improve service coordination and increase access to nutritious foods for vulnerable groups.
- Support home gardening, urban agriculture, neighbourhood orchards and community gardens in specific communities.

Progress Indicators

Type of indicator	Indicator	Target	Geelong Baseline Data	Measure/Source
M	Percentage of persons identifying that they had run out of food in the past 12 months and couldn't afford to buy more	Decrease	3.6 per cent food insecure in the municipality[10]	Victorian Population Health Survey, 2008 (DH)
I	Percentage of fruit and vegetable consumption in adults	Increase	55.7 per cent adult population do not meet fruit and vegetable consumption guidelines[10]	Victorian Population Health Survey, 2008 (DH)
I	Recommended intake of fruit consumption in adults	Increase	53.6 per cent of adult population consume recommended intake of 2 serves of fruit per day[10]	Victorian Population Health Survey, 2008 (DH)
I	Recommended intake of vegetable consumption in adults	Increase	10 per cent of adult population consume recommended intake of 5 serves of vegetables per day[10]	Victorian Population Health Survey, 2008 (DH)
I	Recommended intake of fruit and vegetable consumption in children	Increase	35.9 per cent of children aged 4-12 in the Barwon South West Region who eat at least the minimum recommended serves of fruit and vegetables each day[11]	Victorian Child Health and Wellbeing Survey, 2009 (DEECD)
I	Recommended intake of fruit and vegetable consumption in young people	Increase	21.7 per cent of young people aged 13-17 years in the Barwon South West Region eat at least the recommended serves of fruit and vegetables each day[12]	Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Survey, 2009 (DEECD)

Desired outcomes

Individuals and families who:	Organisations/clubs that:	Communities that:	A society with:
• eat more fruit and vegetables • have regular access to affordable, nutritious, culturally appropriate safe food from non emergency sources • improved physical and mental health	• provide healthy food choices • have policies and structures in place to improve access to nutritious food. • build collaborative partnerships with a range of stakeholders to improve access to nutritious food. • have improved productivity and lower absenteeism • experience greater workforce retention	• support and encourage healthy eating choices • produce food sustainably • protect agricultural land • support local growers • provide equitable access to nutritious food for all • encourage nutritious food choices	• A sustainable and resilient food system. • Strong legislative platforms for improving the food system. • Appropriate resource allocation that reflects the value of nutritious food. • Citizens who actively engage in a positive food culture.

Additional resources*

- National Food Plan (2013)
- Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015
- Healthy Together Victoria (HTV)
- Supporting Healthy Eating: Local Government Action Guide No. 7
- Food for All: How local government is improving access to nutritious food
- *Get Up & Grow:* Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Guidelines for Early Childhood Settings

**See appendix 4 for more information*

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Action Guide 3: Physical Activity and Active Communities

Physical inactivity is a significant risk factor for poor health in Victoria. Overweight and obesity is closely linked to low levels of physical activity and poor eating habits.[1]

Local Governments can make it easier for people to be physically active by addressing the way that the built environment and public realm is designed. Planning for a healthy built environment puts the needs of people and communities at the heart of council decisions regarding spaces in which people live, work and play.[1]

Geelong strategies, policies and programs

Key strategies, policies and programs that are already guiding the organisation's work on this issue include:

- Greater Geelong Cycle Strategy
- Geelong Play Strategy
- Municipal Early Years Plan
- Aged and Disability Services Strategic Plan 2013-2017
- Geelong Major Events Strategy
- Study of Open Space Networks 2001
- G21 Sports Development Plan 2006
- Sustainable Communities Infrastructure Guidelines 2010
- Armstrong Creek Sports Development Plan 2103
- Healthy Together Geelong

Why is physical activity a health and wellbeing priority?

- Physical inactivity is the fourth leading cause of chronic disease and mortality such as heart disease, stroke, diabetes, cancers; contributing to over three million preventable deaths annually worldworld.[2]
- Physical inactivity also contributes to the increasing level of childhood and adult obesity.[2]
- Promoting active modes of travel such as walking, cycling and public transport can reduce harmful air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, which are also know to negatively impact health.[2]
- Increasing investment in active travel provides more equitable mobility options.[2]
- Physical inactivity contributes substantially to direct and indirect health care costs and has a significant impact on productivity and healthy life-years.[2]
- Physical inactivity has been estimated to cost Australia more than $719 million a year[3] and account for:
    - 6.6 per cent of the burden of disease and injury in Australia, rating second after tobacco smoking
    - 22 per cent of heart disease, 11 per cent of stroke, 14 per cent of diabetes and 10 per cent of breast cancer
    - 16,178 premature deaths per year in Australia.
- 53.8 per cent of people living in the City of Greater Geelong are overweight or obese. This is higher than the Victorian average[5]. Obesity levels are higher in areas of socioeconomic disadvantage.[6]

- 63.6 per cent of people living in the City of Greater Geelong are meeting recommended physical activity levels, meaning there are nearly 40 per cent of the municipality who are not engaging in 30 minutes or more of physical activity on most days of the week.[4]
- 65 per cent of children living in the City of Greater Geelong are physically activity for at least one hour every day.[7]
- Groups most at risk of physical inactivity include women, people with lower socioeconomic status, older adults, people born overseas, people with a disability and Indigenous Australians.[8]
- Local residents and other key stakeholders identified the following issues for council to focus on to improve healthy lifestyles: prevention and health promotion, improvement of walking and cycling paths and encouragement of active living.[9]

Partnerships

The key organisations that the City of Greater Geelong will work with to help achieve the actions outlined in this plan include:

- Bellarine Community Health
- G21 Health and Wellbeing Pillar
- Barwon Health
- Local sporting clubs and leagues
- Leisure Networks
- State and Federal Government
- Barwon Medicare Local
- Local settings such as workplaces, early learning and schools
- G21 Sport and Recreation Pillar

Strategic Goal

The City of Greater Geelong will work to promote participation in physical activity by supporting populations to engage in active travel, sport and active recreation.

Strategic Actions

Healthy Lifestyles

- Develop and support implementation of the Geelong Region Physical Activity Strategy.
- Implement Healthy Together Geelong health promotion initiatives for early childhood services, schools and workplaces that support active play and physical activity, as well as implementing healthy workplace and community based programs that include initiatives to reduce sedentary behaviour and promote active lifestyles.

Healthy Environments

- Ensure the Municipal Strategic Statement contains healthy built environment components that support active living
- Embed ‘Healthy by Design’ principles in Council planning processes to support active living in existing and future growth areas
- Review the Open Space Strategy that supports opportunities for physical activity and active living and contributes to the health and wellbeing of the community
- Develop an active transport plan that provides an ‘integrated accessible network of walking and cycling routes for safe and convenient travel to local destinations and points of interest’ (Healthy by Design)

Connected creative and strong communities

- Establish a collaborative network with key stakeholders to address local barriers to active living, particularly in vulnerable communities
- Work with sports clubs to encourage and facilitate the implementation of health promoting policies
- Work with local sport and active recreation settings to address barriers to participation by vulnerable groups within our community.

Progress Indicators

Type of indicator	Indicator	Target	Geelong Baseline Data	Measure/Source
I	Percentage of adults participating in recommended levels of physical activity	Increase	63.6 per cent are currently meeting recommended levels[10]	Victorian Population Health Survey, 2008 (DH)
M	Percentage of adults who are overweight and obese	Decrease	53.8 per cent are overweight and obese[10]	Victorian Population Health Survey , 2008 (DH)
I	Percentage of adults walking or cycling to work	Increase	3.9 per cent of people living in Greater Geelong travelled to work by foot or bike on census day 2011[10]	Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2011
I	Sedentary behaviour (sitting for 7 or more hours a day)	Decrease	30 per cent of the municipality currently sit for 7 or more hours per day[10]	Vic Health Community Indicators Survey, 2011
D	Kilometres of off road paths (bicycle and walking) established by CoGG	Increase	Currently 200km of off road paths available[11]	City Plan 2013-2017
I	Percentage of children participating in the recommended levels of physical activity	Increase	62.8 per cent of children aged 5-12 in the Barwon South West Region do the recommended amount of physically activity every day[12]	Victorian Child Health and Wellbeing Survey, 2009 (DEECD)
I	Percentage of young people participating in the recommended levels of physical activity	Increase	14.8 per cent of young people aged 13-17 years in the Barwon South West Region do the recommended amount of physically active every day[13]	Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Survey, 2009 (DEECD)

Desired outcomes

Individual/families who:	Organisations/clubs that:	Communities that:	Society with:
• are more physically active • have improved self esteem • spend less time online and watching TV • have more social connections • are more involved in community and group activities • have improved physical and mental health • have an increased sense of belonging	• are safe, accessible and inclusive • have policies and structures to reduce sedentary behaviour and increase participation in physical activity • address barriers to participation • have improved productivity and lower absenteeism • have greater workforce retention • work in partnership to support active living	• support and promote active living • provide walking and cycling routes that are safe and convenient • reflect awareness of health issues • are safe, accessible, inclusive and supportive • have reduced traffic congestion • have reduced carbon emissions	• strong legislative platforms for active living • appropriate resource allocation that reflects the value for physical activity • citizens who confidently access public spaces • reduced burden of disease

Additional resources*

- Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015
- Healthy Together Victoria (HTV)
- Increasing participation in physical activity: Local Government Action Guide No. 3
- VicHealth BE ACTIVE initiative
- G21 Regional Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017

**See appendix 4 for more information*

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Action Guide 4: Social inclusion and community connectedness

Our social connections comprise people we know; the friends we confide in, the family we belong to our work, sport or membership to clubs and the community we live in. The need to belong, be connected and engaged in group and civic activities are intrinsic to mental health and wellbeing.[1]

The City of Greater Geelong can play an important role in supporting social inclusion and community connectedness by providing residents with opportunities to connect with others, join a group and be engaged in local activities.

Geelong strategies, policies and programs

Key strategies, policies and programs that are already guiding the organisation's work on this issue include:

- Greater Geelong Community Safety Strategy
- GEEYOUNG: Youth Strategy
- Multicultural Action Plan
- Whittington Works Strategic Action Plan
- Aged and Disability Services Diversity Plan 2012-2015
- Corio Norlane Structure Plan 2012
- Disability Action Plan
- City of Greater Geelong Events Strategy

Why is social inclusion and community connectedness a health and wellbeing priority?

- By providing opportunities for people to connect with others, join a group and be engaged in local activities, councils can improve the mental health and wellbeing of their residents [2]
- Communities with high levels of social cohesion, including participation by individuals in community organisations and activities, typically have better health than those with low levels [2]
- improve the mental health and wellbeing of their residents
- People who are socially isolated and excluded are more likely to experience low self-esteem, depressive symptoms and have a higher risk of coronary heart disease.[2]
- More Australians are living alone compared to previous generations.[2] In Geelong 26.4 per cent of people live alone and 11.5 per cent are single parent families[4]
- Social cohesion may protect the mental health of people living in disadvantaged areas.[2]
- Young people's engagement with creative activities can lead to better academic outcomes, improved levels of self-esteem and a reduction in alcohol and drug consumption.[2]
- There are opportunities for social connections through involvement in community activities such as volunteering, participating in physical activity and arts and cultural activities. In Greater Geelong:
    - 38.3 per cent report involvement in volunteering activities[4]
    - 76.3 per cent overall reported that they had enough arts and cultural activities however this was lower for those aged 18-34 per cent with only 67.7 per cent
    - Geelong recorded slightly above average in 'feeling a part of their community' with 74.3 per cent and over 90 per cent of the community reporting that they could get help when they needed it[5]

Partnerships

The key organisations that the City of Greater Geelong will work with to help achieve the actions outlined in this plan include:

- Bellarine Community Health
- Volunteering Geelong
- Barwon Health
- G21 Region Alliance
- Diversitat
- Federal and State governments
- Leisure Networks
- Community settings including businesses, workplaces and hospitals

Strategic Goal

The City of Greater Geelong is committed to providing opportunities for increasing social inclusion and community connectedness for all residents with a particular focus on addressing barriers for people of all abilities and from diverse geographic, social, economic and cultural backgrounds.

Strategic Actions

Healthy Lifestyles

- Develop and support initiatives that increase opportunities for social participation, study, employment, volunteerism, civic engagement and access to supportive networks.
- Address barriers to participation in social activities for people from diverse geographic, social, economic and cultural backgrounds, such as those run by community groups, sport clubs or art groups.
- Improve access to information and opportunities for volunteering across the City of Greater Geelong.

Healthy Environments

- Sustain commitment towards greater use of parks and open space to encourage opportunities for social engagement.
- Integrate 'Healthy by Design' principles into existing and future urban growth areas.
- Ensure that community facilities are inclusive and accessible for all people.
- Build, improve and support community spaces that provide opportunities for social connection such as neighbourhood hubs, libraries, parks and sporting clubs
- Develop and support initiatives that promote community safety in line with the City of Greater Geelong Community Safety Statement.

Connected creative and strong communities

- Strengthen existing community engagement processes within Council to enable communities to be involved in land use and social planning.
- Strengthen Council's connection with the community by increasing staff awareness of different groups' needs and barriers to participation; including rural, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities, Indigenous, gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual, intersex (GLTBI), people with a disability and those on low incomes.

- Provide place-based supports to strengthen communities in identified areas vulnerable to poor health outcomes.
- Develop and implement a program of community events that celebrate the municipality's diversity in collaboration with local stakeholders.
- Support implementation of the G21 Region Volunteering Strategy.

Progress Indicators

Type of indicator	Indicator	Target	Geelong Baseline Data	Measure/Source
M	• Percentage of adults who feel 'part of a community'	Increase	74.3 per cent currently feel part of the community[5]	VicHealth Community Indicators Survey, 2011
I	• Percentage of adults who volunteer	Increase	38.3 per cent currently volunteer[5]	Indicators of Community Strength at the Local Government Area Level in Victoria, 2008 (DPCD)
M	• Percentage of adults who can get help from friends, family or neighbours when needed	Increase	90.7 per cent feel they have someone around when needed[5]	Indicators of Community Strength at the Local Government Area Level in Victoria, 2008 (DPCD)
I	• Percentage of adults who feel they have a say on important issues	Increase	45.7 per cent feel they have a say on important issues[5]	Indicators of Community Strength at the Local Government Area Level in Victoria, 2008 (DPCD)
I	• Percentage of adults who participated in citizen engagement activities in the last 12 months	Increase	48.9 per cent of people participated in citizen engagement activities in the last 12 months[5]	VicHealth Community Indicators Survey, 2011
M	• Percentage of adolescents who have someone to turn to for advice when having problems	Increase	86.8 per cent of young people aged 13-17 years in the Barwon South West Region have someone to turn to for advice when having problems[6]	Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Survey, 2009 (DEECD)
M	• Percentage of children from families who are able to get support when needed	Increase	93.9 per cent of parents of children aged 0-12 years who report being able to get help from families, friends and neighbours in a time of crisis/when needed[7]	Victorian Child Health and Wellbeing Survey, 2009 (DEECD)
I	Perception of safety – walking alone during the day	Increase	98.7 per cent of the adult population feel safe or very safe walking alone in local area during the day	2011 VicHealth Indicators Survey
I	Perception of safety – walking alone during the night	Increase	75.4 per cent of the adult population feel safe or very safe walking alone in local area at night	2011 VicHealth Indicators Survey

Desired outcomes

Individuals and families who:	Organisations/clubs that:	Communities that:	A society with:
• Are socially connected • Feel a part of the community • Have improved self esteem • Are more physically active • Are more involved in community and group activities and events • More involved in volunteering	• Are safe, accessible and inclusive • Have policies and structures in place that promote respect for all • Work in partnership to provide connection opportunities • Build collaborative partnerships with a range of stakeholders and the broader community	• Support and promote connected communities • Are safe, accessible, inclusive and supportive • Engage community in planning and decision making • Provide spaces that support social connections	• Reduced barriers to access for different groups including CALD, GLBTI, people with disabilities and people on low incomes • Strong legislative platforms • Appropriate resource allocation • Citizens who feel safe and connected within their local community

*Additional resources**

- Australian Government Social Inclusion Framework (2011)
- Building social Inclusion: The Role of Department of Planning and Community Development
- Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015
- Increasing social connections: Local Government Action Guide No. 4
- G21 Regional Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017

**See appendix 4 for more information*

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Action Guide 5: Reducing Harm from Alcohol, Drugs and Problem Gambling

Harm minimisation is a widely recognised feature of Australian drug policy; however aspects of this approach are also commonly practised in relation to other issues, including problem gambling.

As with alcohol and other drugs, it is recognised that gambling itself does not cause poor health outcomes – but rather excessive or uncontrolled behaviour that may have detrimental impacts on physical, mental and emotional health

Council seeks to reduce the harms associated with alcohol, drugs and problem gambling using the three pillars of harm minimisation: demand reduction; supply reduction; and harm reduction.

Geelong strategies, policies and programs

Key strategies, policies and programs that are already guiding the organisation's work on this issue include:

- City of Greater Geelong Responsible Management of Alcohol and other Drugs Policy
- Geelong Strategic Gaming Policy 2006
- City of Greater Geelong Gambling Framework 2007
- Geelong Drug Action Plan 2013–2017
- The Geelong Liquor Accord and Bellarine Liquor Accord
- Healthy Together Geelong

Why are alcohol, drugs and problem gambling a health and wellbeing priority?

- The cost of alcohol and drug misuse to Victorian society in 2007–08 was approximately $6.5 billion.[1]
- In 2010, 26.7 per cent of Victorians aged 14 or over had consumed a level of alcohol during a single session that put them at risk of an injury on a monthly or more frequent basis. Almost one in five (18.4 per cent) drank at levels that put them at risk of long term alcohol related disease or injury.[2]
- Heavy drinking among Victorians aged 16-25 years has increased from 26 per cent in 2002 to 42 per cent in 2009.[2]
- The percentage of those in Greater Geelong with long-term risk of harm from alcohol consumption was 11.9 per cent in 2008. While gender specific data is not available for the municipality, the data available within the Barwon South West region suggests this is significantly more of an issue with males (18.8 per cent) than females (7.4 per cent).[3]
- In Victoria (2011), there were 26,000 alcohol and drug related emergency department presentations and over 290,000 hospital bed-days used to treat illness from alcohol and drugs.[1]
- In Victoria (2010–11), there were nearly 7,000 alcohol-related ambulance call-outs, over 5,000 prescription-drug call-outs and nearly 2,000 heroin call-outs.[1]
- In 2004-2005, illicit drugs were responsible for 302 hospital admissions and 1018 bed days in Greater Geelong.[4]

- In 2008–09 Victorians lost $5.1 billion gambling, and more than $2.7 billion of this was lost on Electronic Gaming Machines. Three-quarters of gamblers with problems who used Gambler's Help services in 2007–08 reported Electronic Gaming Machines as their primary gambling activity.[5]
- In 2008, the prevalence of problem gambling in Victoria was measured using a sample of 15,000 Victorian adults. The study calculated the following estimates for the Victorian population: problem gamblers (0.7 per cent or 29,000 people); moderate-risk gamblers (2.4 per cent or 97,000 people) and low-risk gamblers (5.7 per cent or 234,000 people).[6]
- Problem gamblers are significantly more likely than non-problem gamblers to have a mental disorder, depression or an anxiety condition, trauma and hardship in their lives and to smoke. Compared to non-problem gamblers, they also report a significantly higher number of negative life experiences affecting both themselves and their families, such as divorce, legal difficulties, and financial issues.[5]
- Current evidence suggests that there is a 'ripple effect' where five to ten people are adversely affected to varying degrees, in addition to the person who develops a gambling problem.[7]
- In the 2012/2013 financial year, total losses on Electronic Gaming Machines in Greater Geelong amounted to $108,207,990.95. There were 7.46 Electronic Gaming Machines per 1,000 adults, which is higher than the Victorian average of 6 Electronic Gaming Machines per 1,000 adults and the annual average expenditure per adult was $662, which is higher than the State average of $602.[8]
- Research suggests that there is a relationship between alcohol and riskier styles of gambling, particularly among regular or problem gamblers.[9]

Partnerships

The key organisations that the City of Greater Geelong will work with to help achieve the actions outlined in this plan include:

- Bellarine Community Health
- Barwon Health
- Geelong Drug Action Plan Committee
- Geelong Regional Liquor Licensing Accord
- Victoria Police
- Federal and State governments
- Community settings including businesses, workplaces and hospitals
- Deakin University
- Barwon Medicare Local
- Headspace
- Geelong Gambling Advisory Committee
- Bethany Gamblers Help

Strategic Goal

The City of Greater Geelong is committed to reducing the harms of alcohol, drugs and problem gambling through advocacy, policy, collaborative partnerships and education.

Strategic Actions

Healthy Lifestyles

- Develop and implement Healthy Together Geelong health promotion initiatives, policies and programs to support more active and healthy settings (i.e. workplaces, schools).
- Promote and encourage alcohol and gambling-free events and activities.
- Conduct education programmes that raise community awareness about harmful alcohol and drug use and problem gambling.
- Actively contribute to policy reviews, public discussions and advocate in matters relating to alcohol and other drugs and problem gambling at all levels of government

Healthy Environments

- Ensure the enforcement of regulations in accordance with the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008.*
- Continue to enforce local laws relating to alcohol control.
- Review strategies on alcohol response to ensure changing trends and needs are considered and the response to alcohol misuse continues to work for the whole community.
- Maintain a commitment to addressing urban design issues, which impact on alcohol issues.
- Ensure the Drug Statement informs existing and future processes for assessing and processing land use permits, liquor licenses and strategic planning documents.
- Ensure best practice models are adopted in relation to response and management of alcohol and other drug problems.
- Consider the social and economic impacts of electronic gaming permit applications and where appropriate present submissions to the Victorian Commission for Liquor and Gambling Regulation and the Victorian Civil Administration Tribunal where necessary.

Connected creative and strong communities

- Support national and state campaigns aimed at reducing harm from alcohol and other drugs and problem gambling.
- Work with the local community, government departments and business in developing appropriate plans and strategies to respond to alcohol and other drug issues and problem gambling within the municipality.
- Continue to build capacity within council and with other enforcement bodies to further develop and improve regulatory systems.
- Work with community agencies to share information and work jointly on action related to harmful alcohol and drug use and problem gambling.
- Influence the distribution of Electronic Gaming Machines to ensure they are not concentrated in high risk communities.

Progress Indicators

Type of indicator	Indicator	Target	Geelong Baseline Data	Measure/Source
M	Percentage of people consuming alcohol regularly at risky levels	Decrease	11.9 per cent currently consume alcohol at risky levels[3]	Victorian Population Health Survey, 2008 (DH)
M	Percentage of males consuming alcohol regularly at risky levels	Decrease	18.8 per cent currently consume alcohol at risky levels[3]	Victorian Population Health Survey, 2008 (DH)
M	Percentage of females consuming alcohol regularly at risky levels	Decrease	7.4 per cent currently consume alcohol at risky levels[3]	Victorian Population Health Survey, 2008 (DH)
M	Percentage of adolescents who have ever drunk alcohol	Decrease	55.3 per cent of 12-14 year olds and 82.1 per cent of 15-17 year olds in the Barwon South West Region report having drunk alcohol[10]	Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Survey, 2009 (DEECD)
M	Percentage of adolescents who have drunk alcohol in the last 30 days	Decrease	34.9 per cent of 12-14 year olds and 61.7 per cent of 15-17 year olds in the Barwon South West Region report having drunk alcohol in the last 30 days[10]	Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Survey, 2009, (DEECD)
M	Rate of illicit drug-related hospitalisations and bed days (per 10 000 residents)	Decrease	302 admissions and 1018 bed days[3]	Victorian Admitted Episodes Dataset DHS, analysis by Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre
I	The density of Electronic Gaming Machines (per 1000 adult population)	Decrease	7.46 Electronic Gaming Machines per 1,000 adults[8]	Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation

Desired outcomes

Individuals and families who:	Organisations/clubs that:	Communities that:	A society with:
• Do not engage in risky levels of drug and alcohol use • Feel safe within their home and local community • Do not experience financial hardship due to problem gambling • Experience overall better health	• Are safe, accessible and inclusive • Have policies in place to prevent misuse of drugs and alcohol and problem gambling • Work in partnership to reduce harm from alcohol, drugs and problem gambling • Build collaborative partnerships with a range of stakeholders	• Support, encourage and promote alcohol, drug and gambling-free events and activities • Reflect awareness of health issues • Are safe, accessible, inclusive and supportive • Are supportive of responsible gambling	• Strong legislative platforms • Appropriate resource allocation • Citizens who feel safe and supported

*Additional resources**

- Reducing the alcohol and drug toll: Victoria's plan 2013 – 2017
- Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015
- Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation
- Healthy Together Victoria (HTV)

**See appendix 4 for more information*

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Action Guide 6: Reducing Tobacco Use

Smoking is still the leading avoidable cause of cancers, respiratory, cardiovascular and other diseases.[1]

The City of Greater Geelong can play an important role in protecting the health of the community through actions such as enforcement of the *Tobacco Act 1987*, promotion of smokefree areas and provision of bins to reduce cigarette butt litter. It can also implement strategies to denormalise smoking, help smokers smoke less and prevent uptake by young people by enforcing laws on tobacco sales.[1]

Geelong strategies, policies and programs

Key strategies, policies and programs that are already guiding the organisation's work on this issue include:

- Municipal Association of Victoria: Local Government Tobacco Education and Enforcement Activity
- Healthy Together Geelong

Why is tobacco a health and wellbeing priority?

- Smoking in Victoria costs approximately 4,000 lives and $5 billion annually.[1]
- Even though the rate of smoking has dropped in Victoria, smoking remains the leading preventable cause of many cancers and respiratory, cardiovascular and other diseases.[2]
- Exposure to second hand smoke increases the risk of chronic and fatal health conditions, including cardiovascular disease, heart disease and lung cancer.[2]
- Children, infants and unborn babies are particularly vulnerable to second hand smoke, and associated health risks include sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), lower birth weight, and lung and respiratory conditions.[2]
- In the Barwon South West Region 74.5 per cent of children aged 0-12 years live in a smokefree household[4]
- In Greater Geelong, 18 per cent of adults were identified as smokers. The number of males who are current smokers (22.8 per cent) was significantly higher than females (13.5 per cent) in the municipality.[3]

Partnerships

The key organisations that the City of Greater Geelong will work with to help achieve the actions outlined in this plan include:

- Bellarine Community Health
- Barwon Health
- Geelong Drug Action Plan Committee
- The community (including settings such as workplaces, early learning, schools, hospitals)
- Federal and State governments
- WorkSafe Victoria
- Barwon Medicare Local
- QUIT
- VicHealth
- Heart Foundation Victoria

Strategic Goal

The City of Greater Geelong is committed to reducing the prevalence of smoking and its associated health, social and economic costs.

Healthy Lifestyles

- Implement Healthy Together Geelong health promotion initiatives for early childhood services, schools and workplaces to support smoke free settings, as well as implementing healthy workplace and community based programs that reduce tobacco use.
- Inform the community about the negative impacts of smoking and second hand smoke exposure through council publications and local media.

Healthy Environments

- Ensure the enforcement of regulations in accordance with the *Tobacco Act 1987*, including the display and sale of tobacco products.
- Promote the voluntary adoption of smoke free environments for businesses and organisations.
- Support and advocate for expansions of State Government declared smoke-free settings including playgrounds, skate parks and child sporting events.
- Continue to enforce local laws relating to tobacco control.

Connected creative and strong communities

- Build formal partnerships across all levels of government, Council departments, not-for-profit and private organisations and work together towards addressing local barriers to active and healthy living.
- Support national and state anti-smoking campaigns.
- Support and encourage smoking cessation services within the municipality.

Progress Indicators

Type of indicator	Indicator	Target	Geelong Baseline Data	Measure/Source
I	Percentage of adults whom smoke	Decrease	18 per cent currently identify as a smoker[3]	Victorian Population Health Survey, 2008, (DH)
I	Percentage of young people who have ever smoked	Decrease	18.1 per cent of 12-14 year olds and 41.9 per cent of 15-17 year olds in the Barwon South West Region report having ever smoked[5]	Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Survey, 2009 (DEECD)
M	Percentage of young people who have smoked in the last 30 days	Decrease	6.8 per cent of 12-14 year olds and 19.3 per cent of 15-17 year olds in the Barwon South West Region report having smoked in the last 30 days[5]	Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Survey, 2009, (DEECD)
M	Percentage of children who live in a household where no one smokes cigarettes	Increase	74.5 per cent of children aged 0-12 years in the Barwon South West Region living in a smoke free household[4]	Victorian Child Health and Wellbeing Survey , 2009 (DEECD)

Desired outcomes

Individuals and families who:	**Organisations/clubs that:**	**Communities that:**	**A society with:**
• Do not smoke, and are not exposed to second hand smoke • Overall better health through reduced risk of cancers, respiratory, cardiovascular and other associated diseases	• Are safe, accessible and inclusive • Have policies and structures to prevent tobacco misuse • Adhere to local tobacco laws • Work in partnership to reduce smoking harm • Build collaborative partnerships with a range of stakeholders	• Support, encourage and promote smoke free settings • Reflect awareness of health issues • Are safe, accessible, inclusive and supportive	• Strong legislative platforms • Appropriate resource allocation • Citizens who feel safe, included and supported

*Additional resources**

- QUIT Strategic Plan
- Victorian Tobacco Control Strategy 2008-2013
- Reducing Tobacco Use: Local Government Action Guide No. 8
- Healthy Together Victoria (HTV)

**See appendix 4 for more information*

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5. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, 2009, *Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Survey*, State of Victoria, Melbourne, Victoria.

Monitoring and Review

It is a requirement of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act* that all Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plans be reviewed on an annual basis.

The purpose of the review is to ensure that actions identified in the plan are being implemented satisfactorily and that they remain the best way for the organisation to invest in health and wellbeing over the life of plan.

The annual review also offers an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the plan, inform other related plans and policies, strengthen networks and partnerships and inform resource allocation (Department of Health, 2012a).

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan will be supported by the development of an overarching operational plan that will identify who will be responsible for implementing proposed actions and associated timeframes.

Actions will then be incorporated into individual work plans and will be reported to Council on an annual basis as part of the ongoing monitoring and review of the plan.

Glossary

CALD – Culturally and Linguistically Diverse

DH – Department of Health (State Government)

DPCD – Department of Planning and Community Development

EPODE – 'Ensemble Prévenons l'Obésité Des Enfants' (English translation - Together Let's Prevent Childhood Obesity)

GLBTI – Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex

G21 – Geelong Region Alliance, incorporating the five local governments in the region (Colac Otway, Golden Plains, Greater Geelong, Queenscliffe and Surf Coast).

HTV – Healthy Together Victoria (formerly known as Prevention Community Model or PCM)

MECC - Municipal Emergency Control Centre

NPAPH - National Partnership Agreement for Preventive Health

WHO – World Health Organisation

Appendix 1

Policy context – web links for additional information

World Health Organisation (WHO)

For more information about the World Health Organisation and the social determinants of health, please visit

http://www.who.int/

National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health

For more information about the Nation Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health (NPAPH) please visit:

http://www.health.gov.au

Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

To access and obtain more information about the Act, please visit

http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au

Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015

To obtain a copy of the plan please visit:

http://www.health.vic.gov.au/localgov/

Guide to municipal public health and wellbeing planning

To obtain a copy of the guide please visit:

http://www.health.vic.gov.au/localgov/

Healthy Together Victoria

For more information about Healthy Together Victoria, please visit:

http://www.healthytogether.vic.gov.au/

Creating heart healthy communities: Working with local government

To obtain a copy of the document, please visit:

www.heartfoundation.org.au

VicHealth local government action guides

To obtain a copy of the action guides, please visit

www.vichealth.vic.gov.au

Appendix 3

BELOW: The planning framework for the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017

<table>
<tr><td colspan="4">City Plan Vision for Community Wellbeing</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">City Plan Strategic Priorities for Community Wellbeing</td></tr>
<tr><td>Healthy lifestyles</td><td colspan="2">Health environments</td><td>Connected, creative and strong communities</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Priorities</td></tr>
<tr><td>Physical Activity</td><td colspan="2">Community connectedness / Social inclusion</td><td>Evidence based planning and practice</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Desired outcomes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Individual/family</td><td>Organisational/clubs</td><td>Community</td><td>Societal</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Guiding principles for health and wellbeing planning</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Priority settings for action and engagement</td></tr>
<tr><td>Local communities and environments</td><td colspan="2">Workplaces</td><td>Early childhood and education settings</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">What is the City of Greater Geelong already doing?</td></tr>
<tr><td>Health protection</td><td colspan="2">Keeping people well</td><td>Strengthen preventive healthcare</td></tr>
<tr><td>• Safe and healthy environments
• Licensing and regulation
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• Immunisation
• Food safety
• Incident and emergency response
• Partnerships
• Children's Services</td><td colspan="2">• Healthy Lifestyles
• Healthy Environments
• Connected, creative and strong communities</td><td>• Children's Services
• Youth Services
• Aged and Disability Services</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">What does the City of Greater Geelong plan to do?</td></tr>
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<tr><td colspan="4">Monitoring and review</td></tr>
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Appendix 3

The Victorian Prevention and Health Promotion Achievement Program

The Achievement Program is a Healthy Together Victoria initiative

The Achievement Program supports early childhood education and care services, schools and workplaces to create healthy environments for learning, working and living.

The initiative recognises the achievements of members who are leading the way in improving health and wellbeing in their community. Participants receive guidelines, resources and support to help meet statewide benchmarks for health promotion.

Schools, services and workplaces can work at their own pace and select priorities based on their local communities needs.

For more information please visit www.healthytogether.vic.gov.au

Appendix 4

Additional resources

Accessible and Nutritious Food

- National Food Plan (2013)
  A framework for Australia's food system to set the long-term direction, integrate food-related policy, prioritise actions and focus resources.
  www.daff.gov.au/nationalfoodplan

- Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015
  This plan identifies 'healthy eating' as a priority to 'keep people well'.
  www.health.vic.gov.au/prevention/vphwplan

- Healthy Together Victoria (HTV)
  A Victorian government initiative that aims to improve people's health by promoting healthy eating and physical activity, and reducing smoking and harmful alcohol use.

  Healthy Food Connect is a key HTV strategy that provides a model to address local food system change.
  www.health.vic.gov.au/prevention/healthytogether.htm

- Supporting Healthy Eating: Local Government Action Guide No. 7
  This VicHealth guide is one of ten outlining a range of evidence-informed actions that councils may consider when preparing their Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plans and other strategies.
  www.vichealth.vic.gov.au

- Food for All: How local government is improving access to nutritious food
  A publication highlighting practical and sustainable ways for local governments to help residents living in disadvantaged areas regularly access a variety of nutritious foods, using real-life examples
  www.vichealth.vic.gov.au

- *Get Up & Grow:* Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Guidelines for Early Childhood Settings
  Provides information to support healthy behaviour in children aged five years and younger attending early childhood education and care settings, including centre-based care, family day care and preschools.
  www.health.gov.au

Physical Activity and Active Communities

- Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015
  Identifies 'physical activity' as a priority to 'keep people well'
  www.health.vic.gov.au/prevention/vphwplan

- Healthy Together Victoria (HTV)
  See listing under 'Accessible and Nutritious Food'.
  www.health.vic.gov.au/prevention/healthytogether.htm

- Increasing participation in physical activity: Local Government Action Guide No. 3
  This VicHealth guide is one of ten outlining a range of evidence-informed actions that councils may consider when preparing their Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plans and other strategies.
  www.vichealth.vic.gov.au

- VicHealth BE ACTIVE initiative
  In partnership with Sport and Recreation Victoria, the BE ACTIVE initiative as been designed to support local governments to address the lack of safe, accessible and inclusive environments restricting people's capacity to participate in physical activity.
  www.vichealth.vic.gov.

- G21 Regional Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017
  This plan identifies physical activity as a regional health and wellbeing priority.
  www.g21.com.au

Social inclusion and community connectedness

- Australian Government Social Inclusion Framework (2011)
  Is a measurement and reporting framework incorporating social inclusion principles to identify areas where effort is required and identify success that can be built upon. This framework informs the Australian Government Social Inclusion Agenda (2013) that focuses on the areas where people face significant and multiple barriers to social and economic participation.[3]
  www.socialinclusion.gov.au/about/framework

- Building social Inclusion: The Role of Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD)
  DPCD recognizes that all levels of Government are needed to be involved for social inclusion strategies to be effective and uses the following principles for building social inclusion; building the capacity of people and places; intervening at the optimum times across the life course: overcoming the processes that exclude.
  www.dpcd.vic.gov.au

- Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015
  This plan identifies 'mental health promotion' as a priority to 'keep people well' and highlights that people's mental health can be protected by the extent to which they are included in society (employment, housing), are connected to others and are resilient.

  The plan also states that addressing the differences in mental health status within population groups is a State priority; those with low socioeconomic status and Aboriginal Victorians in particular.

www.health.vic.gov.au/prevention/vphwplan

- Increasing social connections: Local Government Action Guide No. 4
  This VicHealth guide is one of ten outlining a range of evidence-informed actions that councils may consider when preparing their Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plans and other strategies.
  www.vichealth.vic.gov.au

- G21 Regional Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017
  This plan identifies Community Connectedness/Social Inclusion as a regional health and wellbeing priority.
  www.g21.com.au

Reducing Harm from Alcohol, Drugs and Problem Gambling

- Reducing the alcohol and drug toll: Victoria's plan 2013 – 2017
  This plan sets out how the Victorian Government will work with the community to bring down the alcohol and drug toll and deliver better health outcomes to thousands of Victorians who want to recover from the harm associated with alcohol misuse and drug use.
  www.health.vic.gov.au › Alcohol & other drugs services in Victoria

- Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2011-2015
  This plan identifies 'alcohol and other drug use' as a priority to 'keep people well'.
  www.health.vic.gov.au/prevention/vphwplan

- Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation
  This organisation was formed with the aim of reducing the prevalence of problem gambling, the severity of harm related to gambling and to foster responsible gambling. It has been in operation since 1 July 2012 and is an independent statutory authority, the first of its kind in Australia.
  www.responsiblegambling.vic.gov.au

- Healthy Together Victoria (HTV)
  See listing under 'Accessible and Nutritious Food'.

Reducing Tobacco Use

- QUIT Strategic Plan
  A joint initiative of Cancer Council Victoria, VicHealth, the Department of Health and the National Heart Foundation (Victorian Division), QUIT aims to reduce Victorian smoking rates, reduce smoking behaviours in high smoking rate groups and reduce exposure to tobacco smoking and smoking behaviours (denormalisation).
  www.quit.org.au/about/strategic-plan.html

- Victorian Tobacco Control Strategy 2008-2013
  A major Victorian Government initiative which aims to make important advances in the fight against cancer and the epidemic of preventable chronic disease, this strategy aims to decrease smoking rates and assist those in the community with the greatest need and capacity to benefit from Government action.
  http://www.health.vic.gov.au/tobaccoreforms/downloads/vtcs0813.pdf

- Reducing Tobacco Use: Local Government Action Guide No. 8
  This guide is one of ten outlining a range of evidence-informed actions that councils may consider when preparing their Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plans and other strategies.
  www.vichealth.vic.gov.au

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Portfolio:	**Governance - Cr Harwood (Acting Mayor)** **Finance – Cr S Kontelj**
Source	**Corporate Services - Corporate Strategy**
General Manager:	**Jeff Wall**
Index Reference	**Subject: Corporate Strategy Annual Reports**

Purpose

The Annual Report 2012-2013 was submitted to the Minister for Local Government as per the requirement of the Local Government Act 1989, Section 131.

As per the Local Government Act 1989, the purpose of this report is for the Council to receive the Annual Report 2012-2013.

Summary

- Section 131 of the Local Government Act 1989 requires that the Council submit its Annual Report to the Minister for Local Government within 3 months of the end of the financial year.
- The Annual Report for 2012-2013 has been prepared and a copy was provided to the Minister on 27th September 2013.
- The Annual Report has been prepared to comply with Section 131 of the Local Government Act 1989 that requires inclusion of the following:
  a) A report on the Council's operations during the financial year,
  b) Audited Standard Statements for the financial year,
  c) Audited Financial Statements for the financial year,
  d) A copy of the Performance Statement for the year (prepared under Section 132),
  e) A Copy of the report on the Performance Statement for the year (prepared under Section 133), and
  f) Any other matter required by the regulations.
- In accordance with the requirements of Section 132 of the Local Government Act 1989 and Clause 12 and 16 of the Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004 the nominated Principal Accounting Officer of Council, 2 Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer have signed the Performance Statement, Standard and Financial statements.
- The Performance Statement, Standard and Financial Statements have been finalised and the Auditor General's Report on the Performance Statement, Standard and Financial Statements has been received.
- After the Annual Report has been submitted to the Minister, Council is required [(under Section 131 (10)] to give public notice that the Annual Report has been prepared and can be inspected at Council Offices.
- Section 134 of the Local Government Act 1989 also requires the Council to consider the Annual Report at a meeting of Council and that 14 days public notice must be given of this meeting.

9. ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013 (CONT'D)

- On 28 September 2013 a public notice was published in local newspapers advising of the availability of the Annual Report for viewing and the intention to discuss the Annual Report at the Council meeting on the 22 October 2013.

Cr S Kontelj moved, Cr E Kontelj seconded -

That Council receives the 2012-2013 Annual Report (Appendix 1) in accordance with Section 131 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Carried.

Background

Council approved "in principle" the Financial Statement of Accounts, Standard Statement and Performance Statements and authorised the signing of the Accounts subject to Auditor General requirements on 27 August 2013.

The Auditor-General has signed the accounts and issued his report stating that the accounts fairly present the financial position of the Council and comply with accounting requirements.

A copy of the Annual Report together with the Audited Performance Standard Statements and Financial Statements was provided to the Minister for Local Government on 27 September 2013.

Under Section 134 of the Local Government Act 1989, the Council must consider the annual report at a meeting of Council as soon as practicable after the Annual Report has been sent to the Minister.

Discussion

The Annual Report is a comprehensive review of highlights and achievements for 2012-2013 financial year.

Under the Local Government Act the Council is required to give public notice when the Annual Report is available for public inspection and is also required to provide 14 days notice of when it will be considered at a Council Meeting.

On Saturday, 28 September 2013 Council gave public notice that:

a) Council had prepared the Annual Report for the financial year to 30 June 2013 and that copies containing the following information contained within the Annual Report were available from the Council's website and Customer Service Centres:

   - A report on Council's operations during the year,
   - The Audited Standard Statements for the financial year,
   - Audited Financial Statements for the financial year,
   - A copy of the Performance Statement for the year, and
   - A copy of the report on the Performance Statement for the year.

b) The Annual Report, including the Performance and Financial and Standard Statements, is to be received at the Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, 22 October 2013 commencing at 7.00 p.m.

9. ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013 (CONT'D)

Environmental Implications

The Annual Report addresses the City's achievements in the Sustainable Built and natural Environment strategic direction and reports on actions undertaken in 2012-2013 and progress indicators.

Financial Implications

The Annual Report includes a copy of the City's Audited "Standard Statements" and "Financial Statements" that has been the subject of a previous report to Council.

No impact to budget.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The recommendation and procedures outlined in this report conform to the requirements of the Local Government Act and Regulations.

Council has given public notice that the Annual Report 2012-2013 is available for public inspection and provided 14 days notice of a meeting to consider the report.

Alignment to City Plan

City Plan 2009-2013 (20121-2013 Update) is the guiding document for the 2012-2013 Annual Report. The Annual Report provides and update on the achievements under the Community Wellbeing, Growing the Economy and Sustainable Built and natural Environment strategic directions.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

There are no direct or indirect interests.

Risk Assessment

There are no identified risks arising from this report.

Social Considerations

The Annual Report provides a report to the community on the Actions and Initiatives undertaken during the reporting period.

In addition to the Statutory Financial Reporting, the Annual Report provides information to the community on how the resources of the City have been allocated between the Social, Environment and Economic needs of the community.

This information is presented in the City's adopted Planning Framework of the three strategic directions being:

1. Community Wellbeing
2. Growing the Economy
3. Sustainable Built and Natural Environment

9. ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013 (CONT'D)

Human Rights Charter

The 2012-2013 Annual Report will be made available to the community in a number of formats satisfying accessibility requirements:

- Hard copies will be available for viewing at all Customer Service Centres
- Electronic versions in MS Word, MS Excel, PDF and eText (for the visually impaired) will be available on Council's website (www.geelongaustralia.com.au)
- Hard copies can be requested and mailed out on request

All images in the final design version that feature staff or members of the community have had photo releases signed.

Consultation and Communication

The Council's Annual Report 2012-2013 is a primary communication document that has been made available for public inspection in draft form.

A printed publication is currently being prepared and will be distributed to leaders within the community.

A copy of the report will also be accessible via the City's internet site and at Council's Customer Service Centres.

10. COUNCIL POLICIES REVIEW

Portfolio:	**Governance - Cr Harwood (Acting Mayor)**
Source	**Corporate Services - Administration and Governance**
General Manager:	**Jeff Wall**
Index Reference	**Subject - Policy Development**

Purpose

To adopt various changes to the Councillor Code of Conduct and the Councillors' Facilities and Expenses Policy, and to revoke the Information Technology Policy.

Summary

- The attached policies have been reviewed and updated in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1989. As part of the review, the Information Technology Policy is proposed to be revoked as a Council Policy and is intended to become a Management Policy.
- Section 76C(2) of the Local Government Act 1989 requires the newly elected Council to review the Councillor Code of Conduct within 12 months of a general election. The main changes to the Code of Conduct relate to the roles of the Directly Elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor, and also to the dispute resolution process. Refer to Appendix 1.
- The Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy has been amended to incorporate the relevant provisions of the City of Greater Geelong Act 1983. Further, amendments to the Meetings, Conference and Other Attendances section provide greater clarity in relation to the financial limits imposed. The policy now provides for Councillors to receive study support for study which is relevant to their Council duties. The Outward Mail section further clarifies the use of Council letterhead, which must not be used to express the personal views of any Councillor, or for electioneering purposes in accordance with s55D(4) of the Local Government Act 1989. Refer to Appendix 2.
- The existing Information Technology Policy supports the achievement of Council's objectives in a secure computing and communications environment. It is considered that this Policy would be better defined as a Management Policy and be subject to the approval of the CEO. Accordingly, this report revokes the Council Policy, the objectives of which have been incorporated in a Management Policy.

Cr Heagney moved, Cr Irvine seconded -

That Council:

1) **Endorse the amended Code of Conduct Policy – CPL40.7 and Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy – CPL45.2.**

2) **Revoke the Information Technology Council Policy – CPL560.1.**

Carried.

10. COUNCIL POLICIES REVIEW (CONT'D)

Background

In accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989,* a newly elected Council must review the Councillor Code of Conduct within 12 months of a general election. In addition, the Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy has been updated and the Information Technology Policy is proposed to be revoked as a Council Policy.

Discussion

Councillor Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct governs working relationships. The changes outline the roles and responsibilities of the Directly Elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor and also amend the dispute resolution process. The following provides a summary of the content of the Code:

1 *Introduction* – a commitment to good governance, discharging responsibilities and working together.

2 *Conduct Principles* – community expectations and principles to be observed as specified by the Act.

3 *Values and behaviours* – a general statement regarding expected behaviour.

4 *Roles & Responsibilities* - relationships with the community, Council staff, and also within the group of elected members.

5 *Dispute resolution* – a mechanism to address any breaches of the Code.

6 *Sanctions* – internal sanctions for minor breaches and also an avenue for independent review of allegations of serious misconduct.

The Code specifically addresses the Councillor Conduct Principles, as set out in s76C(3) of the *Local Government Act 1989*. The Code articulates the values and behaviours expected of Councillors, along with the roles and responsibilities of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer and staff. It also includes a robust dispute resolution process.

Councillors' Expenses and Facilities

The Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy has been amended to incorporate the relevant provisions of the *City of Greater Geelong Act 1983.* There are further amendments to the Meetings, Conference and Other Attendances section which govern attendances and impose a $3,500 annual limit. The annual limit is proposed to be increased in accordance with any movement in the General Consumer Price Index. The amendments also recognise the role of the Mayor in representing Council at various meetings and functions, and exclude such attendances from the $3,500 annual limit.

Functions or training arranged by the MAV, VLGA, ALGA, ALGWA, State, Federal or Local Government Authorities will not be subject to the $3,500 limit. However, such attendances will be determined by the Mayor or Chief Executive Officer. The Outward Mail section clarifies the use of Council letterhead, which must not be used to express the personal views of any Councillor, or for electioneering purposes.

10. COUNCIL POLICIES REVIEW (CONT'D)

The policy also extends Council's existing Study Leave Policy to Councillors in order to provide support which is consistent with that provided to Council staff, up to an annual limit of $2,000.

Information Technology

The existing Information Technology Policy supports the achievement of Council's objectives in a secure computing and communications environment. It is considered that this Policy would be better defined as a Management Policy and be subject to the approval of the CEO. Accordingly, this report revokes the Council Policy, the objectives of which have been incorporated in a Management Policy.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Financial Implications

Payment of councillor expenses and the costs of providing support and resources form part of the annual budget review.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The policy review complies with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989* and forms part of the governance framework established by Council.

Alignment to City Plan

In accordance with Council's strategic objective 'How We Do Business', Council has provided a transparent process for the review of these Council Policies.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has an interest in relation to the information provided.

Risk Assessment

Updating and adopting these policies is in accordance with good governance principles and aims to mitigate Council and Councillor's exposure to reputational risk.

Social Considerations

Councillors are elected to represent and serve their community. Good governance practices provide the community with confidence in Council leadership by providing transparency and accountability in the decision-making processes and in Council's ability to ensure good corporate governance within the municipality.

Human Rights Charter

All Human Rights have been considered as part of the drafting process of this report, none of which apply.

Consultation and Communication

Council policies are published on Council's CityWeb and Geelong Australia websites.

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Councillor Code Of Conduct

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

COUNCIL POLICY

Councillor Code of Conduct	Document No:	CPL40.7
	Approval Date:	28 May 2013
	Approved By:	Council
	Review Date:	October 2017
Responsible Officer: **General Manager Corporate Services**	Expiry Date:	N/A
	Version No:	04
Authorising Officer:	**Chief Executive Officer**	

1. PURPOSE

The Local Government Act 1989 requires that Council adopt a Code of Conduct and review the Code following a General Election.

2. SCOPE

This Code of Conduct has been developed in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989.

3. REFERENCES

3.1 Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy CPL45.2.
3.2 Pre Election Caretaker Policy CPL45.5.
3.3 Gifts and Hospitality Policy CPL40.5.
3.4 Procurement Policy CPL565.3.
3.5 Code of Conduct – Dispute Resolution Management Procedure MPR40.7.1.
3.6 Confidential Information in Reports Procedure MPR 40.6.1.
3.7 Local Government Act 1989.
3.8 Freedom of Information Act 1982.
3.9 Council Meeting Procedures Local Law 2009.
3.10 Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.
3.11 "Conflict of Interest in Local Government – A Guide" – DPCD.
3.12 "Guide to Councillor Conduct Arrangement" – DPCD.
3.13 Register of Interests – Primary and Ordinary Return forms.
3.14 Assembly of Councillors Guidance Material.
3.15 Assembly of Councillors Record of Meeting form.

4. DEFINITIONS

4.1 "Act" means the Local Government Act 1989.
4.2 "Code" means the Council Policy – Councillor Code of Conduct.
4.3 "Councillor Conduct Panel" – a panel appointed pursuant to the Act.
4.4 "Independent Appointee" means a person suitably qualified in mediation or conciliation nominated by the President of the Law Institute of Victoria.
4.5 "Information" includes letters, reports, documents, facsimiles, attachments, tapes or electronic media and/or other forms of information including verbal.
4.6 "Policy" means any policy adopted by Council from time to time.
4.7 "Special Committee" means a committee established pursuant to section 86 of the Act.
4.8 "VCAT" – Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

5. COUNCIL POLICY

5.1 This Policy is in the form of the Code set out in this document.

6. QUALITY RECORDS

Quality Records shall be retained for at least the period shown below.

Record	Retention/Disposal Responsibility	Retention Period	Location

7. ATTACHMENTS

COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Introduction

This Code of Conduct is a public declaration that Councillors of the City of Greater Geelong are committed to:

1.1. the principles of good governance;

1.2. discharging their responsibilities to the best of their skill and judgment; and

1.3. working together in the best interests of the people within the municipality.

As far as is practical this Code applies to members of Special Committees in the same manner as it applies to Councillors.

2. Councillor Conduct Principles

The Act defines "Councillor Conduct principles" as the principles set out in sections 76B and 76BA of the Act, which are standards of conduct that the community has a right to expect of all Councillors. These are the "Primary Principle" and seven "General Principles". These principles must be included in every Councillor Code of Conduct and must be observed by every Councillor.

2.1. Primary principle

In performing the role of a Councillor, a Councillor must:

2.1.1. Act with integrity;

2.1.2. Impartially exercise his or her responsibilities in the interests of the local community; and

2.1.3. Not improperly seek to confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person.

2.2. General principles

In performing the role of a Councillor, a Councillor must also:

2.2.1. Avoid conflicts between his or her public duties as a Councillor and his or her personal interests and obligations;

2.2.2. Act honestly and avoid statements (whether oral or in writing) or actions that will or are likely to mislead or deceive a person;

2.2.3. Treat all persons with respect and have due regard to the opinions, beliefs, rights and responsibilities of other Councillors, Council officers and other persons;

2.2.4. Exercise reasonable care and diligence and submit himself or herself to the lawful scrutiny that is appropriate to his or her office;

2.2.5. Endeavour to ensure that public resources are used prudently and solely in the public interest;

2.2.6. Act lawfully and in accordance with the trust placed in him or her as an elected representative; and

2.2.7. Support and promote these principles by leadership and example and act in a way that secures and preserves public confidence in the office of Councillor.

3. Values and Behaviours

3.1. Councillors aim to foster a culture that embraces a consistent set of behaviours that reflect what they value and believe in, and which also reflects what is necessary to deliver effective and efficient outcomes for the Community.

Council's values - Integrity, Responsibility, Innovation and Respect.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

Councillors are able to exercise authority as a member of Council after they are formally sworn in and when they meet formally as Council. All decisions are made at Council meetings or through delegations that are formally made by Council. As a group, Councillors determine and monitor Council policy, direct and control Council's affairs and allocate resources.

Councillors recognise the importance of appropriate and productive relationships and will strive to support and maintain these relationships as they work cooperatively to achieve Council's vision.

4.1. The Mayor

The Mayor is directly elected to represent the municipal district. In general terms the principle areas of responsibility of the Mayor are:

4.1.1. to provide leadership and represent, support and promote the businesses and people of the municipality;

4.1.2. to facilitate the setting of the strategic direction and goals for the municipality;

4.1.3. to establish and maintain inter-governmental relationships at Regional, State and Federal levels and private sector organisations;

4.1.4. to act as the key spokesperson for Council;

4.1.5. to generate community cohesion and inclusiveness and advocate on behalf of community programs, needs and wellbeing;

4.1.6. to promote high standards of democratic and internal governance;

4.1.7. to preside efficiently, firmly and fairly over Council meetings, and

4.1.8. to represent Council at key ceremonial and social occasions.

4.2. The Deputy Mayor

The role of the Deputy Mayor is to represent the Mayor in all capacities in the event of the Mayor's absence. In practice, the Deputy Mayor, being elected by all Councillors, provides a critical role in supporting the Mayor's leadership of Council. Given the demands and complexity of the role of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, with the agreement of the Mayor, will provide support in areas such as:

4.2.1. assistance with communication between Councillors and between Councillors and the Mayor;

4.2.2. providing leadership support to Councillors to ensure adherence with Council values and behaviours;

4.2.3. taking the lead on strategic Council initiatives on behalf of the Mayor;

4.2.4. liaising with Council's administration on behalf of Councillors to ensure organisation support meets their role requirement; and

4.2.5. advising the Mayor on a broad range of Council and Councillor matters.

4.3. Portfolios

Given the size and complexity of the municipality, Council may decide to assign portfolio responsibility to individual Councillors. Portfolio Councillors will regularly meet with the appropriate General Manager (and senior management as deemed appropriate) to be informed on strategic matters relevant to their Portfolio.

Councillor Portfolio appointments may be aligned to the assignment of Councillors to Committees.

The Portfolio role includes:

4.3.1. Informing the Mayor and Council on matters relating to their particular portfolio.

4.3.2. Being informed of policy development positions to put to the various decision-making bodies and any policy reviews.

4.3.3. Assisting other elected representatives to develop the fullest possible understanding of matters being considered by Council and enable the Portfolio Councillor to lead discussions on relevant items.

4.3.4. Facilitating the briefing of other Councillors in specialist areas within the portfolio.

4.4. Councillors

Maintaining good working relationships between Councillors is integral to achieving the best outcomes for the community.

Councillors will:

4.4.1. strive to achieve the best outcomes for the City by working with colleagues and staff in an atmosphere of mutual respect;

4.4.2. be honest and open with other Councillors;

4.4.3. recognise and respect the strengths and weaknesses of fellow Councillors, and where possible, offer encouragement and support;

4.4.4. ensure punctual attendance at meetings;

4.4.5. debate contentious issues without resorting to personal acrimony or insult;

4.4.6. refrain from personal attacks on other Councillors and focus on the issue at hand; and

4.4.7. participate in mediation in good faith, as determined by the mediator, where Council's internal dispute resolution process results in mediation conducted by an Independent Appointee conciliator.

4.5. Chief Executive Officer and Administration

The administration is accountable to Council through the Chief Executive Officer, who is responsible for the management and administration of the organisation.

Councillors will endeavour to ensure interactions with members of Council staff do not, and are not perceived to, direct or influence members of Council staff in the exercise of their duties, or in their professional advice to Council.

Decisions which reject or modify officer recommendations must only be made for relevant and proper reasons at a formal Council or Committee meeting.

The relationship between Councillors and staff must be one of co-operation and support with a clear understanding of each other's roles and responsibilities. Councillors will:

4.5.1. act respectfully towards staff dealing in a professional, courteous, fair, equitable and honest manner and avoiding intimidating behaviour;

4.5.2. commit to working co-operatively with staff to achieve the Council's goals;

4.5.3. initially refer their requests for service through the relevant General Manager or Department Manager, with the exclusion of direct support areas of the Mayor and Councillors office and Communications unit;

4.5.4. develop mature and constructive working relationships based on mutual trust, respect and a recognition of common goals;

4.5.5. understand and respect the distinction in roles of Councillors and staff, acknowledging that the Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the operations of Council and management of staff. Councillors will not involve themselves, directly or indirectly, in any personnel matter relating to a Council officer;

4.5.6. acknowledge that Councillors must not direct or instruct members of staff in the performance of their duties;

4.5.7. acknowledge that access to Staff in the Office of the Mayor & Councillors shall be available in accordance with approved protocols;

4.5.8. refrain from using the Councillor position to improperly influence members of staff in their duties or functions, or to seek preferential treatment or gain an advantage for themselves or others;

4.5.9. advise the Chief Executive Officer in a timely fashion of any concerns that a Council officer has acted contrary to a formal Council policy or decision. Any discussions pertaining to the performance of a Council officer must be held privately with the Chief Executive Officer or appropriate General Manager in a constructive manner; and

4.5.10. refrain from publicly criticising staff in a way that casts aspersions on their professional competence or credibility.

4.6. The Community

Councillors are elected to govern the municipality as Council. On behalf of the community, Councillors are committed to representing constituents and the broader community working together to achieve outcomes that are in the best interests of the municipality.

Consultation, representation, equity, openness and accountability are the key features of the relationships between Council and the Community. Councillors will:

4.6.1. respectfully deal with members of the community in a courteous, fair, equitable and honest manner;

4.6.2. strive to understand and respect different points of view within the community;

4.6.3. be available to listen and respond to community concerns, but will avoid promising things which cannot or may not be delivered;

4.6.4. make decisions in the best interest of the community after considering all relevant interests and points of view;

4.6.5. be cognisant of the principles of procedural fairness prior to making statements on issues where public submissions have been invited;

4.6.6. encourage partnerships with the community so that mutual strengths can be utilised to achieve common goals; and

4.6.7. encourage understanding and harmony and discourage divisiveness among citizens of the City of Greater Geelong.

5. Dispute Resolution

At times there will be disputes or grievances between Councillors arising from alleged breaches of the Code. These disputes may require resolution outside the Council Chamber.

The Councillor Conduct arrangements in the Act provide for three levels of dispute resolution. Council's internal dispute resolution processes, Councillor Conduct Panels, and VCAT.

A Council's internal dispute resolution process is the first formal step to be taken when there is a dispute between Councillors that has the capacity to undermine the effective operation of the Council.

Before commencing any formal dispute resolution process, such as referral to a Councillor Conduct Panel or through the VCAT, the Councillors who are parties to any disagreement will endeavour to resolve their differences informally in a courteous and respectful manner, recognising that they have been elected to represent the best interests of the community. Councillors may seek assistance of any third party in resolving their differences.

In the event that differences are unable to be resolved and the situation is unduly affecting the operation of Council, the following process will be applied:

5.1. A written report (complaint) will be furnished by a Councillor to the Mayor detailing an alleged breach of the Code, specifying the relevant provisions of the Code of Conduct.

5.2. Within 5 working days of receipt of the complaint, the Mayor will:

5.2.1. provide written acknowledgment of receipt of the complaint to the Complainant;

5.2.2. provide a copy of the complaint to the Councillor concerned; and

5.2.3. attempt to facilitate a resolution.

5.3. The Mayor may call upon the Chief Executive Officer for advice and guidance at this point in the process. The Mayor may appoint an independent expert to express an opinion in relation to the dispute.

5.4. If the matter is not able to be satisfactorily resolved, the Mayor shall appoint an Independent Appointee conciliator, being a person suitably qualified in mediation or conciliation nominated by the President of the Law Institute of Victoria.

5.5. If an Independent Appointee is appointed, all Councillors who are a party to the dispute shall cooperate in the dispute resolution process and provide reasonable assistance to the Independent Appointee, as requested.

5.6. Following mediation, a report is to be prepared for the Mayor by the Independent Appointee which sets out the outcome of the mediation and may include any general recommendations which may be of assistance to Council. This report is to be provided within 21 days of appointment of the Independent Appointee, or such other reasonable period of time as agreed by the Mayor. The report will be subsequently presented during a closed section of the next available Council meeting.

5.7. Following mediation, a separate open report is to be provided by the Independent Appointee, in writing, to Council and all participants in the mediation, which includes a determination, in their opinion, as to whether the Councillors who are party to the disagreement participated in the mediation in good faith in accordance with clause 4.4.7 of this Code.

5.8. In the event that the Mayor or Deputy Mayor is either a complainant or a respondent, another Councillor determined by Council shall assume the role of the Mayor for the purposes of this part of the Code.

5.9. In the event that the above internal processes fail to reach a resolution, the matter may be formally referred to either the Councillor Conduct Panel in the first instance, or to VCAT. The process for formal resolution is outlined in Part 4 of the Act.

5.10. Throughout the dispute resolution process, all parties must refrain from speaking to the media and must maintain confidentiality at all times.

6. Sanctions or Referral to Councillor Conduct Panel

6.1. Sanctions may be applied if this Code or any relevant law is breached, depending on the nature of the breach. Sanctions may be imposed by resolution of Council.

6.2. Council, having considered the report and any recommendation of the Independent Appointee may resolve that a Councillor has failed to comply with this Code, and may, by resolution:

6.2.1. Require the Councillor to apologise to the person concerned;

6.2.2. Request a formal public apology;

6.2.3. Pass a sanction motion at a Council Meeting;

6.2.4. Make public disclosures of inappropriate conduct (such as making the community aware of the breach through the media or Annual Report);

6.2.5. Refer the matter to an appropriate investigative body if the matter is serious;

6.2.6. Withdraw or re-allocate any Portfolio responsibilities or Chairperson role held by the Councillor; and

6.2.7. Withdraw or re-allocate any appointment of the Councillor to a Committee.

6.3. Additionally, a matter may be referred to a Councillor Conduct Panel to make a finding of misconduct.

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

COUNCIL POLICY

Councillors' Expenses and Facilities	Document No:	CPL45.2
	Approval Date:	28 May 2013
	Approved By:	Council
	Review Date:	
Responsible Officer:	Expiry Date:	October 2017
General Manager Corporate Services	Version No:	04
Authorising Officer:		**Chief Executive Officer**

Purpose

This policy supports requirements of the Local Government Act 1989 and the City of Greater Geelong Act 1993 with specific reference to sections 74 and 75 that relate to the payment of allowances and out-of-pocket expenses to the Mayor and Councillors.

It also identifies expenses to be paid and facilities to be provided to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors relative to the functions of civic office.

Scope

To assist Councillors in the discharge of their civic, statutory and policy making functions, Council will be responsible for the provision of a range of necessary facilities and the reimbursement of expenses specified within the policy.

Recognising the special role of the Office of Mayor, the policy also provides for expenses and facilities specific to that office.

Claims for facilities and expenses other than those included in the policy will be subject to Council resolution.

Council's facilities and services, as outlined in this policy, are available to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors while performing the official duties of office. These facilities and services are not available for use by members of a Councillor's family, unless the use is directly related to attendance at a civic function or another aspect of the Councillor's civic duties in the company of the Councillor.

If a Councillor does not claim a particular expense or use a particular facility, this cannot be offset against a claim for an additional amount of some other expense or facility.

References

- Local Government Act 1989. Sections 74 and 75.
- City of Greater Geelong Act 1993
- Management Procedure Corporate Card Use
- Councillor Code of Conduct Policy
- Caretaker Policy Council Elections and associated guidelines
- Email and Internet Access Management Policy
- Study Policy

Definitions

Communications Equipment includes any Personal Computer or Notebook Computer, Mobile Telephone or Tablet Device eg iPhone, IPad, Printer and Telephone together with network connection provided by Council to Councillors.

Accessories include Car Kits, non corporate software, or any other device or service beyond that provided throughout the organisation.

Councillors – unless otherwise specified includes the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Meeting Attendance – shall include any seminar, deputation, exhibition, meeting, training program, meeting function or other activity relative to the responsibilities of civic office.

Responsibility and Accountability

Councillors must provide original receipts to support reimbursement of expenses and complete documentation in support of a claim for reimbursement. Only those expenses explicitly covered in this policy will be reimbursed.

Requests for reimbursement should be received within sixty days of the cost being incurred. Claims for expenses six months or older will not be reimbursed.

Any advance payment made for the cost of a service associated with a civic duty must be reconciled within one month of receiving such payment and receipts supplied as verification.

Any reimbursement required to Council for non-Council related expenditure shall be made within sixty days of the cost being incurred or account being received.

As a minimum a summary of Councillor Expenses as at the end of each financial year and anniversary of Election Day will be published on the Council's website. The annual limits contained within the policy may be varied as part of Council's Annual Budget process or by specific resolution of Council.

Policy

Additional Expenses and Facilities for the Office of the Mayor

The Office of the Mayor operates to provide those functions of the Council best carried out by the Mayor. It is allocated a budget by Council on an annual basis, and within that budget staff and other resources may be employed as considered reasonable and appropriate. Any expenses incurred by the Mayoress, or person nominated by the Mayor to fulfil the civic role shall be deemed to be expenses of the Mayor.

Council will make available at its cost to the Mayor a fully registered, insured, maintained and fuelled vehicle for use by the Mayor on official duties and for private use. The vehicle type and usage shall be in accordance with Council's Fleet Policy. Council will provide the following Mayoral office facilities.

- Private office suitably equipped with quality furniture and shelving, including desk and meeting table.
- Computer, printer and corporate software.
- Telephone – Digital Handset with I.S.D. access.
- Fax machine.
- Personal Assistant and Secretarial Support are available to the Mayor during normal office hours.

The Mayor may be provided with other necessary assistance to enable the performance of the duties of civic office. Such assistance may include, but is not limited to the following:

- A Corporate Card will be made available to the Mayor for use while discharging the functions of the office. Use of a Corporate Card will be in accordance with the Corporate Card Procedure.
- Reasonable purpose specific clothing suitable to attend and participate in activities on behalf of Council requiring specialised non-standard attire.

Councillors Allowance

The Local Government Act and the City of Greater Geelong Act, 1993 currently provides for Councillors, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to be paid an allowance. These Acts provide for allowances to be fixed by Order by the Minister of Local Government annually.

Payment of Allowances

- Allowances shall be paid monthly in advance, provided that upon a Councillor ceasing to hold office or pending an election, payment shall be withheld until such time as the Councillor is declared elected.
- Payment will be made by electronic funds transfer by Council's payroll department.
- Upon the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or a Councillor ceasing to hold office, any moneys paid in advance shall be refunded within 30 days.
- Councillors may elect to sacrifice allowance amounts into a complying superannuation fund in accordance with Guidelines established by Council and upon completion of the prescribed Australian Taxation Office documentation.

Carer Expenses

The Council will reimburse the cost of necessary expenses for childcare up to and including the age of 16 years and the care of elderly, disabled and/or sick immediate family members of Councillors, while a Councillor is conducting Council business.

Child care costs are not eligible for reimbursement if paid to a family member or a person who normally or regularly lives with the Councillor, except where a live-in (professional) helper such as a nanny is required to work extra time at extra expense because of the Councillor's duties.

Carer expenses may consist of:

- Child care centre fees;
- Hourly fees;
- Agency booking fees (if claimed); and
- Reasonable travelling expenses at rates no greater than those prescribed in the Victorian Local Authorities Award 2001 (if claimed by the carer).

Fees are payable per hour (or part of an hour) subject to any minimum period which is part of the provider's usual terms, to a maximum hourly rate approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

Travelling expenses may cover the transport costs of the carer to and from the Councillor's residence or of the person to be cared for to and from the place of care.

Claims must be accompanied by a receipt from the care provider showing the date and time care was provided and details of the reason care was need on each occasion.

Study Support

In accordance with Council's study policy, Councillors will be eligible for reimbursement of 50% of the study fees, up to $2,000 per annum, for enrolment in an approved course which is specifically relevant to their Council duties.

Reimbursement of fees will be provided on successful completion of units enrolled. Reimbursement of fees can be approved by the Manager, Customer Service and Councillor Support subject to successful completion of the course. Application for and reimbursement of study support must be made by completing the forms on Council's intranet site.

Communications

Equipment Provided for Councillors

Standard equipment may include:

- Mobile telephone including bluetooth hands free device for vehicle
- Printer/Facsmile
- Portable Computer or Tablet
- Desktop Computer
- Internet access via 3G connection (minimum)
- Telephone and Landline

Installation

Council will arrange when a mobile device does not suffice, for the installation of the necessary telephone line and associated equipment and meet all connection costs including, where necessary, power supply. Installed equipment including message facilities will remain at all times at the residence of the Councillor, or such other agreed designated location, during the term of office.

Accessories or services beyond the standard equipment referred to above may be provided upon written request. The cost of any accessories provided, will be deemed to be a discretionary operational expenditure and shown as an expense incurred by the Councillor.

Conditions of Use

All Council supplied Telecommunications services such as phone lines or Mobile phones must reside on the City's main consolidated telephone account.

For Councillors who choose to use non-Council mobile phones (in lieu of Council supplied phones) can claim for reimbursement of expenses incurred on Council business.

All Communications Equipment must be compatible and consistent with that which already exists within the City.

Use of software shall be in accordance with licence requirements.

Monthly Accounting for Communication Equipment

Councillors who have a Council supplied mobile phone or telephone shall be given the individual opportunity to reimburse the Council for private calls. This opportunity shall be provided through the provision to Councillors of information relating to individual monthly phone accounts. Councillors will complete the Councillor Certification of Expenses Form confirming that costs were incurred while performing the duties as a Councillor. – Refer Attachment 1

All operational costs together with the cost of accessories will be treated as an expense attributable to the individual Councillor and published as part of the Summary of Councillor Expenses.

Other relevant matters

Strict care must be taken in the custody and use of all Council equipment.

Loss or theft of the Communications Equipment must be reported immediately to the Manager, Customer Service and Councillor Support.

All equipment shall be returned within 30 days of the conclusion of the term of office**.**

Meetings, Conference & Other Attendances on behalf of Council

Councillors will be given the opportunity of attending training programs, meetings conferences and functions etc based on relevance to the role and development of the Councillor with regard to Ward, Portfolio or Mayoral appointed committee or delegate responsibilities.

Conferences, Seminars, Meetings etc:

Council will bear reasonable costs enabling Councillors to attend any conference, seminar, deputation, exhibition, meeting, study tour, site visit or other activity relative to the responsibilities of civic office.

The annual limit for each Councillor is $3,500, and will be indexed in accordance with any movement in the General Consumer Price Index.

When attendance is in an official capacity within the Municipality, this will not be included in the $3,500 limit.

Financial Limits and Approvals

Attendance by a Councillor at a total cost to Council of:

- Between $1,000 & $3,500 may be approved by the Chief Executive Officer;
- $1,000 or less may be approved by the Manager, Customer Service and Councillor Support.

In circumstances where:

a) the cost exceeds $3,500 for a councillor in any financial year (or pro-rata amount in the financial year of the general Council election); or
b) Overseas Travel is involved,

Council approval is required.

Council will pay:

- registration fees;
- main conference dinner if not covered by registration cost, together with all meals within reasonable limits for the duration of the attendance for the Councillor;
- transport to, from and during attendance;
- accommodation costs for stays located greater than 50km outside the Municipality for the nights of the particular activity attended, and for the nights prior and post, where necessary. Accommodation should, where practicable, be at the meeting venue, to a maximum of four star standard unless otherwise approved by the Chief Executive Officer. Any additional accommodation costs incurred as a result of extended stays, or due to the attendance of partners and/or children, shall be borne by the Councillor.

Mayoral Role

Council recognises that the role of the Mayor carries the expectation that the incumbent will represent Council at events, sometimes at short notice. Therefore, the $3,500 limit set out above does not apply to attendances at any activities specific to the role of the Mayor, or any Councillor attending on behalf of the Mayor.

Government & Peak Body Attendances

Councillors may attend conferences, seminars, meetings or training arranged by:

a) the Local Government Peak Bodies (eg MAV, VLGA, ALGA, ALGWA);
b) State, Federal or Local Government Authorities; or
c) the Chief Executive Officer or Mayor.

Attendance at such programs shall not be subject to the $3500 limit set out above and attendance shall be determined by the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer upon a written request by the individual Councillor wishing to attend.

There is no specific limit on individual expenditure however in approving attendance the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer will have regard to the available budget.

Reporting

Within one month of returning from any overseas travel, the attending Councillor must provide a written report on the salient outcomes of the event to Councillors. The report shall be made available for public access on request.

Travel

All Councillor travel should be undertaken utilising the most direct route and the most practicable and economical mode of transport.

Application to attend any interstate or overseas meetings involving Council expenditure must be made on the Interstate/Overseas Travel Application form.

Within one month upon return from any interstate or overseas travel the Councillor must provide and certify, a reconciliation of all expenditure incurred. The completed certification must be completed and submitted to the Governance Co-ordinator.

Private Vehicle Use

Councillors are entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred in the use of their own private vehicle for Council purposes. Any expenses arising from a breach of road, traffic parking or other regulations or laws or for damage or loss of a vehicle will not be reimbursed or funded by Council.

Council has in place insurance covering the loss of non claims bonus or excess payment up to a limit of $1000 for Councillors vehicles used for Council business. Coverage is subject the vehicle being comprehensively insured and the incident being covered by this insurer.

Reasonable travel expenses include travel to and from Council Meetings, Councillor Briefings or other activities directly related to Council Business. Travel claims will be from the Councillors notified place of normal residence.

Council does not accept responsibility for reimbursement for:

- Travel from work or other locations where the kilometres claimed are greater than what would be claimed from the notified place of normal residence.
- Meetings arranged outside the City of Greater Geelong that would not form part of a Councillor' normal role.

Reimbursement shall be at the rates prescribed in the Victorian Local Authorities Award 2001.

- The Councillors Certification of Expenses Form must be completed for any Private Vehicle Use claim.

Car parking fees incurred while conducting Council business shall be reimbursed on the provision of original receipts.

Completed and signed forms shall be lodged with the Manager, Customer Service and Councillor Support who will arrange for prompt reimbursement.

Council Vehicle

Where practicable and by prior arrangement through the Manager, Customer Service and Councillor Support, a Council vehicle or hire vehicle may be made available to Councillors for travel outside the City where use of private vehicles or other means of transport is not convenient.

Councillor Taxi Use

Each Councillor will be provided with a "Cab-Charge" credit card (if requested) for use in the payment of taxi services for Council purposes only. Personal use in any form is not permitted. The Card is NOT to be used by persons other than the cardholder.

The Cabcharge Card shall be used in accordance with "Conditions of Use" issued by Cabcharge Australia. .

Loss or theft of the card must be reported immediately to the Manager, Customer Service and Councillor Support.

The card must be returned to the Manager, Customer Service and Councillor Support when the Councillor ceases to hold office.

Class of Air Travel

Unless otherwise specified in a resolution of Council, the class of air travel to be used by a Councillor is to be economy class.

In the case of travel via a non-direct route, travel expenses are payable for the amount that would have been incurred if the most direct route had been available and followed at the same class of travel as was actually used. A claim for expenses must not exceed the amount actually paid.

Airline tickets are not transferable and cannot be used for defraying or offsetting any other costs including the costs of other persons accompanying the Councillor.

All air travel must be authorized by the Manager Customer Service and Councillor Support prior to booking.

Cash Advances

To assist in meeting daily expenses incurred while traveling on Council business, Councillors will be offered a cash advance to cover those costs which cannot be paid for in advance. This may include accommodation, meals, fares and incidentals. Any unexpended cash advances shall be immediately returned to the Manager, Customer Service and Councillor Support. Reconciliation and receipts must be completed within one month of return.

Spouse/Partner Accompanying Person

The cost of a spouse or partner for attendance at official Council functions is appropriate when accompanying a Councillor both:

- Within the Municipality;
- Outside the Municipality, but within the State when carrying out official duties.

The payment of expenses for spouses, partners or accompanying persons for attendance at appropriate functions shall be limited specifically to the ticket and meal. Peripheral expenses such as grooming, special clothing and transport are not reimbursable.

Expenses and Facilities for Councillors with Disabilities

For any Councillor with a disability, Council will provide reasonable additional facilities and support, in order to allow that Councillor to perform their civic duties.

Insurance

Councillors are covered by the following Council Insurance Policies on a 24 hour basis, while discharging the duties of civic office, including attendance at meetings of external bodies as Council's representative:

- Personal Accident Insurance;
- Public Liability Insurance;

- Professional Indemnity Insurance;
- Councillors and Officers Liability Insurance;
- Travel Insurance; and
- WorkCover (as a deemed employee).

Council will pay the insurance policy excess in respect of any claim made against a Councillor arising from Council business where any claim is accepted by Council's Insurers, whether defended or not.

Legal Costs

Other than by specific Council resolution or in accordance with a Council policy, any legal expenses incurred by a Councillor shall be the responsibility of that Councillor.

Newspapers

Each Councillor is entitled to have two daily newspapers delivered to their home or City Hall each day, or to access two newspapers via online subscription.

Publications and Memberships

Councillors are entitled to be reasonably supplied with journals, magazines and other publications of their choice relevant to their civic duties.

Professional membership fees for Councillors will be paid where there is a benefit in performing their elected roles and portfolio responsibilities.

Refreshments for Council Related Meetings

Where Council Meetings, Briefings or Committee meetings are held at times that extend through normal meal times, Council will provide suitable meals served on the premises.

In circumstances where less than four meals have been requested, the dinner may be cancelled and Councillors will be notified that meals will not be available on site and arrangement made for meals at a suitable nearby venue.

Administrative Services

Council will provide the following support facilities for Councillors. These facilities are provided for use by the Councillor in the conduct of their duties of office. All equipment provided and items purchased shall remain the property of the Council and shall be returned within one month of retirement or termination of office to the Manager, Customer Services and Councillor Support.

Stationery

Each Councillor will have access to an adequate supply of the following stationery:

- Plain A4;
- Business cards;
- Name Badge; and
- Diary, Planner or time manager.

Office Equipment

Upon request a filing cabinet, desk and chair will be available from Council store to establish a home office during the term as a Councillor. A Councillor can purchase additional furniture or equipment at their own cost.

Secretarial Assistance

Typing/secretarial assistance will be made available to Councillors for work directly related to the duties of the office. All such work should be co-ordinated through the Office of the Mayor.

Mail Inward

All mail received by Council is deemed to be Council business and will be opened by Central Records staff. The exception is mail marked 'private and confidential'. Private mail should not be sent via the Council address.

Mail Outward

Letterhead paper incorporating the Council logo must only be used for official Council correspondence. Care must be exercised to ensure that correspondence does not commit Council funds or convey a position contrary to that adopted by Council or represent that a personal view expressed is that of the Council. Councillors must not use Council letterhead when expressing personal views or for electioneering purposes pursuant to section 55D(4) of the Local Government Act.

Any questions regarding subject correspondence will be forwarded to the Manager Customer Service and Councillor Support for review.

In accordance with Council's EcoChallenge objectives Councillors are encouraged to use electronic forms of communication in preference to hard copy letters delivered via the mail system. Notwithstanding, Councillors may each leave up to 50 standard mail items or equivalent per month cumulative within each financial year for postage through Australia Post. Mail must be contained within Council envelopes and co-ordinated through the Manager Customer Service and Councillor Support.

Courier

Council will provide a courier service for delivery of Council agenda and other papers to Councillors. In addition, Council will, upon request, provide specific mail boxes at Councillors place of residence, or other location nominated by Councillors, for delivery of such documents.

Councillors' Lounge

Councillors' Lounge facilities are available at the Conference and Reception Centre for use by Councillors and their invited guests in the conduct of their duties of office.

Councillor's Work Area

A work area will be provided with office furniture, telephone, secure filing cabinet and computer equipment.

Building Access and Parking

Each Councillor will receive one electronic key allowing access to the Conference and Reception Centre.

Each Councillor is entitled to use parking space in the City Hall basement or in Police Lane opposite City Hall to enable attendance at meetings or other functions associated with the Councillor's civic role.

MANAGEMENT POLICY

Information Technology	Document No:	CPL560.1
	Approval Date:	28 May 2013
	Approved By:	Council
	Review Date:	November 2016
Responsible Officer: **Manager Information Services**	Version No:	03
Authorising Officer:	**Chief Executive Officer**	

REVOKED

1. PURPOSE

In line with increasing customer service expectations and the opportunity to improve the efficiency of service delivery Council has made a significant investment in its Information Technology (IT) systems.

The purpose of this policy is to communicate Council's position regarding the governance and use of this valuable resource and the efficient management of these assets.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all users of Council's information technology and systems, including all Council employees, contractors employed by Council and any organisation that processes information for Council, or has been granted access rights to Council's IT facilities.

3. REFERENCES

- Local Government Act 1989
- Council's IT Strategic Plan
- Council's IT Annual Business Plan
- IT Disaster Recovery Management Plan

4. DEFINITIONS

Information Technology (IT) is the technology used to collect, store, retrieve and manipulate information.
Information Systems (IS) are systems comprising IT components.

Information Assets are the data and information within the information systems encompassing transaction details, forms, templates, letters and documents, plans, electronic mail and other records of information.

Communication involves the transfer of information between two or more people, organisations etc using voice (telephone, radio) or data (fax, information).
Open System is the term used to describe an information system that uses products from a number of vendors rather than a single proprietary system. This provides considerable flexibility in the selection of components and allows the system to adapt to business and technological changes more easily.

5. COUNCIL POLICY

Council recognises that the provision and use of information in its various forms and the appropriate application of technology is an integral part of business and is needed to meet corporate objectives.

Council is committed to ensuring that the primary focus of information technology is to meet the needs of its customers in a manner that is effective, efficient and comparable with industry standards.

Council's implementation and management of Information Technology will provide an integrated and secure computing and communications environment with corporate control of data, expenditure, applications and system development.

Council's Computer Information System will provide:

- Corporate Information - Centralised management of corporate data to ensure data security and integrity, protect Council from misuse of data and allow business recovery in case of disaster;
- Integrated Computing - Co-ordination of computer systems to allow more cost effective solutions by sharing of hardware resources and providing standardisation and control of all development;
- Communication Infrastructure – Links for all computers via a network to allow easy interchange of data and information;
- Standardisation - Standard computing environment that will reduce training needs and allow 'portability' of software, hardware and employees;
- Benefits to the organisation by enhancing strategic planning and decision making, improving customer service, allowing ready access to key business information and increasing productivity;
- For the development and implementation of an Open System that will provide flexibility and portability in terms of system operating platforms, business software applications solutions, and software and hardware vendors.

The Information Services Department has a formal role in ensuring that the use of Council's IT assets supports Council's objectives and is consistent with its contractual and operational obligations, and to assist Council in protecting these assets from any unauthorised or undesired activity.

In fulfilling it's role to support Council's achievement of its vision and objectives the Information Services Department will:

- Continually update the IT Strategic Plan to ensure that it fulfils Council's changing needs and is consistent with current technologies and best practices in the information industry;
- Continually update the IT Disaster Recovery Plan to ensure that it provides for business continuity and is consistent with current best practices in the information industry;
- Assist business units in their selection and acquisition of appropriate IT solutions;
- Provide general assistance and support to each business unit's information system users;
- Assist business units in their business planning (where IT input is applicable and requested);
- Provide technical assistance in the deployment of IT solutions;
- Assist business units in securing their IT solutions and IT information.

REVOKED

6. QUALITY RECORDS

Quality Records shall be retained for at least the period shown below.

Record	Retention/Disposal Responsibility	Retention Period	Location

7. ATTACHMENTS

nil

REVOKED

11. MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION STATE COUNCIL

Portfolio:	**Governance - Cr Harwood, Acting Mayor**
Source	**Corporate Services - Administration & Governance**
General Manager:	**Jeff Wall**
Index Reference	**Subject: Municipal Association of Victoria**

Purpose

To approve Council's proposed Motion for the upcoming Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council Meeting.

Summary

- The MAV State Council Meeting will be held on 25 October 2013 and Councils have been requested to submit motions for consideration.
- Decisions made at the meeting constitute policy direction of the MAV for the immediate future.
- The State Council meeting primarily involves Council appointed representatives. Cr Richards will be attending on behalf of the City of Greater Geelong.

Cr Heagney moved, Cr Ansett seconded -

That Council approve the proposed Motion set out in Appendix 1 for submission to the MAV State Council Meeting on 25 October 2013.

Carried.

Background

At the MAV State Council Meeting, there is an opportunity for Councils to submit motions for consideration. If supported, the motions form part of the policy direction of the Association. The MAV requested input from Councils, with a closing date of 8 October 2013.

Discussion

Motions must be of state-wide significance to Local Government and must be accompanied by background information which provides the rationale behind the motion.

Environmental Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications in presenting motions to the MAV State Council. However, if some of the proposals achieve success, financial benefits may result.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

If supported by the MAV State Council, the issues raised by Council will have the backing of the MAV, the role of which includes lobbying other levels of government to promote the views of Local Government.

11. MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION STATE COUNCIL (CONT'D)

Alignment to City Plan

In accordance with Council's strategic objective 'How We Do Business', Council has taken up the opportunity to advocate for improvement to the administration of the Domestic Animal Act1994 via its proposed Motion.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in the matter.

Risk Assessment

There are no risks associated with submitting the proposed Motion to the MAV State Council.

Social Considerations

Nil.

Human Rights Charter

The preparation of this report included a consideration of all Human Rights, none of which apply.

Consultation and Communication

Council's proposed Motion will be canvassed with other Councils through State Council, and if endorsed, will be pursued with the State or Federal Government by the MAV.

MAV MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

FORM

Appendix 1

MAV State Council Meeting – 25 October 2013

To submit a motion for consideration by State Council on 25 October 2013, please complete this form and email to ***State Council***, ***not later than 8 October 2013.*** Please note, deadlines are strictly observed.

MOTION **[INSERT NAME OF MOTION]**
Submitted by: *City Of Greater Geelong*
MOTION: That the MAV calls on the State Government to undertake a comprehensive review of the Domestic Animal Act 1994. This review must be informed by professionals with expertise in the fields of animal management, local government, legal, animal welfare, veterinarian, pound managers etc, and give special regard to the restricted breed and dangerous dog provisions. This is to ensure that legislation is aligned with the expectations of the community and is able to be effectively administered by local governments.

Note: Motions must be submitted by **one council but may be supported by other councils. The council submitting the motion will need to supply written confirmation from any council(s) listed as supporting the motion. All relevant background information in support of the motion should be included in the space provided for the rationale and not in attachments. **The motion and rationale should be no longer than one page.***

MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

FORM

RATIONALE:

Local Governments across Victoria are being confronted by numerous difficulties in administering various provisions of the Domestic Animals Act 1994. This includes matters relating to dangerous dogs, restricted breeds, registrations, surrendered animals, the Department of Primary Industries levy, declaration processes, appeal provisions, nuisance provisions, increasing penalties and sanctions against irresponsible dog/cat owners and/or repeat offenders. Numerous ambiguities exist within the existing Act impacting a Council's ability to effectively administer the Act. A formal review is therefore warranted.

The experiences of some local governments to date, suggests that some sections of the Act present barriers to Officers in the conduct of their duties and prevents local governments from achieving effective outcomes.

In particular, the issue of restricted breed legislation that aims to control restricted breed dogs is in urgent need of review as evidenced by the number of council declarations that are being lodged, challenged and won by appellants at VCAT or the Supreme Court. The standards that support this section of the Act are quite subjective, not supported by associated guidelines and can be interpreted broadly by different assessors. This current situation is unsustainable for Councils.

Similarly, a degree of inconsistency appears to exist in the manner that dog attacks and dangerous dog declarations are conducted, largely due to the broad scope of the 'serious injury' definition. It is felt that additional measures could be included in these provisions whereby a greater number of considerations could be made by Councils to determine the severity of the attack, which would have sanctions applied that are commensurate with the offence.

A comprehensive review of the Act is justified given the level of community concern about dangerous, aggressive and restricted breed dogs, the number of attacks occurring and the difficulties that Council's Animal Management Officers are faced with in carrying out their duties to protect their communities. This Motion supports in a complimentary manner the previous Motion No 64 relating to VCAT Appeals and Dangerous Dog Declarations.

Note: Motions must be submitted by **one council but may be supported by other councils. The council submitting the motion will need to supply written confirmation from any council(s) listed as supporting the motion. All relevant background information in support of the motion should be included in the space provided for the rationale and not in attachments. **The motion and rationale should be no longer than one page.***

12. BIO SCIENCE MEETINGS USA

Portfolio: **Enterprise Geelong - Cr Harwood**
Source **Enterprise Geelong**
Executive Director: **Russell Walker**
Index Reference **Subject Biotech Industry**

Purpose

To seek Council approval for the Acting Mayor, Cr Harwood, to participate in a delegation to Missouri and Georgia, USA in November 2013.

Summary

- The BioGeelong network was established in 2005 with key stakeholders coming together to strengthen and support the growth of the bio-technology industry in Geelong.
- Since the establishment of BioGeelong, the City has developed a successful formula to promote and attract significant biotechnology industry investment. This is evidenced with the establishment of the Geelong Centre for Emerging Infectious Disease (GCEID).
- An invitation has been extended to the Acting Mayor Cr Bruce Harwood to form part of a delegation including CSIRO, Deakin University and AAHL personnel to attend a Bio Science meeting in Kansas, Missouri 14th – 16th November and Atlanta, Georgia USA 18th – 21st November 2013.
- The purpose of the meeting is to build relationships and knowledge in the bio science industry sector. This is a great opportunity for the City, as Atlanta is a world renowned region for bio science and advanced manufacturing.

Cr Heagney moved, Cr E Kontelj seconded -

That Council having regard to the Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy authorise the Acting Mayor, Cr Harwood to:

1) **attend Bio Science meetings, Kansas. USA;**
2) **attend Bio Science Economic Development meetings in Atlanta and Athens, Georgia, USA;**
3) **visit the Centre for Diseases Control, Atlanta, USA;**
4) **explore opportunities of a Sister City relationship with Athens-Clark County, Atlanta, Georgia. USA.**

Carried Unanimously.

Division Requested:

For: Crs Ansett, Ellis, Farrell, Fisher, Harwood, Heagney, Irvine, E Kontelj, S Kontelj

Against: Nil.

12. BIO SCIENCE MEETINGS USA (CONT'D)

Background

Previous delegations to North Carolina and attendance at the World Bio Science conference in Atlanta Georgia USA provided extensive information in relation to the importance of bio science developments within the world and the opportunities for the Geelong region.

A number of world leading bio science countries and industries met with and some of those relationships remain today.

The visit to Atlanta greatly assisted in strengthening Bio Geelong and Council's commitment to bio science as a future industry. This is reflected in the City's partnership with AAHL, CSIRO, Deakin University and the realisation of the Geelong Centre for Emerging Infectious Disease at Barwon Health.

The invitation to return to Atlanta Georgia in November 2013 again strengthens the City's commitment to the bio science industry and willingness to partner with other regions offering genuine commercial development opportunity.

The Mayor of Athens Clarke County, Georgia, Nancy Denson has also put forward a proposal to consider a sister city relationship with the City of Greater Geelong.

Discussion

The delegation is to consist of Professor Martyn Jeggo, Director, Geelong Centre for Emerging and Infectious Disease; Dr. Julie-Anne White, CEO, Bio Geelong and Dr John Lowenthal, CSIRO. The purpose of the meeting is to build relationships with a view to engaging in the transfer of personnel and knowledge in the bio science industry sector. This represents a great opportunity for the Geelong region as Atlanta is a world renowned region for bio science and advanced manufacturing.

This invitation to return to Atlanta Georgia in November 2013 again strengthens COGG's existing commitment to the bio science industry and willingness to partner with other regions offering genuine development opportunity.

There is an offer from Mayor Nancy Denson of Athens Clarke County, Georgia, to consider a sister city relationship with Athens Clarke County. The City Of Greater Geelong does not actually have any formal international "Sister City" relationships. The City does have a "Friendship City" relationship with Lianyungang, Jiangsu Province, China that commenced in 1991 with the previous Shire of Corio. There has been no tangible interaction since amalgamation.

The second "Friendship City" relationship is with Izumiotsu City, Osaka, Japan which commenced in 1990 as a result of the City having a strong manufacturing sector in woollen blankets. Recent interaction with the Osaka community is via the Great Ocean Road marathon which is completed in May each year. While there is no economic interaction, winners of the event travel to the respective countries to compete in the Marathon.

The offer of forming a genuine "Sister City" relationship with Athens Clarke County, Georgia, has considerable merit. There is genuine economic and social benefit to be gained as both cities are heavily engaged in the bio science sector and both looking to advance knowledge and opportunity to realise commercial growth. This relationship has great potential to build both cities profiles within the bio science industry and exploit opportunities that may be presented in various commercial fields.

13. BIO SCIENCE MEETINGS USA (CONT'D)

A copy of the proposed members of the delegation and who they will be meeting with in the USA along with expected outcomes can be found in Attachment 1.

Environmental Implications

There are no identified environmental implications arising from this activity.

Financial Implications

The cost of the Mayor attending the delegation would be approximately $5,300.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

Attendance is governed by the Councillor Expenses and Facilities policy.

Alignment to City Plan

This proposal aligns with City Plan's Growing the Economy.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer in the preparation of this report had a direct or indirect interest.

Risk Assessment

There are no identified risks arising from this report.

Social Considerations

This delegation is aimed at further promoting and enhancing Geelong's Biotechnology industry which will lead to enhanced social and economic outcomes for Geelong with potential for new job creation and sustainable economic growth.

Human Rights Charter

Biotechnology is intended to improve the quality of human life.

Consultation and Communication

Outcomes of the USA delegation will be the subject of a report to Council.

Attachment 1
Page 1

BACKGROUND ON THE PROPOSED DELEGATION PARTICIPANTS FROM GEELONG

Professor Martyn Jeggo
Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL)
(Former AAHL Director and GCEID Representative)

- AAHL is Australia's national animal health and diagnostic laboratory
- AAHL is a world-leading animal health centre with global networks
- World reference laboratory for diagnostics and at the forefront of research
- 300 staff and $65M p/a budget, highest level of bio-containment
- Increasing focus on zoonotic diseases and One Health

Cr Bruce Harwood
Acting Mayor, Greater Geelong City Council
Chairman, BioGeelong

Dr Julie-Anne White
CEO Bio Geelong.

- BioGeelong is an industry connection to focus and drive Geelong's Biotech future.
- Diseases in both wildlife and production animals (zoonotic diseases) are posing increasingly significant risks to human health, the economy and the environment
- The Geelong Centre for Emerging Infectious Diseases (GCEID) is a collaborative, multidisciplinary One Health initiative to provide a coordinating mechanism for research in emerging infectious diseases
- GCEID is a collaboration between AAHL, Deakin University and Barwon Health
- Collaborative Research Agreement between AAHL and Deakin University:
- School of Medicine
- School of Life and Environmental Sciences
- Sharing of facilities, co-supervision of students, joint research funding.

Mr John Lownethal
Theme Leader, One Health. Biosecurity Flagship. CSIRO AAHL

- CSIRO Flagships focus on National Research Priorities by forming large-scale multidisciplinary partnerships and world-class expertise to tackle the "big" issues
- Biosecurity is a National Priority and is defined as the management of risks to the economy, the environment, and the community, of pests and diseases entering, emerging, or spreading
- One Health will be a key focus and priority for the Biosecurity Flagship
- Zoonotic viruses pose a great threat:
- They are highly unpredictable in terms of host range and speed of spread
- 75 per cent of emerging viruses in humans are likely to come from animals and originate in South-East Asia
- Safeguarding against them requires global engagement and leadership
- International One Health Research Collaborations involving AAHL and the Biosecurity Flagship are in place:
- International One Health Institute – joint venture with Duke/NUS (Singapore)
- University of Georgia - Athens
- Kansas State University (Biosecurity Research Institute)
- Others under discussion (UK, China)

Attachment 1
Page 2

The Delegation will meet with the following in the USA:

The University of Georgia:

- Jane E. Gatewood, Ph.D.
- Director, International Partnerships
- Ralph A. Tripp, Ph.D.
- Professor and GRA Chair in Vaccine and Therapeutic Development
- Dept. Infectious Diseases, College of Veterinary Medicine

Comments from Ralph Tripp:

"We at the University of Georgia (UGA) have a Venture Labs program where new companies are formed from UGA-based research... Other Georgia universities have similar programs and entities. Much of this is driven by the Georgia Research Alliance (GRA).

"In my discussions with folks I know who are CEO/CSOs and several have expressed interest to know more about the padsite and availability in Geelong."

Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County, Georgia:

- Andy Herod
- District 8 Commissioner, (Mayor Pro Tempore 2011 and 2012
- Sean McMillan
- Director of Economic Development (UGA – Atlanta)

Athens-Clarke County:

- Nancy Denson, Mayor
- Pat Allen Director of Community Relations
- Ryan Moore Director of Athens Economic Development Department

Potential benefits and opportunities:

- A clearer understanding of links between UGA and Deakin University, the relationship of this with KSU and how student exchanges and other linked arrangements might work
    - Interactions with Medical School
    - Student placements
    - Research and training
- A clear of idea how UGA identifies and assist innovative science reach to the market place. The arrangements, the funding and the training that operates in this space
- Spin off companies - how USA companies might be "enticed" to relocate to Geelong and any contribution GCEID can make to this endeavor

- Georgia Research Alliance and UGA Bio-Business Centre
- Through the EID workshop, a better idea of the EIDs that concern the USA and the research being undertaken to tackle these risks
- Discuss possible exchange for EID fellowships/PhD students
- Gain some understanding of the One Health model of research in particular capabilities around rapid diagnostics
- Research training – post graduate
- Grant proposals
- Develop FCF Cluster grant proposal (One-Health: Deakin/UGA/Duke)
- Explore Fulbright etc
- High level contacts with the UGA - the first day meetings
- Meetings with the Biobusiness Centre Director
- Meetings with the Georgia Research Alliance
- Meetings with the companies that are interested in start up ventures in Geelong

Opportunities for potential Sister City relationship between Geelong and Athens (Georgia, Atlanta):

- Collaborative Research – zoonotic diseases
    - Avian Influenza, Swine Flu and Hendra virus
    - Technology transfer and training in biosecurity containment
    - Students – links between Deakin University and University of Georgia
- Consideration of 'Sister City' status
    - Similar demographics
        - Regional – semi-rural lifestyle, but progressive
        - Similar population size and "feel"
        - Agricultural focus
- Major University presence
    - New Medical Schools
    - Biotechnology / animal health focus
    - AAHL-University of Georgia Research agreement in place
    - Commitment to Biosecurity and One-Heath

13. GENERAL SIGNAGE (INCL. ELECTORAL ADVERTISING SIGNS) ON ROAD RESERVES AND COUNCIL LAND

Portfolio: **Governance – Cr Harwood**
Source: **Community Services / Health and Local Laws**
General Manager: **Jenny McMahon**
Index Reference: **Community Relations / Signage**

Purpose

To amend Council's existing Policy on Electoral Advertising signs on Road Reserves and Council Land to ensure consistency with the Road Management Act 2004

Summary

- Council's current General Signage Policy has been reviewed post the Federal Government election.
- Existing provisions under the General Local Law do not specifically encompass "electoral" advertising.
- To ensure Council is able to continue to protect community safety and amenity, it is recommended that Council implement Section 66 and 67 of the Road Safety Management Act 2004 for Council land and road reserves only, as Council is not responsible for enforcing activities on roads that are controlled by Vic Roads.

Cr Fisher moved, Cr E Kontelj seconded -

That Council amend and adopt the Electoral Advertisement Signs on Road Reserves and Council Land Policy, to be re-titled 'Placement of General Signage (Including Electoral Advertising Signs) on Road Reserves and Council Land Policy'.

Carried.

Background

Council's current controls relating to the placement of electoral advertising on road reserves and Council land rests under Council's General Local Law 2005.

The current controls have been reviewed following the recent Federal election campaign.

During past electoral events, Council officers have been able to gain voluntary compliance to issues regarding the placement of electoral advertising signs, particularly on Council land.

However, it is important that appropriate controls are in place in the event voluntary compliance is unable to be achieved.

Discussion

Whilst the existing provision under Council General Local Law covers general matters relating to the display of 'advertising signs', the display of electoral advertising signs falls outside the scope, definitions and intent of the General Local Law 2005.

13. GENERAL SIGNAGE (INCL. ELECTORAL ADVERTISING SIGNS) ON ROAD RESERVES AND COUNCIL LAND (CONT'D)

To ensure Council is able to continue to protect community safety and amenity it is recommended that Council implement Section 66 and 67 of the Road Safety Management Act 2004, as the most appropriate legislation to deal with such matters. The Road Safety Management Act 2004 which makes it an offence for ***" a person without the written consent of the relevant coordinating road authority to – place any structure, device or hoarding for the exhibition of an advertisement or place any advertisement for exhibition on or over a road, or, place any sign or bill on or over a road or on a pole , bus shelter, traffic sign, tree or other object or infrastructure on a road reserve.".***

In accordance with this Act, dual authority exists whereby Council and Vicroads are the nominated coordinating road authorities for those roads designated under Section 36 and 37 of the Act. Council is not responsible for processing applications or enforcing activities on roads that are controlled by Vicroads.

In assessing any application to display signage, including electoral signage, consideration needs to be given towards the objectives of the Act, that being community safety and protection to all users of roads and road reserves for which Council is responsible. The Road Management Act includes footpaths, service roads, pathways and other ancillary areas such as rest stops, reserves, look outs, emergency stopping areas etc

Furthermore the Road Management Act 2004 gives the authorised officer the power to instruct the person to remove any structure, devise, hoarding, advertisement, sign or bill, and should the person fail to do so the Act goes on to empower the authorised officer to either, remove and sell the structure, devise, hoarding, advertisement, sign or bill and use the proceeds of the sale to offset the cost of any expenses in connection to the removal or obliterate the structure, devise, hoarding, advertisement, sign or bill.

On the spot penalties for both offences are 3 penalty units ($344.00). The maximum penalty in the event of the matter proceeding to the Magistrates Court is 10 penalty units ($1,444.00) apply to both offences.

In the case of signs on Councils footpaths, both the Road Management Act and Councils General Local Law apply as 'roads' are defined under the Road Management Act to include footpaths but not vice versa. However the scope and intent of the signage provisions of the General Local Law (supported by the Footpath Trading and Activity Policy) are limited to enabling businesses to utilise a portion of council land immediately in front of the business to promote and attract customers into that business premises. It is not aimed at attracting gatherings, congregations that are not business related that may impede, obstruct or limit the pedestrian thoroughfare and/or create other distractions/disturbances.

It is recommended that within its policy, Council place particular emphasis on considerations that protect the safety and local amenity of the community. As a result, a permit or consent under the Road Management Act would not be issued save and except for matters that provide and promote for public safety and well being. The placement of any sign on Council land or roads is assessed with respect to detrimental impact against one or more of the following;

- Distract drivers and/or pedestrians;
- Impact on traffic flow or traffic management of any particular area;
- Obstruct the line of sight of either drivers or pedestrians;

13. GENERAL SIGNAGE (INCL. ELECTORAL ADVERTISING SIGNS) ON ROAD RESERVES AND COUNCIL LAND (CONT'D)

- Impacting on the intended use of public spaces (i.e. emergency lanes, highways, clearways etc);
- Create a disturbance to nearby businesses;
- Incite or antagonise other persons by virtue of the message displayed;
- Attract people to congregate or gather so as to create a disturbance and/or hinder a business to conduct their operations in a normal unimpeded manner; or
- Activities that fall outside the scope and intent of the General Local relating to signs on footpaths (i.e. to advertise a business, goods, services, an event or competition with the intent of attracting customers into a business)

Applications that fail to satisfy Council' authorised officers in regards to the abovementioned criteria will not be approved.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications associated with the recommendations and implementations of this report

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations and implementation of this report.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The content of this report and subsequent recommendation ensures that the appropriate legislation is used to regulate such activities as supported by Councils Electoral Advertising Signs on Road Reserves and Council Land Policy.

Alignment to City Plan

The content of this report and recommendation is consistent in its alignment with the City Plan.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

There are no conflicts of interest in the preparation of this report and recommendations.

Risk Assessment

In adopting this report and its recommendations enables Council to mitigate potential risks in regards to public safety, in particular where the placement advertising signs on roads creates a sighting and visual; distraction to motorists and pedestrians.

Social Considerations

It is important that Council maintains local amenity and ensures the safety of the local community.

13. GENERAL SIGNAGE (INCL. ELECTORAL ADVERTISING SIGNS) ON ROAD RESERVES AND COUNCIL LAND (CONT'D)

Human Rights Charter

Consideration has been given in regards to the human rights charter and in particular the rights of a person to make application under the Road Management Act 2005 to place any structure, device or hoarding for the exhibition of an advertisement or place any advertisement for exhibition on or over a road, or, place any sign or bill on or over a road or on a pole, bus shelter, traffic sign, tree or other object or infrastructure on a road reserve. In the context of the Road Management Act, Council's Policy provides circumstances where a permit or consent may or may not be granted subject to a range of safety and amenity criteria.

Consultation and Communication

The primary stakeholders effected by this report are candidates who as part of their campaign for election to Local, State or Federal politics. Upon this report and the recommendations being adopted, the current pre election campaign literature will be updated to reflect the requirements of the Road Management Act.

Appendix 1

COUNCIL POLICY

General Signage (Including Electoral Advertising Signs) On Council Road Reserves and Land	Document No:	CPL45.8
	Approval Date:	
	Approved By:	Council
	Review Date:	
Responsible Officer: **General Manager Community Services**	Expiry Date:	N/A
	Version No	01
Authorising Officer:		**Chief Executive Officer**

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction on the assessment and determination of application to place general signage (including electoral advertising signs) on any Council land, municipal building or road in order to ensure consistent processing of such application and the protection of community safety and amenity including by avoiding excessive sign clutter.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all signage on any Council land and roads but does not include those signs covered within the scope of the General Local Law relating to the placement of a sign on a Council footpath that advertises and promotes a business, goods, services, an event or a competition.

3. REFERENCES

Road Management Act 2005

General Local Law 2005

4. DEFINITIONS

'Ancillary area' means an area designated as an ancillary area by the coordinating road authority under Section 18; Example - Any area which is a "park and ride" car park, rest stop or scenic lookout could be designated as an ancillary area.

"Council land" means all land vested in or under the control of Council, including a reserve, watercourse, jetty, reservation and the like, but excludes a road, except that part of the road which is a nature strip or footpath.

"Reserve" means any land which is owned, occupied or managed or controlled by Council and dedicated or used for outdoor cultural, environmental, sporting or recreational purposes.

"Road" has the meaning ascribed to it by Section 3 of the Local Government Act which includes;

(a) a street; and
(b) a right of way; and
(c) any land reserved or proclaimed as a street or road under the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 or the Land Act 1958; and
(d) a public road under the Road Management Act 2004; and
(e) a passage; and

(f) a cul de sac; and
(g) a by-pass; and
(h) a bridge or ford; and
(i) a footpath, bicycle path or nature strip; and
(j) any culvert or kerbing or other land or works forming part of the road;

"Road" has the meaning ascribed to it by Section 3 of the Road Management Act 2005 which includes ;

(a) any public highway;
(b) any ancillary area;
(c) any land declared to be a road under section 11 or forming part of a public highway or ancillary area;

5. COUNCIL POLICY

Council places particular emphasis on considerations that protect the safety of the community in assessing and determining applications for the placement of signs on Council roads and land.

Council will administer the relevant provisions of the General Local Law 2005 to manage and control signage located on footpaths that advertise or promote businesses, goods, services, an event or a competition.

For all other signage not covered by the scope of the General Local Law 2005, Council will manage and control signage consents on any roads under its control as outlined under the Road Management Act 2005. Generally, Council would not grant consents save when the sign detracts from public safety and well being. The placement of any sign on a road where Council is the responsible road authority is assessed with respect to any potential detrimental impact on, or propensity to create one or more of the following;

- Distract drivers and/or pedestrians;
- Impact on traffic flow or traffic management of any particular area;
- Obstruct the line of sight of either drivers or pedestrians;
- Impacting on the intended use of public spaces (i.e. emergency lanes, highways, clearways etc);
- Create a disturbance to nearby businesses;
- Incite or antagonise other persons by virtue of the message displayed;
- Attract people to congregate or gather so as to create a disturbance and/or hinder a business to conduct their operations in a normal unimpeded manner; or
- Activities that fall outside the scope and intent of the General Local relating to signs on footpaths (i.e. to advertise a business, goods, services, an event or competition with the intent of attracting customers into a business)

Applications that fail to satisfy Council's authorised officers in regards to the abovementioned criteria will not be approved.

Council will also consider the abovementioned criteria when considering whether to grant or refuse any application or consent to place signage on Council land or reserves, as defined by the General Local Law 2005 and includes footpaths and nature strips where signs are not consistent with advertising or promoting a business, goods, services, an event or a competition.

Compliance with this Policy will be monitored and enforced in accordance with Council's operating guidelines.

6. QUALITY RECORDS

Quality Records shall be retained for at least the period shown below.

Record	Retention/Disposal Responsibility	Retention Period	Location
Correspondence in relation to election signage	class 8.2.7 of the Retention and Disposal Authority for Records of Local Government Functions (PROS 09/05),	4 years after the election	Document Management Services

14. AMENDMENT C247 AND PLANNING PERMIT 366/2011: 12-20 FAIRBAIRN DRIVE, CORIO – ADOPTION

Portfolio:	**Planning – Cr Macdonald**
Source	**Economic Development, Planning and Tourism – Strategic Implementation**
General Manager:	**Peter Bettess**
Index Reference	**Application: Amendment C247 & PP366/2011** **Subject: Council Reports 2013**

Purpose

This report responds to submissions to Amendment C247 and recommends adoption of the Amendment.

Summary

- Amendment C247 proposes to rezone 0.8 hectares of vacant residential land adjacent to the Corio ALDI to the Commercial 1 Zone.
- The rezoning is accompanied by a planning permit (PP366/2011) for shops, associated business identification signage and partial reduction of car parking and loading requirements.
- The Amendment will also require changes to the Retail Activity Centre Hierarchy Map and Table at Clause 21.07-8 of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, and changes to Clause 52.28-3 to prohibit the use of gaming machines.
- The Minister for Planning authorised the Amendment on 13 June 2013 and exhibition occurred from 18 July 2013 to 19 August 2013.
- Three submissions were received. VicRoads submitted that it does not object to the rezoning and a local resident endorsed the development, believing it will enhance the area.
- A submission was also received from Earth Resources Regulation Victoria drawing attention to the proximity of the site to a high-pressure gas pipeline. There are concerns that the site could be used for as-of-right 'sensitive' uses such as a child care centre, which is incompatible with Australian Standard 2885.
- The proponent, in consultation with Council and Earth Resources Regulation Victoria, has agreed to enter into a Section 173 Agreement to ensure the regulator is notified prior to any 'sensitive' uses commencing on the land. The Agreement will be registered on title as part of this Amendment.
- The Amendment is consistent with the Corio Norlane Structure Plan and planning policy, and will improve the retail and service offer available to residents in Rosewall and Corio, as well as providing investment and job opportunities.
- The Amendment can now be adopted with no need to refer the Amendment to an Independent Planning Panel.

14. AMENDMENT C247 AND PLANNING PERMIT 366/2011: 12-20 FAIRBAIRN DRIVE, CORIO – ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Cr Fisher moved, Cr Ansett seconded -

That Council:

1) **adopts Amendment C247 in the form as outlined in Appendix 3 of this report;**

2) **submits the adopted Amendment with the prescribed information to the Minister for Planning requesting approval;**

3) **recommend to the Minister that a Permit be granted pursuant to Section 96G of the *Planning and Environment Act* 1987 (Planning Permit No. 366/2011 is contained in Appendix 4); and**

4) **sign and seal a Section 173 Agreement accompanying the Amendment to ensure notification to the Minister administering the *Pipelines Act 2005* for any proposed 'sensitive' uses on the site.**

Carried.

Background

Amendment C247 and Planning Permit 366/2011 has been prepared by the Greater Geelong City Council which is the planning authority for this Amendment. The Amendment was initiated by Spiire Australia on behalf of Ceremari Pty Ltd.

The 0.8 hectare site (12-20 Fairbairn Drive, Corio) is vacant residential land mainly used as an informal pedestrian access to the Corio ALDI store by nearby residents. An aerial map of the area is shown in **Appendix 1**.

The Planning Scheme Amendment proposes to rezone the land from the Residential 1 Zone to the Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z). Since the time of exhibition of the Amendment, the Minister for Planning has implemented new zones in the Victoria Planning Provisions. As a consequence, the C1Z has replaced the former Business 1 Zone.

The rezoning necessitates an amendment to the Retail Centre Hierarchy Map and Table at Clause 21.07-8 of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme to show a new Rosewall Neighbourhood Activity Centre. Amendment will also be made to Clause 52.28-3 to prohibit the installation or use of gaming machines on the site.

The planning permit will allow the construction of the Neighbourhood Shopping Centre generally in accordance with the submitted plans, as well as partial dispensation from car parking and loading requirements, and associated signage. The exhibited development plan is shown in **Appendix 2**.

The Shopping Centre will contain 3,267 sq m gross floor area, comprising a major tenant of 1,020 sq m of leasable floor area and 11 smaller tenancies totalling 1,950 sq m leasable floor area. Other features of the single storey buildings include;

- 94 on-site car parking spaces, including 4 disabled spaces and 12 bicycle parks;
- Landscaping as part of the development using Water Sensitive Urban Design and stormwater drainage principles;
- Vehicle access and exit via a new crossover on Broderick Road and a secondary access and exit via a new crossover on Fairbairn Drive, as well as road improvements to Broderick Road, Fairbairn Drive and Pearce Street; and
- Perimeter footpath and a formal pedestrian link to the ALDI Store.

14. AMENDMENT C247 AND PLANNING PERMIT 366/2011: 12-20 FAIRBAIRN DRIVE, CORIO – ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Council resolved to exhibit the Amendment at its 13 November 2012 meeting. The report that accompanied the Council resolution discussed the strategic basis for the rezoning and concluded that there is sufficient planning policy support.

The report identified the Corio Norlane Structure Plan as an adopted Council policy that supports rezoning the land for commercial use. The Structure Plan is currently with the Minister for Planning awaiting implementation into the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme via a new local strategy in the Municipal Strategic Statement. In the meantime, the Planning Panel that heard submissions to Amendment C268 for a Masters Store on Bacchus Marsh Road in Corio has referred to the Structure Plan as "a seriously entertained document" requiring consideration.

Discussion

Authorisation (A02443) for this Amendment was received from the Minister for Planning on 13 June 2013. Exhibition of Amendment C247 and Planning Permit 366/2011 took place between 18 July 2013 and 19 August 2013 with notices in local newspapers and the Government Gazette. Notice of the Amendment was sent to relevant Ministers under the *Planning and Environment Act* 1987 and to surrounding residents and nearby commercial property owners.

It is noted that the Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z) has replaced the Business 1 Zone in the Victoria Planning Provisions following exhibition of the Amendment. The purpose of the C1Z includes creating vibrant mixed use commercial centres for retail, office, business, entertainment and community uses.

Submissions were received from VicRoads and Earth Resources Regulation Victoria (ERRV). Because the submissions either did not object to the Amendment, or have been mutually resolved, the Amendment does not need to be heard by an Independent Planning Panel.

One submission was received from a local Rosewall resident who supported the proposal, saying it will enhance the whole area.

Council is now able to adopt the Amendment and forward it to the Minister for Planning seeking approval. The Amendment to be adopted is in **Appendix 3**.

The Planning Permit recommended to be issued is in **Appendix 4**.

The VicRoads and ERRV submissions are addressed as follows:-

VicRoads

VicRoads did not object however said Council should consider including within the 'draft' planning permit conditions, the provision of an analysis of the Princes Highway – Broderick Road intersection, to ensure the intersection will not be adversely affected by the proposed changes in land use.

Following further discussions between Council, Spiire and VicRoads, the roads authority is now satisfied that the proposed development will have no adverse effects on the signalised intersection. No additional permit conditions are required.

Earth Resources Regulation Victoria (ERRV)

ERRV of the Department of State Development, Business and Innovation (DSDBI) has submitted that the site is located approximately 275 metres from a high-pressure gas pipeline (PL181). ERRV state that "in consultation with Energy Safe Victoria it is advised that Sensitive uses are sited in excess of 347m from the pipeline".

14. AMENDMENT C247 AND PLANNING PERMIT 366/2011: 12-20 FAIRBAIRN DRIVE, CORIO – ADOPTION (CONT'D)

The submission however does not say that the Amendment land cannot be developed as planned.

The regulator has concerns regarding some of the more 'sensitive' uses that would be permitted under the proposed Commercial 1 Zone. In response, the proponent sought legal advice from Harwood Andrews. Harwood Andrews has advised that: *"the Department's concerns regarding sensitive 'as of right' uses under the Commercial 1 Zone can be readily addressed through a voluntary section 173 agreement registered on the land subject to the Amendment".*

This advice was passed on to ERRV, who provided a supplementary submission, dated 9 September 2013. Through consultation with Energy Safe Victoria, ERRV confirm that the proposed Section 173 Agreement would provide an appropriate mechanism to ensure 'sensitive' uses are assessed by DSDBI.

The supplementary submission then clarified the 'as of right' uses that DSDBI consider as 'sensitive' in the Commercial 1 Zone. These are: Child care centre; Education centre; and Accommodation (specifically, Group accommodation, Residential village, Retirement village and an Aged care facility). The submission also directs that the appropriate reference for notification is the Minister administering the Pipelines Act 2005.

Council officers support this approach and recommend that Council sign and seal a Section 173 Agreement for registration on title as part of this Amendment.

Environmental Implications

The site is currently vacant and in a state of disrepair. There is no native vegetation present. The development will significantly improve the functionality of the site, better manage and treat stormwater runoff and establish a landscaped setting.

Financial Implications

The development will not result in any financial implications for Council, other than the usual resources required to process the amendment and planning permit.

Costs associated with preparing and registering the proposed Section 173 Agreement will be paid by the proponent.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The Amendment is considered to be consistent with Clause 11.02-2 *Activity centre planning* and Clause 17.01.1 *Business* of the State Planning Policy Framework by making provision for a conveniently located neighbourhood activity centre to serve the needs of Geelong northern suburb residents.

The rezoning and development, together with the established ALDI Store, will entrench the site as a genuine neighbourhood centre consistent with the Geelong Retail Strategy.

Clause 22.03 of the Local Planning Policy Framework outlines a set of criteria against which applications for new retail floor space must be assessed, including out-of-centre proposals. It is considered that the proposal responds appropriately to this criteria, in that it is consistent with the urban context of the area, will not significantly impact on local amenity and will result in a net community benefit.

14. AMENDMENT C247 AND PLANNING PERMIT 366/2011: 12-20 FAIRBAIRN DRIVE, CORIO – ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Alignment to City Plan

The Amendment supports the Growing our Economy strategic direction of City Plan.

The development will provide investment and jobs during the construction phase, and opportunities for new enterprises and services to establish at the centre when completed.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No Council officer involved in the report has any direct or indirect interest, in accordance with section 80(C) of the local Government Act.

Risk Assessment

There are no notable risks associated with implementing the recommendations contained in this report.

Social Considerations

The Amendment will result in an overall net community benefit by improving the retail and service offer to local residents, and consolidating the new outlets with the established ALDI Store to create a true neighbourhood activity centre.

The development will significantly improve the visual amenity of the immediate area and provide sort after investment and job opportunities for a community in need of urban renewal.

Human Rights Charter

The Amendment will not impact on any basic rights, freedoms and responsibilities as set out in the Charter. Planning legislation ensures an open community consultation process occurs, enabling people to freely express their views and if necessary obtain a fair hearing before an Independent Panel.

Consultation and Communication

The Amendment was exhibited in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act* 1987, including a notice in City News, letters to surrounding land owners and residents, and a hard copy of the Amendment documents at the Customer Service Centre in Corio Village Shopping Centre.

The applicant, landowner and submitters have been engaged by Council to resolve matters arising from the exhibition of the Amendment. The concerns of Earth Resources Regulation Victoria were formally addressed by the preparation of a Section 173 Agreement.

Appendix 1 - Aerial Map



Appendix 2 - Exhibited Development Plan



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Appendix 3 – Amendment to be adopted

Planning and Environment Act 1987

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

AMENDMENT C247

INSTRUCTION SHEET

The planning authority for this amendment is the Greater Geelong City Council.

The Greater Geelong Planning Scheme is amended as follows:

Planning Scheme Maps

The Planning Scheme Maps are amended by a total of 1 attached map sheet.

Zoning Maps

11. Replace Planning Scheme Map No. 26 in the form of the 1 attached map marked "Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, Amendment C247".

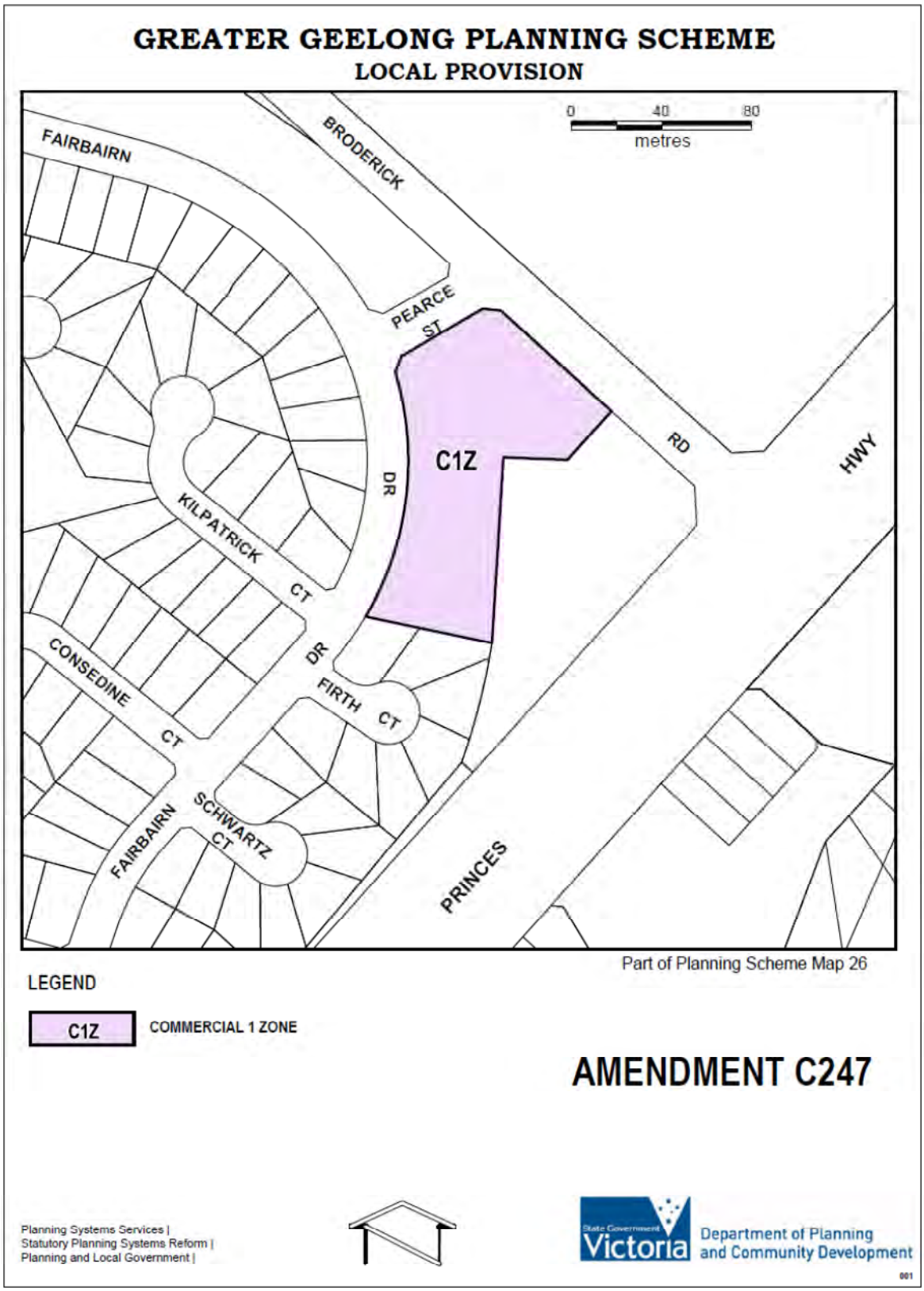
Planning Scheme Ordinance

The Planning Scheme Ordinance is amended as follows:

12. In Local Planning Policy Framework – replace Clause 21.07 with a new Clause 21.07 in the form of the attached document.

13. In Particular Provisions – Clause 52.28, replace Schedule 52.28-3 with a new Schedule 52.28-3 in the form of the attached document.

End of document


GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME
LOCAL PROVISION
0
40
80
metres
FAIRBAIRN
BRODERICK
PEARCE ST
C1Z
DR
RD
HWY
KILPATRICK CT
CONSEDINE CT
DR
FIRTH CT
FAIRBAIRN
SCHWARTZ CT
PRINCES
Part of Planning Scheme Map 26
LEGEND
C1Z
COMMERCIAL 1 ZONE
AMENDMENT C247
Planning Systems Services |
Statutory Planning Systems Reform |
Planning and Local Government |
State Government Victoria
Department of Planning and Community Development
001

21.07 Economic development and employment

21.07-1 Key issues and influences

Economic Role and Function

Geelong is the largest regional city in Victoria and the primary service and employment hub for the G21 Geelong Region Alliance.

The City's infrastructure base includes Avalon Airport, the Geelong Port and major road and rail connections to Metropolitan Melbourne and Victoria's western regions.

The provision of high quality living, working and recreational environments is critical to attracting and retaining highly skilled people and the businesses in which they work.

Industry

There is a need to provide support for ongoing employment and economic development in the Geelong region.

There is a need to provide a diverse range of appropriately located, well serviced industrial land which meets the needs of a range of industry types and minimises land use conflicts.

Traditional manufacturing industries will continue to be key economic and employment drivers in the municipality, however at the same time the City's economy will need to focus on emerging industry sectors that underpin economic development, prosperity and employment growth in the new economy.

The changing nature of industrial development means that most industrial development now requires high amenity land that offers a high quality environment for workers and visitors.

There is a need to support industry through the maintenance and improvement of infrastructure including the road, rail, Avalon Airport, deep water port and associated facilities.

The extractive industry operations in the municipality make a vital contribution to the building and construction industries and are of major economic importance to the Geelong region.

Retail

The City of Greater Geelong Retail Activity Centre Hierarchy has been established to articulate the role and function fulfilled by centres of different sizes.

The retail hierarchy supports the primacy of Central Geelong as the focus of retail activity in the region.

There is a need to ensure a mix of commercial uses in activity centres.

The retail hierarchy will be enhanced through high quality urban design and improved pedestrian and public transport accessibility.

There is increasing development pressure for sites located away from activity centres, particularly for bulky goods and other large format retail development types that seek large sites with the capacity for significant car parking.

Greater Geelong exhibits a number of factors that contribute to an increased vulnerability to problem gambling which requires sensitive consideration of their location.

Rural

Agricultural production is modest, but locally important and economically significant for landowners.

There is potential for growth in agricultural production, particularly aquaculture.

Farming activity and the rural landscape are very significant elements to the identity, image and liveability of the City of Greater Geelong.

Farming and rural landscapes form non urban breaks and are a critical element to the settlement strategy, tourism function and lifestyle of the region.

Farming and agriculture are important and valued activities in the northern area of the municipality, particularly in the Anakie area.

Rural land in a number of urban fringe areas accommodates a range of uses and developments which require buffers from residential areas.

The City's rural areas contain important environmental assets.

Tourism

Tourism is a key part of the economy of the Geelong region. The region includes major tourism destinations such as the Bellarine Peninsula and the coast.

Tourism activities in rural and coastal areas must be carefully managed so as not to compromise the natural environment and/or agricultural activities.

21.07-2 Industry

Objectives

- To provide an adequate supply of appropriately located industrial land that meets the needs of different industries.
- To direct different types of industrial development to appropriate locations.
- To facilitate well designed and serviced industrial development that provides a high level of amenity for workers and visitors.
- To minimise land use conflicts.

Strategies

- Focus new industrial development around major transport routes and infrastructure assets.
- Protect existing and designated future industrial areas from encroachment by incompatible land uses.
- Support the development of a technology/business park in the South Western Armstrong Creek Employment Area.
- Encourage regional and national scale industrial businesses to locate in the southern part of the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct, and in appropriate locations in the future South Western Armstrong Creek Employment Area.
- Direct industries which require substantial buffer zones from sensitive land uses to the core of the Industrial 2 Zone in the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct.
- Ensure all industrial development incorporates best practice water sensitive urban design and waste management practices.
- Ensure all industrial development is appropriately serviced by road, drainage, water, sewerage and telecommunications infrastructure.
- Ensure all industrial development provides high quality urban design and landscaping.
- Ensure new development in the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct is configured to minimise the individual and societal risk levels attached to the Shell LPG Storage Facility.
- Protect identified stone resources for future extraction and potential extraction industry operations from the encroachment of incompatible land uses.
- Direct materials recycling industries to locations that minimise land use conflicts and impacts on the amenity of surrounding areas.
- Support the establishment of infrastructure that reduces costs for business and industry.
- Support an integrated Geelong Transport Strategy, ensuring that industrial areas are well connected to each other and the rail/freeway network.
- Provide sufficient industrial land to meet a range of industrial needs in Geelong, including small to medium sized industry.

- Develop the North East Industrial Precinct as a vibrant, new generation, master planned industry and business park that will attract a wide range of users and respond to the changing needs of industry sectors over time, as a key business address in the region and Victoria.

21.07-3 Retail

Objectives

- To facilitate the development of vibrant and viable retail activity centres in accordance with the Geelong Retail Activity Centre Hierarchy included at Clause 21.07-8.
- To ensure all major retail developments, and out of centre developments, provide a clear net community benefit.
- To avoid the risk of exacerbating problem gambling.

Strategies

- Ensure that new retail development is directed to activity centres and is consistent with the role and function described in the Retail Activity Centre Hierarchy included at Clause 21.07-8.
- Ensure Central Geelong remains the primary retail activity centre in the G21 Region and the focus of retail activity in the G21 region.
- Direct restricted retail (bulky goods) use and development to Central Geelong, the nominated homemaker precinct at Waurn Ponds, the Corio homemaker precinct subject to appropriate re-zoning and other homemaker precincts and activity centres as detailed in Clause 21.07-8.
- Discourage restricted retail (bulky goods) development in industrial areas.
- Encourage a mix of retail, office, cafes, entertainment, housing, education and community facilities to locate within activity centres.
- Support accommodation uses above ground level floor space in activity centres subject to appropriate provision of parking and access requirements.
- Require that applications for new centres establish the retail need for such use and development and demonstrate that there are no adverse impacts on the operation of the retail activity centres hierarchy.
- Direct the location of gaming machines to venues that makes gaming accessible but not convenient as detailed in Clause 22.57.

21.07-4 Economic growth sectors

Objective

- To facilitate development in the City's strategic economic growth sectors.

Strategies

- Support industry development in the following strategic growth sectors:
  - Knowledge, Innovation and Research.
  - Advanced Manufacturing.
  - Health.
  - Tourism.
  - Small, Micro and Home Based Business.
  - Food and Horticulture.
- Support the development of the Geelong Technology Precinct located at the Deakin University Waurn Ponds campus, particularly biotechnology industry.
- Support the development of seafood and aquaculture industries in appropriate locations, particularly in North Geelong, Portarlington and Avalon.

- Support the development of health and medical industries, particularly in the Medical Health Cluster in central Geelong (as identified on the Central Geelong Structure Plan Map at Clause 21.09), and around the Deakin University campus at Waurn Ponds.
- Support the development of food, horticulture and viticulture industries in appropriate locations, particularly on the Bellarine Peninsula.
- Support the development of aerospace industries within the confines of the Avalon Airport site.

21.07-5 Rural Areas

Objectives

- To support the use of the northern, western and southern rural areas for productive agriculture.
- To ensure that rural areas provide an attractive setting through the preservation of a farmed rural landscape.
- To protect and enhance the Bellarine Peninsula as a productive rural area with highly significant landscapes based on farming and environmental features.

Strategies

- Maintain rural land in large and productive parcels, in accordance with the schedules to the farming zones.
- Minimise non farming land uses in rural areas.
- Ensure that any non farming land uses will not compromise farming activity in the area.
- Ensure development in rural areas respects the farmed landscape character, particularly significant landscapes identified through the Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study.
- Ensure that new dwellings do not compromise the productive potential of land and are associated with the productive agricultural use of the land.
- Encourage agricultural development with export potential and specifically encourage aquaculture and horticulture activities in the rural areas around Avalon Airport.

21.07-6 Tourism in rural areas

Objectives

- To support tourism development in rural areas that respects the open farmed landscape of the area, and contributes to the economy.

Strategies

- Within the Bellarine Peninsula rural areas, support appropriately scaled, high quality, landscape responsive tourism uses that are subservient and complimentary to their rural landscape and environmental setting and are associated with agricultural activity on the land.
- In all other rural areas support tourism uses and developments in the Farming Zone that are associated with agricultural activity on the land.
- Support a limited number of larger scale rural based tourism development within rural areas that require rezoning.
- Direct major accommodation facilities to urban areas.

21.07-7 Implementation

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These strategies will be implemented by:

Using policy and the exercise of discretion

Where appropriate, referring applications for the development of land in the Heales Road Industrial Estate to Worksafe.

Using the Discretionary Uses in Residential Areas Policy at Clause 22.01.

Using the Sexually Explicit Adult Entertainment Venues, Adult Sex Bookshops and Adult Cinemas Policy at Clause 22.02.

Using the Assessment Criteria for Retail Planning Applications Policy at Clause 22.03.

Using the Agriculture, Rural Dwellings and Subdivision Policy at Clause 22.05.

Using the Tourism Development in Rural Areas Policy at Clause 22.06.

Using the Racing Dog Keeping and Training Policy at Clause 22.07.

Using the Materials Recycling Policy at Clause 22.08.

Using the Gaming Policy at Clause 22.57.

Applying zones and overlays

Applying the Rural Activity Zone to major tourism proposals in accordance with Clause 22.06 – Tourism Development in Rural Areas.

Applying Schedule 1 to the Urban Growth Zone to the Armstrong Creek North East Industrial Precinct area in accordance with the North East Industrial Precinct, Precinct Structure Plan, May 2010.

Applying Schedule 1 to the Development Contributions Plan Overlay to the Armstrong Creek North East Industrial Precinct area in accordance with the North East Industrial Precinct, Precinct Structure Plan, May 2010.

Further work

Support the development of a masterplan for the Avalon Airport site.

Implement Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study (Department of Sustainability and Environment, 2006).

As a priority, commence an investigation into the future residential and industrial land use needs for Geelong, as a basis for future growth area planning that would include:

- assessment of the environmental, resource, landscape, development pattern, access, servicing, land use, economic and social constraints and opportunities associated with possible growth areas around Geelong,
- identification of a preferred growth area or areas, and
- preparation of detailed growth area plans.

References

Heales Road Industrial Estate Framework Plan, MacroPlan Australia and the City of Greater Geelong, 2007.

Armstrong Creek Urban Growth Plan, City of Greater Geelong, 2006.

City of Greater Geelong Retail Strategy, Essential Economics and Hansen Partnership, 2006.

City of Greater Geelong Economic Development Strategy, City of Greater Geelong, 2005.

Geelong Seafood Industry Strategy, City of Greater Geelong, 2003.

City of Greater Geelong Rural Land Use Strategy, City of Greater Geelong, 2007.

Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study, Department of Sustainability and Environment, 2006.

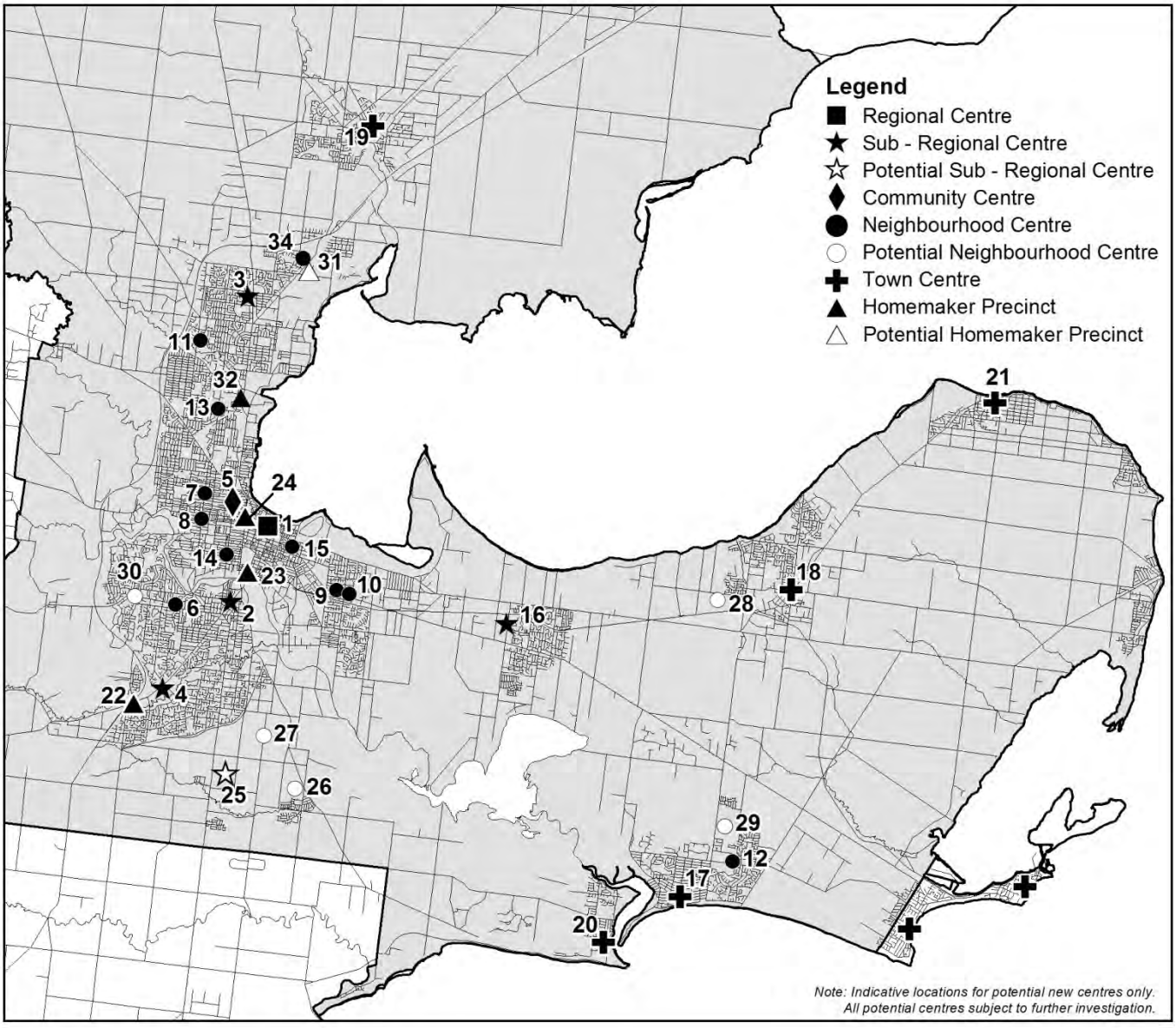
North East Industrial Precinct, Precinct Structure Plan, May 2010.

North East Industrial Precinct, Development Contributions Plan, May 2010

Greater Geelong Gaming Policy Framework, City of Greater Geelong, 2007.

21.07-8 City of Greater Geelong Retail Activity Centre Hierarchy

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City of Greater Geelong Retail Activity Centre Hierarchy		
Level in Hierarchy	**Identified Centres**	**Indicative floorspace and example key tenants**
Regional Centre	Central Geelong (1)	More than 100,000 sqm Department store, discount store(s), mini major(s), supermarkets(s) and extensive range of specialties
Sub-regional Centres	Belmont (2), Corio Village (3), Waurn Ponds (4) Leopold (16)	15,000 sqm to 35,000 sqm Discount department store(s), mini major(s) supermarket(s) and specialties
Community Centre	Pakington Street (Geelong West) (5)	10,000 sqm to 25,000sqm Supermarket(s), mini major(s) and specialties
Neighbourhood Centres	Highton (6), Shannon Avenue (Geelong West) (7), Shannon Avenue (Newtown) (8), Bellarine Village (9), Newcomb Central (10), Bell Post (11), Ocean Grove marketplace (12), Separation Street (13), Pakington Street (Newtown) (14), Geelong East (15), Rosewall (34)	2,500 sqm to 25,000 sqm Supermarket (small or full line), primarily convenience oriented specialties
Town Centres	Ocean Grove (Town Centre) (17), Drysdale (18), Lara (19), Barwon Heads (20), Portarlington (21)	1,500 sqm to 15,000 sqm Supermarket, mini major(s), specialties
Homemaker Precincts	Waurn Ponds (22), Moorabool/Fyans (23), Geelong West (24), North Geelong (32)	5,000 sqm to 50,000 sqm Large restricted retail type tenants
Potential Subregional Centres	Armstrong Creek (25)	
Potential Neighbourhood Centres	Armstrong Creek East (26), Armstrong Creek Horseshoe Bend Rd (27), Jetty Road Growth Area (28), Ocean Grove north east growth corridor (29), Wandana Heights (30)	
Potential Homemaker Precincts	Corio (31)	

21.07-9 Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct Framework Plan map

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SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 52.28-3

Prohibition of a gaming machine in a shopping complex

Name of shopping complex and locality	Land description
Market Square Shopping Centre, Geelong	62 Malop St, Geelong
Bay City Plaza Shopping Centre, Geelong	95 - 121 Malop St, Geelong
Waurnvale Shopping Centre (Town and Country Shopping World), Grovedale	Land on the southwest corner of Princes Highway and Pioneer Rd, Grovedale, also known as 173 - 199 Pioneer Rd, Grovedale
Bellarine Village Shopping Centre, Newcomb	Land on the northwest corner of Bellarine Highway and Glenwood St, Newcomb, also known as 27-37 Bellarine Highway, Newcomb
Meadowvale Village Shopping Centre, Norlane	Land on the east side of Anakie Rd, Norlane (south of Bosbury St) also known as 290-306 Anakie Rd, Norlane
Corio Village Shopping Centre, Corio	Land bounded by Bacchus Marsh Rd, Purnell Rd, Goulburn Ave and Gellibrand St, Corio. also known as 83A Purnell Rd, Corio
Grovedale Shopping Centre, Grovedale	Land on the southwest corner of Heyers Rd and Burdoo Drive, Grovedale, also known as 79 Heyers Rd, Grovedale
Drysdale Village Shopping Centre, Drysdale	Land south of Wyndham St, Drysdale bounded by Wyndham St, Eversley St, Palmerston St, and Portarlington Rd, and land north of Wyndham St, Drysdale, bounded by Wyndham St, Carolanne Drive, Clifton Springs Rd and the commencement of the existing Residential 1 zone boundary
Newcomb Shopping Centre, Newcomb	Land on the northeast corner of Bellarine Highway and Wilsons Rd, Newcomb, also known as 71 Bellarine Highway, Newcomb
The Centreway, Lara	Land on the east and west sides of The Centreway, Lara, east of Waverley Rd
Leopold Shopping Centre, Leopold	Land on the corner of Bellarine Highway and Melaluka Road, Leopold.
Rosewall Shopping Centre (Fairbairn Drive and Aldi Supermarket, Corio)	12-20 Fairbairn Drive Corio and part of 465 Princes Highway, Corio, also known as Lot 1 on PS423406M.
Jetty Road Neighbourhood Activity Centre	South-west corner of the land at 148-166 Jetty Road, Drysdale

Appendix 4 - Planning Permit to be issued

PLANNING PERMIT

GRANTED UNDER DIVISION 5 OF PART 4 OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987

Permit No.: 366/2011

Planning Scheme: Greater Geelong Planning Scheme

Responsible Authority: City of Greater Geelong

Address of the land:	12-20 Fairbairn Drive, Corio
THE PERMIT ALLOWS:	Development of the Land for Shops, Associated Business Identification Signage and Partial Reduction of Car Parking, Loading and Bicycle Facility Requirements

THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS APPLY TO THIS PERMIT:

Amended Plans

1. Prior to the commencement of the development, three (3) copies of amended plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions and must be generally in accordance with the plans submitted on 10 August 2012 but modified to show:

   a) Disabled spaces to conform to standard AS 2890.6;
   b) Deletion of zebra crossing from the plans and replaced with an informal crossing;
   c) Details of all plant and equipment, including detail of screening and noise attenuation;
   d) Details of all roadworks;
   e) A landscape plan in accordance with the requirements of condition 13 of this permit;
   f) Fully dimensioned floor, elevation and site plan;
   g) Interface treatment measures along the southern boundary, including fencing, wall treatment, location of services, landscaping and any other form of treatment which responds to the adjoining sensitive uses;
   h) Materials and colour schedule;
   i) A fully dimensioned signage plan including materials, colour, details of supporting structures, method of illumination and indicative location of future business identification signage for each premises;
   j) Dimensions of loading bays, car spaces and bicycle facilities;
   k) Location of waste and recycling storage areas and collection points.

Endorsed Plans

2. The development as shown on the endorsed plan(s) must not be altered without the written consent of the Responsible Authority.

3. The location and details of signs, as shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered without the written consent of the Responsible Authority unless exempt under the provisions of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.

4. Prior to the occupation of the development all buildings and works must be completed in accordance with the endorsed plans unless otherwise approved in writing by the Responsible Authority.

Engineering

5. Prior to works commencing an Environmental (Construction) Management Plan (EMP) must be submitted and must address control of site emissions during construction and the defects liability period to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. The plans must include measures to be taken to ensure that no polluted water and/or sediment laden runoff is to be discharged directly or indirectly into stormwater drains or watercourses during the construction period. The EMP must be prepared in accordance with the EPA – Guideline for Environmental Management, Doing it Right on Subdivisions, Publication 960, September 2004.

6. Prior to the commencement of works, engineer designed roadworks and drainage construction plans must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The plans must show but are not limited to:

   a) Road construction of the Broderick Road frontage and Pearce Street frontage including drainage, road widening, surfacing and kerb and channel. Footpath is required along all frontages.
   b) The recommendations relating to road construction and treatment as listed in the Traffic and Car Parking Assessment dated July 2012 by Ceremira Pty Ltd.

7. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved, engineer designed drainage plans must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. These plans must show that the design for the drainage system complies with relevant City of Greater Geelong Standards, Australian Rainfall and Runoff, Australian Standards (in particular AS 3500), WSUD Engineering Procedures: Stormwater-CSIRO, and any other approved technical publications relevant to the development, demonstrating that the system caters for the development in accordance with the following design criteria:

   a) Site run-off must be limited to equivalent pre-developed levels for rainfall events of up to the 10 year ARI event;
   b) An appropriate on site detention system must be designed and installed to limit site run-off to designated levels;
   c) Runoff from Hard Standing Areas must be treated to achieve current best practice pollutant removal targets by connection to an appropriate Water Treatment Facility, with capacity to treat at least a 3 month ARI storm event, unless approved otherwise by the Responsible Authority. The Water Treatment Facility must be maintained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority;

   all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

8. Prior to the occupation of the development, roadworks and drainage must be constructed in accordance with the approved plans and specifications to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, and must include:

   a) Sealed pavement with kerb and channel;
   b) Concrete footpaths; and
   c) Underground stormwater drainage.

9. Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Responsible Authority, prior to the commencement of the development, the developer must submit for certification, a plan showing the creation of a 3m wide easement in favour of the relevant authority, over the existing 1275mm drainage pipe. The easement must be formally created prior to occupation.

10. Prior to the occupation of the development, the developer must:

    a) construct the site stormwater drainage system including any hard stand treatment facility in accordance with the approved drainage plans;
    b) construct vehicular crossings via relevant Council Permit. Any redundant crossing is to be replaced with kerb and channel, to match existing. All power poles and drainage pits within road reserve are to be at least one meter clear of driveways and kerb and channel to the satisfaction of Responsible Authority;
    c) construct the car park including accessways, surfaced with an all-weather sealed coat in accordance with the endorsed plans;
    d) linemark the car park and accessways in accordance with the endorsed plan;

all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

11. All stormwater runoff must be collected on site and discharged to the underground drainage system in the South East Corner of the site, or other nominated point approved by the Responsible Authority, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Traffic and Car Parking

12. Prior to the occupation of the development, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Responsible Authority, road widening works in Broderick Road and Pearce Street must be undertaken in accordance with plans submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The plans must show, but not be limited to:

    a) Widening of Broderick Road to provide a deceleration lane/left turn lane to enter the Broderick Road vehicle crossing and Pearce Street;
    b) Widening and kerb and channel works of the development side of Pearce St;
    c) Provision of linemarking and signage in Broderick Rd;
    d) Relocation of the bus stop and provision of an indented bus bay and associated infrastructure, to the satisfaction of Public Transport Victoria;
    e) Provision of concrete splitter islands/pedestrian refuges at each end of Pearce St and associated linemarking and signage;
    f) Removal of the concrete splitter islands and delineator in Fairbairn Drive near the Pearce Street intersection;
    g) Provision of linemarking and raised reflective pavement markers, and signage, in Fairbairn Drive;
    h) Provision of a detailed Functional Layout Plan to show all proposed changes within the road reserves;
    i) Provision of footpath across all road frontages including connections to existing footpaths which may result in additional works beyond the immediate site frontage.

    (Note: With the written consent of the Responsible Authority, the works may be deferred for an agreed time period to enable performance monitoring to establish extent of upgrade works required in consultation with Council's Traffic Engineering Unit. An Agreement under Section 173 of the Planning & Environment Act may be required to satisfy this condition).

13. Unless otherwise approved by the Responsible Authority, prior to the commencement of the use, the areas set aside for the parking of vehicles, access lanes and pedestrian paths as shown on the endorsed plans must be:

    a) constructed;
    b) properly formed to such levels that they can be used in accordance with the plans;
    c) surfaced with an all weather seal coat.
    d) drained;
    e) line marked to indicate each car space and all access lanes;
    f) clearly marked to show the direction of traffic along access lanes and driveways;

    to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

    Car spaces, access lanes, pedestrian paths and driveways must be kept available for these purposes at all times

Landscaping

14. Prior to the commencement of the development, three (3) copies of a landscape plan prepared by a suitably qualified or experienced, person to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The plan(s) must be drawn to scale and show:

    a) A survey (including botanical names) of all existing vegetation to be retained and/ or removed;
    b) Details of surface finishes of pathways and driveways;
    c) A planting schedule of all proposed trees, shrubs and ground covers including botanical names, common names, pot sizes, sizes at maturity, and quantities of each plant;
    d) Landscaping and planting within all open areas of the site;
    e) Street works, including provision of street trees to the satisfaction of Council's Parks Unit;

f) Opportunities for rainwater harvesting and water reuse.

When approved, the plan will be endorsed and form part of the permit, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Note: Council's Parks Unit should be contacted to discuss appropriate street tree species and location. Please contact Tim Osborne on 5272 4827.

15. Prior to the occupation of the development, the landscaping works as shown on the endorsed plans must be carried out and completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

16. The landscaping shown on the endorsed plans must be maintained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Note: All completed landscaping works within the street and/or reserve must be inspected by Council's Parks Unit. To arrange an inspection please contact Tim Osborne on 5272 4827.

Lighting and Signage

17. Prior to the commencement of the use, low intensity lighting must be provided to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority to ensure that car park areas and pedestrian accessways are adequately illuminated during evening periods without any loss of amenity to occupiers of nearby land to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

18. Any outdoor and/or security lighting provided must be designed to prevent adverse light spill on adjoining land or road reserve to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

19. Outdoor lighting and signage must be designed, baffled and located to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority to prevent any adverse effect on adjoining land or road reserve.

Except with the prior consent of the Responsible Authority, all internally illuminated signage must be turned off no later than 30 minutes after closing or by 12:00am midnight (which ever is sooner) and must not be turned on until 30 minutes prior to opening the following morning or no earlier than 5:00am (whichever is later).

Waste Management Plan

20. Prior to the commencement of the development, a waste management plan must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The plan must provide details of a regular garbage collection service to each of the uses on the subject land, including information regarding the type of refuse bins, type/size of trucks, means of accessing bins and frequency of refuse collection, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Once approved, the plan must be implemented to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

21. Provision must be made on the land for the storage and collection of garbage and other solid waste. This area must be graded, drained and screened from public view, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and in accordance with the endorsed plans.

22. All waste material must be regularly removed from the site to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Public Transport Victoria

23. Before the development starts, amended plans must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions and three copies must be provided. The plans must be generally in accordance with the plans submitted with the application but modified to show:

a) The existing bus stop on Broderick road removed and a new stop constructed on the south-western side of Broderick Road, between Pearce Street and the car park entrance of Beckley Park
b) A concrete hard stand area for passengers

c) A pole, flag and timetable box to Metlink's requirements
d) Designed in accordance with the VicRoad's Bus Stop Guidelines February 2006, and the DOT Public Transport Guidelines for Land Use and Development
e) Deemed compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act – Disability Standards for Accessible Public transport 2002
f) Direct and safe pedestrian access to a pedestrian path
g) Detail any remedial work required to the road pavement to provide a suitable turn in area to the satisfaction of Public Transport Victoria.

24. Unless otherwise agreed in writing with Public Transport Victoria, before the development starts, the bus stop and associated infrastructure as shown on the endorsed plans, must be constructed at a cost born by the permit holder to the satisfaction of Public Transport Victoria and deemed compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act – Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002

25. The permit holder must take all reasonable steps to ensure that disruption to bus operations is kept to a minimum during construction. Foreseen disruptions to bus operations must be communicated with mitigation measures to Public Transport Victoria and bus operators one (1) week prior.

Amenity

26. The amenity of the area must not be detrimentally affected by the use or development through the:

a) Transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land;
b) Appearance of any building, works or materials;
c) Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, odour, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil;
d) Presence of vermin;

to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Screening and Materials Storage

27. With the exception of guttering, rainheads and downpipes, all pipes, fixtures, fittings, vents, plant and equipment servicing any building on the land must be concealed in service ducts or otherwise hidden from view to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

28. Materials or goods stored in the open on the site must be screened from view of adjoining properties, roads and reserves, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

29. The service yard along the southern boundary must not be used to store any goods, materials or refuse in order to avoid impacts to the adjoining sensitive uses, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Loading Areas and Deliveries

30. The loading and unloading of goods from vehicles must only be carried out on the land within the designated loading bay(s) and must not disrupt the circulation and parking of vehicles on the land.

31. The loading bay area(s) must remain available for this purpose at all times to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

32. Except with the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority, deliveries to the shops must only occur between the hours of:
7.00am – 10.00pm daily (with no restriction to the number of deliveries);

Deliveries to the premises must be in accordance with EPA Publication 1254 (Noise Control Guidelines 2008) or as amended.

Emissions

33. All external plant and equipment must be acoustically treated or placed in soundproof housing to reduce noise to a level satisfactory to the Responsible Authority.

34. Noise levels emanating from the premises must not exceed those required to be met under the State Environment Protection Policy (Control of Noise from Commerce, Industry and Trade), No. N-1.

35. Security systems must be of the silent type, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

36. Dust control measures must be implemented to prevent emissions which may cause nuisance to adjoining properties to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Permit Expiry

37. This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:

    a) The development of the building(s) hereby approved has not commenced within two (2) years of the date of this permit
    b) The development of the building(s) hereby approved is not completed within four years of the date of this permit.

38. Approval for the signage allowed under this permit expires 15 years from the date of issue.

    The Responsible Authority may extend the periods referred to if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or within three (3) months afterwards.

Engineering Notes

1. Construction of the civil works are to be inspected by Council Representative at various stages. An appropriate fee equivalent to 3.25% of total cost of civil works (a minimum fee of $100 applies if the 3.25% amount is less than $100) excluding GST, is to be paid to Council for design, checking and supervision. Relevant evidential documentation of the cost is to be provided.

2 All internal property drainage must be designed and constructed to satisfy AS/NZS 3500.

3. As the site is subject to flooding, the applicant is advised that all floors should be set above the applicable site flood level. The engineering department should be contacted for advice on the applicable flood level.

4. The consultant must contact Council's Engineering department at the time of design for proposed finished surface levels at the boundary of the site fronting Pearce Street and Fairbairn Drive. An appropriate design level could help in providing flood protection to the development.

15. CONTRACTUAL MATTER

Portfolio:	**Sport & Recreation - Cr Irvine** **Major Events – Cr Nelson**
Source	**Projects, Recreation & Central Geelong**
General Manager:	**Dean Frost**
Index Reference	**Subject: Events**

Cr Farrell moved, Cr Irvine seconded -

That in accordance with Section 89 (2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1989, this contractual matter be considered at the conclusion of all other business at which time the meeting be closed to members of the public.

Carried.

NOTICE OF MOTION – Cr Eddy Kontelj

CLIMB ABOVE INTOLERANCE

This request is to assist with costs for a program that involves working with eight young and emerging leaders from diverse communities within the Greater Geelong region to attempt a summiting of Mera peak (6,476m), Khumbu District, Nepal.

The aims of the project are:

- To develop and improve understanding of skills in community leadership
- To demonstrate the benefits of diversity, tolerance and commitment to common goals and outcomes
- To create linkages and relationships between local communities that will increase willingness to work together and create improved social, health, education and economic outcomes for the region.

A documentary film will be made as part of the trek.

The project is ineligible for funding under the Councillor Community Grants Program as it falls outside the guidelines. The two areas are

- The proposed activities taking place outside the City of Greater Geelong
- The project has received support from another City of Greater Geelong funding program i.e. the Community Arts Grant Program

Where a Councillor or Councillors wish to support and fund such applications from the Councillor Community Grants Program funding allocation, and the project has been deemed ineligible, the applications are brought to Council for consideration.

Cr E Kontelj moved, Cr Irvine seconded -

That Council provides $1,000 from the Councillor Community Grants Program to fund the Climb Above Intolerance project.

Amendment

Cr Farrell moved, Cr Fisher seconded -

That Council provides up to $3,000 from the Councillor Community Grants Program to fund the Climb Above Intolerance project.

The amendment was put and carried.

The amendment became the motion.

The motion was put and carried.

ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS RECORD

Portfolio: **Governance – Cr Harwood (Acting Mayor)**
Source: **Corporate Services**
General Manager: **Jeff Wall**

Summary

- Section 80A (2) of the Local Government Act 1989 requires the record of an Assembly of Councillors be reported to the next practicable Ordinary Meeting of Council.
- A record of Assembly of Councillors meeting(s) is attached as an Appendix to this report.

Cr Heagney moved, Cr Irvine seconded -

That the information be received.

Carried.

RECORD OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS
(Council Meeting 22 October 2013)

Assembly Details	Councillor Attendees	Officer Attendees	Matters Discussed	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
Graffiti Reference Group **8 October 2013**	Cr Farrell	M McKenzie (OFF) J Brown (OFF) V Notting (CO ORD) J Wager (CO ORD) L Armstrong-Rowe (OFF)	• Audit Update • Budget • Police and Court Report • Graffiti Team Leader Report • Department of Corrections Report	Nil.
Councillor Briefing **15 October 2013**	Crs Ansett, Ellis, Farrell, Fisher, Harwood, Heagney, Irvine, E Kontelj, S Kontelj, Nelson, Richards	S Griffin (CEO) J Wall (GM) D Frost (GM) J McMahon (GM) P Bettess (GM) G Van Driel (GM) M Stevens (CO ORD) R Walker (EXEC DIR) T Hellsten (CO ORD) M Garrett (CO ORD) C Foulkes (CO ORD) T Demeo (MGR) S Storen (CO ORD)	• Presentation – Avalon Airport • Presentation – G21 Regional Implementation Plan Update • Amendment C300 – Reformed Residential Zones Implementation • Amendment C246 – Lara West Growth Area – Consideration of Panel Report and Adoption • Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013-2017 – Dogs in Public Places Policy 2013-2017 • Geelong Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 • Electoral Advertising • Women in Community Life Advisory Committee • Amendment C298 – Combined Planning Scheme Amendment and Planning Permit Application for Land at 400 Melbourne Road, North Geelong – McDonald's Restaurant • Sale of Land – 400 Melbourne Road, North Geelong • Council Policies – Code of Conduct and Councillor Expenses • Contractual Matter (Confidential) • Local Government Electoral Review • Municipal Association State Council • Bio Science Meetings – USA	Nil.

PLANNING DELEGATIONS - SEPTEMBER

Portfolio: **Planning - Cr Macdonald**
Source: **Economic Development, Planning & Tourism - City Development**
General Manager: **Peter Bettess**
Index Reference: **Delegation**

Summary

- Section 98 of the Local Government Act 1989 and section 188 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 empower Council to delegate its powers, duties and functions under relevant legislation to members of Council staff.
- Council may also delegate to committees comprising Councillors and staff or a combination of both, pursuant to sections 86 and 87 of the Local Government Act and section 188 of the Planning and Environment Act.
- At its meeting on 13 March 2007 Council established a Planning Committee and a Development Hearings Panel with delegated powers to determine upon any development applications which have been the subject of an objection or in circumstances where officers have recommended refusal of the application.
- At its meeting on 23 September 2008 Council adopted a recommendation to allow Officers (restricted to Manager, Coordinator and Team Leader level) the ability to consider and approve applications with five or less objections.
- The appendix to this report contains a schedule of all applications determined under these delegations.

Cr Fisher moved, Cr Ellis seconded -

That the information be received.

Carried.

MONTHLY DECISIONS REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2013					
App No	**Location**	**Application Type**	**Description**	**Decision Date**	**Authority Description**
114/2013	7 Thorburn Street, BELL PARK VIC 3215	4 Lot Subdivision and Construction of Four Two Storey Dwellings	NOD - Delegate	13/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 3
1496/2012	1/56 McKillop Street, GEELONG VIC 3220	Development of the land for two dwellings (a double storey dwelling to the side of the existing dwelling)	NOD - Delegate	26/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 5
1542/2012	11 Sycamore Street, HAMLYN HEIGHTS VIC 3215	Construction of Two Dwellings	NOD - Delegate	06/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 1
157/2013	202-210 Latrobe Terrace, GEELONG WEST VIC 3218	Buildings and works associated with a Convenience Restaurant, display of internally illuminated business identification signs and variation of the standard loading bay requirement	NOD - Delegate	10/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 2
244/2013	38 Walkers Road, LARA VIC 3212	Construction of a Second Single Storey Dwelling and Two (2) Lot Subdivision	NOD - Delegate	23/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 1
25/2013	5-7 Tobab Court, BELL PARK VIC 3215	Subdivision of Land into Eleven (11) Lots & the removal of Reserve No 2 from PS548435G under Part 24A of the Subdivision Act	NOD - Delegate	02/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 1
444/2013	2/13 Flinders Parade, BARWON HEADS VIC 3227	Buildings & Works Associated with the Construction of a Double Storey Dwelling and Garage	NOD - Delegate	23/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 1
510/2013	48-50 The Centreway, LARA VIC 3212	Buildings and works associated with a Supermarket and Shop and Partial Waiver of the Car Parking Requirement	NOD - Delegate	19/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 4
559/2013	338 Pakington Street, NEWTOWN VIC 3220	Construct Two (2) Retail Buildings, Two (2) Lot Subdivision, Reduction of Carparking and Waiver of Formal Loading Bay	NOD - Delegate	23/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 1
650/2013	77 Preston Street, GEELONG WEST VIC 3218	Buildings and works to construct a Food and drink premises (coffee shop /kiosk) and reduction of the standard car parking requirement	NOD - Delegate	10/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 2
696/2013	203 Yarra Street, GEELONG VIC 3220	Partial Demolition of Northern wall of Dwelling & Demolition of Roof of Laundry, Buildings & Works associated with Alterations & Additions to Existing Dwelling	NOD - Delegate	19/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 1
715/2013	156-162 Moorabool Street, GEELONG VIC 3220	Partial demolition and buildings and works to existing building to construct five (5) dwellings	NOD - Delegate	23/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 1
758/2013	43 Doongara Avenue, ST LEONARDS VIC 3223	Construction of twelve (12) dwellings and associated works	NOD - Delegate	24/09/2013	Delegation - Objectors 4

MONTHLY DECISIONS REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2013					
App No	**Location**	**Application Type**	**Description**	**Decision Date**	**Authority Description**
1262/2012	3 Manor Crescent, HIGHTON VIC 3216	Three (3) Lot Subdivision.	NOD - Grant a Planning Permit	6-Sep-2013	Development Hearings Panel
1526/2010	109-113 Corio Street, GEELONG VIC 3220	Construction of a Seven (7) Storey Building containing 5 townhouses, 70 apartments and a Reduction of the Car Parking Requirement	NOD - Grant a Planning Permit	20-Sep-2013	Development Hearings Panel
373/2013	61-65 Ibbotson Street, INDENTED HEAD VIC 3223	Removal of Restrictive Covenant on PS428815R	Refusal to Grant a Planning Permit	20-Sep-2013	Development Hearings Panel
459/2013	10 Bath Street, LARA VIC 3212	Development of the land for twenty two (22) dwellings and associated works and removal of native vegetation (scattered grasses)	NOD - Grant a Planning Permit	13-Sep-2013	Development Hearings Panel
494/2013	30-34 Orton Street, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Restaurant and Cafe Licence and Removal of Three (3) Restrictive Covenants (Title Ref: 0221733, 0230036 & 0240074) from Lot A on PS400006J to Allow the Sale of Alcohol from the Barkhut Restaurant	NOD - Grant a Planning Permit	6-Sep-2013	Development Hearings Panel
514/2013	34-66 Calvert Street, HAMLYN HEIGHTS VIC 3215	Development of a Telecommunications Facility and associated equipment	NOD - Grant a Planning Permit	6-Sep-2013	Development Hearings Panel
683/2013	215 Cochranes Road, WAURN PONDS VIC 3216	Subdivision of the land into two (2) lots	Refusal to Grant a Planning Permit	20-Sep-2013	Development Hearings Panel
828/2013	1-3 Princes Highway, NORLANE VIC 3214	Display of Major Promotion Sign	Refusal to Grant a Planning Permit	6-Sep-2013	Development Hearings Panel
956/2012/A	16 Laura Avenue, BELMONT VIC 3216	Construction of Three (3) Dwellings and Three (3) Lot Subdivision	Refusal to Grant an Amended Planning Permit	6-Sep-2013	Development Hearings Panel

Cr Irvine moved, Cr Farrell seconded –

That the meeting be closed to the public.

Carried.

The Meeting was closed to the public at 8.54pm

A record of the proceedings of this section of the meeting is contained in a Confidential Minute Book.

The Meeting was opened to the public at 9.11pm

CLOSE OF MEETING

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9.11pm. Tuesday, 22 October 2013.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date of Confirmation: _____