COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HUME CITY COUNCIL

MONDAY, 26 AUGUST 2024

7:00PM

COUNCIL CHAMBER - HUME GLOBAL LEARNING CENTRE BROADMEADOWS

OUR VISION:

Hume City Council will be recognised as a leader in achieving social, environmental and economic outcomes with a common goal of connecting our proud community and celebrating the diversity of Hume.

An audio and video recording of this meeting of the Hume City Council will be published to Council's website within two (2) working days.

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Notice of a
COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HUME CITY COUNCIL
to be held on Monday, 26 August 2024
at 7:00pm
at the Council Chamber - Hume Global Learning Centre Broadmeadows

Attendees:	a: Council	Cr Naim Kurt	Mayor
		Cr Karen Sherry	Deputy Mayor
		Cr Jarrod Bell	
		Cr Trevor Dance	
		Cr Joseph Haweil	
		Cr Chris Hollow	
		Cr Jodi Jackson	
		Cr Jack Medcraft	
		Cr Sam Misho	
		Cr Carly Moore	
		Cr Jim Overend	
	b: Officers	Ms Sheena Frost	Chief Executive Officer
		Ms Rachel Dapiran	Director City Planning and Places
		Ms Kristen Cherry	Act. Director City Services & Living
		Mr Adam McSwain	Director Infrastructure and Assets
		Mr Hector Gaston	Director Customer & Strategy
		Ms Fiona Shanks	Chief People Officer
		Mr Fadi Srour	Chief Financial Officer

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

Hume City Council would like to acknowledge that we are meeting on Country for which the members and Elders of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and their forebears have been custodians for many thousands of years. The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, which includes the Gunung-Willam-Balluk clan, are the Traditional Custodians of this land. Hume City Council would also like to pay its respects to their Elders, past and present, and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who may be here today.

2. PRAYER

Hume City's religious diversity strengthens and enriches community life and supports the well-being of the citizens of Hume City. Hume City Council acknowledges the importance of spiritual life and the leadership offered by the Hume Interfaith Network (HIN). In recognition of the religious diversity of residents in Hume City Council has invited the HIN to take responsibility for the opening prayer at Council meetings. This evening's prayer will be led by Rezvanieh Newton, from the Baha'i community, on behalf of the HIN.

3. APOLOGIES

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Councillors' attention is drawn to the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Governance Rules in relation to the disclosure of conflicts of interests. Councillors are required to disclose any conflict of interest immediately before consideration or discussion of the relevant item. Councillors are then required to leave the Chamber during discussion and not vote on the relevant item.

5. CONGRATULATIONS AND CONDOLENCES

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12 August 2024.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12 August 2024, be confirmed.

7. ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCIL

8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

9. OFFICER'S REPORTS

The Mayor will ask the Councillors and gallery at the commencement of this section, which reports they wish to speak to. These reports will then be discussed in the order they appear on the notice paper.

Item No	Title	Page
9.1	Council Policies Update	5
9.2	Rates Financial Hardship Policy	75
9.3	Rate arrears - Year ended 30 June 2024	101
9.4	Council Plan 2021-2025: Final Progress Report 2023/24 Actions	121
9.5	Hume Submission - Plan for Victoria	173
9.6	Greenvale North Part 2 Precinct Structure Plan - Council Submission	223
9.7	Monthly Capital Works Update	243
9.8	Correspondence received from or sent to Government Ministers or Members of Parliament - July 2024	245

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

10.1 NOM24/37 - Cr Joseph Haweil - deferred from 12 August 2024 445

11. ITEMS TO BE TABLED

11.1 PJL309 - Broadmeadows Park Petition

11.2 PJL310 - Request for Action to Prevent Builders from Dumping Rubbish and Building Materials on Vacant Blocks in Maplestone Estate Sunbury

12. URGENT BUSINESS

13. DELEGATES REPORTS

14. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

The Meeting may be closed to members of the public to consider confidential items.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council close the meeting to the public pursuant to section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act* 2020 to consider the following items:

14.1 Request for Financial Incentive - Ruggable

Item 14.1 is confidential in accordance with Section 3(1)(e) of the Local Government Act 2020 because it is legal privileged information, being information to which legal professional privilege or client legal privilege applies.

The specified grounds apply as the report contains information relating to a proposed new investment.

14.2 Contract - Renewal of Six (6) Tennis Courts - Tullamarine Tennis Centre

Item 14.2 is confidential in accordance with Section 3(1)(g(ii)) of the Local Government Act 2020 because it is private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

The specified grounds apply because the report contains private commercial and financial information from tenderers.

15. CLOSURE OF MEETING

SHEENA FROST
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

21/08/2024

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

REPORT NO:	9.1
REPORT TITLE:	Council Policies Update
SOURCE:	Holly De Kretser, Manager Governance Peter Faull, Coordinator Governance and Council Business Jane Mikaele, Governance Officer
DIVISION:	Finance & Governance
FILE NO:	-
POLICY:	-
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	3.2: Deliver responsible and transparent governance, services and sustainable assets that respond to community needs
ATTACHMENTS:	1. *Policies Past Their Review Date* 2. *Policies Recommended For Re-Adoption*

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

1.1 This report provides Council with updates on all publicly available policies that are recorded in Council's Policy Register that are currently past their review dates.

1.2 This report also recommends that Council readopts eight policies, revokes two policies and extends the review date of eight policies. Further details on these recommendations are provided in the report.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

2.1 **THAT Council notes the policies listed in Attachment 1 of this report as being past their review dates, with information on the expected review date for each of these policies also being provided in this attachment.**

2.2 **THAT Council re-adopts the following policies with minor amendments which are provided in Attachment 2 of this report:**

(a) **Fireworks on Council Open Space Policy;**

(b) **Aged and Community Care Policy;**

(c) **Long Day Care Policy;**

(d) **Special Rate and Special Charge Scheme Policy;**

(e) **Hume City Public Lighting Policy;**

(f) **Recording of Council Meetings Policy (formerly the Audio Recording of Council Meetings Policy;**

(g) **Free Tipping for Charitable Organisations Policy;**

(h) **Event Sponsorship Policy (formerly the Sponsorship Policy):**

2.3 **THAT Council extends the review date for the following policies to 30 June 2026:**

(a) **Fees and Charges for Sports Ground Usage Policy;**

(b) **Sporting Ground and Facilities Allocation Policy;**

(c) **Turf Cricket Policy;**

(d) **Outdoor Sports Lighting Policy and Plan;**

(e) **Club Contributions Policy for Capital Works Projects;**

(f) **Advertising Signs on Council Sports Reserves and Facilities.**

2.4 **THAT Council extends the review date of the following policies to 31 March 2025:**

(a) **Affordable Housing Policy;**

(b) **Biodiversity Planning Policy.**

2.5 **THAT Council revokes the following policies:**

(a) **Flyers and Petitions – Display at Council Buildings Policy;**

(b) **Media Communications Policy.**

2.6 **THAT Council gives authority to the Chief Executive Officer to make administrative changes to policies that do not require Council approval, noting that:**

(a) **a notation will be added to the policy recording the date of the administrative change;**

(b) **Councillors will be notified when an administrative change is made to a policy.**

3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

Council policies may make reference to various legislative powers that are applicable to the policy area.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications directly associated with this report.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no environmental sustainability implications in respect to this report.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no climate change adaptation implications in respect to this report.

7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

The Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities has been considered and the recommendations of this report give no rise to any matters.

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

8.1 Community consultation is not required prior to Council considering the recommendations made in this report.

9. DISCUSSION:

9.1 All policies that are adopted by Council are recorded in a Policy Register. Any adopted policy remains active until it is formally revoked by Council. The policy register therefore contains policies that are 'current' (not expired) or policies that have past their review dates, but which are still active policies.

9.2 Attachment 1 of this report provides Council with information on the expected review date for all policies which have review dates in 2023. Reviews have not yet been completed for these policies due to internal factors including an organisational realignment. Recommendations are also made in this report to readopt, revoke or extend the review dates for 18 of the policies recorded in Attachment 1.

9.3 Council is not bound by any legislation to conduct a review of its policies; however some Council policies refer to specific legislation and there is a risk that a policy could contain out-of-date information or references if it is not reviewed by its scheduled review date. Policies are given a default review date of 5 years from the date of adoption unless a shorted period is recommended when the policy is presented to Council for consideration and adoption.

REPORT NO: 9.1 (cont.)

9.4 All policies have a Responsible Officer, which for most policies is a Manager but can also be a Director or a Coordinator. The Responsible Officer has responsibility for policy content and implementation and is the first point of contact for any queries about the policy.

9.5 All publicly available policies which have been adopted by Council can be viewed on Council's website using this link: Hume City Council – Policies.

9.6 It is recommended that Council readopts the policies provided in Attachment 2 of this report for the reasons outlined below:

9.6.1 Fireworks on Council Open Space Policy

(a) A series of changes and amendments are proposed to the Fireworks on Council Open Space Policy to improve clarity and to better reflect Council practices related to the evaluation and approval processes for fireworks displays where conducted on land owned and/or managed by Council. The key amendments and changes which are proposed to the policy are listed below:

(i) Policy owner/department responsible: The manager/department responsible for the policy has been updated to City Safety given this area's involvement in assessing and issuing such approvals and related compliance matters.

(ii) Revision of policy name: The title of the policy has been updated to change, to provide better clarity of its purpose/application.

(iii) Revision of policy purpose: The policy purpose has been reworded and simplified to improve interpretation.

(iv) Revision of policy scope: In officers view, the 'scope' included in the previous policy was highly unclear, offering poor clarity on who the policy related to and its coverage.

(v) Revision of policy implementation: This section of the policy has been substantially re-written to provide better clarity on requirements for those seeking to discharge fireworks from Council owned/managed land, to detail how Council will consider and assess such applications and requirements and conditions relating to Council approvals. It should be noted that the policy proposes to increase the radius for public notices relating to the display of fireworks displays – increasing from a requirement to notify landowners/residents living within 500 m radius from the point of discharge to 1 km.

(vi) Inclusion of appeals process: Council's previous policy was silent on how applicants could seek an appeal in instances where an application made to Council for the use of fireworks on Council owned/managed land was denied by Council. A new section detailing this right to appeal, and the associated process has been included in the policy.

(b) Please also note that the Responsible Officer for this policy is now the Manager City Safety.

9.6.2 Aged and Community Care Policy

(a) Only minor amendments are proposed to this policy, including:

(i) in the Definitions and Abbreviations section, the definition of Hume City Council Aged and Community Care Services will include a reference to carers.

(ii) in the Evaluation and Continuous section, Aged Care Quality Standards will be added as a benchmark which will be monitored and evaluated.

(iii) The review date of the policy will be set at three years or earlier.

9.6.3 Long Day Care Policy

(a) Only minor amendments are proposed to this policy, including:

(i) The Long Day Care Policy requires no changes, and it is recommended for readoption.

9.6.4 Special Rate and Special Charge Scheme Policy

(a) The purpose of this policy is to outline a fair, equitable and consistent approach to the construction of infrastructure or the provision of services through owner contributions as part of a special rate or special charge scheme implemented under the Local Government Act (LGA).

(b) The LGA 2020 and the LGA 1989 currently operate in tandem with the special charge provisions remaining and operating under the LGA 1989 Section 163 and complying with The Local Government Legislation (Rating and Other Matters) Act 2022 (LGLA 2022) Part 2 Amendment of LGA 1989 Division 2-Special Rates and Charges.

(c) If there are any changes to the Legislation relating to Special Rate and Special Charge Scheme during the life of this Policy, an updated Policy will need to be adopted by Council.

(d) Some of the minor changes proposed to this policy include:

(i) Updated to reflect the introduction of LGA 2020

(ii) This policy is to outline a fair, equitable and consistent approach to the construction of infrastructure or the provision of services through owner contributions as part of a special rate or special charge scheme implemented under the Local Government Act (LGA).

9.6.5 Hume City Public Lighting Policy

(a) The current Hume City Public Lighting Policy provides public lighting to meet the needs of the community using the most energy efficient lighting available to the appropriate standards for the safe movement of vehicle and pedestrian traffic at night.

(b) The Public Lighting Policy has been in place for several years, very minor changes required include references to 'transition' have been removed, otherwise no substantive change.

9.6.6 Recording of Council Meetings Policy (formerly the Audio Recording of Council Meetings Policy)

(a) There are only minor changes recommended to this policy including:

(i) Changing the title to Recordings of Council Meetings Policy;

(ii) Including reference to Video recordings of Council meetings;

(iii) Updating or deleting other outdated reference information in the policy.

9.6.7 Free Tipping for Charitable Organisations Policy

(a) This policy is to provide approved Charity Organisations (Charities), located within Council, with Free Tipping of Waste that is generated within Council at Council's Landfill & Resource Recovery Centres (Sites). This policy confirms the requirements for Charities to be eligible for Charity Free Tipping at Council's Sites and the requirements for the implementation of Charity Free Tipping for Charities at Council's Sites.

(b) The Free Tipping for Charitable Organisations Policy requires no substantive changes and is seeking re-adoption.

9.6.8 Event Sponsorship Policy (formerly the Sponsorship Policy)

(a) The purpose of this policy is to provide transparent framework for the sourcing and receipt of sponsorship for Council organized and managed events.

(b) To ensure that any sponsorship entered into between Hume City Council and external parties is in the public interest, provides clear community benefit, and does not limit Council's ability to perform its duties impartially.

(c) The sponsorship policy requires only minor administrative changes including;

(i) Change of title and updated legislation or documents referenced.

9.7 It is recommended that Council revokes the following policies:

9.7.1 Flyers and Petitions – Display at Council Buildings Policy. This recommendation is made because it has been identified that this policy is not required as local level guidelines have superseded it. Staff will review guidelines, and edit accordingly, and ensure that guidelines extend to all services previously covered by the policy.

9.7.2 Media Communications Policy - This recommendation is made because it has been identified that this policy duplicates the Councillor Code of Conduct.

9.8 It is recommended that Council extends the due date of the policies listed below to 30 June 2026. This recommendation is made because responsibility for these policies has recently been transferred to Council's Active Living department and the Manager Active Living has advised that officers will conduct a thorough review of these polices in the next two years, if this request to extend review dates is approved, prior to making recommendations to Council regarding these policies prior to 30 June 2026. These policies, which are:

9.8.1 Fees and Charges for Sports Ground Usage Policy;

9.8.2 Sporting Ground and Facilities Allocation Policy;

9.8.3 Turf Cricket Policy;

9.8.4 Outdoor Sports Lighting Policy and Plan;

9.8.5 Club Contributions Policy for Capital Works Projects;

9.8.6 Advertising Signs on Council Sports Reserves and Facilities.

9.9 It is recommended that Council extends the due dates of the Affordable Housing Policy and the Biodiversity Policy to 31 March 2025. This recommendation is made because a detailed review of these policies is required, and officers may recommend substantial changes to them to Council.

9.10 All policies referred to in paragraphs 9.7 to 9.9 above can be viewed on Council's website using the following link: Hume City Council – Policies.

9.11 The information provided to Council in this report has been prepared in consultation with all departments across Council that are responsible for the policies listed in this report.

9.12 This report also recommends that Council gives authority to the Chief Executive Officer to make administrative changes to policies. Examples of administrative changes include a change of responsible officer or other changes that have no impact on policy content or delivery. In these circumstances a notation will be added to the policy recording the date of the administrative change, and Councillors will be notified when an administrative change is made to a policy.

REPORT NO: 9.1 (cont.)

10. CONCLUSION:

This report provides Council with a status update and associated recommendations on all publicly available policies that are recorded in Council's Policy Register that are currently past their review dates.

POLICIES PAST REVIEW DATES – FURTHER INFORMATION

POLICY NUMBER	POLICY NAME	REVIEW DATE	COMMENTS
POL/273	Advertising Signs on Council Sports Reserves and Facilities	6/1/2023	It is recommended that the review date for this policy is extended to 30 June 2026.
POL/146	Aged and Community Care Policy	1/6/2024	This policy is recommended for readoption and is included in Attachment 2 of this report. Further information on this policy is also included in this report.
POL/223	Audio Recordings of Council Meetings Policy	28/02/2023	This policy is recommended for readoption and is included in Attachment 2 of this report. Further information on this policy is also included in this report.
POL/150	Biodiversity Planning Policy	1/03/2024	This Policy requires minor changes and is seeking an extension to March 2025 with a report expected to come to a future Council meeting.
POL/209	Capital Investment Policy	1/06/2024	It is anticipated that this policy will be presented to Council in 2025.
POL/152	Club Contributions Policy for Capital Works Projects	6/1/2023	It is recommended that the review date for this policy is extended to 30 June 2026.
POL/224	Communications Equipment on Council Property Policy	28/02/2023	Officers have commenced an internal stakeholder referral process. It is anticipated that this policy will be presented to Council in December 2024.
POL/158	Councillor Portfolio Guidelines Policy	28/02/2023	It is anticipated that this policy will be presented to Council in March 2025.
POL/228	Dealing with Difficult and Vexatious Customers Policy	28/02/2023	This policy is being reviewed by officers prior to further recommendations being made to Council, which are expected in mid to late 2024.
POL/165	Fees and Charges for Sports Ground Usage Policy	28/02/2023	It is recommended that the review date for this policy is extended to 30 June 2026.
POL/167	Flyers and Petitions – Display at Council Buildings Policy	28/02/2023	It has been identified that this Policy is no longer required, and it is recommended that it be revoked.
POL/170	Fraud Control Policy	28/02/2023	It is intended that this policy will be presented to Council as a separate report in this current Council term.
POL/203	Fireworks on Council Open Space Policy	4/1/2023	This policy is recommended for readoption and is included in Attachment 2 of this report. Further information on this policy is also included in this report.
POL/171	Free Tipping for Charitable Organisations Policy	1/06/2024	This policy is recommended for readoption and is included in Attachment 2 of this report. There are no further updates recommended to this policy at this time.
POL/281	Hume City Public Lighting Policy	1/02/2024	This policy is recommended for readoption and is included in Attachment 2 of this report. Further information on this policy is also included in this report.
POL/176	Infringement Management Policy	28/02/2023	This policy will come to Council as a separate Report in the new Council Term.

POLICIES PAST REVIEW DATES – FURTHER INFORMATION

POL/188	Kindergarten Enrolment Policy	1/08/2024	This policy will be reviewed in the new Council term.
POL/177	Lease and Licence Policy	28/02/2023	Officers have commenced an internal stakeholder referral process. It is anticipated that this policy will be presented to Council in December 2024.
POL/179	Long Day Care Policy	1/04/2024	This policy is recommended for readoption and is included in Attachment 2 of this report. Further information on this policy is also included in this report.
POL/275	Outdoor Sports Lighting Policy and Plan	4/1/2023	It is recommended that the review date for this policy is extended to 30 June 2026.
POL/286	Public Transparency Policy	28/02/2023	A report on this policy is expected to be presented to Council in September 2024.
POL/305	Rates Financial Hardship Policy	1/06/2024	It is expected that a revised policy will be presented to a Council meeting in August 2024.
POL/201	Special Rate and Special Charge Scheme Policy	28/02/2023	This policy is recommended for readoption and is included in Attachment 2 of this report. Further information on this policy is also included in this report.
POL/284	Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy	1/06/2024	It is intended that this policy will be presented to Council as a separate report in this current Council term.
POL/257	Service Planning Framework	28/02/2023	The policy is still required and is an Audit Committee action due to be completed by September 2024. This policy will come to Council as a separate Council Report.
POL/208	Setting of Fees and Charges Policy	28/02/2023	The Executive Leadership Team will review this policy and decide on what recommendations to make to Council (for example, it may be recommended that this policy may be more appropriate as an internal policy).
POL/174	Sponsorship Policy	1/4/2024	This policy is recommended for readoption and is included in Attachment 2 of this report. Further information on this policy is also included in this report.
POL/258	Sporting Grounds and Facilities Allocation Policy	2/28/2023	It is recommended that the review date for this policy is extended to 30 June 2026.
POL/204	Turf Cricket Policy	4/1/2023	It is recommended that the review date for this policy is extended to 30 June 2026.

FIREWORKS ON COUNCIL OWNED AND MANAGED LAND POLICY

Policy Reference No.	POL/203
File No.	HCC04/355
Strategic Objective	2.2 Design and maintain our City with accessible spaces and a strong sense of place.
Adopted by Council	28 November 2011
Re-Adopted	July 2024
Date for Review	July 2029
Responsible Officer	Manager City Safety
Department	City Safety

FIREWORKS ON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE POLICY

1 POLICY STATEMENT

To provide a clear framework for the evaluation and approval process for fireworks displays on land owned and/or managed by Council.

2 PURPOSE

This policy outlines requirements for the authorised and approved use of fireworks on Council owned and managed land. Hume City Council is committed to ensuring the safety of events that feature fireworks, while also minimising adverse impacts for residents, animals and the local environment.

The policy details:

- The requirement for event organisers/pyrotechnicians to obtain approval from Council prior to the use or discharge of fireworks on Council land.
- Specific information that must be supplied to Council by event organisers/pyrotechnicians as part of the approval procedure.
- Criteria and considerations that will be considered by Council officers when making a determination to approve or decline firework displays on Council land.
- Responsibilities and expectations of event organisers/pyrotechnicians responsible for discharging fireworks during an event.

3 SCOPE

3.1 This policy applies to event organisers/pyrotechnicians seeking to conduct fireworks displays on Council owned or managed land.

3.2 It is important to note, alongside obtaining approval from Council for fireworks displays on Council land, event organisers/pyrotechnicians are first obligated to satisfy requirements and procure approvals from other regulatory bodies and entities.

3.3 Approval from other regulatory bodies and entities does not guarantee approval will be provided by Council. Alongside approval being provided from other regulatory bodies, Council considers a range of criteria beyond these approvals when evaluating fireworks display requests.

3.4 This policy does not apply to fireworks displays conducted on privately owned land. Council does not provide approvals for such displays, and organisers must ensure compliance with applicable requirements for private properties.

FIREWORKS ON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE POLICY

4 POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Application for the display of fireworks on Council owned and managed land

1.1 Prior to any fireworks display on Council owned or managed land, event organisers/pyrotechnicians are required to obtain approval from Hume City Council.

1.2 Applications for approval are to be submitted to Council at least 28 days before the scheduled fireworks display date.

1.3 Applicants will be required to provide the following information for the request to be considered:

a) A copy of the 'Notification of Intention to Display Fireworks', as submitted to WorkSafe Victoria, including details of fireworks transport and storage, site assessments and site plans, as well as details about the types and quantities of fireworks to be utilised.

b) A copy of the approval granted by WorkSafe Victoria.

c) Copies of valid pyrotechnicians licenses.

d) Documentation of notification to and approval from the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA). In cases where CASA approval is not applicable, applicants must provide a clear statement justifying this exemption.

e) Proof of Public Liability Insurance with coverage of not less than $20 million, in the form of a Certificate of Currency.

Council's decision-making process for assessing fireworks requests

1.4 Applications for fireworks displays will be assessed with consideration given to their potential impact on the local community and amenity. Approval may be granted with conditions or declined, with reasons provided for any decisions made. An appeal process is available for declined requests, as detailed in section 1.14 - 1.20 of this policy.

1.5 When evaluating applications for fireworks displays on Council owned or managed land, the following factors will be taken into account:

a) The proposed date, time and purpose of the fireworks display, noting that approvals generally will not be granted for fireworks displays after 10.00 pm.

b) The volume of applications and approvals granted for the same or similar period and within the same/similar location.

c) Recommendations from WorkSafe, the relevant fire authority (i.e. CFA or MFB) and other relevant authorities such as Victoria Police.

d) Consideration of the applicant's previous conduct un the management of the display and the site.

1.6 Council reserves the right to request additional information from applicants to facilitate informed decision making.

Public notice of fireworks display

1.7 The individual listed on the application to Council for the display of fireworks on Council land bears the responsibility of informing landowners and residents of their intended display through a letter box drop. This notification must be made to landowners and/or residents within a 1 km radius of the proposed fireworks discharge location and must be completed at least 10 days prior to the scheduled display.

1.8 This notification must include details including the date, time, location and duration of the intended display.

FIREWORKS ON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE POLICY

1.9 At least 5 days prior to the intended display, the applicant must provide Council proof of the aforementioned notifications.

Other conditions

1.10 Where Council grants approval for a fireworks display on Council owned or managed land, it retains the right to impose any conditions deemed appropriate.

1.11 Council reserves the right to rescind approval for a fireworks display, even at short notice, under the following circumstances:

a) If identified climatic conditions have the potential to adversely affect amenity and safety in the local area.

b) If the conditions under which the approval was granted have been violated.

c) Failure to notify landowners and/or residents within 1 km radius of the proposed display at least 10 days prior to the scheduled event.

d) Inability to provide Council with proof of the notification provided to landowners and/or residents within a 1km radius at least 10 days before the scheduled event.

e) If errors or misrepresentations are discovered in the approval application.

1.12 Council will not be held liable for any financial losses incurred by the event organiser or the pyrotechnician resulting from a withdrawal of approval for a fireworks display.

1.13 An approval granted by Council does not permit the discharge fireworks on any land within the municipal district during a declared Fire Danger Period (including a day of Total Fire Ban) or otherwise in contravention of the regulations set out in the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 or the Fire Rescue Victoria Act 1958.

1.14 The individual or organisation named on the approval application for a fireworks display on Council land may be held accountable for any resulting damage, litter or nuisance. Council reserves the right to disclose the contact details of this individual or organisation to authorities empowered to investigate and enforce relevant regulations.

OH&S and Risk Management

1.15 Council and its officers do not possess expertise nor authority to determine safety requirements related to the handling, storage, use and discharge of fireworks. Additionally, Council does not assess applications for the display of fireworks for compliance with relevant legislation. The assessment of safety risks and implementation of appropriate risk management strategies concerning the safe use of fireworks solely rests with the licensed pyrotechnician and WorkSafe Victoria.

1.16 Council must be promptly notified in writing within 24 hours of the conclusion of a display of any incidents or injuries that occur as a result of a display for which Council has granted approval.

Appeal of approval decisions

1.17 Individuals or organisations may lodge an appeal if Council refuses approval and/or against specific conditions outlined in an approval granted by Council.

1.18 To initiate an appeal, a written submission must be made to Council, clearly articulating the grounds for the appeal.

1.19 Appeals will be evaluated in accordance with this policy and may, if required, involve consultation with other internal and external entities for additional input.

1.20 Council will issue a written decision on appeals within 14 days.

FIREWORKS ON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE POLICY

5 DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Nil

6 RELATED DOCUMENTS

6.1 Local Government Act 1989
6.2 Summary Offences Act 1966
6.3 Dangerous Goods Act 1985 and Dangerous Goods (Explosives) Regulation 2022

Date Adopted	28 November 2011
Date Re-Adopted	TBC
Review Date	TBC

Policy Reference No:	POL/203	**Responsible Officer:**	Manager City Safety
Date of Re/Adoption:	TBC	**Department:**	City Safety
Review Date:	TBC		
Page 3 of 3			

AGED AND COMMUNITY CARE POLICY

Policy Reference No.	POL/146
File No.	HCC10/422
Strategic Objective	1.3 Promote a healthy, inclusive and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety.
Adopted by Council	6 December 2010
Re-Adopted	14 June 2022, 13 May 2024
Date for Review	June 2027
Responsible Officer	Manager Community Health and Wellbeing
Department	Community Health and Wellbeing

AGED AND COMMUNITY CARE POLICY

1 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this Policy is to guide Council in relation to the planning, delivery and evaluation of aged and community care services and supports provided by Council to Hume residents.

1.2 This Policy describes:
- **1.2.1** Underpinning principles;
- **1.2.2** The aged and community care system in Hume, its influences and drivers;
- **1.2.3** Provision of aged and community care services to Hume residents, and
- **1.2.4** Policy implementation.

2 POLICY STATEMENT

2.1 Council provides a range of aged and community care services and supports to older residents and people with a disability that aim to support their independence, autonomy, participation and quality of life. Aged and community care services delivered by Council complement a range of services and supports offered by other agencies (including Community Service Organisations, Non-Government Organisations and Community Health Services), which contribute to broader community outcomes.

3 DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

3.1 **The Aged and Community care system**: The broader system which supports the planning, delivery and evaluation of services and programs that enable frail older people and people with disabilities to remain living in their home and their community.

3.2 **Hume City Council Aged and Community Care Services:** A range of services provided by Council that aim to support frail older people, people with disabilities, and their carers to maintain independence, remain living at home, while improving physical, social and emotional wellbeing. These services are funded through a combination of Council, State and Federal governments funding and can be catergorised into the below program streams:

- **Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACCPYP):** Provides basic support and maintenance services to younger people with disabilities and their carers. Younger people are defined as those aged under 65 years or aged under 50 years for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

- **Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP):** Provides funding for services for older people with basic care needs and their carers. Older people are defined as those aged over 65 years or over 50 years for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

- **Home Care Packages Program (HCP):** Provides funding for services for older people with complex care needs and their carers. Older people are defined as those aged over 65 and over 50 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

- **Internally Funded Programs:** Encompasses a range of programs, services and supports that are primarily directed at supporting recreation, social connection, community participation and learning outcomes for older residents and people with a disability. Unlike HACC-PYP, CHSP and HCP programs, these services are available to all older residents and people with a disability and do not require assessment to determine eligibility.

4 POLICY PRINCIPLES

4.1 Principles which underpin and guide this Policy include:

- A strong sense of belonging and connection to the community in which one lives;
- Respect for all clients including those from diverse backgrounds;
- Responsiveness to disadvantage and difficulties that arise;
- A network of support systems;
- The active practice of neighbourliness and hospitality;
- A belief by the community in their capacity to influence decision makers;
- A sense of ownership and enjoyment of public space;
- Positive ageing for all individuals which includes:
  - Creating opportunities and choices for people;
  - Enabling them to maximise independence and control over their own lives;
  - Enhancing quality of life, and
  - Encouraging continued participation in all aspects of community life.
- An effective health service system which includes:
  - Access to information and culturally appropriate services to maintain wellbeing;
  - Sustainable workforce development to provide services across the continuum of care;
  - Infrastructure that supports place based provision of care ;
  - Supportive and effective agency partnerships in the delivery of care and
  - Advocacy to address the challenges of the changing policy, social, workforce and community contexts in Hume City.

5 AGED AND COMMUNITY CARE SYSTEM WITHIN HUME

5.1 The aged and community care system within Hume is characterised, influenced and driven by:

- A growing and ageing population;
- Expansion of the municipality's population within Council boundaries;
- High rate of disadvantage and the relationship between increased level of disadvantage and poorer health outcomes;
- Level of people with a disability;
- Increasing prevalence of chronic diseases and complexity of care needs;
- Expectations of people seeking and receiving aged and community care services;

AGED AND COMMUNITY CARE POLICY

- The policy positions of Federal and State government in relation to the provision and delivery of aged and community care services, and the ability of funding received from these bodies to meet the direct and indirect costs of providing each type of service and;
- The need to support and effectively manage the diverse range of interfaces, relationships, networks, alliances, and partnerships Council has with public, not-for-profit and private service systems.

5.2 Council recognises it is not responsible for the provision and delivery of the entire range of aged and community services to the Hume community. However, it will endeavour to provide leadership and foster innovation within the broader aged and community care system, utilising its organisational resources, comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the local community, experience, expertise, and skills.

5.3 Council's objectives in relation to the aged and community care system within Hume are to:

- Provide aged and community care services designed and configured in ways that respond to the needs and preferences of the community, within the finite resources available;
- Ensure effective management and governance in relation to the planning, delivery and evaluation of all activities related to Council's aged and community care services;
- Engage with policy and funding agencies to advocate for adequate resources to support the provision of aged and community care services that meet community needs and expectations;
- Maintain a current and comprehensive knowledge of the aged and community care system and use this knowledge to support service innovation and demonstrate leadership within the sector;
- Maintain a current and comprehensive knowledge of demographic trends within the municipality to support effective service planning and responsible management of Council's aged and community care resources;
- Seek and utilise feedback from clients of services, their carers and the community including service providers and other agencies, to understand expectations and identify opportunities to improve service provision and delivery;
- Seek and respond to opportunities to consult, collaborate and partner with other service providers and agencies to enhance and augment aged and community care service access and service options;
- Provide relevant data and information to other agencies and services providers to assist their planning and resource management in relation to aged and community care services, and
- Evaluate the impact and effectiveness of aged and community care services to ensure effective management and support continuous improvement.

6 HUME CITY COUNCIL AGED AND COMMUNITY CARE SERVICE PROVISION

6.1 Council will provide aged and community care services that:

AGED AND COMMUNITY CARE POLICY

- Are client centred, focussed on promoting client capacity, wellness and reablement, independence and positive ageing whilst contributing to improved physical, social and emotional wellbeing of clients, carers and communities;
- Recognise, embrace and respond to diversity and are accessible and easy to navigate for the wide diversity of clients.
- Are equity based and assessed on client-centred needs and individual circumstances. Services are only provided to people within the eligible group, subject to assessment and in accordance with program rules. Eligibility does not confer entitlement to service provision;
- Facilitate and support efficient transition of clients into other aged and community care services within the municipality where required, with particular attention to supporting continuity of care;
- Effectively utilise the expertise, knowledge and skills of staff who deliver aged and community care services.

6.2 Council provides the following services/functions:

- Assessment for HACC-PYP services;
- Care coordination;
- Case management;
- Community transport;
- Service navigation;
- Advocacy;
- Delivered and centre-based meals;
- Home support including domestic assistance;
- Home maintenance;
- Personal care;
- Policy and planning;
- Respite care, and
- Social recreation programs.

7 POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

7.1 Service Planning

7.1.1 Regular and ongoing aged and community care service planning will be undertaken to ensure Council has a current and comprehensive knowledge of:

- The Hume municipality which includes:
  - Demographics;
  - Population growth and projected growth;
  - Spread of the population within Council boundaries;
  - The cultural mix and changing diversity of the community;
  - Prevalence of chronic diseases, disability and carers within our municipality, and

AGED AND COMMUNITY CARE POLICY

- Numbers and demographic of people within the municipality who are socio-economically disadvantaged.
- Service utilisation and projected demand in relation to aged and community care services;
- Community expectations of aged and community care service offering and provision;
- Current and future plans of other service providers and agencies including other Local Government Authorities;
- Service innovations in the aged and community care environment, and
- Federal, State and Local government policy context and funding in relation to aged and community care.

7.1.2 Council will evaluate the aged and community care service planning process to determine the effectiveness of the research methodology and approach and to inform changes to future service planning processes.

7.2 Service Options and Provision

7.2.1 The range of aged and community care services provided by Council will be reviewed and evaluated regularly as part of the service planning process to determine how effectively the range and provision of services are meeting the needs of the community and making best use of finite resources.

7.2.2 A formal business case, including service demand, establishment and operational budgets will be prepared for all proposals for new and/or alternative service options.

7.2.3 Opportunities to collaborate and/or partner with other agencies to develop service options not currently available will be actively sought.

7.3 Service Innovation

7.3.1 Council will actively explore and investigate opportunities for service innovation within the aged and community care system. Opportunities for innovation may be initiated and driven internally or may be part of alliances, collaborations or partnerships with other agencies or services providers

7.4 Advocacy

7.4.1 Council will utilise its knowledge, breadth of expertise, and resources to advocate on behalf of its community and where agreed, other agencies and service providers external to Council. Advocacy activities may include but not be limited to:

- Seeking additional funds and resources;
- Seeking access to programs;
- Service innovation and service development;

AGED AND COMMUNITY CARE POLICY

- Contributing to government policy review and/or development, and
- Advocating on behalf of community groups agencies and / or other service providers.

7.5 Financial Management

7.5.1 Council receives funding for some aged and community care services from Federal and State governments. Council acknowledges funds received may not cover the full cost of providing and delivering each type of aged and community care service provided by Council. Council will ensure effective and responsible financial management in relation to the provision and delivery of aged and community care services by quantifying the fully reflective cost (direct and indirect) of providing each aged and community care service.

7.5.2 Cost considerations may include but not be limited to:

- Indirect client hours;
- Staff induction;
- Occupational Health and Safety;
- Staff supervision, training and support;
- Meetings to support service provision;
- Consumables;
- Client administration;
- Physical infrastructure;
- Case conferencing, and
- Unplanned leave.

7.5.3 Undertaking a comprehensive costing exercise for any aged and community care service provided, or is proposed Council may provide, will ensure Council has a complete understanding of the financial and human resource implications of service provision and the extent to which government funding does not cover the cost of services. This information will allow Council to make informed decisions regarding service provision and internal funding requirements of existing and proposed aged and community care services.

7.6 Human Resources Management

7.6.1 Council will engage a workforce suitably qualified and skilled to deliver safe and appropriate aged and community care services.

7.6.2 All staff will have a current and detailed position description.

7.6.3 Council will support the workforce to access appropriate education and training opportunities in order to ensure services are respectful, safe and appropriate for

frail older people, people with disabilities and people from diverse backgrounds within the municipality.

7.7 Collaboration and Partnering

7.7.1 Council will seek to collaborate and partner with other service providers and agencies where there are opportunities to enhance services or ensure they are more responsive to community needs.

7.8 Governance and Management

7.8.1 Council will implement mechanisms to support robust governance and effective management of aged and community care services. This will include:

- Reporting and accountability systems for individuals and teams;
- Procedures and guidelines to support safe and appropriate practice in relation to provision and delivery of aged and community care services;
- Information management and record keeping that is accurate, timely and secure;
- Utilisation of outcome and indicators to monitor activity, achievements and performance, and
- Responsive feedback systems for consumers of aged and community care services, staff and agencies and other services providers.

7.9 Evaluation and Continuous Improvement

7.9.1 To inform Council planning and budgeting, Council will monitor and evaluate the provision and delivery of aged and community care services using agreed outcomes and performance indicators as benchmarks, which include but may not be limited to:

- Activity targets;
- Client feedback and satisfaction;
- Adverse events;
- Budget performance;
- Workforce engagement;
- Occupational Health and Safety outcomes;
- Aged Care Quality Standards;
- Feedback from other service providers and agencies, and
- Satisfactory achievement of accreditation processes.

7.9.2 A range of strategies will be employed to assess Council's performance against agreed outcomes, targets, and performance indicators. Ongoing monitoring of performance will be undertaken and reported on an annual basis. Implementation of continuous improvement strategies and initiatives will be actioned where required.

AGED AND COMMUNITY CARE POLICY

7.10 Communication of this policy

7.10.1 This policy will be communicated to all staff within Aged and Disability Services at orientation and following changes to the policy.

7.10.2 Interested parties / agencies / partners can access this policy through the council website or by directly contacting Aged and Disability Services.

7.11 Policy Review

7.11.1 This policy was reviewed six months following initial ratification and every two years thereafter and will be reviewed in three years or earlier, as required.

8 RELATED DOCUMENTS

8.1 Aged and Disability Services Operational Guidelines
8.2 Hume Positive Ageing Strategy 2014-2024
8.3 Hume City Council Plan 2021-2025
8.4 Hume Aged Services and Support Service Plan 2020-2024
8.5 Aged Care Quality Standards
8.6 Home Care Common Standards
8.7 Hume City Council Social Justice Charter

Date Adopted	6 December 2010
Date Re-Adopted	14 June 2022 13 May 2024
Review Date	June 2027

Policy Reference No:	POL/146	**Responsible Officer:**	Manager Community Health and Wellbeing
Date of Re/Adoption:	14 June 2022 13 May 2024	**Department:**	Community Health and Wellbeing
Review Date:	June 2027		
Page 9 of 9			

LONG DAY CARE POLICY

Policy Reference No.	POL/179
File No.	HCC04/597-06
Strategic Objective	1.1: Support and enhance skill development and educational opportunities to reduce disadvantage, improve employment prospects and quality of life
Adopted by Council	28 November 2011
Re-Adopted	14 October 2019
Date Reviewed	July 2024
Next Review	July 2027
Responsible Officer	Manager Family Youth and Children
Department	Family, Youth & Children's Services

LONG DAY CARE POLICY

1 POLICY STATEMENT

1.1 It is Council Policy to provide, support and guide the development of Long Day Care (LDC) services in Hume City.

1.2 It is Council policy to conduct regular reviews of the delivery of Council's LDC services, with the aim of improving service delivery and ensuring resources are allocated appropriately. On occasion, this may lead to a change in a service or to Council deciding to cease offering a given service.

1.3 It is not Council policy to provide all LDC services in Hume City; but to provide these services when and where it is most appropriate for Council to do so, based on the principles and scope outlined in this policy.

1.4 The existing service system in Hume City is characterised by a range of LDC providers including Council. This policy provides scope for Council to consider the role of non-Council providers of LDC as appropriate service providers.

2 PURPOSE

2.1 The purpose of this Policy is to guide Council's role in ensuring Hume residents have access to LDC Services and ensuring equitable and appropriate allocation of Council resources.

2.2 The Policy outlines Council's roles and responsibilities in the context of Hume City experiencing strong population growth, with additional need for renewal in established areas.

2.3 Federal and State Government policy initiatives are consistent with Council's focus on the important role of early year's services in setting the foundations for life opportunities for individuals and a cohesive community.

2.4 A range of principles guide the implementation of this policy, with the aim of providing opportunities for best quality early years services for children and families in Hume City. The legislative and regulatory context that governs the provision of LDC services in Hume City includes:

2.4.1 The Local Government Act requires Council to plan and provide for wellbeing within the community.

2.4.2 The Federal Government has the primary responsibility to ensure that childcare is accessible, affordable and of a high quality.

2.4.3 The National Partnership Agreement on the National Quality Agenda for Early Childhood Education and Care aims to improve the health, safety, early learning and wellbeing of Australia's children.

LONG DAY CARE POLICY

2.4.4 The Vulnerable Children Action Plan presents a commitment to system- wide reform encompassing mainstream and specialist services, government and non-government organisations, and the range of individuals- both personal and professional that work with vulnerable children and families. It sets out a number of reforms and projects clustered within five action areas:

- Building effective and connected services
- Enhancing education and capacity building
- Making a child friendly legal system
- Providing safe, stable and supportive out-of-home care
- Introducing accountability and transparency

2.5 The licensing and operation of children's services in Victoria are regulated by the State Government through national legislation, namely, the Education and Care National Law Act 2010 and Education and Care National Law Regulations 2011

2.6 Council is the responsible authority for assessing planning applications for the establishment of long day child care facilities in Hume City in accordance with the Planning and Environment Act (1987).

2.7 In providing and facilitating high quality LDC services in the municipality, Hume City Council plays a number of key roles, which are outlined in this policy:

2.7.1 Planning for LDC services for children in Hume City and assessing planning applications from other service providers.

2.7.2 Providing LDC services where appropriate and applicable.

2.7.3 Providing a coordination role for the provision of LDC service in Hume City.

2.7.4 Acting as a lead agency in ensuring high quality service delivery.

3 SCOPE

3.1 The following principles underpin Council's approach to LDC services in the municipality and are to be considered at all times when implementing this policy:

3.1.1 Early years services directly improve a child's social, emotional, learning and employment opportunities throughout different life stages.

LONG DAY CARE POLICY

3.1.2 Quality is critical to achieving the broader benefits of early year's services.

3.1.3 A diversity of providers including Council, 'for-profit' and not-for-profit organisations underpin a robust LDC system.

3.1.4 Integrated service models deliver the best possible outcomes for children and families.

3.1.5 Council's service provider role strengthens Council's planning role and its capacity to deliver social justice outcomes for Hume residents.

3.1.6 LDC providers who offer 'value-add' opportunities due to their broader organisational missions are preferred providers of LDC.

3.1.7 Partnership with early years' service providers is critical to effective Council planning for LDC.

3.1.8 Parent engagement in LDC service planning and delivery strengthens quality outcomes.

3.1.9 Access to LDC is essential to support the participation of the many families who are in the workforce.

3.2 Council will undertake planning for the adequate provision of LDC in the municipality through:

3.2.1 Identifying infrastructure requirements to support LDC service delivery, including new services in growth areas and modernisation in established areas of Hume City.

3.2.2 Developing local policy frameworks to lead and inform non-Council service provider planning and influence the development of an integrated service system.

3.2.3 Providing leadership with local Early Years Partnerships and the community to influence State and Federal Government policy directions.

3.2.4 Collaboration with key stakeholders to develop enhanced LDC models and programming and maximise integration opportunities.

3.2.5 Identification of relevant social trends and emerging community needs through research and community engagement to ensure planning is robust and evidence-based.

3.2.6 In planning for LDC service delivery in Hume, Council will identify critical industry issues and strategies (workforce capacity).

LONG DAY CARE POLICY

Note: Council is the responsible authority for assessing planning applications for the establishment of long day child care facilities in the City in accordance with the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

3.3 Council will consider delivering new LDC services in the following circumstances:

3.3.1 If a suitable alternative LDC provider is not available.

3.3.2 Assistance is required for service establishment prior to transition to another suitable alternative provider.

3.3.3 LDC service quality or sustainability is vulnerable in a particular geographic catchment.

3.3.4 Families requiring support with complex child or family circumstances are not able to access suitable alternative LDC services in a catchment area.

3.3.5 When external capital and operational funding is available and provides an opportunity for innovative service delivery or meets a particular need in the community.

3.3.6 Where Council identifies there is higher order strategic outcomes being pursued by Council that another otherwise suitable service provider will not deliver within a particular area of Hume City.

3.4 Council will consider reducing LDC services in the following circumstances:

3.4.1 LDC policy objectives can be better achieved by transitioning Council LDC service provision to an appropriate not-for-profit or community managed model.

3.4.2 An alternative service delivery model is developed with other providers which allocates Council a modified role in service delivery (such as enhanced service coordination capacity).

3.4.3 Where a Council LDC service is not viable and demand will be met by suitable alternate providers.

3.5 In its role as a coordinator of LDC services in Hume City, Council will:

3.5.1 Undertake an Expression of Interest process to identify a suitable provider in any new Council-owned LDC facility, with the option of choosing to either:

3.5.1.1 directly provide and manage the service or;

3.5.1.2 enter into a lease agreement with an external provider.

LONG DAY CARE POLICY

3.5.2 Collaborate with key stakeholders to develop enhanced LDC models and programming and maximise integration opportunities.

3.5.3 Facilitate the integration of service access and response by different service providers in a single facility or local area.

3.5.4 Consider a direct onsite coordination/community capacity building role where Council can directly influence the outcomes achieved through enhanced service integration and community engagement.

3.6 In its role as a lead agency in ensuring high quality service provision in Hume City, Council will:

3.6.1 Facilitate best practice service provision in a number of ways including:

3.6.1.1 Model 'industry best practice' in service delivery and facilitate best practice forums in Hume City.

3.6.1.2 Provide information and support that builds the capacity of other service providers to deliver best practice services.

3.6.1.3 Host annual events to share research findings.

3.6.1.4 Support the professional development of Council staff in the early year's services.

3.6.2 Provide leadership and advocacy with local early years partners and the community to influence future State and Federal Government policy directions and initiatives including:

3.6.2.1 Development of innovative service models.

3.6.2.2 Infrastructure funding.

3.6.2.3 A mix of service providers in the Hume LDC service system.

3.6.2.4 Improved and/or new services for the community.

3.6.2.5 Funding to reduce the cost of LDC for families.

3.6.3 Facilitate and encourage the development of appropriate infrastructure that supports the delivery of high quality LDC services in Hume City, through activities including:

LONG DAY CARE POLICY

3.6.3.1 Fund and construct new LDC infrastructure where Council resolves that Council infrastructure is required to meet community need and infrastructure costs are reflected in Council's Capital Works Program.

3.6.3.2 Collect appropriate developer contributions for the construction of required facilities.

3.6.3.3 Ensure that Council-owned LDC facilities meet Children's Services Regulations and other relevant standards.

3.6.4 Promote LDC services and their benefits to families in Hume City, including:

3.6.4.1 Disseminate information regarding available LDC services within Hume.

3.6.4.2 Inform community of the value of LDC services.

3.6.4.3 Promote collaboration across LDC and other relevant services.

4 OBJECTIVES

4.1 Council's implementation of this policy will support the development and enhancement of a robust LDC system which:

4.1.1 is sustainable;

4.1.2 offers choice;

4.1.3 offers quality;

4.1.4 is accessible- culturally, geographically and financially;

4.1.5 is integrated with other relevant services and provides an access point to complementary child and family support services;

4.1.6 provides LDC at times and in locations that align with community needs;

4.1.7 responds to the needs of children with additional needs within the parameters of mainstream programs and funding constraints.

4.2 This policy is aligned to the Council Plan Strategic Objective 1.1.2, "Young children are developed into confident learners from birth and have access to high-quality education" and focuses on:

4.2.1 Support the provision of early childhood services across the City including:

LONG DAY CARE POLICY

4.2.1.1 Undertake programs and initiatives that strengthen learning opportunities for vulnerable families and children.

4.2.1.2 Provide ongoing support to culturally and linguistically diverse families and newly arrived migrants through school-based community hubs.

5 POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Council will respond to community need for long day care within the limitations of the

Scope, as identified in this Policy, through:

5.1.1 Planning

5.1.2 Advocacy

5.1.3 Driving partnerships with community service providers

5.1.4 Coordinating services

5.1.5 Guiding the development of infrastructure

6 DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

6.1 **Long Day Care (LDC)** - Long Day child care provides centre-based child care for children from birth to six years. A LDC centre operates extended hours to provide support to families who work or study. In partnership with families, LDC centres support a child's development through guidance and extensive opportunity for play.

6.2 **Viable -** A viable model of service delivery is a model that allows the service to operate in a financially sustainable way without Council subsidy.

6.3 **Access** - A family is considered to have 'access' to early childhood education when a place is available in a quality early childhood education program where neither distance nor cost present a barrier to attendance.

6.4 **Quality** - A service is provided in accordance with National Child Care Quality Standards.

6.5 **Industry leading practice** - Practice that is aligned with contemporary policy and international and national research determining a model of practice that achieves the best possible outcomes for the community.

6.6 **Strategic Objectives** - Refer to Council's adopted strategic objectives including the Council Plan and other strategic plans as detailed in the related documents section of this policy.

Policy Reference No:	POL/179	**Responsible Officer:**	Manager Family, Youth and Children's Services
Date of Re/Adoption:	14 October 2019	**Department:**	Family, Youth and Children's Services
Review Date:	July 2024	**Next Review Date:**	July 2027
Page 8 of 9			

LONG DAY CARE POLICY

7 RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Local Government Act (2020)
- Hume City Council 0-24 Framework
- State Government National Competition Policy and Local Government (2008)
- Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 (effective January 2016)
- Education and Care National Law Act 2010 and Education and Care Services National Law Regulations 2011.

Policy Reference No:	POL/179	**Responsible Officer:**	Manager Family, Youth and Children's Services
Date of Re/Adoption:	14 October 2019	**Department:**	Family, Youth and Children's Services
Review Date:	August 2019	**Next Review Date:**	April 2024
Page 9 of 9			

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

Policy Reference No:	POL 201
File Reference No:	HCC15/835
Strategic Objective:	4.3 Create a connected community through efficient and effective walking, cycling, public transport and car networks.
Date of Adoption:	August 2024
Date for Review:	August 2028
Responsible Officer:	Manager Assets
Department:	Assets

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

1. POLICY STATEMENT

To provide a fair, equitable and consistent approach to the construction of infrastructure or the provision of services, for those who derive a special benefit through owner contributions as part of a special rate or special charge scheme.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline a fair, equitable and consistent approach to the construction of infrastructure or the provision of services through owner contributions as part of a special rate or special charge scheme implemented under the Local Government Act (LGA).

3. LEGISLATION

The LGA 2020 and the LGA 1989 currently operate in tandem with the special charge provisions remaining and operating under the LGA 1989 Section 163 and complying with The Local Government Legislation (Rating and Other Matters) Act 2022 (LGLA 2022) Part 2 Amendment of LGA 1989 Division 2-Special Rates and Charges.

If there are any changes to the Legislation relating to Special Rate and Special Charge Scheme during the life of this Policy, an updated Policy will need to be adopted by Council.

4. SCOPE

4.1 The scope of infrastructure works includes, but is not limited to, road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel, stormwater drainage and car parks.

4.2 There are locations throughout the municipality where properties were developed with insufficient infrastructure including:

4.1.1 gravel or part gravel roads
4.1.2 rural type roads within an urban area
4.1.3 little or no stormwater drainage
4.1.4 no footpath
4.1.5 limited or insufficient car parking

4.3 The scope for the provision of services includes but is not limited to promotion and activities for business, shops or providing a higher level of service required for a particular area or group of properties.

4.4 The scope includes special purpose fund schemes where monies are raised and go into a fund for a specified purpose.

4.5 Council can impose a special rate and/or for special charge for infrastructure works or the provision of services on property owners who Council believes receive a special benefit from the provision of those works or services.

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

4.6 Council cannot impose a special rate or special charge on land that is not rateable or on Crown land.

5. OBJECTIVE

5.1 To provide a fair and equitable basis for determining a levy and apportioning costs for a special rate and special charge scheme.

5.2 To ensure consistent practices that are in compliance with the LGA when implementing a special rate or special charge scheme for infrastructure works or the provision of services.

6. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Scheme Initiation

6.1.1 A special rate or special charge scheme for infrastructure works or the provision of services may be initiated by Council, Council officers or from affected rate payers.

6.1.2 Support for projects or services will be ascertained through a survey of affected property owners. The survey shall outline the proposed works or services and provide an indication of the cost to owners, including the options for payments.

6.2 Intention to Declare or Abandon Scheme

6.2.1 A Council report on the outcome of the survey will be prepared with a recommendation to either abandon or for Council to give notice of its intention to declare a special rate or charge scheme.

6.2.2 If the recommendation is the intention to declare a special rate or special charge scheme the procedures of Section 163 of the LGA 1989 will be followed. There are provisions for formal submissions from affected property owners to Council under Section 223 of the LGA.

6.2.3 The intention to declare a special rate or special charge will expire if the special rate or special charge is not levied to each person liable to pay it within 12 months after the day on which the declaration to which rate or charge relates is made.

6.3 Maximum Total Levy

6.3.1 The maximum total levy that can be apportioned to property owners must be calculated in accordance with the *Special Rates and Charges, Ministerial Guideline, September 2004*. Refer to **Attachment 1**.

6.3.2 If a property will receive a special benefit but is not included in the scheme Council will pay the share of costs related to the special benefit for those properties.

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

6.3.3 Where there is a use or amenity value to the broader community other than the affected property owners Council will pay the costs attributed to a community benefit.

6.3.4 Council may recover costs incurred in the design, supervision, and administration of the works and include these costs in the maximum total levy.

6.3.5 While the maximum total levy applicable to a special rate or special charge scheme is the highest total amount that Council may recover, it is not required to recover that maximum amount. Council may decide, at its own discretion to levy a lower amount than the maximum total level by contributing to the scheme.

6.3.6 The maximum total levy applicable to a special rate or special charge scheme will be initially consulted with the affected property owners and reported to Council for their consideration.

6.4 Apportionment

6.4.1 The total maximum levy less any Council contributions shall be apportioned to the property owners.

6.4.2 In determining the apportionment of costs for each property Council shall take into consideration, but not limited to, the frontage, area, access, town planning zoning and traffic generation.

6.5 Declare or Abandon Scheme

5.5.1 A Council report that considers any submissions from affected property owners will be prepared with a recommendation to either abandon or an intention to declare a special rate or special charge scheme.

5.5.2 Under Section 163B of the Act, Council cannot make a declaration for a special rate or special charge scheme if it receives objections from a majority of the rateable properties in respect of which the special charge would be imposed.

5.5.3 However, if Council contributes more than one-third to the cost of the scheme, Section 163B does not apply. This would enable the scheme to be declared by Council regardless of whether a majority of objections are received from affected property owners.

5.5.4 If the recommendation is to declare a special rate or special charge the affected property owners will be notified in accordance with the requirements of Section 163 of the LGA.

6.6 Application to VCAT

5.6.1 Property owners under Section 185 of LGA have the right to apply to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) for a review of Council's

resolution to impose a special rate or special charge. Objections should address the criteria in this section.

5.6.2 All applications are administered by VCAT and must be submitted within 30 days of the notice levying the special rate or special charge.

6.7 Financial

6.7.1 Any Council costs to the special rate or charge scheme shall be included in Council's Capital Works Program. Councils cost may be attributed:

(a) properties receiving a benefit but Council resolving for them not to be included in the scheme
(b) land that is not rateable and Crown land
(c) community benefit costs where the broader community benefit
(d) Council contributions

6.7.2 Council may recover the costs incurred in the design, supervision, and administration of the works at 10% of the actual total cost of the works.

6.7.3 Apportioned cost to property owners may be paid as a lump sum within one month of commencement of the work or by quarterly instalments over a maximum 10 year period with interest. The interest charged will be Council's borrowing rate at the time plus an additional 1% for administration costs.

6.8 Special Charge Scheme Flowchart

Refer to **Attachment 2** for Special Charge Scheme Flowchart.

7. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

LGA 2020 – Local Government Act 2020
LGA 1989 – Local Government Act 1989
Local Government Legislation (Rating and Other Matters) Act 2022 - (LGLA 2022)
VCAT – Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal

8. RELATED DOCUMENTS

8.1 Local Government Act 2020 &1989
8.2 Local Government Legislation (Rating and Other Matters) Act 2022
8.2 Ministerial Guideline September 2004

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

APPENDIX 1 –
Special Rates and Charges, Ministerial Guidelines, September

SPECIAL RATES AND CHARGES

Ministerial Guideline

September 2004

Local Government Victoria
Level 14, 1 Spring Street,
Melbourne, Vic, 3000
(03) 9208 3430

Department for Victorian Communities

Victoria
The Place To Be

Policy Reference No: CP2007-06-76	Date of Adoption: August 2024
Review Date: August 2028	Responsible Officer: Manager Assets
	Department: Assets

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

Preface to Ministerial Guideline on Special Rates and Charges

INTRODUCTION

The attached Ministerial Guideline has been prepared to assist and guide Councils in complying with new provisions of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) relating to the levying of Special Rates and Special Charges. It specifically addresses the method of calculating the maximum amount that a Council may levy as a special rate or charge.

The amendments to the Act made by the Local Government (Democratic Reform) Act 2003 had the following objectives:

- To ensure fairness and equity by requiring Councils to formally consider the proportion of the benefits of a proposed works or services that will provide special benefits for the people included in the scheme.

- To maximise opportunities for participation in consultation on proposed schemes and to provide objection rights where it is proposed that the affected people should contribute over two thirds of total costs.

- To ensure councils retain the ability to recover reasonable contributions from people who will derive special benefits from particular works or services so that those special benefits do not need to be subsidised by general ratepayers.

THE AMENDMENTS

The amendments made to the special rates and charges provisions of the Act include the following:

- A proposed declaration must include a description of the works or services to be provided, the total cost of the works or services and the total amount of the special rates and charges to be levied. (This is in addition to information already required)

- When a council gives public notice of a proposed special rate or charge it must, within 3 working days, send a copy of the public notice to each person who will be required to pay the rate or charge.

- Before declaring a scheme, a council must determine the "total amount" of the special rates and charges to be levied. The total amount may not exceed the maximum total amount calculated by the formula R X C = S; where R is the benefit ratio, C is the total cost of the works or service and S is the total maximum amount.

- If a council proposes to levy a total amount that exceeds two thirds of the total cost the affected ratepayers have a right to object and if the council receives objections from a majority of those ratepayers within 28 days of the public notice it may not declare the scheme. (This is in addition to the existing section 223 consultation process)

- If a council proposes to alter a declared special rate or charge in a way that will require an additional person(s) to pay, or that will involve a material increase in the amount that a person has to pay, it must give public notice of the proposal and consider public submissions, in accordance with section 223 of the Act.

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

COVERAGE OF THE GUIDELINE

The Ministerial Guideline specifically deals with the calculation of the maximum total amount that a council may levy as a special rate or special charge. It therefore deals with the calculation of the total cost of the works or services and the estimation of the benefit ratio (Sections 163(2A) and 163(2B) of the Act).

It should be noted that the guideline does not deal with the following matters:

- Consultation processes between councils and people affected by proposed special rate or charge schemes,
- The new notification and objection procedures in the Act, except where they are related to or affected by the total cost, the benefit ratio or the maximum total levy, or
- The criteria used for the apportionment of special rates and charges between the people required to pay the rate or charge.

USING THE GUIDELINE

This Guideline is intended to assist Councils in preparing proposed declarations for special rates and charges schemes. While not having the same force as the Act, the Guideline should be considered by a council when developing a special rate or special charge scheme.

It is acknowledged that special rate and charge schemes can vary significantly and that it is not possible to cover all situations in a guideline. Subject to the requirements of the Act, councils are empowered to exercise discretion in developing special rate and charge schemes. In exercising their discretion, however, councils should take the Guideline into account to avoid the risk of having their decisions set aside by the VCAT or a court by reason of having failed to take into account a relevant consideration.

APPORTIONMENT

The guideline does not deal with the criteria to be used as a basis for levying a special rate or charge. This is commonly referred to as "apportionment". The following matters should be noted, however:

- The determination of apportionment criteria is a separate process from the calculation of the maximum total levy.
- While benefit is the fundamental criterion for determining the proportion of total costs that may be recovered under a special rate or charge, it is not necessarily the appropriate criterion for determining apportionment.
- Councils should have regard to the objective in the Local Government Charter (Part 1A of the Act), to "ensure the equitable imposition of rates and charges" when deciding on apportionment criteria.
- Prior consultation with affected people should enable councils to develop equitable and appropriate apportionment criteria in a proposed declaration.
- A person required to pay a special rate or charge continues to have the right to request a review by VCAT on the basis that the apportionment is unreasonable.

MAXIMUM LEVY

The Guideline provides assistance for councils calculating the maximum total levy applicable to a special rate or charge scheme. While maximum total levy is the highest total amount that a council may recover as a special rate or charge, a council is not required to recover that maximum amount and may decide, at its own discretion, to levy a lower amount than the maximum total levy.

CONSULTATION

Generally, councils that establish special rate and charge schemes have well developed public consultation processes that significantly exceed the minimum requirements of the Act. This approach is highly recommended. Experience shows that open and effective consultation with the community, particularly with the people who will be included in a proposed scheme, results in higher success rates and greater public satisfaction.

COUNCIL POLICIES

While not essential, it is desirable for Councils that intend to establish special rate and special charge schemes to develop and adopt policies and procedures to ensure reasonable and consistent practices. It is essential that that any such policies or procedures be consistent with the new provisions of the Act and it is recommended that they be consistent with the Ministerial Guideline.

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

Local Government Act 1989 – Section 163(2C)

Special Rates and Special Charges: Calculating Maximum Total Levy

Ministerial Guideline

(Published in the Government Gazette on 23 September 2004)

INTRODUCTION

1. This Guideline is made under section 163(2C) of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act). It relates to the application of sections 163(2), 163(2A) and 163(2B) of the Act. It specifically addresses the calculation of the maximum total amount that may be levied as a special rate or special charge (referred to as the ***"maximum total levy"***).
2. Some terminology used in this Guideline should be noted:
   a. ***"Scheme"*** refers to a special rate or special charge scheme.
   b. ***"Works or services"*** refers to the functions or powers being exercised by the Council for which it is proposed to levy a special rate or charge.
   c. ***"Property"*** refers to property in the form of land.
3. The calculation of the *maximum total levy* requires the following:
   a. Calculation of the *"total cost"* of the works or services,
   b. Calculation of the *"benefit ratio"*, which depends on reasonable estimates of:
      - *"Total special benefits"* to properties included in the scheme,
      - *"Total special benefits"* to properties not included in the scheme (if any), and
      - *"Total community benefits"* (if any).

STEPS IN CALCULATION

4. The following steps apply to the calculation of the maximum total levy.
   A. DEFINE PURPOSE
   B. ENSURE COHERENCE.
   C. CALCULATE TOTAL COST
   D. IDENTIFY SPECIAL BENEFICIARIES
   E. DETERMINE PROPERTIES TO INCLUDE
   F. ESTIMATE TOTAL SPECIAL BENEFITS
   G. ESTIMATE COMMUNITY BENEFITS
   H. CALCULATE THE "BENEFIT RATIO"
   I. CALCULATE THE MAXIMUM TOTAL LEVY

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

A. Define Purpose

5. The purpose, or purposes, of the proposed works or services should be clearly defined at the outset. The purpose should describe the reasons why the proposed works or services are proposed.
6. The description of the purpose would normally take account of the following:
   a. Reasons why the works or services are considered necessary or appropriate, noting any relevant background information.
   b. Who has proposed that the works or services be undertaken and including the following information;
      - If the works or services have been proposed by the council, the relevant council policy or resolution.
      - If the works or services were requested by a person or people other than the council, an indication of whether those people are proposed to be included in the scheme and what reasons they have given for requesting the works or services.
7. A scheme may serve multiple purposes and can be proposed by multiple parties.

B. Ensure Coherence

8. For the purposes of calculating the maximum total levy, and therefore total cost and benefit ratio, the works or services for which the special rate or charge is proposed should have a natural coherence.
9. Proposed works or services can be considered to have a natural coherence if:
   a. They will be physically or logically connected, or
   b. They will provide special benefits, of a related nature, to a common, or overlapping, group of properties.

C. Calculate total cost

10. The *"total cost"* is the aggregate cost of defraying expenses related to providing the works or services and establishing the scheme.
11. The following should apply to the calculation of the *"total cost":*
    a. Costs included in the *total cost* must be for purposes in section 163(1) of the Act, and
    b. Costs included in the *total cost* may only be for expenses listed in section 163(6) of the Act, and
    c. Costs included in the *total cost* should be based on actual expenses that have been incurred, or reasonable estimates of expenses expected to be incurred. (For example, any interest should be based on estimated actual interest costs rather than on prescribed penalty interest rates)
    d. Costs included in the *total cost* may relate to known activities but not to activities that are purely speculative or hypothetical in nature. (For example, provision for incidental costs related to the proposed works might be included but not costs related to possible legal proceedings that may or may not occur)

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

D. Identify special beneficiaries

12. The council should identify, as far as possible, which properties will receive a special benefit from the proposed works or services. A ***"special benefit"*** is considered to be provided to a property if the proposed works or services will provide a benefit that is additional to or greater than the benefit to other properties.

13. It is important to note that, while special benefits are considered to accrue to properties, the actual measurable benefits are provided to the owners and/or occupiers of the properties (see also paragraph 23.a).

14. Special benefits should be benefits that are either tangible benefits to the owners or occupiers of the properties that are not remote, or they should be clear benefits to those owners or occupiers that were identified in the defined purpose of the works or services (paragraph 5). Types of benefits included as special benefits generally include services provided for the properties, identifiable improvements in physical or environmental amenity, improved access, improved safety or economic benefits.

15. A special benefit may be considered to exist if it would reasonably be expected to benefit the owners or occupiers of the property. It is not necessary for the benefit to be actually used by the particular owners or occupiers of a specified property at a particular time in order for a special benefit to be attributed to the property.

E. Determine properties to include

16. Having identified which properties will receive *special benefits*, the council must decide which properties to include in the scheme. The properties included in the scheme will be those that are required to pay the special rate or charge.

17. If a property will receive a *special benefit* but is not included in the scheme, the calculation of the benefit ratio will result in the council paying the share of costs related to the special benefits for those properties.

18. The council is not required to levy a special rate or charge on any or every property that will receive a *special benefit*. A property with a special benefit may be excluded from the scheme for any of the following reasons:
    a. The council is unable to levy a special rate or charge on the property,
    b. The owner of the property has already contributed to the costs of the works through a development levy,
    c. The council considers that there are particular advantages for the municipality in excluding the property from the scheme,
    d. The council considers that the special benefits for the property are marginal and would not warrant including the property in the scheme, or
    e. Any other reason that the council considers appropriate.

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

F. Estimate total special benefits

19. Total special benefits can be defined to include two parts, as follows:

    $TSB = TSB(in) + TSB(out)$

    - ***TSB*** is the estimated total special benefit for all properties that have been identified to receive a special benefit.
    - ***TSB(in)*** is the estimated total special benefit for those properties that the council proposes to include in the scheme.
    - ***TSB(out)*** is the estimated total special benefit for those properties with an identified special benefit that the council does not propose to include in the scheme.

20. In estimating the total special benefits for properties that will be included in the scheme, particular attention should be paid to:
    a. The identified purpose of the proposed works or services, and
    b. Specific benefits relevant to the type of works or services proposed.

21. There is no single or prescribed method for estimating total special benefits. However, whatever method is used, it is essential that the comparative weightings attributed to different types of benefits are reasonable and are applied consistently by a Council. It is also essential that consistent weightings are used between those properties that are included in the scheme and those that are not included.

22. It is particularly important to note that, while it may sometimes be useful to estimate special benefits on a property by property basis, this is not always necessary. The calculation of the benefit ratio only requires aggregate estimates of total special benefits for properties included in the scheme and for properties excluded from the scheme.

23. The following matters should be noted in calculating "total special benefits"
    a. While changes in property values are considered to be an indication that a special benefit exists, this is generally derived from benefits provided to the owners or occupiers of the property. To avoid double counting, changes in property values should not normally be included in the calculation of total special benefits.
    b. Where the services or works proposed under a scheme include benefits to people who are servicing or accessing properties that are identified as having special benefits, the benefits to those people may be included as special benefits to the properties rather than as community benefits.

G. Estimate total community benefit

24. Before calculating the benefit ratio, a Council must consider if the proposed works or services will provide *"community benefits"*. Not all schemes have community benefits.

25. ***Community benefits*** are considered to exist where the works or services will provide tangible and direct benefits to people in the broader community. These will generally derive from the provision of facilities or services that are

generally available to people, other than owners or occupiers of properties with special benefits.

26. Where there is a use or amenity value to people in the broader community that is a clear, tangible and direct, the Council should attribute a community benefit. The council should also attribute a community benefit where it identified in the defined purpose of the works or services (paragraph 5).

27. Councils should use a method of estimating community benefits that is reasonable and consistent in comparison to the estimates of special benefits. In making these estimates, care should be taken to avoid double counting. If a benefit is identified as a special benefit it should not also be counted as a community benefit.

H. Calculating the benefit ratio

28. The benefit ratio is calculated as follows:

$$\frac{TSB(in)}{TSB(in) + TSB(out) + TCB} = R$$

- ***TSB(in)*** is the estimated total special benefit for those properties that the council proposes to include in the scheme
- ***TSB(out)*** is the estimated total special benefit for those properties with an identified special benefit that the council does not propose to include in the scheme.
- ***TCB*** is the estimated total community benefit,
- ***R*** is the benefit ratio.

I. Calculating the Maximum Total Levy

29. Having calculated the total cost and the benefit ratio, the Council is required to calculate the maximum total levy, in accordance with section 163(2A) of the Act.

$R \times C = S$

- ***R*** is the benefit ratio
- ***C*** is the total cost
- ***S*** is the maximum total levy.

30. A council may not levy a special rate or charge to recover an amount that exceeds the maximum total levy. However, a council may decide to levy a lower amount.

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

SCHEME TYPES

31. The principles and processes outlined in this guideline will apply differently in different types of schemes recognising that complexities and variances occur with each scheme.

32. In general there are three main types of schemes:
    a. Works Schemes, that involve the construction of an item, or items of infrastructure,
    b. Service schemes that provide a particular service or bundle of related services, and
    c. Special purpose fund schemes, where the monies raised by the special rate or charge go into a fund for a specified purpose and may include a mixture of works and/or services.

A. Works Schemes

33. Works schemes are schemes that involve the construction of an item, or items, of infrastructure, such as roads, (including road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel, etc) drains or car parks.

34. Benefits to be taken into account in a works scheme are usually related to improved amenity, safety, environment or usage value. As with all schemes, any benefits identified in the defined purpose should be taken into account in estimating total special benefits and total community benefit.

35. Consideration of the special benefits and community benefits should take account of changes in usage that are realistically expected to occur following the construction of the works.
    a. Future benefits should be limited to those that can arise under existing laws, planning schemes, permits and approvals.
    b. Future benefits should be limited to benefits that may arise within reasonable timeframes.

ROADS

36. The construction of a road may generally include the various components of a road, such as the road pavement, kerb and channel, drains and drainage pits, nature strips and street trees, signage, line marking, traffic management devices, and footpaths.

37. When estimating the total special benefits associated with the construction of a road, a Council may take account of the following:
    a. The primary purpose for which the road is being constructed,
    b. Improved access to properties by owners, occupiers, visitors and services,
    c. Improved safety such as improved traffic delineation, improved sight distance, road surface and road width, reduced road flooding,
    d. Improved physical or environmental amenity for the owners or occupiers, which may result from such works due to landscape treatments, removal of open drains and stagnant water, reduced property flooding, removal of dust,

e. Impact on any community facilities that may derive a special benefit from the works.

Where properties with special benefits have been excluded from the scheme, these factors should be applied consistently to those properties, wherever relevant.

38. When estimating the level of community benefit associated with the construction of a road, a Council should take account of:
    a. The primary purpose for which the road is being constructed,
    b. Actual and expected usage of the constructed works, with a possible exception where the users are accessing or servicing properties with special benefits,
    c. Expected impacts on projected road usage from factors such as growth, major development or traffic generators that are located outside of the scheme works,
    d. Road function/classification and subsequent design standards and the extent that those standards are influenced by the degree of community usage of the works over and above that, may be attributed to properties within a scheme,
    e. Extent of other works such as bicycle lanes and parking lanes, increasing the standard above that that would normally apply if only providing local property access.

DRAINS

39. In drainage schemes or works involving drainage infrastructure the key criteria for assessing total special benefits, includes an assessment of discharge and protection benefit to properties. This may relate to properties included in the scheme as well as properties not included in the scheme.

40. Factors that may be considered to provide a community benefit include improved drainage capacity, improved environment amenity due to such matters as water quality, reduction in erosion, reduction in flooding and improved health and hygiene.

B. Service Schemes

41. Service schemes are schemes that provide a particular service or bundle of related services that provide a special benefit.

42. Benefits to be taken into account in service schemes are primarily the special benefits to the direct users of the services. When estimating total special benefits and any community benefits for service schemes, the following consideration may apply:
    a. Who requested the service and what is its primary purpose?
    b. Which group of people might be reasonably expected to pay for the service if it were commercially available?

RETAIL PROMOTIONS

43. Where services are provided for purpose of promoting or supporting business activities, such as in retail centres or shopping strips, the affected businesses would frequently be considered to be the main, or sole, beneficiaries. This will

be particularly appropriate where the scheme has been proposed by business associations and the services are tailored to the needs of the affected businesses.

44. Any benefits for customers of the businesses that are included in the scheme would normally be included in the total special benefits to those businesses, in accordance with paragraph 23.b.

SERVICES GENERALLY AVAILABLE

45. Special rate and charge schemes are not generally used for services that are generally available to other people. This is because special rates and charges are only applicable where there is a special benefit.

46. However, there may be cases where a higher level of service is required for a particular area or group of properties and it may be appropriate to levy a special rate or charge. This might apply, for example, where ratepayers require maintenance of the road adjoining their properties at a higher standard than is generally provided for roads of a similar type and classification.

47. In such cases, it is important to ensure that the special rate or charge does not apply to the portion of the service that is generally available to other people. Therefore, the calculation of the maximum total levy, the total cost and the benefit ratio should be restricted to that part of the service that is over and above the level of service generally available to other people.

C. Special Purpose Fund Schemes

48. Special purpose fund schemes are where the monies raised by the rate or charge go into a fund to be used for a specified purpose. In these schemes, the precise services and/or works are not fully specified in advance and a process
is therefore established to allocate the funds raised. An example of this type of scheme could be a shopping centre promotion scheme, where a council directs and empowers a committee to allocate the funds.

49. Particular care should be taken when defining the purpose of special purpose fund schemes as the calculation of the maximum total levy, the total cost and the benefit ratio need to be based on the defined purpose.

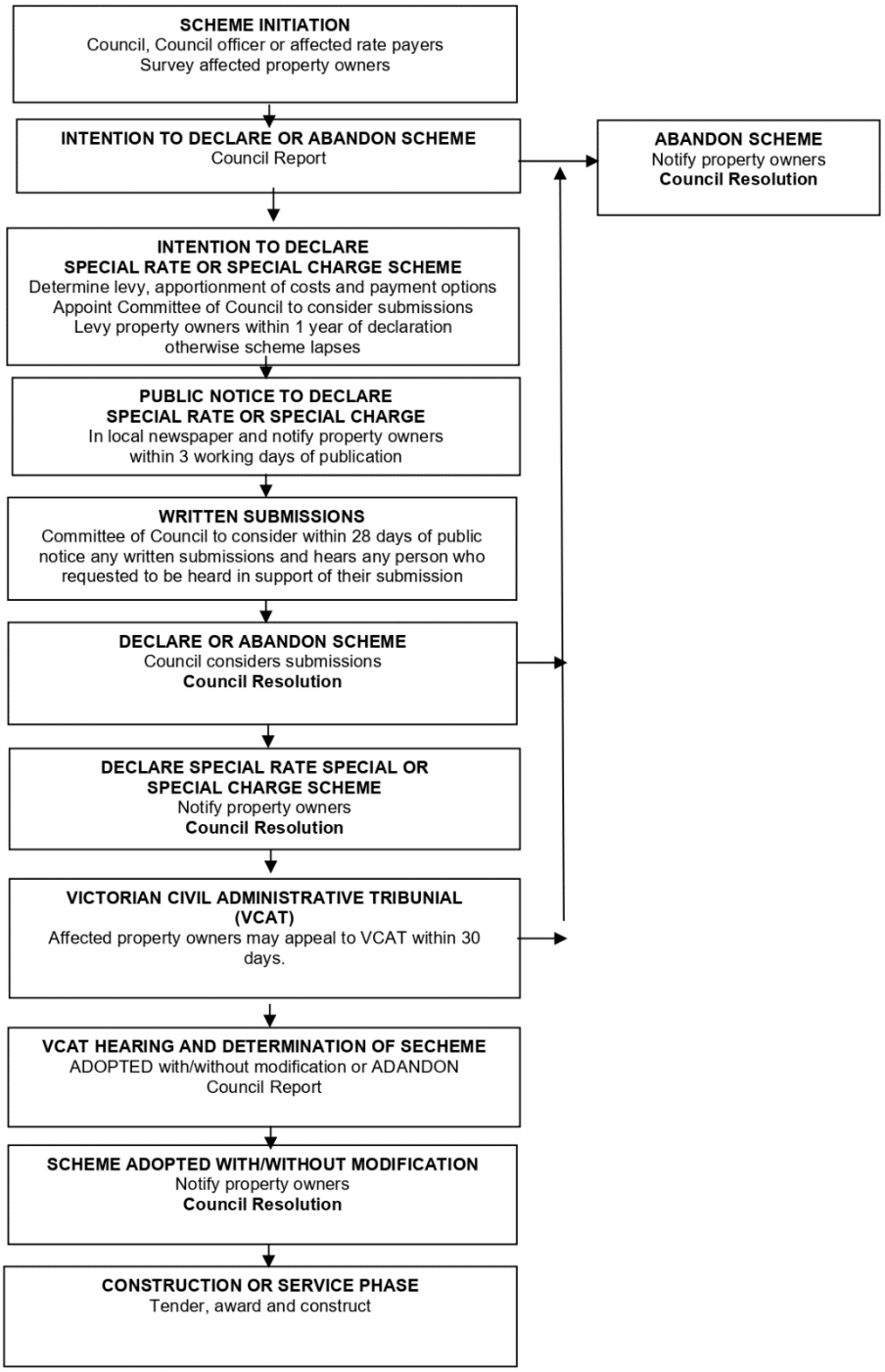
50. When estimating total special benefits and any community benefits a council should consider the defined purpose of the scheme. It should also take account of advice in this guideline relevant to the types of works or services proposed or planned under the scheme.

51. It is essential that any funds raised under a special purpose fund scheme are utilised fully in accordance with the defined purpose of the scheme.

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME POLICY

APPENDIX 2 – SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME FLOWCHART

SPECIAL RATE AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME PROCEEDURE



HUME CITY PUBLIC LIGHTING POLICY

Policy Reference No:	POL276
File Reference No:	HCC-CM08/387
Strategic Objective:	4.3 Create a connected community through efficient and effective walking, cycling, public transport and car networks.
Date of Adoption:	August 2024
Date for Review:	August 2028
Responsible Officer:	Manager Assets
Department:	Assets

HUME CITY PUBLIC LIGHTING POLICY

1. POLICY STATEMENT:

To provide public lighting to meet the needs of the community using the most energy efficient lighting available to the appropriate standards for the safe movement of vehicle and pedestrian traffic at night.

2. PURPOSE:

2.1 To provide a consistent approach for the provision of public lighting.

2.2 To require the use of the most energy efficient lighting available.

2.3 To support the safe movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic at night.

2.4

2.5 To replace damaged or end of life approved non-standard lights with standard lights.

2.6 To provide a consistent standard lighting style throughout the municipality.

3. SCOPE:

3.1 The policy applies to streets and public places including:

3.1.1 New estates.
3.1.2 Existing residential and industrial areas.
3.1.3 Public activity areas.
3.1.4 Rural areas.
3.1.5 Public open space.
3.1.6 Car parks.
3.1.7 Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) arterial roads.

3.2 Public lighting is not provided for the security of private properties. It is not the role of Council to improve the level of safety within private properties through the provision of additional street lighting.

4. OBJECTIVE:

4.1 To provide a consistent approach for the provision of public lighting.

4.2 To reduce the funding liability to Council by replacing damaged and end of life approved non-standard lighting with standard lighting.

4.3 To reduce greenhouse emissions through the use of energy efficient lights, renewable energy sources and the avoidance of unnecessary lighting.

HUME CITY PUBLIC LIGHTING POLICY

5. BACKGROUND:

5.1 Public Lighting Assets

There are three categories of public lighting assets:

5.1.1 Public lighting systems owned and operated by Council that have a separate meter box to record electricity consumption or an alternative source of power.

5.1.2 Public lighting systems owned and operated by the DTP that have a separate meter box to record electricity consumption.

5.1.3 Public lighting owned and operated by the Electricity Distribution Company that are non-metered which includes standard and approved non-standard lights. The maintenance service standards for Electricity Distributer operated lighting schemes are set out in the Essential Services Commission '*Public Lighting Code (2015)*'.

5.2 Tariffs and Costs

5.2.1 A tariff for the Operation Maintenance and Replacement (OMR) of each non-metered public light is paid by councils to the Electricity Distributor who owns the public lighting assets.

5.2.2 The OMR tariff covers the cost for the Electricity Distributer to maintain and replace lights. For areas with underground power this includes standard lights including the supply and installation of the light pole and luminaire.

5.2.3 Although Council pays the same tariff for approved non-standard lights they are not supported under the OMR tariff so Council incurs significant additional costs for replacing and maintaining these luminaires and poles.

5.2.4 The full cost to supply approved non-standard lighting poles and luminaires when they are damaged or when they have reached the end of their asset life is borne by Council.

5.2.5 The Electricity Distributor OMR tariffs are approved by the Australian Energy Regulator. The OMR tariff is currently not contestable and Council must pay this charge to the relevant Electrical Distributor operating in a given area.

5.2.6 A tariff for the energy usage of each non-metered public light is paid by councils to the Electricity Retailer. This tariff is contestable and Council is currently party to an agreement through Procurement Australia for the purchase of electricity for street lighting.

HUME CITY PUBLIC LIGHTING POLICY

5.2.7 Schedule 7A of the Road Management Act legislation states that the OMR tariffs for lighting on arterial roads under the management of DPT are cost shared between DTP and the relevant municipal council. DTP funds 60% and council funds 40%. This excludes service roads which are the responsibility of the council.

6. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION:

6.1 Street Lighting in New Residential and Industrial Estates

6.1.1 The provision of new public lighting will be in accordance with the AS/NZS 1158 Series – *Lighting for Roads and Public Places*.

6.1.2 Council's Manager Assets will determine the lighting category, sub-category and any special requirements to each road or public space for the design of a public lighting scheme. The public lighting designer shall provide certification and documentation demonstrating compliance of the public lighting scheme with the AS/NZS 1158 series standards.

6.1.3 In addition to AS/NZS 1158 standards new road lighting shall be provided at the following locations:

(a) At each end of a laneway, but generally not within a laneway.
(b) At a pedestrian access to a public open space.

6.1.4 New estate street lighting shall be designed taking advantage of the most energy efficient luminaire as approved by the Electricity Distributer. The luminaire shall incorporate smart technology which enables the lamp to be remotely monitored and controlled.

6.1.5 Council will only permit street lights approved by the Electricity Distributor on new estates that are covered by the OMR tariff.

6.1.6 The developer is responsible for the design and installation costs of public lighting in new estates subject to the approval of Council's Manager Assets.

HUME CITY PUBLIC LIGHTING POLICY

6.2 Street Lighting in Existing Residential and Industrial Areas

6.2.1 In areas serviced with ~~timber~~ power poles with overhead or underground supply, lighting shall be provided at the following locations:

(a) At a maximum spacing of 100 metres.
(b) At each intersection.
(c) At the end or near the end of court bowl or cul-de-sac.
(d) At traffic management devices including roundabouts, road humps and traffic islands.
(e) At pedestrian crossing facilities including signalised pedestrian crossings, pedestrian zebra crossings and pedestrian refuges.
(f) At each end or near the end of a laneway, but generally not within a laneway.
(g) At or near a pedestrian access to a public open space.

6.2.2 Approved non-standard poles and luminaires that require replacement will be replaced with a standard pole and luminaire approved by the Electricity Distributor. Immediately abutting properties will be notified of the proposed changes.

6.2.3 Approved non-standard luminaires that require replacement, with the pole still serviceable, will be replaced with a standard luminaire approved by the Electricity Distributor.

6.2.4 Council's Manager Assets may consider that damaged approved non-standard poles and luminaires be replaced like for like at locations where the street trees have yet to establish to a similar height to the light poles.

6.3 Street Lighting in Public Activity Areas

6.4.1 Council may use approved non-standard or alternative non-standard street lighting in prominent high community value areas such as civic spaces, town centres and shopping precincts.

6.3.2
6.3.3 Alternative energy efficient non-standard lights owned and operated by Council on a metered supply or alternative power source may be considered by Council's Manager Assets.

6.3.4 The provision of new public lighting for public activity areas will be in accordance with the AS/NZS 1158 Series – *Lighting for Roads and Public Places*. Council's Manager Assets will provide the lighting category, sub-category and any special requirements for the design of a public lighting scheme.

6.4 Street Lighting in Rural Areas

6.4.1 For the purposes of this policy an area is considered rural if the property allotment sizes are greater than 4,000 square meters.

6.4.2 Street lighting is generally not provided in rural areas.

6.4.3 Reflectorized night time delineation devices may be considered at locations to provide guidance to traffic.

6.5 Public Open Space

6.5.1 Public open space incorporates active and passive open space.

6.5.2 Active open space is land set aside for the primary purpose of formal outdoor sports by the community and lighting of these spaces does not form part of this policy.

6.5.3 Passive open space is land set aside for parks, gardens, linear reserves, conservation bushlands, nature reserves and civic spaces that are made available for passive recreation. Public lighting of these spaces is considered within this policy. Public lighting if warranted is installed and maintained by Council on a metered supply or an alternative power source.

6.5.4 Parks and gardens is land that has some modifications to support community interaction and includes landscape parklands, formal lawn areas, botanical gardens, playgrounds and pocket parks. Public lighting of parks and gardens including paths will only be considered where the space is used for passive night time recreation. Approval will be through the Capital Works budget process or by Council's Manager Assets.

6.5.5 Linear reserves are often along rivers, creeks, drainage easements and utility reserves where off-road paths and trails are provided. Public lighting of linear reserves will generally not be permitted as it may affect wildlife. Travelling through these areas during the night should generally not be encouraged through public lighting due to potential personal safety considerations.

6.5.6 Conservation bushlands and nature reserves are primarily set aside to protect and enhance areas with significant environmental or cultural value. No new public lighting is supported along these areas as it may affect wildlife.

6.5.7 Civic spaces include land that is set aside for community gathering and events where public lighting is provided and maintained by Council on a metered supply or by alternative power sources.

HUME CITY PUBLIC LIGHTING POLICY

6.5.8 Public lighting of pedestrian and cycling paths within public open spaces, but not along rivers or creeks and nature reserves, that have demonstrated or projected high night time usage may be considered by Council's Manager Assets.

6.5.9 The provision of new public lighting for pathways will be in accordance with the AS/NZS 1158 Series – *Lighting for Roads and Public Places*. Council's Manager Assets will provide the lighting category, sub-category and any special requirements for the design of a public lighting scheme.

6.6 Car Parks

6.6.1 Council owned and managed public car parks are to be provided with lighting during the night time hours of operation if the facility associated with the car park operates during the night.

6.6.2 Lighting of car parks are maintained by Council through a metered supply or by alternative power sources.

6.6.3 The provision of new public lighting for car parks will be in accordance with the AS/NZS 1158 Series – *Lighting for Roads and Public Places*. Council's Manger Assets will provide the lighting category, sub-category and any special requirements for the design of the car park public lighting scheme.

6.7 DTP Arterial Roads

6.7.1 Public lighting of arterial roads is designed and assessed in accordance with VicRoads *Guidelines for Street Lighting Design* and the AS/NZS 1158 Series – *Lighting for Roads and Public Places*.

6.7.2 Under the Road Management Act the OMR tariff for public lighting of DTP arterial roads is funded 60% by DTP and 40% by councils.

6.7.3 DTP requires the developer of subdivision estates to reimburse in advance VicRoads 60% share for 10 years OMR costs on their arterial roads.

6.7.4 Council will require the developer to reimburse in advance Councils 40% share for 10 years OMR costs on arterial roads.

6.8 Feature Lighting

6.8.1 Council's Manager Assets may approve the use of feature lighting of bridges, structures, gateway signs, artwork and other important prominent features. Feature lighting is operated and maintained by Council.

HUME CITY PUBLIC LIGHTING POLICY

6.8.2 Developer requests for feature lighting may be considered by Council's Manager Assets within new subdivision estates. If so, there will be a developer fee of the current replacement cost, including supply and installation, of the feature lighting.

7. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Electricity Distributer – Is an organisation which holds a distribution licence under the Electricity Industry Act 2000 for the distribution and supply of electricity. They are responsible for the safe connection of electricity, installation, operation, maintenance and replacement of distributor operated non-metered schemes. Jemena and SP AusNet are the Electricity Distributers that have areas within the Hume municipality.

Electricity Retailer – Is responsible for billing of accounts for electrical usage for Council owned metred schemes and for Electrical Distributer operated non-metered schemes. The energy consumed by public lights on non-metered schemes is linked to the luminaire. AGL is currently the Electricity Retailer within the Hume municipality. The purchase of electricity is contestable and therefore councils are able to choose the Electricity Retailer they use, subject to procurement requirements.

Standard Light - Comprises of a pole, luminaire and fittings that are approved by the Electricity Distributer.

Approved Non-Standard Light – Comprises of a pole, luminaire and fittings that are approved for use by the Electricity Distributor in a public lighting scheme. Typically, they include decorative type poles and luminaries. Council is responsible for the cost of supplying of all replacement parts for all Approved Non-Standard Lights in addition to OMR tariffs.

Non-Standard Light – not approved for use by the Electricity Distributer on their non-metered network and are owned and maintain by Council on a metered supply.

Public Lighting – means all external lighting located in a road reserve or on other public land.

OMR - Operation Maintenance and Replacement tariff of each non-metered public light paid by councils to the Electricity Distributer.

Renewable Energy Source – greenhouse neutral energy sources including energy sources produced from solar photovoltaic panels, wind turbines and/or the government accredited GreenPower program.

8. RELATED DOCUMENTS

8.1 AS/NZS 1158 Series 2005 - Lighting for roads and public places.
8.2 Public Lighting Code – Essential Services Commission, Victoria 2015
8.3 Road Management Act 2004 – Schedule 7A- Street Lighting
8.4 VicRoads - Guidelines for Street Lighting Design
85 Jemena – Public Lighting Technical Standard JEN PR 0026

Policy Reference No: POL276	Date of Adoption: August 2024
Review Date: August 2028	Responsible Officer: Manager Assets
	Department: Assets
Page 8 of 8	

RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS POLICY

Policy Reference No.	POL/223
File No.	
Strategic Objective	5.3 Provide responsible and transparent governance, services and infrastructure which responds to and supports community needs
Adopted by Council	24 July 2017
Date of Re-Adoption	TBC
Date for Review	TBC
Responsible Officer	Manager Governance
Department	Governance

RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS POLICY

1 POLICY STATEMENT

1.1 It is important that decisions of Council are made transparently. The publishing of audio and video recordings of Council Meetings on Council's website will improve resident accessibility to information about decisions that affect them and their wider community.

2 PURPOSE

2.1 The purpose of this policy is to set clear directions for how recordings will be produced, and how Council will manage the use of audio and video recordings of Council meetings.

3 SCOPE

3.1 This policy provides the policy direction and guidelines for Councillors, Officers and the community.

3.2 This policy applies to Ordinary Meetings of Council, of Council, Special Meetings of Council and Committees of Council Meetings (for example, a meeting of the Committee of the Whole Council).

3.3 The policy does not apply to meetings of special committees of Council established under section 86 of the Local Government Act 2020.

4 OBJECTIVE

4.1 That Council's decisions are communicated to a wider audience, and accessibility and community participation in relation to Council decision making processes is improved.

4.2 Community confidence in the integrity and accountability of Council's decision making process is improved by greater accessibility to the conducting of Council business.

4.3 That the entire audio and video recording of a Council meeting is made available on Council's website following the meeting, with recordings only being edited in a limited number of circumstances as defined in this policy.

5 POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Council Meeting audio and video recordings will be accessible on demand - meaning content can be downloaded and/or streamed from the internet after the meeting has concluded. Recordings will be made available online within 48 hours (2 working days) of the Council Meeting via the Council website.

5.2 A copy of the recording will also be placed in Council's Record Management System to retain a more detailed historical record of meetings.

5.3 Recordings will remain on the website, available for downloading, for a period of 12 months after the meeting date.

Parts of a Meeting Not Recorded

5.4 Any parts of Council's Meetings that are closed to members of the public under s.89(2) of the *Local Government Act* 1989 are regarded as confidential. To ensure that this confidential and/or privileged material is not disclosed, those confidential parts of meetings which are not held in public will not be recorded.

Policy Reference No:	POL/223	**Responsible Officer:**	Manager Governance
Date of Re/Adoption:	24 July 2017	**Department:**	Governance
Review Date:	August 2022		
Page 2 of 4			

RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS POLICY

Editing of Meeting Recordings

5.5 Audio and video recordings of Council meetings will only be edited before being made available on Council's website in the following circumstances:

a) when a member of the public who is addressing Council on a recommendation contained in a report, or at a submissions hearing, has advised that they do not wish for their comments to be included in the meeting recording;

b) to prevent the publishing of material that is offensive, defamatory, breaches copyright or breaches an individual's privacy.

5.6 Audio and video recordings of Council meetings will not be edited:

a) because a speaker that has been recorded, being either a Councillor , a member of Council staff or a member of the public, regrets their remarks;

b) to save embarrassment in regards to comments made and recorded;

c) to edit out meeting procedural errors.

5.7 The Manager Governance will approve the final version of the meeting recording that will be made available on Council's website.

Risks and Liabilities

5.8 Council may be liable for defamatory statements made by Councillors during a Council meeting. Council's liability risk is increased given the meeting is recorded and published online or made available to the public.

Recordings of Council meetings can be used in proceedings against Council or its Councillors. It should be noted that no protection is afforded to Councillors, Council employees or the public for comments made during Meetings which are subsequently challenged in a court of law and/or determined to be defamatory.

5.9 It is an offence to use the Internet intentionally to disseminate material that results in a person being menaced or harassed. Federal criminal law, therefore, is available to address racial vilification where the element of threat or harassment is also present, although it does not apply to material that merely causes offence. It is a Federal offence to deliberately publish material that:

a) Vilifies groups on religious or racial grounds

b) Results in a people being menaced or harassed, or

c) Incites hatred

5.10 Infringement of copyright occurs when a person uses copyright material without the consent of the owner and the use contravenes the 'exclusive rights' of the owner. If someone at a Council meeting reads material subject to copyright, without the consent of the copyright owner, the person may have violated the copyright owner's exclusive right to reproduce the material. Council may breach the person's exclusive right to the material if the material is published as an audio or video recording.

5.11 Recordings of Council meetings can be used in proceedings against Council or its Councillors. It should be noted that no protection is afforded to Councillors, Council employees or the public for comments made during Meetings which are subsequently challenged in a court of law and/or determined to be defamatory.

Policy Reference No:	POL/223	**Responsible Officer:**	Manager Governance
Date of Re/Adoption:	24 July 2017	**Department:**	Governance
Review Date:	August 2022		
Page 3 of 4			

RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS POLICY

Risk Controls

5.12 Council control over data content becomes limited once the data exists in a public domain. A downloadable file can be accessed multiple times. Editing the content of recordings, in the circumstances defined in this policy, can reduce or even eliminate risks associated with publishing audio and video recordings.

Meeting Attendees

5.13 All meeting attendees will be advised, via a notice at the entrance to the Chamber, that the meeting will be recorded and published on the Council website.

5.14 Meeting attendees who nominate to speak to Council at a meeting will be advised when speaking to Governance staff that they will be recorded and included on the meeting recording which will be made available on Council's website. Those attendees who do not wish to be included on the meeting recording can advise Council staff of their wishes and their comments will be edited out of the meeting recording.

Disclaimers

5.15 The online content will be accompanied by the following disclaimers, which may be included as part of the recording, or separately on the webpage prior to opening the meeting recording:

a) The opinions or statements made during the course of the Council meeting are those of the particular individual, and not the opinions or statements of council.
b) Council takes no responsibility for technical issues beyond its control which hinder or prevent the production and/or publishing of meeting recordings, such as, failure of the recording device, power outages, or website unavailability.

6 RELEVANT POLICIES

6.1 Hume City Council Councillor Code of Conduct

Date Adopted	24 July 2017
Date Re-Adopted	
Review Date	July 2024

FREE TIPPING FOR CHARITY ORGANISATIONS POLICY

Policy Reference No.	POL/171
File No.	HCC06/330
Strategic Objective	4.2 Create community pride through a well-designed and maintained City
Adopted by Council	August 2001
Re-Adopted	TBC
Date for Review	TBC
Responsible Officer	Manager Waste & Sustainability
Department	Waste & Resource Recovery

FREE TIPPING FOR CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS

1 POLICY STATEMENT

It is Hume City Council (Council) policy to provide approved Charity Organisations (Charities), located within Council, with Free Tipping of Waste that is generated within Council at Council's Landfill & Resource Recovery Centres (Sites). This is referred to as 'Charity Free Tipping' throughout this document.

2 PURPOSE

This policy confirms the requirements for Charities to be eligible for Charity Free Tipping at Council's Sites and the requirements for the implementation of Charity Free Tipping for Charities at Council's Sites.

3 SCOPE

3.1 The following eligibility criteria apply for organisations to be approved as Charity for the purposes of receiving Charity Free Tipping:

- **3.1.1** The organisation is registered as a Charity with the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission (ACNC); and
- **3.1.2** The organisation is located within the municipality;
- **3.1.3** The Waste being disposed must be generated within Council, and;
- **3.1.4** The organisation provides family and/or youth support services and is not a school.

3.2 A Charity can nominate a maximum of six (6) vehicles per financial year for Charity Free Tipping.

3.3 Charity Free Tipping is eligible for Waste loads which are separated by the Charity prior to disposal. Waste Loads must be separated into the material types and disposed at the Sites into the appropriate containers as directed by Council (Ie. E-waste, paper & cardboard, textiles, green waste, tyres, mattresses etc.).

3.4 Charity Free Tipping is valid for up to one (1) year commencing 1 July of each year and must be renewed and approved by Council each year.

3.5 Each Charity that meets the Charity Free Tipping Criteria (Section 3.1) is entitled to dispose of material up to the value of $5000 per financial year. No transfers or refunds (or similar) are available for unspent disposal value.

4 POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Organisations requesting access to Charity Free Tipping must apply to Council in writing via email using the Hume City Council - Charity Free Tipping Application Form;

4.2 Council's Instruments of Delegation detail the delegated Council Officer authorised to approve applications from Charity Organisations which meet the criteria of this policy. This is typically the Manager Waste and Sustainability;

4.3 Approved Organisations which qualify for Charity Free Tipping will be issued with a Charity Free Tipping Pass by a Council Officer from the Waste & Resource Recovery department, typically the Landfill Team Leader. The Charity Free Tipping Pass shall list the name of the Charity and vehicle registration number(s) of the designated vehicle(s) approved for disposing of Waste and will be valid for up to one (1) year commencing 1 July and ending on 30 June of each year. The aforementioned Council Officer shall update the Sites transaction management system with the details and provide the Landfill Gatehouse Officers with the up to date list of approved Charity Organisations and their vehicle registration number(s) using the Sites transaction management system;

Policy Reference No:	POL171	**Responsible Officer:**	Manager Waste & Sustainability
Date of Re/Adoption:	February 2023	**Department:**	Waste
Review Date:	June 2024		
Page 2 of 3			

FREE TIPPING FOR CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS

4.4 To access Charity Free Tipping, the Charity Free Tipping Pass must be presented at the Site's Gatehouse to the Council Gatehouse Officer;

4.5 The Council Gatehouse Officer is responsible for assessing the Waste load and ensuring the load meets the requirements of the Charity Free Tipping Pass (including confirmation from the customer that the Waste was generated within Hume City Council) prior to acceptance of the Waste to the Site. Upon acceptance, the Council Gatehouse Officer will accurately record a transaction as per the Site's Fees and Charges using Council's transaction management system;

4.6 The Fees and Charges relating to the Charity Free Tipping shall be assigned and costed to the Waste Department, Landfill & Resource Recovery Centre business unit budget.

5 DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

5.1 Charity Organisations; refer to Clause 3.

5.2 Council's Landfill & Resource Recovery Centres (Sites); Bolinda Rd Resource Recovery Centre, Campbellfield and Riddell Rd Landfill & Resource Recovery Centre, Sunbury

5.3 Gatehouse; building located on the Sites staffed by Council staff where all transactions into the Sites are managed and recorded.

5.4 Free Tipping; free Waste disposal.

5.5 Waste; household waste materials accepted at the Sites. Note; Acceptable Waste materials may change from time to time subject to the sole discretion of Council.

6 RELATED DOCUMENTS

6.1 LMS 05 - Landfill Management System – Free Tipping for Charity Organisations

Date Adopted	August 2001
Date Re-Adopted	February 2023
Review Date	June 2024

EVENT SPONSORSHIP POLICY (INCOMING SPONSORSHIP)

Policy Reference No.	POL/174
File No.	HCC15/190
Strategic Objective	1.4 Strengthen community connections through local community events and the arts
Adopted by Council	25 November 2019
Re-Adopted	May 2024
Date for Review	May 2029 *It is recognised that over the life of this Policy it may require minor administrative changes.* *Where an update does not materially alter the intent of the policy (i.e., change of title, updated legislation or documents referenced) the change will be made administratively.* *Any amendment which materially alters this document will be made by resolution of Council.*
Responsible Officer	Manager City Lifestyle
Department	City Lifestyle

EVENT SPONSORSHIP POLICY (INCOMING SPONSORSHIP)

1 POLICY STATEMENT

1.1 Event sponsorship can increase Council's capacity to deliver positive outcomes for the Hume community and offset the cost of staging events for the benefit of the Hume community.

2 PURPOSE

2.1 To provide a transparent framework for the sourcing and receipt of sponsorship for Council organised / managed events.

2.2 To ensure that any sponsorship entered into between Hume City Council and external parties (including companies, organisations or groups) is in the public interest, provides clear community benefit, and does not limit Council's ability to perform its duties impartially.

3 SCOPE

3.1 This policy applies to all financial and value-in-kind support received by Council from external organisations related to the staging of an event.

3.2 Sponsorship can be either financial (cash) or value in-kind (non-financial benefit including prizes, equipment, advertising, or other services).

3.3 In relation to this policy, external parties are companies, organisations, or groups, not individuals. Council will not accept sponsorship from individuals.

3.4 The Event Sponsorship Policy does not apply to:

3.4.1 Council's building/facility naming rights or signage associated with sporting ground use.

3.4.2 Council's giving of grants under any grant program, including those funded under the Event Grant Program.

3.4.3 Awards and scholarship programs.

3.4.4 Partnerships and partner agreements.

3.4.5 State and/or Federal funding, capital grants, or philanthropic contributions received by Council.

4 OBJECTIVE

4.1 Provide a guiding framework for Council's processes and decision making in relation to seeking and securing incoming sponsorship for an event.

5 EVENT SPONSORSHIP PRINCIPLES

5.1 Hume City Council will seek opportunities to work with external parties and identify sponsorship opportunities for mutual benefit.

5.2 Sponsorship opportunities, and the business practices of external parties must align with Local Government legislative requirements, including consideration of human rights, gender equity and Child Safe Standards, as well as Council's strategic priorities, including the core values of social justice, sustainability and reconciliation.

5.3 Principles

5.3.1 Strategic Alignment and Community Benefit

a) Sponsors' proposals must align with the themes of the Community Vision, Council Plan, Social Justice Charter, advocacy priorities and the principles of

EVENT SPONSORSHIP POLICY (INCOMING SPONSORSHIP)

the Vibrant and Inclusive Events and Festivals Strategy, and any successor strategies / plans.

b) Sponsors must be able to provide / demonstrate community benefit and value. To this end, sponsors must:
   - Demonstrate a connection to the local community.
   - Offer products and or services that align with the needs and values of the Hume community.
   - Deliver positive outcomes and benefits to the Hume community.
   - Provide value by reducing Council's financial reliance on rate-payer funds to deliver an event.

5.3.2 Risk Management and Appropriateness

a) Sponsors must not compromise Council's reputation or image.
b) Council will not enter into sponsorship agreements with political parties, or any external parties involved in gambling, tobacco and e-cigarettes, adult services, or any associated industries.
c) Council will not enter into sponsorship agreements with external parties whose activities:
   - Fail to demonstrate a commitment to Child Safe Standards and Council's Safeguarding Children and Young People policy.
   - Conflict with any Council policy including Social Justice, Reconciliation Action Plan, Pathways to Sustainability and Climate Change Adaptation.
   - Are illegal or unethical, negatively impact the community and/or natural environment.
d) Council retains the right to decline a sponsorship agreement with any external party where the costs and inputs outweigh the benefits, and where Council, in its sole discretion, deems a sponsorship opportunity inappropriate.
e) Council will not enter into a sponsorship agreement with any external party that is, or is likely to be, subject to regulation or inspection by the Council department offering sponsorship during the life of the proposed agreement.
f) A strategic risk assessment will be conducted as part of each sponsorship process. Risks for sponsorship agreements will be managed using Council's existing Risk Management Framework and processes.

5.3.3 Transparent and Accountable Decision Making

a) Sponsors must have transparent business practices and a demonstrated commitment to ethical behaviour.
b) Protecting Council's reputation, independence and compliance obligations is a foundation of any sponsorship agreement, and protection measures will be clearly outlined in any sponsorship agreement.
c) Sponsorships must not:
   - impose or imply conditions which would limit, or appear to limit, Council's ability to carry out its prescribed functions fully and impartially.
   - be accepted from any external party who are in contract negotiations with Council.
   - have a matter currently pending a decision by Council, or likely to require a decision by Council, during the term of the sponsorship agreement.

EVENT SPONSORSHIP POLICY (INCOMING SPONSORSHIP)

d) A sponsor relationship with any external party does not imply that Council endorses them, or their business / community activity.
e) Sponsorship does not provide rights for any external parties to determine the content or interpretation of any event program.

6 POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Hume City Council will seek sponsorship from external parties to offset the costs related to the staging of an event and/or to maximise opportunities for the community.
6.2 Sponsorships will be available as cash or value-in-kind, or a combination of both.
6.3 In accordance with privacy restrictions Council will not provide sensitive or private information (including databases and contact lists) to any sponsor. Council may, however, offer to include messaging within event marketing materials on behalf of sponsors.
6.4 Sponsorship Approaches

6.4.1 Approaches to potential sponsorship candidates will be consistent, fair, and equitable.
6.4.2 Approaches may be either direct, via expression of interest, or unsolicited.
6.4.3 Council may consider offering guaranteed exclusivity of presence or profiling, depending on the level of sponsorship and appropriateness for an event or activity.
6.4.4 Any exclusivity arrangements, including requests for limits on the number of sponsors who represent similar business categories, must be outlined in the sponsorship agreement.
6.4.5 Council may consider sponsorship opportunities that include an entire event, or a specific activity within an event.
6.4.6 Sponsors should ideally be based and / or located within the municipality.
6.4.7 Sponsors may be based and / or located outside of Hume City and may be conducting or seeking to conduct business or invest within Hume City Council.

6.5 Sponsorship Levels

6.5.1 The individual department / team within Council that is organising the event will determine appropriate financial levels of sponsorship, as well as the duration of agreements (i.e. single or multi-year) with their Manager / Director, in line with the nature of the proposed event.
6.5.2 A sponsorship prospectus must be developed to detail the event, or specific activity within an event, that is on offer. The proposal / prospectus must include sponsorship options (value sought), an outline of all benefits and obligations, and a reasonable difference in benefits noted for each level of contribution.
6.5.3 Council retains overall naming rights of all events. If an external party approaches Council for consideration of event naming rights, this request will be referred to Council for determination.

6.6 Sponsorship Agreements

6.6.1 Agreements will include explicit terms to ensure that:
a) the arrangement will not impede Council's ability to undertake its regulatory and compliance roles.
b) Council continues to own the intellectual property developed.
c) Council information obtained by the other party during the term of the sponsorship is kept confidential.

EVENT SPONSORSHIP POLICY (INCOMING SPONSORSHIP)

6.6.2 At the conclusion of the event, all sponsorship agreements will be evaluated against the stated sponsorship objectives and/or KPIs.

6.7 Record Keeping

6.7.1 Council will maintain a register of all sponsorships including:
a) the total financial value of agreements, all benefits and obligations related to the agreement, and the commencement and conclusion date of each agreement.
b) the nature, quantity and value of 'in-kind' agreements, including benefits provided or received, and the identified cost / benefit to Council.

6.7.2 Any commercially sensitive information held in Council's register of sponsorships may be withheld or removed from public disclosure. This will be considered in relation to its potential to cause detriment to the sponsoring organisation. This will be weighed against the public interest, and information will be provided where Council is legally compelled to do so.

6.8 Monitoring and Evaluation

6.8.1 This policy will be reviewed for applicability, effectiveness, and consistency with relevant legislation, Council resolutions, and other Council documents.

6.8.2 Reviews of this policy will occur as required, or at least once every five years.

6.9 Conflict of Interest

6.9.1 In line with Council's Conflict of Interest Policy, staff involved in sponsorship management or decision making must:
a) disclose conflicts of interest in accordance with the Staff Conflict of Interest policy.
b) maintain confidentiality regarding commercial-in-confidence, intellectual property and other matters under negotiation or any other confidential information.

6.9.2 Under this policy, all conflicts of interest are considered inappropriate and any staff with a conflict of interest will be removed from any decision making or evaluation process relating to the sponsor arrangement.

6.9.3 In line with Council's policies, Councillors and staff must not accept gifts resulting from a sponsorship arrangement.

7 DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Sponsorship:	A commercial arrangement to purchase rights or benefits relating to a particular event or project for a specified period of time. The rights or benefits typically relate to the sponsor's reputation management or communication objectives. Sponsorship does not include: • grants provided by Council, which are money, goods or other benefits provided to the recipient for a specified purpose, but with no expectations of attaining rights and benefits of the kind outlined above. • requests which impose no obligations on the recipient and offer little or no rights or benefits to the provider. • the sale of advertising space, editorial comment, or advertorials.
Event:	An event is an organised public gathering that brings people together for a common purpose by some pre-arrangement. It is open to members of the public and is publicly announced or advertised.

EVENT SPONSORSHIP POLICY (INCOMING SPONSORSHIP)

Activity:	A specific component within an overall event that may be offered for sponsorship (i.e. sponsor a stage or within a larger event).
Financial:	refers to a cash amount received for sponsorship.
Value-in-kind:	refers to benefits received for sponsorship that are non-financial in nature (goods or services i.e. equipment, merchandise, prizes, or advertising). These benefits have an attributable value that are equivalent to financial / cash sponsorship.
Agreement:	a signed document between Council and an external party detailing all associated costs, benefits and commitments relating to the sponsorship
External parties:	refers to incorporated groups or organisations or commercial entities
Benefits:	mutual advantages gained from sponsorship; this may include brand recognition, advertising and on-site promotion.
Grant:	any assistance by way of a sum of money provided to Council by a funding organisation on the condition that the assistance is used for a specified purpose as outlined in a successfully submitted grant application and/or committed to through a funding agreement to achieve agreed objectives through milestone reporting.
Partnerships:	agreements between parties who have common strategic aspirations / have identified mutual benefits in working together to advance a specified outcome.

8 RELATED DOCUMENTS

8.1.1 Hume Council Plan 2021-2025
8.1.2 Hume Social Justice Charter (2021)
8.1.3 Vibrant and Inclusive – Events and Festivals Strategy (2023)
8.1.4 Grant Giving Policy
8.1.5 Partnership Framework (2024)
8.1.6 Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy
8.1.7 Staff Code of Conduct
8.1.8 Staff Conflict of Interest Policy
8.1.9 Conflict of Interest Guide for Councillors
8.1.10 Councillor Gifts Policy
8.1.11 Councillor Code of Conduct

Date Adopted	25 November 2019
Date Re-Adopted	13 May 2024
Review Date	May 2029

REPORT NO:	9.2
REPORT TITLE:	Rates Financial Hardship Policy
SOURCE:	Robert Costa, Manager Finance
DIVISION:	Finance & Governance
FILE NO:	HCC22/614
POLICY:	POL304
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	3.2: Deliver responsible and transparent governance, services and sustainable assets that respond to community needs
ATTACHMENTS:	1. *Rates Financial Hardship Policy - 2024 update* 2. *Ministerial guidelines relating to payment of rates and charges*

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

1.1 The Rates Financial Hardship Policy (the Policy) was adopted by Council in November 2022 which outlined Council's commitment to assisting ratepayers who are experiencing financial hardship via a payment arrangement and/or the short or long-term deferral of rates.

1.2 It is now appropriate to update the Policy having been in operation for almost two years and as a result of the recent Ministerial Guidelines Relating to Payment of Rates and Charges (the guidelines).

1.3 It should be noted that the Policy already largely complies with the intent of the guidelines and in some ways is more inclusive and favorable to supporting ratepayers.

1.4 The objective of the Policy remains the same – that is, to engage with ratepayers and keep an open and continuous dialogue especially when they are experiencing financial hardship as well as removing any barriers for residential ratepayers to prove financial hardship.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

2.1 That Council revokes the Rates Financial Hardship Policy adopted on 28 November 2022.

2.2 That Council adopts the Rates Financial Hardship Policy provided as Attachment 1 of this report.

2.3 That Council notes that the Rates Financial Hardship Policy will be promoted via Council's social media platforms and on Council's rate notice.

3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

Local Government Act, 1989

Local Government Legislation Amendment (Rating and Other Matters) Act, 2022

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

4.1 Unpaid rates will have the potential to negatively impact Council's cashflow.

4.2 As at 30 June 2023, the total value of rates outstanding (rate arrears) was $32.18m and there were approximately 5,300 ratepayers on a payment arrangement. By comparison, at 30 June 2024, the value of rate arrears had increased to $39.58m.

REPORT NO: 9.2 (cont.)

4.3 The budget for interest on outstanding rates and charges for the 2024/25 financial year is $400,000.

4.4 At June 30, 2024, of the $39.58m, the total accrued penalty interest was $1.16 million.

4.5 The application of this Policy may reduce the level of penalty interest earned by Council in future years but will have a positive effect for ratepayers by reducing the amount owed.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no environmental sustainability considerations as a result of the Policy.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no climate change adaptation considerations as a result of the Policy.

7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

Council's Social Justice Principles and their application to the Policy have been outlined in the Policy.

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

8.1 Community consultation was conducted in accordance with Council's Engagement Policy when the Policy was initially developed in 2022.

8.2 As the amendments proposed to the Policy are not substantial, the engagement method will focus on informing the community.

8.3 If adopted as recommended, the updated Policy will be promoted through the avenues available including Council's website.

9. DISCUSSION:

9.1 A Rates Financial Hardship Policy (Policy) was developed to establish a framework for Council to define what support is available for ratepayers who are experiencing financial hardship and the method of managing and collecting unpaid rates.

9.2 The Local Government Act, 1989 (the Act) provides for a waiver or deferral of rates under the grounds of financial hardship.

9.2.1 A deferral of rates, in whole or in part under s170 of the Act provides for the option to apply interest for the late payment of rates and charges.

9.2.2 Rates, charges or interest, in whole or in part, may be waived under s171 of the Act.

9.2.3 Whilst not defined in the Act, financial hardship is commonly understood to occur when someone is struggling to pay their bills as and when they fall due. This could be caused by a loss of employment, unpaid absence from work due to major illness, sudden unexpected large bills (e.g., major car trouble etc.).

9.2.4 The guidelines attempt to define hardship and financial hardship.

(a) Deferrals

Council will accept advice from ratepayers who are experiencing financial hardship and will be offered a short-term deferral (up to 60 days) on their rates. A payment plan is also offered. A long-term (up to 12 months) deferral is also

REPORT NO: 9.2 (cont.)

offered however interest will be charged unless approved by the CFO on compassionate grounds.

(b) Waivers

The Policy provides for the waiving of interest under certain circumstances. The waiver of interest will be considered in certain circumstances, but not for the general rates levied.

(c) Interest charges

Interest is chargeable on all overdue amounts in accordance with s172 of the Act. If an active payment arrangement exists and is being maintained, interest is generally not charged.

The current practice allows for the waiver of interest where a ratepayer approaches Council with the intention of making a genuine attempt to repay their debt and adhering to a mutually agreed payment arrangement. The waiver of rates has not been the practice of Council.

9.3 The Victorian Ombudsman's report "Investigation into how local councils respond to ratepayers in financial hardship" has also been referred to in developing this Policy. The Victorian Ombudsman heard concerns from ratepayers, financial counsellors and community lawyers about the way local councils treat people who cannot afford their council rates.

9.4 The Policy refers to the new *Local Government Legislation Amendment (Rating and Other Matters) Act,* 2022 which will make amendments to the *Local Government Act*, 1989 and commenced operation on 20 June 2023. This new Act requires the Minister for Local Government to set the maximum interest rate that can be charged on unpaid rates and charges, to prescribe more flexible payment plans and to issue Ministerial Guidelines on unpaid rates and charges to ensure greater consistency in how councils deal with ratepayers experiencing financial hardship.

9.5 The guidelines have been released and are in draft form but once adopted will likely become mandatory. Should there be any changes to the guidelines, which impacts the intent of the Policy, a further updated Policy will be presented to Council for consideration and approval.

9.6 Key updates to the Policy:

(a) The extension of the Hardship Policy to all classes of ratepayers and not just to residential ratepayers where it is their Principal Place of Residence (PPR).

(b) Arrangements will be automatically cancelled, and the ratepayer notified where three successive payments dishonour or are not received by the agreed payment date.

(c) The inclusion of an incentive for the waiver of accrued interest where an arrangement is entered into by 30 November 2024 and the arrears and current rates are paid in full within two years of entering into the payment arrangement (ie previous and current years rates).

(d) For residential ratepayers where it is their principal place of residence (PPR), Council will continue to accept all requests for a financial hardship payment arrangement without the need to provide evidence of financial hardship. For all other classes of ratepayers (ie commercial, industrial and those considered to be investment properties), Council will accept all requests for a financial hardship payment arrangement provided evidence of financial hardship can be proven.

(e) The definition of financial hardship has been broadened to include consideration of the economic climate at the time the hardship arrangement is established.

REPORT NO: 9.2 (cont.)

(f) The following information is proposed to be included in the amended Policy to further inform ratepayers of the debt recovery process (in accordance with recommendations in the guidelines):

(i) When Council informs a ratepayer of unpaid rates and charges and available payment options, but an agreement is not reached, Council may recover the amount owed in the Magistrates' Court or by suing for debt.

(ii) A list of civil fees and costs of debt recovery that may be added to a ratepayer's unpaid rates and charges are available on the Magistrates Court website - Court Fees and Costs Ready Reckoner–1 July 2024.pdf (mcv.vic.gov.au). These charges are subject to change and therefore it is recommended that this be confirmed against the Magistrates Court website.

10. CONCLUSION:

This updated Policy provides options and assistance to ratepayers who are experiencing financial hardship and demonstrates that Council has a transparent and equitable process that will be consistently applied.

RATES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

Policy Reference No.	POL3055
File No.	HCC22/614
Strategic Objective	3.2: Deliver responsible and transparent governance, services and sustainable assets that respond to community needs.
Adopted by Council	28 November 2022
Re-Adopted	
Date for Review	August 2024
Responsible Officer	Manager Finance
Department	Finance and Governance

RATES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

1 POLICY STATEMENT

In accordance with the *Local Government Act* 1989 (the Act), Council levies Rates and Charges on rateable land to provide for services to the community. Hume City Council recognises that ratepayers at times will experience genuine financial hardship and is committed to helping those experiencing financial hardship and are having difficulty meeting obligations to Council. This policy ensures that regardless of their circumstances, our community will face no judgement, and will be treated with understanding, dignity, and respect.

For this policy to be successful it requires the co-operation of both parties to communicate with each other openly and honestly.

Hume City Council's guiding principles of 'Sustainability' and 'Social Justice' and commitments to Child Safe Standards and Gender Equality (as outlined in the Council Plan), and Social Justice Charter (2021) guide the application of financial hardship assistance.

2 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to establish a framework to define what support is available for ratepayers who are experiencing financial hardship and the method of managing and collecting unpaid rates.

If debt collection is required, this policy provides the framework for the collection of unpaid rates and charges (Attachment 2). However, a payment arrangement will be offered to avoid the need for debt collection.

This Policy aims to make it easier for ratepayers to enter into a payment arrangement and therefore utilise the hardship provisions by removing the need to formally prove financial hardship.

3 SCOPE

3.1 This policy applies to all ratepayer's in the Hume municipality. In particular, the policy applies to those ratepayers who have been identified, either by themselves, Council Officers or by an independent accredited financial counsellor, as having the intention to pay their rates, but who do not have the financial capacity to make the required payments.

3.2 This policy applies to revenue included on the rate notice (rates, waste charges, fire services property levy, legal costs, interest and other relevant charges).

3.3 The hardship provisions will be granted to ratepayers experiencing financial hardship for payment of rates for which they are responsible.

3.4 Council frequently enters payment arrangements with property owners to allow ratepayers to spread their current rates and charges throughout the financial year. This form of assistance is not categorised as "financial hardship assistance". In these circumstances Council's Finance team will monitor progress towards clearing the debt within a specified time, but if the debt is not cleared, further assistance may be considered.

3.5 For residential ratepayers where it is their principal place of residence (PPR), Council will continue to accept all requests for a financial hardship payment arrangement without the need to provide evidence of financial hardship. For all other classes of ratepayers (ie commercial, industrial and those considered to be investment properties), Council will accept all requests for a financial hardship payment arrangement provided evidence of financial hardship can be

proven.

3.6 This policy is binding upon Council and its agents, including Council employees, contractors and consultants.

4 OBJECTIVE

4.1 This Policy will:

4.1.1 Provide a mechanism that enables our community to feel comfortable and supported when approaching Council to discuss their financial circumstances, including any difficulties they may be experiencing in meeting their obligations to pay rates and charges.
4.1.2 Encourage a proactive approach in identifying and assisting those experiencing financial hardship.
4.1.3 Encourage and support access to legal, welfare and financial counselling services.
4.1.4 Reduce the number of instances that are referred to Councils' debt collection agency.
4.1.5 Detail collection procedures and assist ratepayers who are experiencing financial hardship, to manage their payment of rates in a manner acceptable to both parties and provide a greater understanding of financial hardship, which effectively manages Councils financial hardship for ratepayers and will result in improved customer satisfaction and a reduction in debt collection expenses.

5 POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Rates and Charges Collection

All rates and charges are raised and issued in compliance with s158-166, s181A-181E and 185A-185G of the Act.

The current instalment due dates are:
- First Instalment 30 September
- Second Instalment 30 November
- Third Instalment 28 February
- Fourth Instalment 31 May

Council does not offer an in full annual payment option.

The current Direct Debit due dates are the end of each month (over 9 months). Direct debit payments are evenly calculated over nine months and due on the last day of each month commencing 30th of September to 31st of May inclusive. Payments are deducted from a nominated bank account. If any of the above dates fall on a non-business day, the payment date is moved to the next business day.

In most circumstances interest will be charged on all overdue amounts in accordance with the rate fixed by the Minister under s172A of the Act.

5.2 Calculating Interest

Late payments are subject to interest and interest will continue to accrue on overdue amounts unless a payment arrangement exists and is being maintained.

RATES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

5.3 Payment Arrangements

When a property owner has outstanding payments, they may apply to make payments over time that falls outside the due dates. While a payment arrangement is maintained by the property owner, interest will not apply and any legal action will be put on hold.

5.3.1 Arrangements reducing debt

Applications are to be made via the relevant payment arrangement application form (online, email or post) and may be considered under the following conditions:

- applications are expected to bring the account up to date within the current financial year or a twelve (12) month period from the application date.
- applications must include a payment schedule on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis.

5.3.2 Arrangements increasing debt

Any application for an arrangement where the account will be increasing in debt should be made in writing to Council's Revenue Coordinator or Team Leader.

5.3.3 Arrangements after legal action

If the outstanding payments have been referred for legal action with an external collection agency, applications may be required to be submitted to the agency for management via direct debit. Such applications would only refer to outstanding payments, and would be required to be paid in full:

- by the end of the financial year; or
- within a six (6) month period.

5.3.4 Arrangement Terms

Accounts on active arrangements will not accrue interest on overdue amounts. Should a ratepayer reapply where Council has previously withdrawn from an arrangement due to a default, new arrangement terms will need established.

Arrangements will be automatically cancelled, and the ratepayer notified where 3 successive payments dishonour or are not received by the agreed payment date.

Where rate payments are in arrears any default from the payment arrangement where no payment has been made or no new arrangement has been entered into for a 24-month period, may result in legal action to recover the debt without further notice.

Council's Finance team will be flexible regarding the type of arrangement entered into, to best suit the ratepayer's circumstances.

If the ratepayer is unable to make a regular repayment arrangement their application will be assessed under the financial hardship provisions in this policy.

RATES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

5.4 Financial hardship

Financial hardship refers to difficulty meeting everyday living expenses for themselves, their family and dependents and may include the ability to provide food, accommodation, clothing, healthcare and other basic necessities. Consideration will also be given to the economic climate at the time the hardship arrangement is established.

This Policy will be used to support all financial hardship requests.

Supporting documentation may be required where:

- It appears that the financial agreement will need to be long term,
- The property owner has had payment issues with Council in the past,
- The amount outstanding or remaining overdue is considered large or significant, or
- Financial Hardship has been utilised by the property owner in the past.

The Financial & Consumer Rights Council of Victoria (FCRC) is the peak body for Financial Counsellors in Victoria. The FCRC can help affected persons find a financial counsellor, please visit www.fcrc.org.au for more information.

The National Debt Helpline is a not-for-profit service that helps people in Australia tackle their debt problems. This is a Government service providing free, confidential counselling for people experiencing financial difficulty. Visit www.ndh.org.au or call 1800007007 for more information.

5.5 Application for financial hardship

Ratepayers may apply for the following, pursuant to s170, s171A and s171B of the Act:

- Deferral of rates and charges.
- Waiver of interest or part thereof and legal charges invoiced to date.

Generally, legal costs that have been incurred by a debt collection agency will not be waived. The exception to this is where it is to correct an administrative error of Council.

5.6 Deferment of Rates

A deferral of rates and charges may be considered where the applicant provides a request for financial hardship. A deferral of rates and charges is a postponement of payment in whole or in part and can be for a specified period and is subject to any conditions determined by Council's Finance team. In all applications for rate deferrals, the property owners who are the subject of a Deferral under this paragraph should be urged to continue to make such contributions to Rates payments as they are able.

5.6.1 Short-term Deferral

Requests for deferral for the following periods may be made either verbally or in writing within the below constraints:

- verbally accepted deferrals are limited to instances where an overdue instalment/s will be paid in full within sixty (60) calendar days of the due date of the instalment
- deferrals for period exceeding sixty (60) calendar days should be requested in writing where possible

- deferral requests for partial payment are considered arrangements (see section 5.3 of this policy)
- interest will not accrue
- no more than two (2) of these requests may be made successively in regard to the same overdue payment.

All further requests will be treated as a long-term deferral.

5.6.2 Long-term Deferral

Long-term Rate deferral agreements will be for a maximum of twelve (12) months, with the applicant having a maximum of a further twelve (12) months in which to fully repay all rates deferred. A request for long term deferrals should be made in writing to Council's Revenue Coordinator or Team Leader.

No more than two (2) of these requests may be accepted successively in regard to the same overdue payment.

Rates that accrue during the interim period must also be paid by the extended payment date.

Deferred rates are a charge on the property and will continue to accrue interest until the account is paid in full.

5.7 Waiver of interest

A waiver of accured interest or part thereof on a rated property will be considered in circumstances where:

- Waiver for administrative reason/error – property owners may have the interest waived or part thereof in the event of an administrative issue, error or omissions which caused or significantly contributed to the failure to pay rates in a timely manner.
- Waiver of interest application - property owners may apply for the waiver of interest that has been charged where the debt will be substantially repaid/paid in full or where hardship exists and an agreed payment arrangement is maintained.
- Waiver on compassionate grounds – property owners may have interest and/or costs waived where they have demonstrated compassionate grounds for a payment being late.
- Waiver of accrued interest where an arrangement is entered into by 30 November 2024 and the arrears and current rates are paid in full within two years of entering into the payment arrangement (ie previous and current years rates).

Non-receipt of a rate notice, travelling overseas, forgetfulness, failure to contact Council's Finance team prior to the due date to advise of financial difficulty, a failure to advise of a change of residential or mailing address in writing, or previous payment arrangements not being maintained are not deemed to be extenuating circumstances.

RATES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

5.8 Waivers

Any rate, levy, charge, special rate or special charge will not be waived in order to ensure that financial hardship assistance offered to one ratepayer or group of ratepayers does not adversely impact other ratepayers through a higher rating burden being applied to other properties to raise the same level of rates revenue.

Determination on applications for waiver or write-off of interest charges will be subject to approval by:

Who can approve?	What can be approved?	$ value
Revenue Coordinator or Team Leader	Determination to waive rates and charges for administrative purposes	$10
Revenue Coordinator or Team Leader	Determination on applications to waive interest or part thereof	$500
Manager Finance	Determination on applications to waive interest or part thereof	$2,500
Chief Financial Officer (CFO)	Determination on applications to waive interest or part thereof and legal charges in full or in part	Greater than $2,500

5.9 Privacy

Personal information requested in regard to a payment arrangement application is being collected by Council for the purpose of entering into and maintaining a payment arrangement. Council may disclose this information to contracted debt collection agencies upon default of the payment arrangement. The personal information will not be disclosed to any other external parties without consent, unless required or authorised by law. Applicants may apply to Council for access and/or amendment of the information.

RATES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

5.10 Complaints and feedback

If there are disputes or complaints with the handling of the collection arrangement, property owners can make a complaint in accordance with Councils Complaints Policy. A complaint can be raised by one of the following options:

Preferred options	
Online via Council's website	https://www.hume.vic.gov.au/Your-Council/Contact-Us - via the 'Share your feedback link'
Telephone	03 9205 2200 Translating Interpreting Service - 131 450 TTY Phone (Teletypewriter) - 1800 555 677 National Relay Service (NRS) - 133 677
In person	Via a Council Customer Service Centre. Visit https://www.hume.vic.gov.au/Your-Council/Contact-Us for locations and opening hours.

Alternative options	
Consistent with our policy principle of 'accessibility', Council will accept complaints through informal channels, either in writing or verbally. These include, but are not limited to:	
Face-to-face with any Council Officer or Councillor	Downloadable paper-based forms
Written letters or emails to any Council Officer or Councillor	Council managed social media pages/sites
Through a carer, advocate or support person	

RATES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

6 DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term / Abbreviation	Definition
"Deferment"	Is a postponement of payment, in whole or in part, and can be for a specified period and subject to any conditions determined by Council's Finance team.
"Waiver"	Is the relinquishment or removal of the liability to pay and may include the whole or part of any interest applicable to unpaid rates and charges.
"Genuine Financial Hardship"	Is a situation where a ratepayer or property owner is reasonably unable, because of illness, unemployment or other reasonable cause, to discharge their financial obligations. Financial hardship involves an inability of the property owner to meet their commitments (bills), rather than an unwillingness to do so. Customer hardship can arise from a variety of situations. Common causes of hardship may include, but are not limited to: • Loss of employment of the property owner or family member; • Family breakdown/family violence; • Illness, including physical incapacity, hospitalisation, or mental illness of the property owner or family member; • A death in the family • The economic climate; or • Other factors resulting in unforeseen change in the property owner's capacity to meet their payment obligations, whether through a reduction in income or through an increase in non-discretionary expenditure.
"Payment Arrangement"	A proposal accepted by a relevant council officer, to pay the outstanding rate or charge over the agreed period of time
"the Act"	*Local Government Act* 1989
"Property Owner"	Is the registered proprietor of Rated property within the municipality, who is legally responsible to pay Rates under section 156 of the Local Government Act 1989 (Vic).
"Ratepayer"	The occupier of any rateable property who is liable to pay rates. This may be the property owner or a tenant who under the lease agreement is liable to pay rates.

7 RELATED DOCUMENTS

a) *Local Government Act,* 1989
b) *Local Government Legislation Amendment (Rating and Other Matters) Act,* 2022
c) Hume City Council Complaints Policy
d) Hume City Council Social Justice Charter 2021
e) Hume City Council Plan 2021-2025

Policy Reference No:	POL305	**Responsible Officer:**	Manager Finance
Date of Re/Adoption:	28 November 2022	**Department:**	Finance
Review Date:	August 2024		
Page 9 of 12			

RATES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

ATTACHMENT 1 – Social Justice Principles and application of Rates Financial Hardship Policy

The table below outlines each of the *Social Justice Principles* and how they will be applied as part of the application of the Rates Financial Hardship Policy:

Social Justice Principle	How this principle will be considered as part of the Financial Hardship Policy
Access and Inclusion Hume City Council's standards for access and inclusion support all residents to be well informed, connected, and able to participate in community life. We consider the needs of all people, including possible barriers they may face, how they access information, utilise services and engage in spaces.	All applicants requesting financial hardship assistance will be treated fairly and in accordance with this policy regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, age, socioeconomic status, physical or mental ability.
Equity and Fairness Hume City Council delivers policy, programs and services with an active consideration of equity and fairness. We prioritise fairness in all initiatives, including a fair assessment of the unique and sometimes overlapping challenges community members may face, whether that is on the basis of age, ability, gender, religion, socio-economic status, sexuality and gender identity or nationality.	Council recognises that providing an equitable approach to rates and charges requires a multi-tiered approach that includes consideration within the annual Council Budget, Council's Rating Strategy, as well as debt recovery and financial hardship policies. This Policy plays an important role of providing targeted relief to ratepayers experiencing payment difficulty with rates and charges.
Engagement and Participation Council seeks to address systemic challenges that may prevent or limit participation in community life and decision-making processes, particularly those faced by people who have been historically under-represented. We will engage with individuals and communities to work collaboratively and deliberatively to facilitate and encourage community involvement.	Council recognises the importance of engaging the community during Annual Draft Budget processes and when designing rating strategies. Through community consultation residents and ratepayers can have their say regarding how rates and charges are raised, as well as how waivers and discounts are applied.
Rights and Accountability Council has an ethical duty and legal obligation to respect, protect, and fulfil the human rights of our residents and to hold ourselves accountable for human rights outcomes. Council will measure the advancement of social justice across Hume's policies, services and programs.	As a third-tier of government, Council recognises Rates and Charges as a property tax for which all ratepayers are liable. The *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* does not restrict Council from collecting lawfully raised rates and charges under Section 180 and Section 181 of the Act, however Council recognises the value of engaging residents and offering support prior to assessing any unpaid amount for legal action.

RATES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

ATTACHMENT 2 – Debt Recovery Process

Collection arrangements where no financial hardship has been identified. When Council informs a ratepayer of unpaid rates and charges and available payment options, but an agreement is not reached, Council may recover the amount owed in the Magistrates' Court or by suing for debt.

A list of civil fees and costs of debt recovery that may be added to a ratepayer's unpaid rates and charges are available on the Magistrates Court website - Court Fees and Costs Ready Reckoner–1 July 2024.pdf (mcv.vic.gov.au). These charges are subject to change and therefore it is recommended that this be confirmed against the Magistrates Court website.

Where the payment of rates remains outstanding after the communicated due dates, or where there has been a default in an agreed payment arrangement, the following debt recovery process may occur:

Reminder Notice
Following the second, third and fourth instalment payment dates, a reminder notice will be issued to property owners who have previously elected to pay by instalments requesting payment within fourteen days.

Final Notice
If no payment or action has been taken by the ratepayer after a reminder notice has been sent, and the amount of rates outstanding is greater than $10 a Final Notice will be issued by Council.

Email and Phone Contact
Where Council's property and rating database has a phone number and or email recorded, Council or its collection agency will attempt contact via these communication lines and record the result.

Solicitors Letter of Demand
If the ratepayer has failed to respond to the Final Notice the property owner will be issued with a Letter of Demand by Council's debt collection agency, requiring payment within fourteen days.

Solicitors Letter of Demand Reminder
Property owners, who fail to respond to the Letter of Demand issued by Council's debt collection agency, will be sent a SMS or will be hand delivered a letter requiring payment within fourteen (14) days or to make an arrangement to pay.

Field Call
Where no contact has been possible with the property owner, Council's collection agency will attempt a field call at the property address and/or the address listed for service of notices.

Legal Action
Property owners who fail to respond to the solicitor's Letter of Demand or Letter of Demand Reminder will be referred for the commencement of legal proceedings by Council's debt collection agency. This will occur where no payment has been made or no new arrangement has been entered into for a 24 month period

Summons
A summons (complaint) will be issued to those property owners who meet the following criteria:

- Have an amount outstanding of at least $3,000 or more as the costs of legal action (as set by the Magistrate's Court) are significant and are charged to the property owners. This amount will be reviewed annually considering the applicable court and legal fees that would apply, as these change periodically.

Policy Reference No:	POL305	**Responsible Officer:**	Manager Finance
Date of Re/Adoption:	28 November 2022	**Department:**	Finance
Review Date:	August 2024		
Page 11 of 12			

RATES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

Once a summons/complaint is prepared and lodged with the Court for issue, the associated legal costs become chargeable to the property owner. The property owner is obligated to:

- Pay the claim in full plus costs; or
- Request a suitable payment arrangement; or
    - Lodge a completed Notice of Defence with the Court (thereby giving notice of their intention to dispute the claim).

If the property owner has failed to carry out any of the above, an application will be made to the Court for an Order against the property owner for the debt plus costs. Once an Order has been made the following execution proceedings to recover the debt will be considered depending on the history of the property owner:

- Summons of Oral Examination (property owner is interviewed by the Clerk of Courts regarding their financial situation and intentions in relation to repaying the debt).
- Letter to mortgagee (a Court Order is not necessary but this action would normally only be taken after a property owner failed to respond to an order being obtained).
- Issue a rent demand. If the property is being leased, either for residential or commercial purposes, Council can demand that the rental payments be used to repay the outstanding rates or charges.
- Warrant seizing goods (some goods are not able to be seized like necessary household goods, tools of trade and low valued motor vehicles).
- Garnishee of wages.

Possible Sale of Property

As an absolute last resort, should the debt remain outstanding, Council will receive a report recommending the possible sale of the property if all the following criteria are met:

- The rates or charges have been outstanding for more than three (3) years; and
- No current payment arrangement exists; and
- The Mortgagors/Mortgagees have been advised; and
- A magistrate's Court Order has not resulted in payment.

Ministerial Guidelines Relating to Payment of Rates and Charges

Introduction

These Ministerial Guidelines Relating to Payment of Rates and Charges (Guidelines) have been issued under section 181AA(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (**LG Act 1989**).

These Guidelines address a range of matters in relation to the payment of rates and charges including which must be reflected in council hardship and financial hardship policies:

- the meaning of ***hardship***
- the meaning of ***financial hardship***
- the content of hardship policies and financial hardship policies
- the circumstances in which a Council may apply the hardship policies and financial hardship policies
- the process for applying for a payment plan; and
- the waiver of interest on unpaid rates or charges.

Compliance with the Guidelines

Councils must comply with these Guidelines.[1]

Subject to the requirements of the LG Act 1989 and the *Local Government Act 2020*, Councils can develop and declare financial hardship policies and practices associated with the payment of rates and charges in accordance with these Guidelines.

Hardship

The LG Act 1989 provides a Council may defer in whole, or in part, the payment by a person of any rate or charge which is due and payable for a specified period and subject to any conditions determined by the Council if it considers that an application by that person shows that the payment would cause hardship to the person.[2]

'Hardship' is a broad concept and may include where a person has a limited/low income (i.e. pension/unemployment) and payment of rates and charges may be detrimental to their quality of life.

Unlike 'financial hardship' (detailed below), 'hardship' may be present when a ratepayer is still able to afford the necessities of life.

This definition of hardship is to be used in Council policies for considering applications to *defer* a payment by a person of a rate or charge.

[1] Section 181AA(3), LG Act 1989.
[2] Section 170, LG Act 1989.

Financial hardship

The meaning of financial hardship

Financial hardship is a category within the broader concept of hardship described above. Many situations can contribute to financial hardship, including (but not limited to):

- bereavement
- financial misfortune such as fraud or electronic scamming
- illness; or
- the impacts of natural disaster.

Mere inconvenience or difficulty in making a payment is not financial hardship. An inconvenience or difficulty may require the reorganising of finances, prioritising of other payments, or reducing expenditure on social activities and discretionary goods and services, in order to make a timely payment.

Financial hardship denotes more serious circumstances and requires that a person:

- cannot afford the necessities of life for themselves and/or dependants; or
- to be in such a circumstance that paying rates and charges means that they would be unable to afford necessities of life for themselves and/or dependants.

Necessities of life that would be impacted if making a payment of all or part of any rates, charges and any interest would:

- Prevent the ratepayer (or a dependant) from seeking essential medical treatments or supplies;
- Prevent the ratepayer from payment of essential utility services (including water and energy);
- Prevent the ratepayer (or a dependant) from access to basic living needs, such as:
    - Food;
    - Accommodation;
    - Clothing;
    - Education for dependent children; or
- Place the ratepayer (or dependent) in any form of harm or danger, including (but not limited to):
    - Family violence[3]; or
    - Economic abuse.[4]

[3] Section 5, *Family Violence Protection Act 2008*.
[4] Section 6, *Family Violence Protection Act 2008*.

In contrast, financial hardship is not present where a ratepayer is able to afford goods and services such as (but not limited to):

- Restaurant and takeaway meals;
- Services such as hairstyling, beauty treatments, sport and recreational activities, and holidays;
- Entertainment such as streaming services, movies, concerts, and theatre;
- Alcohol and tobacco; and
- Private schooling fees (including for dependents) or fee paying education services.

Where is financial hardship applicable?

The definition of financial hardship is to be used when a Council is required to consider whether the payment of a rate or charge should be waived.

The LG Act 1989 provides a Council may waive the whole or part of a payment by a person of any rate or charge or interest if it considers that the payment would cause financial hardship to the person.[5]

Engaging a third party to assist in assessing financial hardship

A council or ratepayer may choose to engage a third party to assist in providing evidence or professional opinion regarding an application for financial hardship. However, the council remains the final decision maker when determining if a ratepayer is suffering financial hardship. Councils must not require an applicant ratepayer to engage third parties (such as financial councillors) to assess or verify their claims of financial hardship.

Property co-owners

A ratepayer's financial circumstances must be considered together with those of other property co-owners during an application for assistance under financial hardship. For example, where there are joint owners of a property and one of the owners is not experiencing financial hardship, the owner not experiencing financial hardship is still liable to pay the full amount of rates and charges on the land.

Considerations when determining whether to waive fees and charges

Council policies must include the following factors which must be considered when determining whether to waive rates and charges:

[5] Sections 171 and 171A, LG Act 1989.

- Can the unpaid rates and charges be paid by rearranging finances and/or selling or drawing on assets?

- Does the ratepayer have access to savings, monetary investments, or other income?

- Has financial hardship been caused by a ratepayer's own actions or expenditure, for example, through spending on non-essential items or through a recent gift or loan to family or friends?

- What has the applicant ratepayer done to alleviate their financial hardship?

- Will the applicant ratepayer sell saleable or liquid assets capable of paying the debt within the next 12 months, including the property with outstanding rates and charges?

- Is the ratepayer able to make payments on other debts (such as mortgage or credit cards) greater than the minimum required?

- Is the ratepayer a company or trust?

A council may request evidence of financial hardship

In considering a ratepayer's circumstances and claims of financial hardship, councils may request evidence regarding discretionary spending to substantiate claims of financial hardship. Where councils ask an applicant to provide evidence to support their claim of financial hardship, the evidence sought must only be relevant to determining the ratepayer's current financial circumstances. Councils must inform ratepayers of their obligations in providing evidence, noting that penalties can apply under section 171A(4) of the LG Act 1989 for providing false or misleading information.

A council's request for further evidence must be comprehensive and clear so as to avoid any need to request evidence more than once, unless the evidence provided by the ratepayer is incomplete. Councils must ensure that their management of the application and record keeping is sufficient to ensure that the same (or practically similar) evidence is not requested more than once to reduce stress on the applicant. Sensitive information must be handled securely and in accordance with the requirements of the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014.*

The content of hardship policies and financial hardship polices

Council policies regarding the payment of rates and charges should be easily accessible to all ratepayers and be available:

- on a council's website;
- as a physical copy at customer service points; and
- to be posted as a physical copy to ratepayers on request.

Any suspension of policy (for example as a result of natural disaster or pandemic) must communicate the period of the suspension and its likely reinstatement.

Where such policies are suspended, councils should review the suspension and reinstate policies as soon as practicable.

In addition to guidance provided elsewhere in this document, council policies must include provisions for the reporting to the Council at least annually on (but not limited to):

- the total balance of unpaid rates, charges, and interest;
- the number of occupancies with unpaid rates and charges and interest;
- the number of occupancies on payment plans; and
- all occupancies not on payment plans with unpaid rates and charges of three years or more and reasons why the land has not been sold or transferred under section 181 of the LG Act 1989.

Where a ratepayer has identified circumstances of economic abuse or family violence (including in relation to other joint owners of the property), councils must state in their policies their measures to:

- prevent the other owner/s from accessing confidential information relating to hardship and financial hardship applications; and
- prevent the other owner/s from delaying or preventing the application.

The circumstances in which a council may apply the hardship policies and financial hardship policies

Councils must not pre-emptively disqualify a ratepayer from applying for hardship or financial hardship support through their published policies (for example, preventing access to waivers or deferrals for some types or classes of applicants). Any ratepayer may experience hardship or financial hardship at any time and all applications made under sections 171 and 171A of the LG Act 1989 must be assessed on individual merit.

The process for applying for a payment plan

A council's policies must clearly specify how a ratepayer may apply for payment plans,[6] and the policy must be available on the council's internet website.

An application form should be easily available on a council's internet website and points of customer contact with the council. The application form must clearly state (but is not limited to):

- What a ratepayer is required to submit (including supportive evidence);
- That council may request further information;
- That council may verify claims made by the applicant;
- In what timeframe council will notify if an application has been accepted or rejected; and
- Where an application has been rejected, the reason/s why.

Councils may also offer the ability for ratepayers to apply for a payment plan verbally in addition to via written application. Information requested via verbal applications must be identical to what is requested via written application.

Additionally, policies must also state how a council will inform ratepayers of payment options (including payment plans), prior to pursuing recovery in the Magistrates Court or by suing for debt[7].

Councils must provide ratepayers with information regarding how to make a written or verbal application for a payment plan which includes (but is not limited to):

- contact details for the officer/s assessing the application;
- a timeframe for the response from the council;
- how their application will be handled and determined with respect to any relevant privacy legislation; and
- options to appeal an officer's decision if the application is rejected.

The waiver of interest on unpaid rates or charges under sections 171, 171A and 172 of the LG Act 1989

A council must consider the waiver of any amount of existing interest in order to assist the ratepayer in alleviating their situation of financial hardship.

[6] Section 171B(1), LG Act 1989.
[7] Section 180A(1)(a)(ii), LG Act 1989.

Any other matters covered by sections 170, 171, 171A, 171B, 172, 180 and 181 of the LG Act 1989

Section 170: Deferred Payments

If a council determines that making a payment would cause hardship for a ratepayer and approves an application for deferred payments, they must clearly inform the ratepayer of:

- The specified period for the deferment; and
- Any conditions to the deferment.

If a council determines that the ratepayer's circumstances have changed, and they send a notice requiring payment, they must:

- Explain why they consider the ratepayer's circumstances have changed; or
- Where the ratepayer no longer owns or occupies the land and the rates remain unpaid, inform all new ratepayers of the previously deferred rate arrangement;

and

- Inform the ratepayer of any interest that must be paid on late payments, if interest was applied after the period of deferment.

When a council approves an application for deferred payment they must not charge interest on the unpaid rate or charge. A ratepayer approved for a deferred payment is no longer liable for payment[8] and therefore cannot be charged interest[9] until the ratepayer is sent a notice by council making them liable and requiring payment[10]. A council may then calculate any interest on the deferred payment in accordance with the conditions of the deferment.

Councils may choose to apply deferred payments under the condition that a Payment Plan is subsequently put in place. Where a council chooses to apply a Payment Plan in this manner, interest must not be charged on any amount of the unpaid rates and charges.

Section 171: Waivers

When a ratepayer applies for a waiver of interest on unpaid rates and charges due to financial hardship, they must be considered as a class of persons[11] as supported by section 171A of the LG Act 1989 and councils must consider each application based on its individual merit.

Where a council requires an applicant to provide (or verify) further particulars as a part of their waiver application[12], the council must make clear:

[8] Section 170(2), LG Act 1989.
[9] Otherwise required to be paid under section 172(1)(a), LG Act 1989.
[10] Section 170(3)(b), LG Act 1989.
[11] Section 171(1)(b), LG Act 1989.
[12] Section 171A(2), LG Act 1989.

- What further particulars are required; and
- How an applicant can verify these particulars.

A council must include in relevant policies how a ratepayer who has given false or misleading information or fails to notify council of changes in their circumstance[13], will be treated. This must include how the council will charge the associated penalty units, and the consequence should the ratepayer choose not to pay.

Section 171B: Payment plans for unpaid rates or charges

In addition to the requirements concerning payment plans in section171B(3) of the LG Act 1989, a payment plan must clearly state under what conditions a payment plan will be cancelled, and how a ratepayer will be informed of the cancellation.

When a council applies deferred payments and a payment plan at the same time, interest cannot be charged on unpaid rates and charges during the period of deferment (see Section 170 – Deferred Payments, above).

Section 172: Council may charge interest on unpaid rates and charges

A council may choose to charge interest on any amount of unpaid rates and charges up to the maximum rate permitted under the *Penalty Interest Rate Act 1983* or fixed by the Minister for Local Government[14]. Councils can choose to apply interest of an amount less than the maximum rate fixed by the Minister.

Councils must specify in relevant policies and plans what interest rates they are setting on unpaid rates and charges, and detail under what situations they will apply either a lesser rate or, apply no interest. Councils must ensure that ratepayers are able to reasonably access this information and are informed of, how and when interest is applied.

Ratepayers that have successfully applied for deferred payments on their unpaid rates and charges cannot not be charged any amount of interest by councils during the period of deferment.

If a council had determined that the ratepayer has provided false or misleading information in regard to an application for a waiver of interest[15], a council *cannot reinstate any interest that was waived* but may choose to apply the relevant penalty units set out in the LG Act 1989.

Section 180: Unpaid rate or charge

Where a council has informed a ratepayer of unpaid rates and charges and the payment options available, and a payment option is not agreed upon, the council may recover the amount owing in the Magistrates' Court or by suing for debt, subject to the requirements of section 180A of the LG Act 1989.

[13] Sections 171(6) & 171A(4), LG Act 1989.
[14] Section 172, LG Act 1989.
[15] Sections 171A(4) & 170(6), LG Act 1989.

A council's policies must clearly state under which circumstances recovery of unpaid rates and charges will occur.

If a council intends to recover an unpaid rate or charge a council must:

- Contact the ratepayer in writing, notifying them of the outstanding debt and the intention to recover the unpaid rates, charges and any interest; and
- Attempt to contact the ratepayer within reasonable hours to speak to them personally regarding the unpaid rates, charges and any interest.

Councils must specify on their website any costs of debt recovery that may be added to ratepayer's unpaid rates and charges. These charges may only be added after a Court Order is obtained[16].

Where councils use a third party to undertake debt recovery activities, they must ensure that third parties comply with the requirements of these Guidelines.

Section 181: Council may sell land to recover unpaid rates or charges

Once a Court Order has been obtained requiring payment of unpaid rates and charges, and any unpaid amount is more than three years overdue, a council may determine to sell or cause the land to be transferred into Council ownership.

A Council must prepare policies which:

- outline what a council considers to be a "current arrangement"[17] for the payment of an amount due for or in respect of rates or charges; and
- state:
    - the process for which land is evaluated every financial year for sale or transfer by Council (or delegate);
    - where a sale or transfer is approved, the council's process to complete the transaction;
    - how the council's decisions regarding the sale or transfer of the land will be recorded and made public.

If it is a council's intent to use land transferred to itself for public purposes, then relevant policies must clearly explain how this type of land will be utilised for the benefit of the community.

[16] Section 156(6), LG Act 1989.
[17] Section 181(1)(b), LG Act 1989.

Transparency and disclosure

Where councils make decisions regarding the payment of rates and charges, this process must be transparent except when dealing with information that is confidential by virtue of the LG Act 1989 or any other Act.

Implementation of these Guidelines

The Minister for Local Government has issued these Guidelines under section 181AA of the LG Act 1989. Councils are required to comply with these Guidelines.

Where the Minister is satisfied that a council's governance processes and policies require improvement, the Minister may direct a Council to amend or replace its governance processes and policies.[18]

[18] Section 175, *Local Government Act 2020*.

REPORT NO:	9.3
REPORT TITLE:	Rate arrears - Year ended 30 June 2024
SOURCE:	Robert Costa, Manager Finance
DIVISION:	Finance & Governance
FILE NO:	HCC05/737
POLICY:	-
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	3.2: Deliver responsible and transparent governance, services and sustainable assets that respond to community needs
ATTACHMENTS:	1. *Rate arrears by suburb and property type* 2. *Rate arrears by suburb year-on-year comparison* 3. *Rate arrears heat map by Suburb* 4. *Rate arrears heat map by Ward* 5. *Rates arrears heat map - Craigieburn* 6. *Rates arrears heat map - Kalkallo and Mickleham*

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

1.1. This report provides the current status of rates arrears / (outstanding) as at 30 June 2024 of $39.58m, which is made up of 13,341 properties.

1.2. The level of rate arrears has increased significantly compared to previous years.

1.3. Council adopted a Rates Financial Hardship Policy in November 2022 to assist residential ratepayers manage their debt through the implementation of interest free payment arrangements.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

2.1 That the Rate Arrears Report as at 30 June 2024 be received and noted.

2.2 That Council continues to support the community with the measures outlined in the Rates Financial Hardship Policy including interest-free payment plans.

3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

3.1 Rates are raised and payment is required pursuant to the Sections contained in Part 8 of the Local Government Act 1989 including Section 181 which provides for the sale of rateable properties where rates remain unpaid for more than three years.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

4.1 The value of rate arrears as at 30 June 2024 was $39.58m compared to $32.18m as at 30 June 2023 (see table 1 below for a more detailed breakdown of the rate arrears).

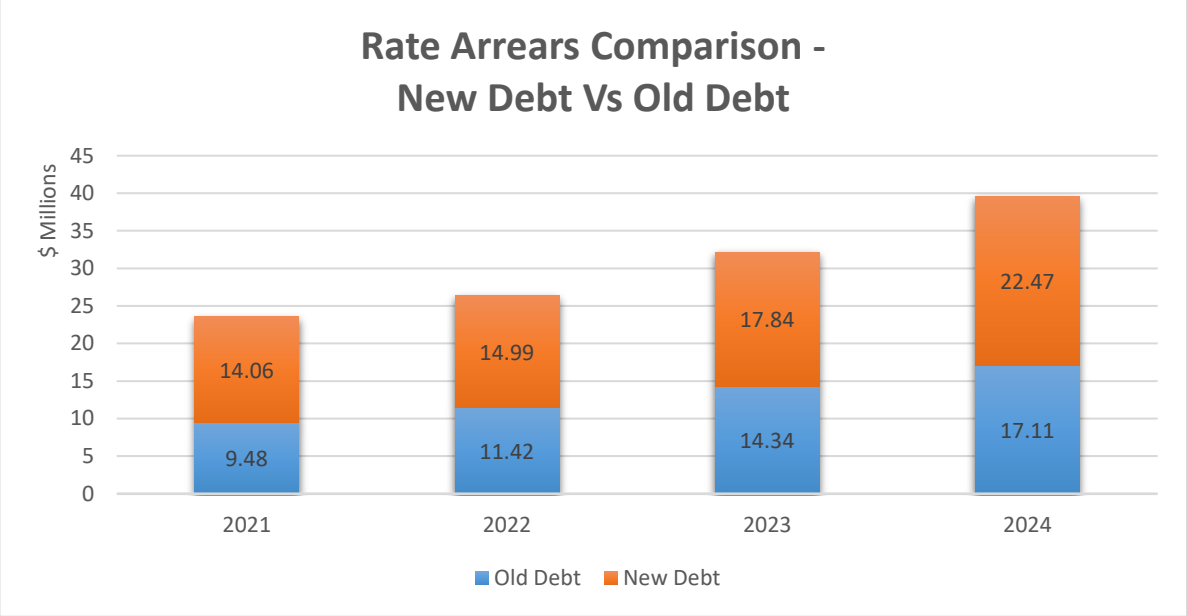
REPORT NO: 9.3 (cont.)

Table 1				
Charge Type	**2023/24**		**2022/23**	
	Arrears $m	**% of Total**	**Arrears $m**	**% of Total**
General Rates	31.11	78.59	30.98	96.24
Penalty Interest	1.16	2.94	0.34	1.07
Debt Recovery	0.14	0.36	0.17	0.54
Waste Charges	7.17	18.11	0.69	2.16
Total	**39.58**	**100%**	**32.18**	**100%**

4.2 As at 30 June 2024, the value of arrears relating to rates raised in previous years (old debt) was $17.11m (43.23%). The balance of $22.47m (56.77%) relates to rates raised in 2023/24, i.e. it is new debt.

4.3 By way of comparison, at 30 June 2023 the total arrears were $32.18m. This represents an increase in the level of outstanding rates and charges of 23% compared to 30 June 2024. Refer to Chart 1 below which shows the four-year comparison.

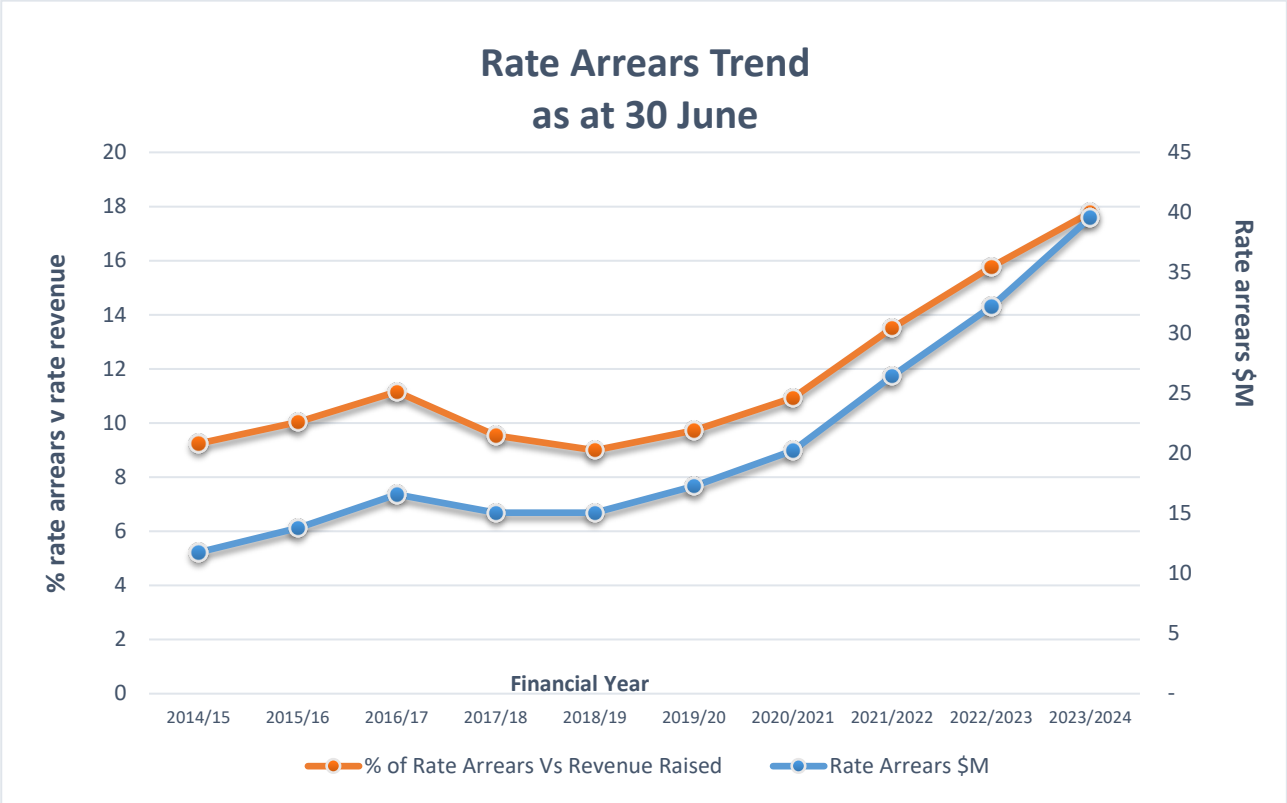
CHART 1



4.4 Chart 2 - The chart below illustrates the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the current cost-of-living pressures on the community, reflected in the level of rate arrears compared to previous financial years. It shows that not only has the value of arrears increased, but the percentage of rate arrears relative to rate revenue raised is also trending higher. This graph indicates that ten years ago, rate arrears were approximately $11.75 million, representing around 9% of rate revenue. In comparison, for the 2023/24 financial year, arrears have risen to $39.58 million, representing over 17% of rate revenue.

REPORT NO: 9.3 (cont.)

CHART 2



4.5 Out of the 13,341 properties in arrears, totaling $39.58 million, there are 3,573 properties with active arrangements amounting to $12.89 million. This leaves 9,768 properties, with a combined arrears of $26.69 million, that have not yet entered into a payment plan despite numerous attempts to inform ratepayers of the available options, including interest free payment arrangements.

4.6 Table 2 and 3 below show that the top 5 suburbs which applied for arrangements and are active are Craigieburn (836), Sunbury (631), Roxburgh Park (399), Greenvale (338) and Mickleham (240) with 3,312 or 93% of active arrangements being for residential properties.

REPORT NO: 9.3 (cont.)

Table 2			
Arrangements by Suburb			
Suburb	**Number of Arrangements**	**Total Arrears $**	**Average Arrangement* $**
Attwood	65	233,087	3,586
Broadmeadows	181	656,307	3,626
Bulla	17	168,132	9,890
Campbellfield	106	824,258	7,776
Coolaroo	36	133,674	3,713
Craigieburn	836	2,676,865	3,202
Dallas	70	270,471	3,864
Diggers Rest	10	99,098	9,910
Fawkner	2	9,401	4,701
Gladstone Park	121	382,803	3,164
Greenvale	338	1,455,465	4,306
Jacana	25	89,708	3,588
Kalkallo	109	201,772	1,851
Meadow Heights	150	494,703	3,298
Mickleham	240	776,024	3,233
Oaklands Junction	6	47,656	7,943
Roxburgh Park	399	1,492,860	3,741
Somerton	14	14,7454	10,532
Sunbury	631	2,092,835	3,317
Tullamarine	99	246,087	2,486
Westmeadows	113	378,398	3,349
Wildwood	3	19,918	6,639
Yuroke	2	2,387	1,193
Total	**3,573**	**12,899,363**	**3,610**

**this total is not a sum of the values directly above it but rather a simple average of the total arrears divided by the number of arrangements*

Table 3			
Arrangements by Property Type			
Property Type	**No. of Arrangements**	**Value of arrears under arrangement $**	**Average Arrangement* $**
Residential	3,312	10,727,484	3,239
Vacant Land	101	545,381	5,400
Industrial	81	850,432	10,499
Commercial	19	143,791	7,568
Rural House & Land	60	632,275	10,538
Total	**3,573**	**12,899,363**	**3,610**

**this total is not a sum of the values directly above it but rather a simple average of the total arrears divided by the number of arrangements*

4.7 The rate arrears by suburb and property type data (Attachment 1), indicates 84.15% of the arrears is made up of residential, with the remaining 15.85% being made up of commercial, industrial, rural land/house and vacant land. The majority of arrears relating to vacant land are in Mickleham, Craigieburn, Greenvale, Kalkallo and Sunbury where large properties/farms have experienced significant capital appreciation due to rezoning and surrounding development.

4.8 Rate Arrears by Suburb (Attachment 2), provides a comparison of rates raised and arrears by suburb as at June 2023 and June 2024

4.9 The rate arrears heat map by suburb (Attachment 3), provides a visual representation of rate arrears by suburb which shows the debt flows from south of Hume and gradually becomes denser as we move towards the north. This indicates that areas in the central and northern parts of Hume are where most of the debt is (as outlined in Attachment 2 - Rate arrears by suburb).

4.10 The ward focused map (Attachment 4) indicates the largest amount of arrears split between the wards.

4.11 Attachment 5 contains a breakdown of Craigieburn rate arrears.

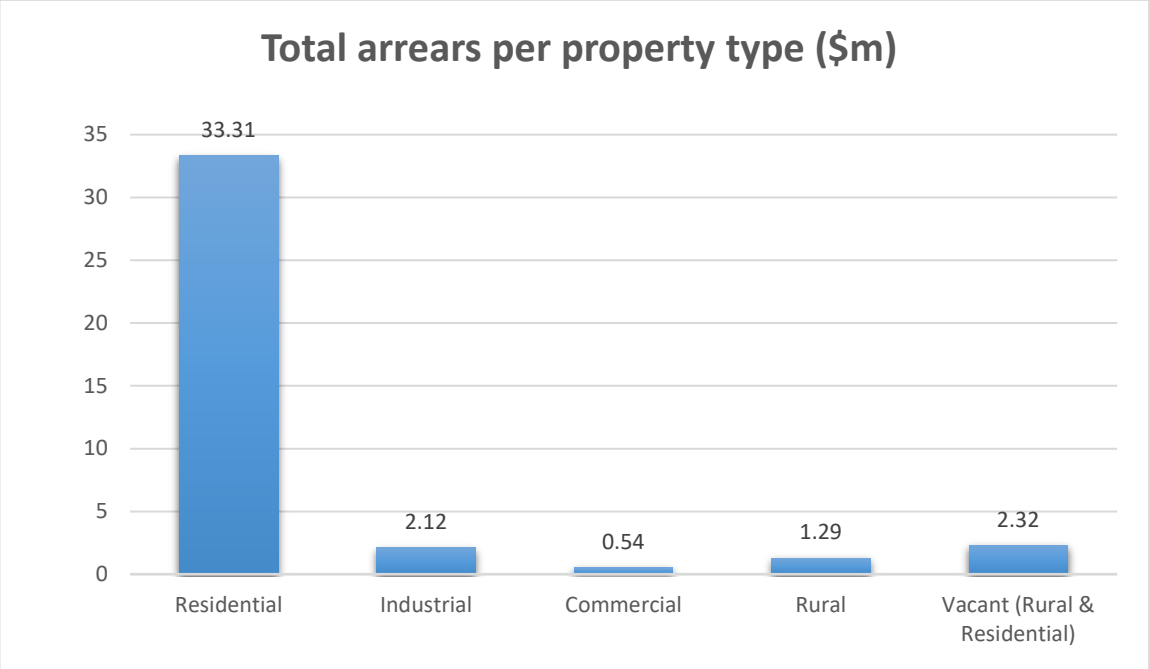
4.12 Attachment 6 contains a breakdown of Kalkallo and Mickleham rate arrears.

4.13 On the median residential property (including vacant land) value of $580,000 the FSPL added an extra 11% that had to be paid by the ratepayer. If the full amount billed (Council and FSPL charges) was not paid then any payments received have to be divided proportionally between the two charges.

REPORT NO: 9.3 (cont.)

4.14 Chart 3 – Analysis of the rates arrears by property type. This illustrates the rate arrears by property type.

CHART 3:



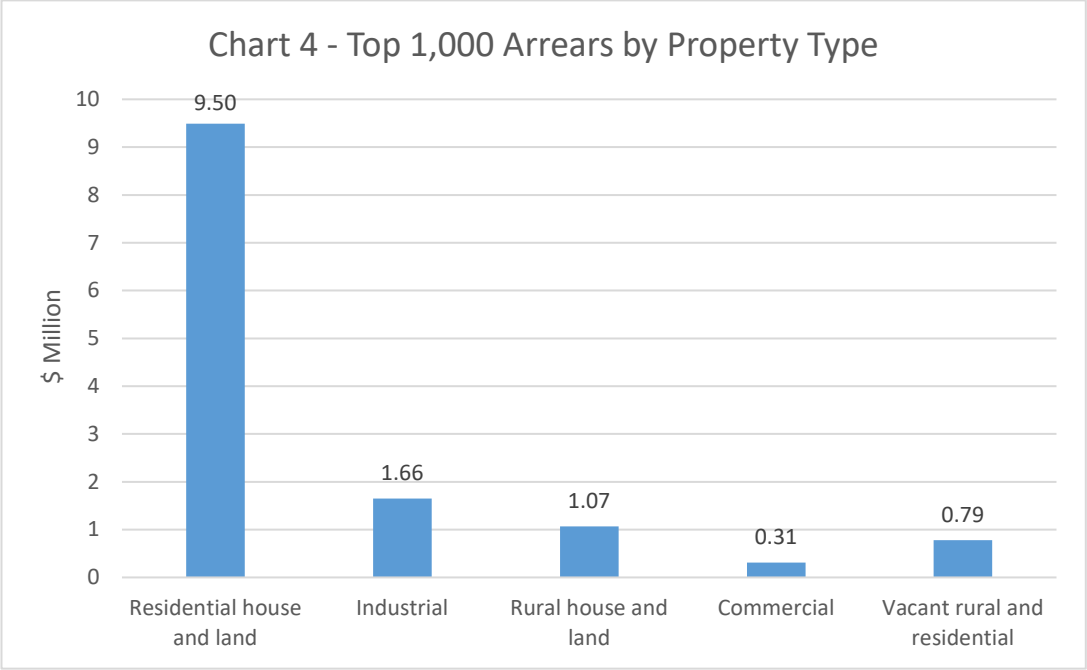
4.15 Table 4 and Chart 4 – Analysis of the largest 1,000 debts at 30 June 2024. The largest 1,000 debts represent 33.60% of the total debt and approximately 1% of all rateable properties.

Table 4 – Analysis of Largest 1,000 Debts

Property Type	Average Capital Improved Value $	No of Assessments	Total Outstanding $	Average Outstanding* $
Residential house and land	722,202	797	9,499,293	11,918
Industrial	2,714,421	76	1,651,277	21,727
Rural house and land	3,101,356	59	1,074,300	18,208
Commercial	2,830,833	21	312,961	14,902
Vacant rural and residential	3,069,532	47	786,815	1,6740
Total		**1,000**	**13,324,648**	**13,324**

**this total is not a sum of the values directly above it but rather a simple average of the total outstanding divided by the number of assessments.*

CHART 4:



5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

5.1 There are no environmental sustainability implications in respect to this report.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

6.1 There are no climate change adaptation implications in respect to this report.

7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

7.1 The Charter of Human Rights and Responsibility has been considered and the recommendations of this report give no rise to any matters.

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

8.1 Not applicable.

9. DISCUSSION:

9.1 Council currently has a range of repayment options available to ratepayers as well as hardship provisions in place for ratepayers finding it difficult to pay their rates. A draft Rates Financial Hardship Policy was endorsed by Council in November 2022. This Policy has formalised Council's current hardship practices and make it easier for ratepayers to engage with Council and to enter into payment arrangements without incurring additional penalty interest.

9.2 Council resumed charging interest on outstanding rates from 1 July 2024 after three years of ceasing to charge interest.

9.3 There are currently no properties with Council's debt collection agency (All previous files have been closed). Action on all debt collection was placed on hold when the COVID pandemic began. Council follows the new hardship policy when collecting current and future debt.

REPORT NO: 9.3 (cont.)

10. CONCLUSION:

10.1 Since the pandemic, debt collection activities have been placed on hold and officers did not proceed with further collection proceedings. However, regular contact has been made with ratepayers in arrears, and they have been encouraged to enter into payment plans or apply for short term deferments of their rates if they are experiencing financial difficulty.

10.2 COVID and the current cost of living pressures have significantly impacted Council's ability to collect overdue rates. Despite these challenges, Council remains committed to engaging with the community and supporting ratepayers through ongoing initiatives during this difficult time.

Attachment 1: Rate Arrears by Suburb and Property Type

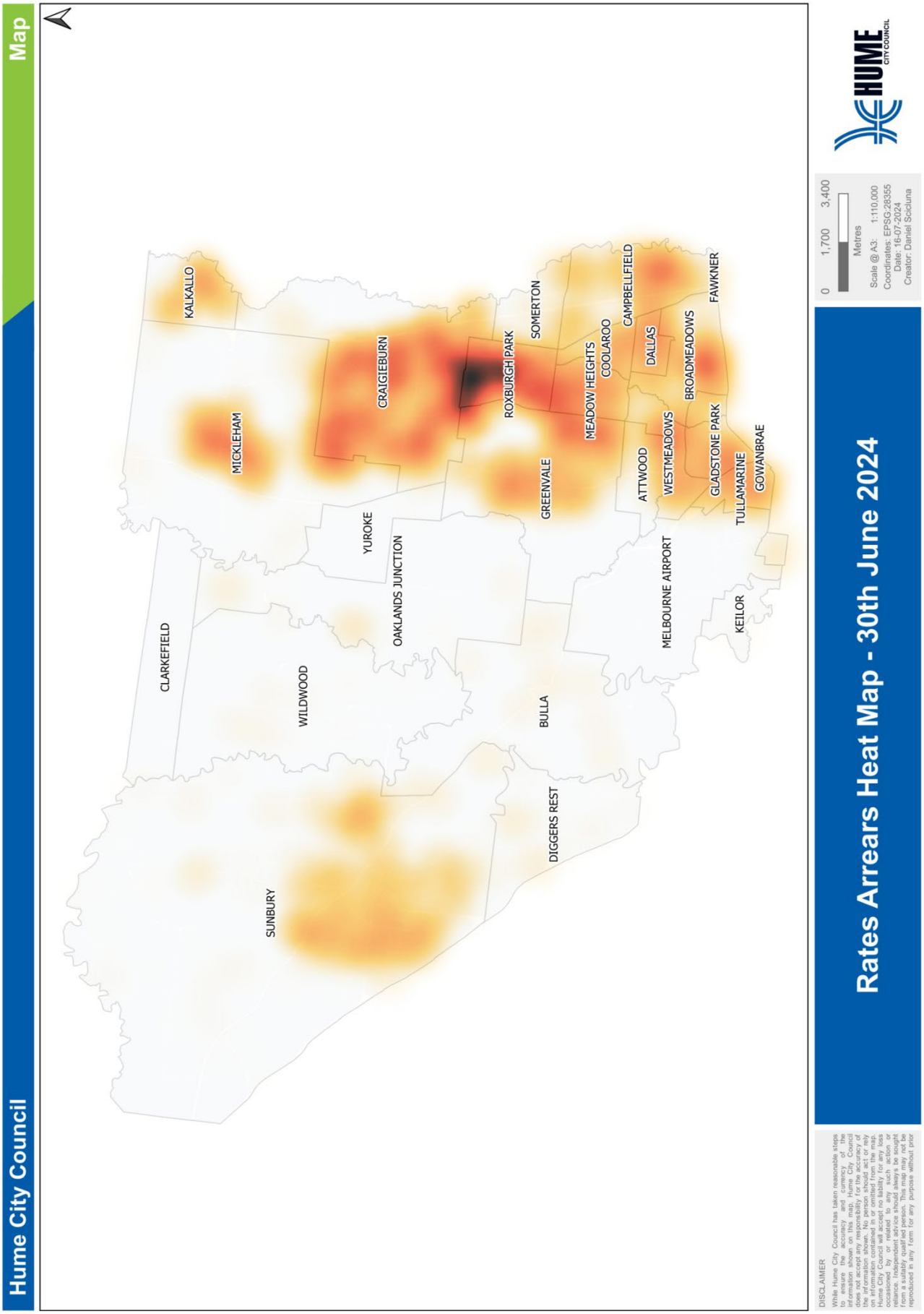
	Total Commercial $	Total Industrial $	Total Residential $	Total Rural Land & House $	Total Vacant Land $	Total $
ATTWOOD	-	-	423,902	-	3,151	**427,053**
BROADMEADOWS	31,361	151,476	1,395,546	-	29,064	**1,607,448**
BULLA	635	-	42,092	125,472	90,956	**259,154**
CAMPBELLFIELD	167,566	1,077,486	629,872	-	90,423	**1,965,346**
CLARKEFIELD	-	-	-	4,527	-	**4,527**
COOLAROO	36,143	201,531	355,413	-	62,906	**655,993**
CRAIGIEBURN	84,252	251,384	8,672,789	63,159	288,578	**9,360,162**
DALLAS	16,998	1,809	887,515	-	38,111	**944,432**
DIGGERS REST	-	-	-	187,998	5,908	**193,906**
FAWKNER	661	-	40,429	-	428	**41,518**
GLADSTONE PARK	35,025	-	926,495	-	4,932	**966,452**
GREENVALE	13,048	-	4,098,681	192,197	284,382	**4,588,307**
JACANA	1,304	-	236,958	-	9,242	**247,503**
KALKALLO	4,098	-	1,165,561	-	152,597	**1,322,256**
KEILOR	-	-	-	16,829	-	**16,829**
MEADOW HEIGHTS	3,618	-	1,773,802	-	24,488	**1,801,907**
MELBOURNE AIRPORT	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
MICKLEHAM	4,092	-	2,906,537	345,272	437,677	**3,693,579**
OAKLANDS JUNCTION	-	-	33,643	-	127,032	**160,675**
ROXBURGH PARK	19,077	-	3,396,516	-	27,700	**3,443,293**
SOMERTON	1,404	192,565	770	-	61,709	**256,449**
SUNBURY	77,229	14,544	4,558,300	297,292	512,966	**5,460,330**
TULLAMARINE	7,528	205,306	779,385	-	14,128	**1,006,346**
WESTMEADOWS	40,636	25,629	986,015	-	1,505	**1,053,785**
WILDWOOD	-	-	-	48,795	50,270	**99,065**
YUROKE	-	-	-	6,125	-	**6,125**
Total	**544,671**	**2,121,730**	**33,310,222**	**1,287,665**	**2,318,153**	**39,582,441**

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

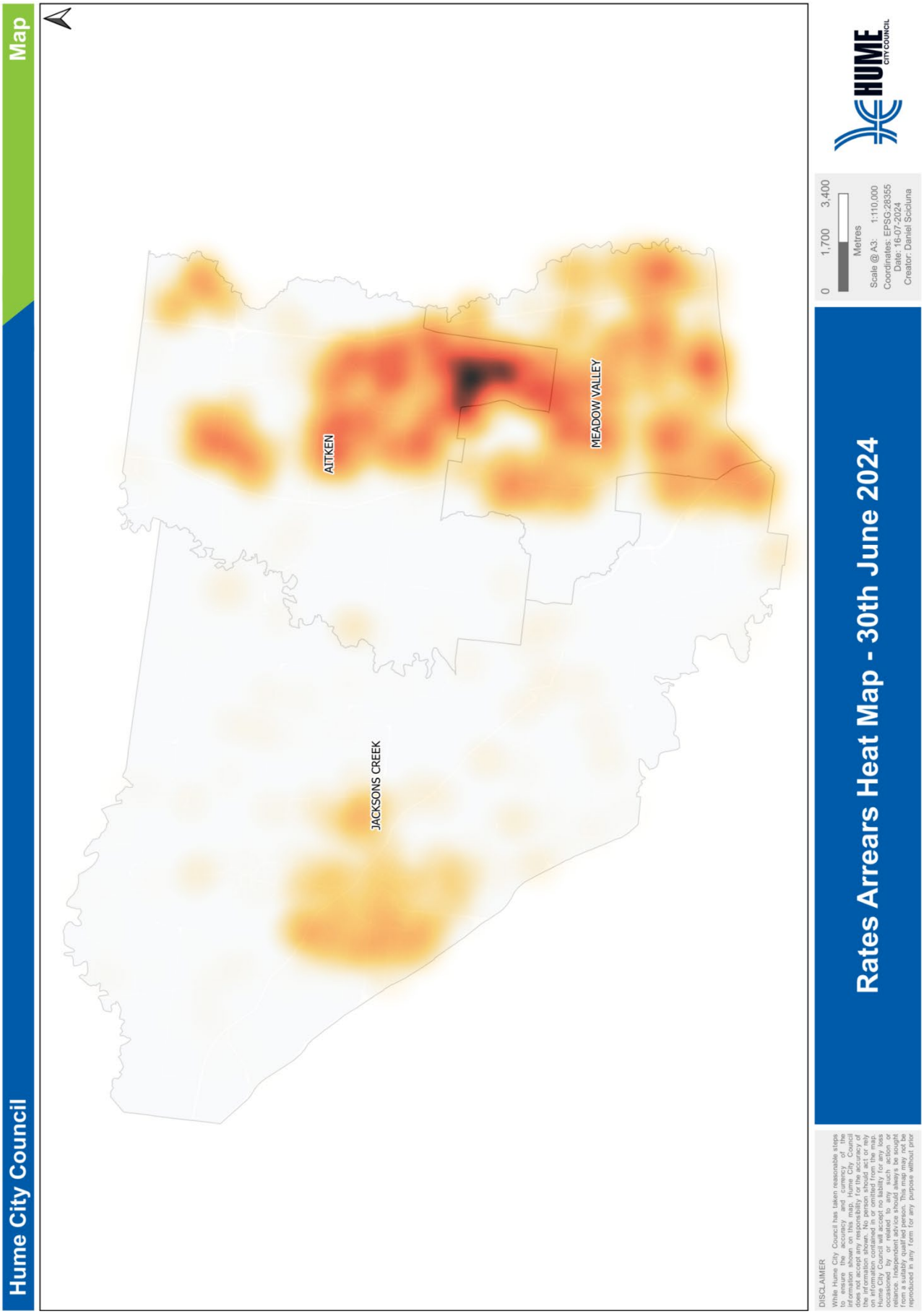
Attachment 2: RATE ARREARS BY SUBURB

Locality	Total Rates Raised 2023/24 $	Total Arrears at 30/6/2024 $	Arrears as a % of Total Raised	Total Rates Raised 2022/23 $	Total Arrears at 30/6/2023 $	Arrears as a % of Total Raised	Diffrence in Rates Raised $	Diffrence Outstanding $ 2022/23 to 2023/24	Diffrence Outanding as a % 2022/23 to 2023/24
ATTWOOD	2,738,416	427,053	15.59%	2,739,967	420,890	15.36%	(1,551)	6,162	0.23%
BROADMEADOWS	11,089,493	1,607,448	14.50%	10,080,278	1,454,371	14.43%	1,009,216	153,076	0.07%
BULLA	1,102,664	259,154	23.50%	1,115,109	259,463	23.27%	(12,445)	(309)	0.23%
CAMPBELLFIELD	14,230,567	1,965,346	13.81%	14,936,138	2,079,789	13.92%	(705,571)	(114,443)	-0.11%
CLARKEFIELD	47,157	4,527	9.60%	44,160	987	2.23%	2,998	3,541	7.37%
COOLAROO	3,232,742	655,993	20.29%	3,150,291	582,850	18.50%	82,451	73,142	1.79%
CRAIGIEBURN	46,220,582	9,360,162	20.25%	40,411,014	7,418,353	18.36%	5,809,568	1,941,809	1.89%
DALLAS	3,790,649	944,432	24.91%	3,180,437	728,943	22.92%	610,212	215,489	2.00%
DIGGERS REST	712,545	193,906	27.21%	735,810	168,743	22.93%	(23,265)	25,163	4.28%
FAWKNER	296,658	41,518	14.00%	292,647	27,240	9.31%	4,011	14,277	4.69%
GLADSTONE PARK	7,018,043	966,452	13.77%	6,335,160	793,167	12.52%	682,883	173,285	1.25%
GREENVALE	21,573,531	4,588,307	21.27%	19,961,968	3,672,486	18.40%	1,611,563	915,822	2.87%
JACANA	1,563,252	247,503	15.83%	1,376,064	188,671	13.71%	187,188	58,833	2.12%
KALKALLO	6,676,356	1,322,256	19.81%	5,112,471	939,788	18.38%	1,563,885	382,468	1.42%
KEILOR	106,244	16,829	15.84%	105,002	9,806	9.34%	1,242	7,023	6.50%
MEADOW HEIGHTS	8,049,128	1,801,907	22.39%	6,818,433	1,420,031	20.83%	1,230,695	381,877	1.56%
MELBOURNE AIRPORT	11,329	0	0.00%	12,198	0	0.00%	(868)	0	0.00%
MICKLEHAM	19,089,504	3,693,579	19.35%	16,136,992	2,836,999	17.58%	2,952,512	856,580	1.77%
OAKLANDS JUNCTION	631,838	160,675	25.43%	659,520	149,649	22.69%	(27,682)	11,027	2.74%
ROXBURGH PARK	13,745,124	3,443,293	25.05%	12,062,474	2,691,345	22.31%	1,682,650	751,948	2.74%
SOMERTON	5,203,843	256,449	4.93%	5,632,994	311,648	5.53%	(429,150)	(55,199)	-0.60%
SUNBURY	39,429,068	5,460,330	13.85%	33,947,185	4,323,201	12.74%	5,481,884	1,137,129	1.11%
TULLAMARINE	9,903,714	1,006,346	10.16%	9,490,213	798,694	8.42%	413,501	207,652	1.75%
WESTMEADOWS	6,144,077	1,053,785	17.15%	5,642,976	825,966	14.64%	501,101	227,818	2.51%
WILDWOOD	420,588	99,065	23.55%	434,541	86,941	20.01%	(13,953)	12,124	3.55%
YUROKE	273,455	6,125	2.24%	298,506	1,982	0.66%	(25,051)	4,143	1.58%

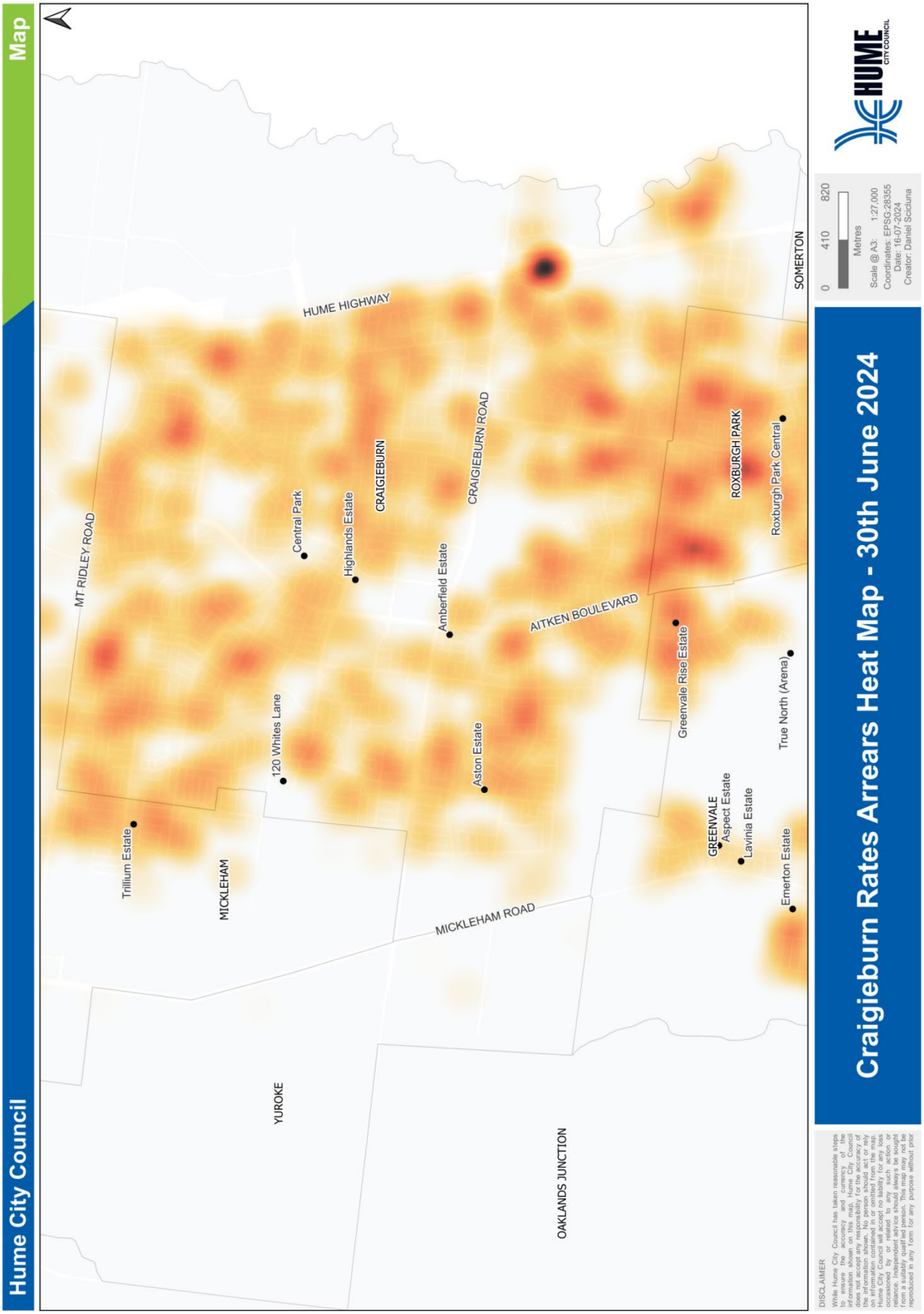
THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK


Map
Hume City Council
KALKALLO
MICKLEHAM
CRAIGIEBURN
ROXBURGH PARK
SOMERTON
CAMPBELLFIELD
FAWKNER
MEADOW HEIGHTS
COOLAROO
DALLAS
BROADMEADOWS
GREENVALE
ATTWOOD
WESTMEADOWS
GLADSTONE PARK
TULLAMARINE
GOWANBRAE
YUROKE
OAKLANDS JUNCTION
CLARKEFIELD
WILDWOOD
BULLA
MELBOURNE AIRPORT
KEILOR
DIGGERS REST
SUNBURY
Rates Arrears Heat Map - 30th June 2024
0 1,700 3,400
Metres
Scale @ A3: 1:110,000
Coordinates: EPSG:28355
Date: 16-07-2024
Creator: Daniel Scicluna
DISCLAIMER
While Hume City Council has taken reasonable steps to ensure the accuracy and currency of the information shown on this map, Hume City Council does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information shown. No person should act or rely on information contained in or omitted from the map. Hume City Council will accept no liability for any loss or damage incurred by any person who acts in such reliance. Independent advice should always be sought from a suitably qualified person. This map may not be reproduced in any form for any purpose without prior

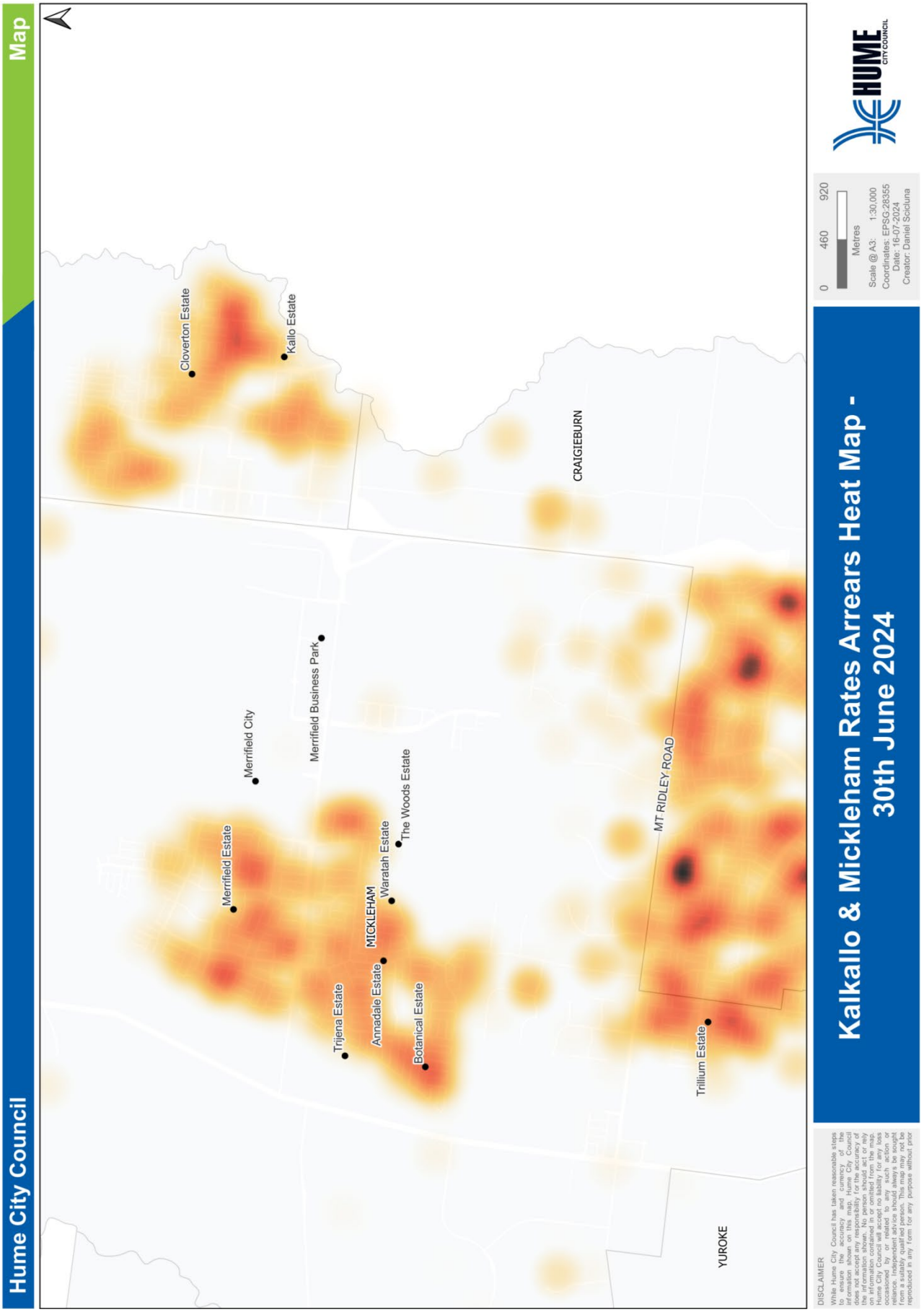
THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK


Map
Hume City Council
ATTKEN
MEADOW VALLEY
JACKSONS CREEK
Rates Arrears Heat Map - 30th June 2024
0 1,700 3,400
Metres
Scale @ A3: 1:110,000
Coordinates: EPSG:28355
Date: 16-07-2024
Creator: Daniel Scicluna
HUME CITY COUNCIL
DISCLAIMER
While Hume City Council has taken reasonable steps to ensure the accuracy and currency of the information shown on this map, Hume City Council does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information shown. No person should act or rely on information contained in or omitted from the map. Hume City Council will accept no liability for any loss or damage incurred by any person who acts in such reliance. Independent advice should always be sought from a suitably qualified person. This map may not be reproduced in any form for any purpose without prior

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK


Map
Hume City Council
HUME HIGHWAY
SOMERTON
MT RIDLEY ROAD
Central Park
Highlands Estate
CRAIGIEBURN
CRAIGIEBURN ROAD
ROXBURGH PARK
Roxburgh Park Central
Amberfield Estate
AITKEN BOULEVARD
Greenvale Rise Estate
True North (Arena)
120 Whites Lane
Aston Estate
GREENVALE
Aspect Estate
Lavinia Estate
Emerton Estate
Trillium Estate
MICKLEHAM
MICKLEHAM ROAD
YUROKE
OAKLANDS JUNCTION
Craigieburn Rates Arrears Heat Map - 30th June 2024
HUME CITY COUNCIL
0 410 820
Metres
Scale @ A3: 1:27,000
Coordinates: EPSG:28355
Date: 16-07-2024
Creator: Daniel Scicluna
DISCLAIMER
While Hume City Council has taken reasonable steps to ensure the accuracy and currency of the information shown on this map, Hume City Council does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information shown. No person should act or rely on information contained in or omitted from the map. Hume City Council will accept no liability for any loss or damage incurred by any person who acts in reliance. Independent advice should always be sought from a suitably qualified person. This map may not be reproduced in any form for any purpose without prior

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK


Map
Hume City Council
Cloverton Estate
Kallo Estate
CRAIGIEBURN
Merrifield City
Merrifield Business Park
Merrifield Estate
The Woods Estate
Waratah Estate
MICKLEHAM
Trijena Estate
Annadale Estate
Botanical Estate
MT RIDLEY ROAD
Trillium Estate
YUROKE
Kalkallo & Mickleham Rates Arrears Heat Map - 30th June 2024
HUME CITY COUNCIL
0 460 920
Metres
Scale @ A3: 1:30,000
Coordinates: EPSG:28355
Date: 16-07-2024
Creator: Daniel Scicluna
DISCLAIMER
While Hume City Council has taken reasonable steps to ensure the accuracy and currency of the information shown on this map, Hume City Council does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information shown. No person should act or rely on information contained in or omitted from the map. Hume City Council will accept no liability for any loss or damage incurred by any person who acts in such reliance. Independent advice should always be sought from a suitably qualified person. This map may not be reproduced in any form for any purpose without prior

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

REPORT NO:	9.4
REPORT TITLE:	Council Plan 2021-2025: Final Progress Report 2023/24 Actions
SOURCE:	Karen Curson, Senior Lead Integrated Planning & Reporting
DIVISION:	Customer & Strategy
FILE NO:	HCC21/988
POLICY:	-
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	3.2: Deliver responsible and transparent governance, services and sustainable assets that respond to community needs
ATTACHMENTS:	1. *Council Plan 2021-2025 (2023-24 Actions) Fourth Quarter Progress Highlights* 2. *Council Plan 2021-2025 (2023-24 Actions) Fourth Quarter Progress Report*

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

This report and attachments outline the final progress report for the *Council Plan 2021-2025 (2023/24 Actions)* – for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the progress of actions and indicators of the Council Plan 2021-2025 (2023/24) Actions) [refer to Attachments One and Two]

3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

Local Government Act 2020:

- Section 90 – Council Plan

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

The Council Plan 2021-2025 incorporates Council's Pathways to Sustainability Framework. Theme 2 and Strategic Objective 2.2 of the Council Plan provide particular focus and attention to minimising Council's environmental impact.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

The Council Plan 2021-2025 considers mitigating and planning for climate change risks and incorporates the action '2.2.3 Enhance Council's response to climate change including the development of a climate action plan to cover actions within Council operations and to support the Hume community and businesses adapt to climate change'.

REPORT NO: 9.4 (cont.)

7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

The Themes, Strategic Objectives, Community Expectations, Actions, and Indicators of the Council Plan 2021-2025 were developed within the policy context of the *Hume City Council Social Justice Charter (2021)* and the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006)*

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

The Council Plan was developed through extensive community consultation.

9. DISCUSSION:

9.1 The Council Plan 2021-2025 (2023/24 Actions) contains the three Themes, 11 Strategic Objectives and 42 Strategies/Actions to be delivered in 2023/24 financial year.

9.1.1 The *Council Plan 2021-2025 (2023/24 Actions)* was adopted by Council on 28 August 2023.

9.1.2 This Council Plan also incorporates the Disability Action Plan, the Community Safety Action Plan and the Pathways to Sustainability Framework.

9.1.3 Twenty-two Strategic Indicators have been developed to monitor progress towards the Strategic Objectives of the Council Plan.

- Of the twenty-two Strategic Indicators, ten are currently meeting or exceeding the June 2025 targets.

9.1.4 Year to date progress on the Council Plan is reported quarterly to Council and the community. The fourth quarter ended on the 30 June 2024.

9.1.5 Reporting on the year to date progress of actions for the Council Plan 2021-2025 (2023-24 Actions), is assessed using the following status indicators:

- Completed – Expected work towards the action has been completed by 30 June 2024.
- Not Completed – Expected work towards the action has not been completed within 2023/24.

9.1.6 A progress summary of the 42 Council Plan actions for 2023/24 are outlined below.

Progress	Number of actions at this stage	Percent of actions at this stage
Completed	40	95%
Not Completed	2	5%

9.1.7 Council Plan 2021-2025 (2023/24 Actions) Fourth Quarter Progress Summary – Attachment One which provides a Summary of Highlights by each Council Plan Theme.

9.1.8 Council Plan 2021-2025 (2023/24 Actions) Fourth Quarter Progress Report – Attachment Two which provides the full progress for 2023/24.

REPORT NO: 9.4 (cont.)

9.1.9 Following presentation of these documents to the Council Meeting on 26 August 2024, both the Fourth Quarter Progress Report and Highlights document will be made available on Council's website.

10. CONCLUSION:

This report and attachments provide the 2023/24 progress of actions and indicators in the *Council Plan 2021-2025 (2023/24 Actions)*. The report aims to provide transparency in the reporting of Council's commitments to the community and stakeholders of Hume City.

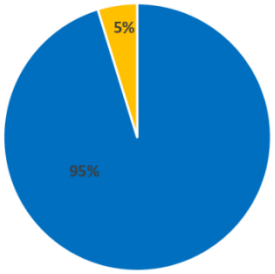
REPORT NO: 9.4 (cont.)

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

HUME CITY COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 (2023/24 Actions)

2023/24 Highlights
1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

Our Progress (1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024)



40 Actions completed

- Completed (95% or 40 actions)
- Not Completed (5% or 2 actions)

Our advocacy highlights

- Federal Budget advocacy priorities booklet has been developed and submitted to Treasury and local MPs.
- Continued our ongoing, strategic program of meetings with Members of Parliament.
- Long-term advocacy efforts for improvements at Banksia Gardens have been successful, following the October funding announcement by the State and Federal Governments including the construction of 120 new energy efficient homes, upgrades to facilities and the creation of a long-term masterplan.
- Supported the Northern Councils Alliance to launch the Regional Transport Advocacy and Community Electric Vehicle Transition Plan
- Council supports the State Government announcement in July 2023 to protect Victorians from gambling harm. Including reforms to the use of electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs) and venue operating hours.
- Growth Area Infrastructure announced for long-term advocacy priorities including: a new bus services in the growth corridor and a new pedestrian and bike bridge on Toyon Road Kalkallo.

Theme 1: A community that is resilient, inclusive, and thriving

- Since July 2023, over 110 placements occurred comprising of high school work experience placements and tertiary education placements.
- Council has successful secured almost $7.5 million in funding for five kindergarten expansion projects.
- Construction of Council Chambers and community space at Hume Global Learning Centre was completed in June 2024.
- The 2023/2024 Hume Multiversity Tertiary Education Scholarship Program was launched with 32 scholarships at Victoria University, Deakin University and La Trobe University, to date 26 scholarships have been awarded.
- Print media and social media campaigns have been completed for business investment attraction and visitor economy promotion.
- Delivered Ready Set Hired in partnership with the Hume Community Investment Committee which provided young people to practice their interview skills with real employers.
- In response to research that identifies women are more likely to disclose experiences of violence or abuse to people they trust, such as their hairdresser or beauty therapists, a training and development package for has been established.
- The Gambling Harm Symposium in October brought together keynote speakers and those with lived experience of gambling harm.
- Hume LGBTIQA+ residents featured as speakers at Pride in the North Summit addended by 200 representatives from northern Councils and community organisations.
- The Hume General Purpose Local Law 2023 and Hume Domestic Animal Management Plan were adopted by Council.
- Successfully implemented an Allied Health student placement program across various Hume Community Hubs, focusing on improving developmental delay diagnosis as an action of the Health and Wellbeing Plan.
- Construction on the upgrades to the Sunbury Hume Global Learning Centre to store the George Evens Museum collection is complete. Installation of storage and display infrastructure will be completed by the end of 2024.
- Concept design for Stage 1 was endorsed by Council in June 2024. Participatory design principles were used to develop the concept design, through community workshops held in February and March.
- Hume City Council partnered with Victoria Police to deliver a Hume City Neighbourhood Policing Forum in December 2023. The forum presented local crime data and trends, police responses and provided participants with opportunities to raise and discuss concerns.

Theme 2: A City that cares about our planet, is appealing and connected

- Improved digital planning processes for some Statutory Planning, Engineering, Subdivisions & Landscaping; and Environmental Planning processes went live in March 2024.
- Council has prepared a draft Good Design Guide to assist in getting better design outcomes for housing in Hume.
- A joint council meeting with Mitchell and Whittlesea councils was held in October 2023. The purpose of the joint meeting was for the partnership councils to endorse the Regional Partnership and its continued work on the planning of the Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC) and joint advocacy for State Government assistance in the coordination and delivery of the MAC.
- Over one hundred Primary Producer Rate Rebate applications have been assessed and approved and 160 Rural Land Management Grant (RLMG) grant applications have been assessed and approved.
- Conservation Management Plans for Princes Nature Reserve and Harpers Creek Parklands are completed and are being implemented
- A Youth Crisis Accommodation facility has now identified timelines and actions to proceed to which includes a process for identifying partners to deliver the project.
- Five Environmental Scholarships have been distributed and Enviro Champions and Gardens for Wildlife continue to support environmentally sustainable leadership.
- Work to improve active and passive open spaces and playspaces are completed at: Cimberwood Drive Reserve, Craigieburn, Churchill Avenue Reserve, Tullamarine, Andlon Court Reserve, Tullamarine, Clovelly Drive Reserve, Craigieburn. Grove Road Reserve, Craigieburn
- The Climate Action Plan, Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030, and Stormwater Offsets Scheme have been adopted by Council.
- The Transport Strategy was prepared and present Council in late June and adopted at the Council Meeting on 8 July 2024.
- A circular economy training program is underway to increase understanding across local businesses.

Theme 3: A council that inspires leadership, is accountable and puts the community first

- The Multicultural Communications Framework was launched, and an advisory group of community members has been established.
- Council continues to engage with community thorough networks, taskforces, working groups and advisory committees, together this work has resulted in the delivery of seven events and provided input into strategic documents including: Housing Amendment C263, Gambling Harm Minimisation Policy, Land & Biodiversity Plan, Transport Strategy and Open Space Strategy.
- In October, Council's annual community survey was completed by 1,151 respondents. To support multilingual engagement, the survey is made available in English, Arabic, Turkish and Vietnamese.
- Bookable, the new online integrated booking system has been launched and is now live.
- In April, Council endorsed the Partnership Framework and Guidelines.
- The Minister has approved the new electoral boundaries which will come into effect later this year once the election process commences. Officers continue to work with the Victorian Electoral Commission in the preparation of the elections.
- The Digital Transformation Program was launched in June 2024 and a Data Governance Framework has been implemented to support migration of data to the new software solution.
- Customer Experiences improvements have included: refreshed Snap Send Solve questions, QR codes on public bins to provide easy reporting of issues, a new telephone system that reduces wait times, and acknowledgement and closure emails for each request.

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

Progress Report
2023/24 Actions

HUME CITY COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025

INCORPORATING THE:
- DISABILITY ACTION PLAN
- COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTION PLAN
- PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABILITY



CONTENTS

A community that is resilient, inclusive, and thriving	1.1 Create learning opportunities for everyone to reach their potential, through all stages of life.	p.6
	1.2 Provide opportunities, and support business growth to create accessible local jobs for our diverse community.	p.8
	1.3 Promote a healthy, inclusive, and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety.	p.12
	1.4 Strengthen community connections through local events, festivals, and the arts.	p.21
A city that cares about our planet, is appealing and connected	2.1 Facilitate appropriate urban development and enhancing natural environment, heritage, landscapes, and rural places.	p.24
	2.2 Demonstrate environmentally sustainable leadership and adapt to climate change.	p.27
	2.3 Design and maintain our City with accessible spaces and a strong sense of place.	p.31
	2.4 Connect our City through efficient and effective walking, cycling and public transport and road networks.	p.34
A council that inspires leadership, is accountable and puts the community first	3.1 Empower and engage our community through advocacy and community engagement.	p.39
	3.2 Deliver responsible and transparent governance, services and assets that respond to community needs.	p.42
	3.3 Advance organisational high-performance through innovation and partnerships.	p.43

PROGRESS DESCRIPTIONS

Year to date progress is indicated with the percentage completion for each action.

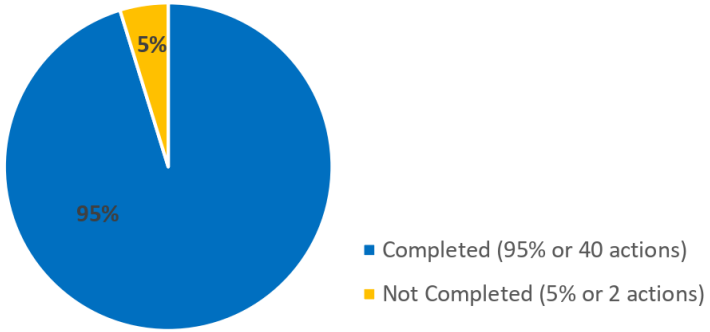
The progress indicators displayed are based on the status as follows:

- **Completed** – Expected work toward this action has been completed by 30 June 2023.
- **Not Completed** – Action has not been completed within 2023/24.

The Council Plan incorporates the Disability Action Plan, the Community Safety Action Plan and the Pathways to Sustainability. The following symbols are used to specify the corresponding plans:

- Disability Action Plan
- Community Safety Action Plan
- Pathways to Sustainability

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS – 1 JULY 2023 – 30 JUNE 2024



COUNCILS ROLE

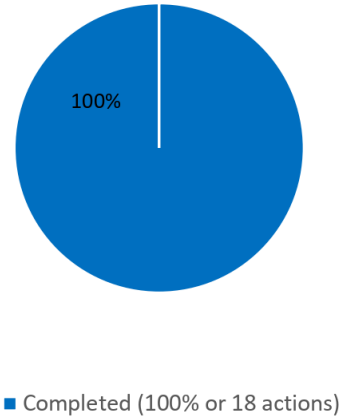
The role Council has in contributing to the community expectations (strategies) can be defined as one or more of the following:

- **Statutory Authority** – Council has a legislated responsibility under Victorian law to ensure compliance and delivery of services related to these community expectations.
- **Service Provider** – Council is a leading provider of services which support these community expectations. Responsibility for providing these services is often shared between Council and other government agencies, non-for-profit organisations and commercial businesses.
- **Facilitator** – Council facilitates, partners and plans with other service providers to achieve these community expectations.
- **Advocate** – Council's primary role is to advocate on behalf of (and represent) the community to other levels of government, service providers and business organisations around these community expectations.

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING

Summary of progress and Strategic Indicators

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS FOR THEME 1 1 JULY 2022 – 30 JUNE 2024



STRATEGIC INDICATORS TO 30 JUNE 2024

Strategic Objective 1.1: Create learning opportunities for everyone to reach their potential, through all stages of life

Indicator	Target	2023/24 Result
Library members per head of population	Target by 2025 = 10%	Since July 2021, 53,599 users have access library resources (Result = 20.4%). This is the first year this indicator has been collected. (Source: Local Government Performance Reporting Framework)
Kindergarten participation rates (includes non-Council services)	Target by 2025=93%	92% is the most recent kindergarten participation rate (2022), the previous result in 2021 was 94%. (Source: Department of Education)

Strategic Objective 1.2: Provide opportunities, and support business growth and visitor economy to create accessible local jobs for our diverse community.

Indicator	Target	2023/24 Result
Number of student placements supported by Council	Target by 2025 = 100	There were 114 student work experience placements from July 2023 to June 2024. In 2022/23 there were 84 placements. (Source: Hume City Council, CHRIS21)
Percentage gap between the Greater Melbourne and Hume LGA unemployment rates	Target by 2025 = 3.5%	Latest data on the unemployment rates show a gap of 3.1% between Hume City (6.9%) and Greater Melbourne (3.8%). For the same period last year, the gap was 3.4% (Source: Department of Employment Small Area Labour Markets)

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING

Summary of progress and Strategic Indicators

Strategic Objective 1.3: Promote a healthy, inclusive and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety.

Indicator	Target	2023/24 Result
Participation rates in Maternal Child Health	Target by 2025 = 75%	The participation rate for July 2023 to June 2024 is 73.4% The participation rate in the MCH service in 2022/23 was 74.12% (Source: Local Government Performance Reporting Framework)
Percentage of community who are satisfied with their health	Target by 2025 = 85%	70.7% is the 2022/23 result which is a decrease from the previous result of 88.8% in 2020/21. This indicator is collected every two years and will next be published in 2024/25. (Source: Hume City Council, Community Indicators)
Percentage of community who believe it's a good thing for a society to be made up of people from different cultures	Target by 2025 = 85%	92% of people agreed it's a good thing for a society to be made up of people from different cultures in 2022/23 compared to 85% in 2020/21. This indicator is collected every two years and will next be published in 2024/25. (Source: Hume City Council, Community Indicators)

Strategic Objective 1.4: Strengthen community connections through local events, festivals and the arts.

Indicator	Target	2023/24 Result
Average overall community satisfaction rating for Council led events and festivals	Target by 2025 = 80%	The average overall community satisfaction score for Council led events and festivals in 2023/24 is 94.7%. The result for 2022/23 was 87.3% (Source: Hume City Council, Event Evaluations)

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.1: Create learning opportunities for everyone to reach their potential, through all stages of life.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.1.1 Strengthen volunteering to enhance vocational and social learning opportunities and community connections. *Council's Role: Service Provider, Facilitator* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	Since July 2023, actions have included: • Hume Volunteer Gateway registered over 771 new volunteers and 18 new organisations. • In partnership with the Australian Tax Office, Council delivered Tax Help which provides supports with simple tax affairs. Tax Help received over 320 calls and emails and provided in person assistance to almost 150 community members. This year's program was supported by 4 volunteers. • In total seven information community outreach sessions to promote volunteering have been completed. • The final draft of Council's Volunteering for All Framework 2023-2033 has been present the senior management for review. The Framework aims to strengthen Council's capacity to attract, support and retain volunteers. • As part of National Volunteers Week, Hume hosted a Volunteer Expo to promote volunteering opportunities in the community, and a Civic Reception acknowledging the vital role volunteers play in supporting the community.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.1: Create learning opportunities for everyone to reach their potential, through all stages of life.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.1.2 Continue to review Council's early years services and explore future infrastructure requirements for the short, medium and long term needs to support continued service growth and changing government policy direction. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	Council has successful secured almost $7.5 million in funding for five kindergarten expansion projects. Planning has been completed and construction is underway across all five sites. Council continues planning for future service delivery, however Best Start Best Life Reform timeline changes have resulted in revised timeframes of 2025 for the formulation of a new Kindergarten Infrastructure and Services Plan. Demand for sessional kindergarten programs will require ongoing monitoring due to the increases of Kindergartens on School sites provided by the Victorian School Building Authority and family preferences that have seen a increase in accessing Kindergarten in Long Day Care settings.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.2: Provide opportunities, and support business growth and visitor economy to create accessible local jobs for our diverse community.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.2.1 Provide a range of Council-led initiatives and work experiences to strengthen employment pathways and vocational education opportunities, particularly for those of diverse or disadvantaged backgrounds. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	People and Culture	Since July 2023, employment pathways and vocational education opportunities included: • Over 110 placements comprising high school work experience and tertiary education placements. Seven engineering students originally engaged on a short-term basis secured longer term placements through casual employment. • Council continues its partnership with Kangan Institute to provide their students with an Industry Practical Placement. Two Industry Practical Placement students completed their first work rotation in June 2024. • Fifty-two percent of new hires were Hume residents. • Council's participation in the Passport to Work program, a collaboration between Juno Institute and DPV Health, concluded with 10 mentors from Council engaged providing mentorship opportunities for 13 community protégés. As of June 2024, 11 of the 13 community protégés participating in the program secured an employment or education pathway.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.2: Provide opportunities, and support business growth and visitor economy to create accessible local jobs for our diverse community.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.2.2 In partnership with the Victorian Government and business, progress the revitalisation of Broadmeadows and Hume Central to facilitate a vibrant town centre, places for people to work, learn, live and enjoy and advocacy for renewal of the Broadmeadows Train Station. *Council's Role: Facilitator, Advocate* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Planning and Places	Since 1 July 2023, work towards the revitalisation of Broadmeadows and Hume Central has included: • Council endorsed key approach and activities for the Hume Central program of work in November 2023 • Construction of Council Chambers and community spaces in ground floor of Hume Global Learning Centre Broadmeadows was completed in June 2024. • A draft functional brief for the town square was completed in late 2023, and work is being undertaken to finalise an advocacy documents to support funding bids. • Town Planning drawings have been prepared for the Broadmeadows Town Centre Car Park. • Support for investment attraction proposals for a hotel operator as part of the mixed-use development on Lot E is ongoing. • Advocacy continuing with Broadmeadows Revitalisation Board for investment opportunities and upgrades in Broadmeadows including short term improvements to the train station.
1.2.3 Strengthen tertiary education opportunities in Hume City through the Multiversity Program and advocacy for a university or TAFE to be established in Hume's growth areas. *Council's Role: Facilitator, Advocate* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Planning and Places	Strengthening tertiary education opportunities in Hume City have included: • A successful Illuminate nextgen Challenge was delivered in August 2023. Seven Hume secondary schools, and 54 students participated. Planning is underway for the 2024 Illuminate next Challenge to be held in August. • The 2023/24 Hume Multiversity Tertiary Education Scholarship Program was launched with 32 scholarships available to Hume residents at Victoria University, Deakin University and La Trobe University. A total of 26 scholarships have been awarded to date. • Discussions continue with a tertiary education provider regarding establishing a facility in the Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre • Planning is underway for the delivery of Victoria University's Bachelor of Early Childhood in Mickleham North which will commence in August 2024

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.2: Provide opportunities, and support business growth and visitor economy to create accessible local jobs for our diverse community.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.2.4 In partnership with stakeholders, advocate for, and strengthen Hume City's economy by building business capability, promoting the visitor economy and attracting innovative business, support and facilitate business growth and local employment outcomes. *Council's Role: Facilitator, Advocate* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Planning and Places	Council continued to strengthen Hume City's economy through; **Facilitating business growth, capabilities and attracting innovation business:** • A series of Small Business Mentoring Clinics were delivered, and an Export Forum were held. • Victoria University delivered a 'Leading a Team' small business workshop to Hume SEED businesses. • Hume Small Business Grants 23/24 and applicant workshop was delivered. • Supported and received two Business Establishment Financial Incentive applications to attract new business investments into Hume. • As of June 2024, StartNorth has 102 members. All new office spaces have been activated and three Master classes have been delivered. • A total of 80 local businesses were supported to NORTHLink Business Breakfast Events. Five local business women were supported to attend a Women In Business Luncheon • The development and implementation of the *Invest for Success* campaign designed to highlight Hume City's advantages as a prime location for business investment and growth, and the execution of various marketing and promotional activities under this banner. These activities include: a range of videos, branding and an updated Investment Prospectus, and the Investment Attraction Virtual Room. • Council has approved a Business Establishment Financial Incentive application for Sunny Queen as part of the Investment Attraction Framework. An Memorandum of Understanding has been developed and signed with the company. • In May, the Hume Women in Business Networking lunch was held.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.2: Provide opportunities, and support business growth and visitor economy to create accessible local jobs for our diverse community.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.2.4 cont.	City Planning and Places	**Visitor Economy (VE) promotion through:** • State government tourism publication 'Official Visitor's Guide', @discoverhume Instagram page and two Social media campaigns. • In June 2024, Council participated as an exhibitor at the inaugural Choose Tourism state Careers Expo. The event bought together key employers and training providers to promote the dynamic and diverse career pathways that exist in the Visitor Economy and real time jobs. **Facilitating local employment outcomes:** • Engagement with 25 Hume businesses as part of Employment and Economic Development (SEED) project has continued with 17 formal signatories. Three SEED events were held, in addition, SEED businesses also participated in Gender Equity training. • Since July 2023, 109 unemployed Hume residents were directly supported by the Local Employment Partnerships into employment with Hume businesses. • Eight employer led information sessions were delivered with a total of 140 Hume residents participating for school crossing supervisor roles, construction, warehousing and catering roles. • Delivered four Jobs Expo's with themes of: health and community services, transport and logistics, manufacturing in partnership NORTHLink, and Women in Manufacturing led by Australian Manufacturing Workers Union. • Holmesglen partnered with Hume City Council to deliver a Small Business Festival as part of the Self Employment Assistance program. • Delivered Ready Set Hired in partnership with the Hume Community Investment Committee which provided young people to practice their interview skills with real employers.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
■ Complete ■ Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.3 Promote a healthy, inclusive, and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.3.1 In partnership with Victoria Police, continue to identify and deliver initiatives to improve driver/road safety, including reducing hoon driving and illegal dirt bikes. *Council's Role: Facilitator, Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	Victoria Police, Vic Roads and HCC Traffic Management continue to meet on a quarterly basis to review serious and fatal road injuries and identify prevention measures. In December 2023, Hume City Council partnered with Victoria Police to deliver a Hume City Neighbourhood Policing Forum to senior members of Victoria Police, local businesses, education providers and community members. The forum presented local crime data, trends and police responses, providing an opportunity to raise and discuss concerns directly with members of Victoria Police. Other initiatives to support driver and road safety have included: • In partnership with Victoria Police, delivery of targeted responses across several locations to address and mitigate reported anti-social behaviour. • Pursued grant funding from the Victorian Transport Accident Commission (TAC) to support the continuation of the L2P program for the period 2024 – 2026. The program supports learner drivers who do not have access to a fully licensed supervising driver to gain 120 hours of supervised driving experience necessary to obtain a probationary driver's license. • Following concerns from the community members regarding increased crimes and hooning behaviours an Anti-Theft Information session was delivered partnership with the Proactive Policing Unit at Kalkallo. • Coffee with Cop engagement with Victoria Police's Transit division at Sunbury Train Station.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.3 Promote a healthy, inclusive, and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.3.2 Facilitate initiatives and partnerships to raise awareness around the impact of family violence, and support prevention of violence against women campaigns. *Council's Role: Facilitator* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	Since July 2023 initiatives and partnerships have included: • A Family Violence Practitioners Forum was delivered for practitioners and staff operating across the Hume and Merri-bek municipalities. This session was supported by the Northern Legal Community Centre. • Council delivered a series of activities as part of 16 Days of Activism campaign, including: a social media awareness campaign, Walks Against Violence, the provision of resources at libraries and community centres, staff awareness workshops and a gender equity in sport event delivered in partnership with Sunbury Cobaw Community Health. • Responding to Family Violence Disclosures Training delivered to over 100 staff. • Establishment and regular meeting of the Gender Equity in Sport Network, with participation of local sports clubs and organisations. • A presentation on family violence, training opportunities and supports available from Council was delivered to the Hume Interfaith Network. With initial planning with Kulturbrille and members of the Hume Interfaith Network to deliver training sessions for faith leaders in Hume • In response to research that identifies women are more likely to disclose experiences of violence or abuse to people they trust, such as their hairdresser or beauty therapists, a training and development package has been established. Participating hairdressers will receive training and access to digital resources to assist them in recognising, responding to and referring victims of family violence to specialist services. • A ManCave session was hosted in partnership with Sunbury Cobaw Health The internal Family Violence Prevention Working Group continues to meet to oversee initiates and training opportunities.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
■ Complete ■ Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.3 Promote a healthy, inclusive, and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.3.4 Advance Social Justice outcomes through delivering targeted initiatives to address barriers to access and participation. *Council's Role: Facilitator* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	Since July 2023 the following initiatives to address barriers to access and participation and support community members to feel included and safe included: • Eight Welcome to Hume tours delivered - supporting people settling in Hume to access service and programs in the municipality. • Delivered Human Rights Ambassador training to a total of 49 participants. • Changemakers Masterclass delivered to 12 participants to progress their community initiatives. • Hume LGBTIQA+ residents featured as speakers at Pride in the North Summit addended by 200 representatives from northern Councils and community organisations. • Council endorsed the establishment of an LGBTIQA+ working group June 2024. • Partnered with Victoria University to deliver the statewide Understanding reporting barriers and support needs of people experiencing racism project, this included: five focus groups,150 online community surveys and two community forums. • In June 2024, a Refugee Week event was held, with almost 400 people attending. • In collaboration with Attwood House Community Centre Westmeadows, the Community Garden Table Project was delivered, enabling accessible outdoor learning for seniors and First Nations residents. This project was delivered • A Mental Heath First Aid workshop for community members was delivered. • Four Warm Safe Houses Project community workshops delivered to promote conversations about staying safe at home for World Elder Abuse Day. • Four Community Grants information sessions held to support community groups to access Community Grants and how to write an application. • Four initial consultations were delivered across Dallas, Broadmeadows, Sunbury and Gladstone Park with older adults as well as key service providers to inform the redevelopment of Hume City Council's Positive Ageing Strategy

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.3 Promote a healthy, inclusive, and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.3.5 Establish an ongoing compliance model across Council that ensures our operational, reporting and investigation obligations, required under the Child Safe Standards and the Commission for Children and Young People (CCYP) are met. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100%	Finance & Governance	A five-year plan has been developed aimed at embedding the Child Safe Standards across the organisation. Since July 2023, work has included: • The cross-organisational Child Safe Reference Group has been established and continue to meet to identify what is already in place and what can be implemented as a Child Safe organsation. • A specialised training provider has been engaged to deliver training to key employee cohorts and to support the reference group. • The update Child Safe Policy, Code of Conduct, Reporting Procedure and Information Sharing Scheme Policy are now in place and have been endorsed by the executive leadership team and are being presented to Council for endorsement. • An internal audit of Council's overall compliance with the Child Safe Standards is currently underway.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.3 Promote a healthy, inclusive, and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.3.6 Finalise a review of General Local Law No. 1, including community and stakeholder engagement. *Council's Role: Statutory Authority* **Progress Indicator** 100% Carry over action from 2022/23.	City Services and Living	The Hume General Purpose Local Law 2023 was adopted by Council in August and came into effect on 4 September 2023.
1.3.7 Finalise and commence implementation of a new Domestic Animal Management Plan to support responsible animal management and safety. *Council's Role: Statutory Authority* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	The Hume Domestic Animal Management Plan was adopted by Council in August 2023. Work has commenced on the implementation of actions identified in the plan, including: • An Animal Shelter Feasibility Study that will explore the feasibility and viability of Council establishing and operating its own animal shelter within the municipality in the future. The detailed study will consider services that would be needed to be offered by such a facility to meet current and future community needs, determine functional facility requirements, before producing budget, operation, and management considerations to assist in further decision making. • A grant application through the Animal Welfare Grants Program to support residents experiencing financial hardship has been submitted.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.3 Promote a healthy, inclusive, and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.3.9 Continue to undertake initiatives and advocacy to reduce gambling related harm and gambling reform, including reviewing Council's Gambling Harm Minimisation Policy. *Council's Role: Facilitator, Advocate* **Progress Indicator:** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	Following the reforms announced by state government a submission was presented to the State Department of Justice and Community Safety outlining actions that should occur for gambling reforms. The recommended actions were informed by community consultation and evidence into gambling harm. Council delivered a Gambling Harm Symposium in October 2023 which brought together keynote speakers and those with lived experience of gambling harm. The Symposium was attended by officers and Councillors from various local governments, community service providers, state government departments, statutory authorities, sporting clubs, and community members. In March 2024, Council wrote to the Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation requesting the urgent adoption of all 61 recommendations of the Pubic Accounts and Estimates Committee (PAEC) to combat gambling harm. The review of Council's Gambling Harm Minimisation Policy commenced with a series of benchmarking consultations, and a SWOT analysis of the existing policy. Council has engaged the Victorian Local Government Association (VLGA) and the Alliance for Gambling Reform (AGR) to inform the policy review process. In May 2024, Council made a submission to the Gaming Machine Monitoring Arrangement Consultation to advocate for gambling harm minimisation measures and alignment with current and future reforms and best practices.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.3 Promote a healthy, inclusive, and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.3.10 Implement actions from the Hume Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	Since July 2023, action completed have included: • Implementation of an Allied Health student placement program across various Hume Community Hubs, focusing on improving developmental delay diagnosis. • Delivered the Hume Food Forum, which brought together community and stakeholders to explore current issues and identify opportunities to improve food security in Hume. • Supported the planning for the Hume Interfaith Network Sports Day was held in April. • In partnership with Foundation House, two workshops were presented to 45 clinicians and 11 community leaders on trauma informed practice. • In partnership with the Centre for Muslim Wellbeing four workshops were delivered to community leaders on Mental Health First Aid. • Establish a Women and Girls in Sport Network with local partners to determine actions that will lead to an increase in sport and recreation participation.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.3 Promote a healthy, inclusive, and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.3.11 In partnership with local agencies, provide assistance and support to people sleeping rough within Hume City, including adopting a rough sleeping response protocol. *Council's Role: Facilitator* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	In October 2023, Council provided a submission to the national housing and homelessness plan. The submission was developed by drawing on existing policies and strategies and engaging with external service providers who support the Hume community. This was done to ensure Council could capture the barriers and advocate for the needs of community service providers serving Hume. Since July 2023, assistance and support to people sleeping rough within Hume City has included: • Strengthening referral pathways with local agencies and neighbouring Councils to ensure a high level of service coordination and responsiveness. • Cross-organisational correspondence, with relevant teams working in partnership to respond to people experiencing homelessness in a timely manner. • Delivered two *Connect Respect* training sessions in partnership with the Council to Homeless Persons to Council staff. The training included briefing on the Council's protocols for engagement with people experiencing rough sleeping and insights from people with lived experiences of homelessness. • Meetings were held with local service providers to discuss current trends and issues for people at risk or experiencing homelessness.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.3 Promote a healthy, inclusive, and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.3.12 Continue undertaking accessibility works at Council facilities, and other public-realm improvements to support people with disabilities. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	Accessibility works continue to be planned and undertaken at Council facilities to support improvements for people with a disability, including active projects at: • Mitford Crescent Preschool, Craigieburn - The detail design is underdevelopment & is awaiting an available time in the kindergarten schedule to undertake the work. • Lynda Blundell Seniors Centre, Dallas - Works begin in May, with an expected completion in August 2024. Access audits and planning continues to ensure responsiveness of accessibility works and the implementation of improvements to support people with a disability.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 1 A COMMUNITY THAT IS RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND THRIVING.

Strategic Objective 1.4 Strengthen community connections through local events, festivals and the arts.

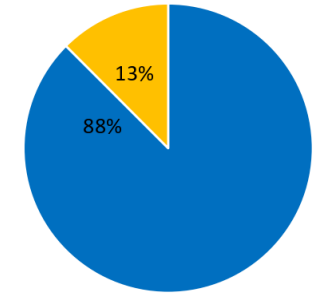
Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
1.4.1 Undertake initiatives to strengthen local arts, including the adoption and implementation of the Creative Places Arts Infrastructure Plan. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	Since 1 July 2023, initiative to strengthen local arts included: • The Arts Grants program 2024 has been completed and funds have been dispersed. • Construction on the upgrades to the Sunbury Hume Global Learning Centre to store the George Evens Museum collection is complete. Installation of storage and display infrastructure will be completed by the end of 2024. • As part of the Annual Gallery Program, 12 exhibitions have been shared with the Hume community across Hume's three gallery sites. • Three mural sites have been completed, the location of Hume's newest murals are Campbellfield, Gladstone Park and Craigieburn. • Council have been awarded a Creative Victoria Creative Neighbourhoods Grant, funds received will be allocated to dance infrastructure at the Highlander Court Community Centre.
1.4.3 Commence design and delivery of improvements to develop a Sunbury Community Arts and Cultural Precinct at Jacksons Hill. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Planning and Places	Current scope of work (Stage 1) includes two buildings (Building 22 & Building 24) and open space (Lot C). Concept design for Stage 1 was endorsed by Council in June 2024. Participatory design principles were used to develop the concept design, through community workshops held in February and March. Planning for future stages is progressing with the State Government.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Summary of progress and Strategic Indicators

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS FOR THEME 2 1 JULY 2022 – 30 JUNE 2024



STRATEGIC INDICATORS TO 30 JUNE 2024

Strategic Objective 2.1: Facilitate appropriate urban development and enhance natural environment, heritage, landscapes and rural places.

Indicator	Target	2023/24 Result
Percentage of Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT	Target by 2025 = 60%	20% of decisions were upheld at VCAT. In 2022/23 the result was 14%. (Source: Local Government Performance Reporting Framework)
Percentage of planning applications decided within required timeframes	Target by 2025 = 60%	50.2% of planning applications were decided within required timeframes. The 2022/23 result was 45%. (Source: Local Government Performance Reporting Framework)

Strategic Objective 2.2: Demonstrate environmentally sustainable leadership and adapt to climate change.

Indicator	Target	2023/24 Result
Percentage of kerbside waste collection diverted from landfill	Target by 2025 = 45%	The waste diversion rate is 30.7%. The diversion rate for 2022/23 is 34.1%. (Source: Local Government Performance Reporting Framework)

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Summary of progress and Strategic Indicators

Strategic Objective 2.3: Design and maintain our City with accessible spaces and a strong sense of place.

Indicator	Target	2023/24 Result
Net increase in street and park trees per year	Target by 2025 = 5,000	There was a net increase of 4257 trees from July 2023 to June 2024 (7072 trees planted, and 2772 removed). The previous result in 2022/23 was a net increase of 1,192 trees. (Source: Hume City Council)

Strategic Objective 2.4 Connect our City through efficient and effective walking, cycling and public transport and road networks.

Indicator	Target	2023/24 Result
Community satisfaction rating with sealed local roads	Target by 2025 = 62	2023/24 Result: 53/100. Previous result was 54/100 in 2022/23. (Source: Hume City Council, Community Survey 2021/22, Community Indicators Survey 2022/23)

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Strategic Objective 2.1 Facilitate appropriate urban development and enhance natural environment, heritage, landscapes and rural places.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
2.1.1 Review and implement improvements to further enhance the delivery of services within the Planning and Development Department. *Council's Role: Statutory Authority* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Planning and Places	Improved digital planning processes for some Statutory Planning, Engineering, Subdivisions & Landscaping; and Environmental Planning processes went live in March 2024 this included workflow processes between teams being improved, by merging to the same software system. This included the ability for customers to lodge planning permit applications and some environmental planning applications online via eHume. First online submissions arrived in April allowing for faster submission to Council to start the Planning process. Work to improve internal electronic processes for Building Services commenced in late March and will continue during 2024.
2.1.2 Undertake planning to improve housing diversity (including housing design guidelines), and advocate for improvements to social housing. *Council's Role: Facilitator, Advocate* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Planning and Places	Extensive advocacy from Hume City Council has secured government commitment to initial stage of renewal at Banksia Gardens jointly funded by State's Big Housing Build and Federal Social Housing Accelerator. The renewal will comprise of 120 homes and is projected for commencement in 2024. Council received authorisation from the Minister for Planning to exhibit Amendment C263 that proposes to implement a municipal wide strategic housing framework into the Hume Planning Scheme. Six weeks of community consultation on the amendment commenced at the end of March, Council has prepared a draft Good Design Guide to assist in getting better design outcomes for housing in Hume that has been exhibited with Amendment C263. Council has undertaken industry engagement with community housing providers to better understand housing needs for the community.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Strategic Objective 2.1 Facilitate appropriate urban development and enhance natural environment, heritage, landscapes and rural places.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
2.1.3 Progress Stage Three of the youth crisis accommodation with the support of an external partner, and identify potential site locations for a facility which can accommodate crisis accommodation, with wrap-around services and 24/7 onsite support. *Council's Role: Facilitator* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	Four shortlisted sites have undergone further due diligence investigations. Industry preferences regarding tenure, land condition, development and operational models have been explored. Project has now identified timelines and actions to proceed to next phase which includes a process for identifying partners to deliver the project.
2.1.4 In partnership with Mitchell and Whittlesea councils and State Government, continue to advance planning for the City consistent with the vision and direction of Council's integrated growth area plans, including the planning for new town centres in Cloverton and Merrifield (Mickleham). *Council's Role: Facilitator* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Planning and Places	A joint council meeting was held in October 2023. The purpose of the joint meeting was for the partnership councils to endorse the Regional Partnership and its continued work on the planning of the Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC), and joint advocacy for State Government assistance in the coordination and delivery of the MAC. The future urban structure for the MAC is currently being reviewed through the master planning process due to significant cultural heritage being identified across the site. Council has been awarded the state winner for Parks and Leisure Australia Strategic Planning Awards of Excellence for the Regional Community and Recreation Needs Assessment for the Cloverton MAC, and is a finalist for national awards in October 2024. The regional partnership was awarded Northern Growth Area Alliance 2024 National winner for Leadership in Growth Areas.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Strategic Objective 2.1 Facilitate appropriate urban development and enhance natural environment, heritage, landscapes and rural places.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
2.1.5 Support rural landowners to manage land sustainably and protect environmental assets by implementing the new Rural Engagement Program, including the Conserving our Rural Environment (CoRE) Grant, Primary Producer Rate Rebate, Rural Land Management Grant, and capacity building activities. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	Since 1 July 2023, grants, rebates, and initiatives to support rural landowners to manage land sustainability and protect environmental assets included: • Endorsement of 43 projects for 2023/24 Conserving Our Rural Environment (CoRE) grants. Grant recipients are implementing projects and a program review is underway. • Applications for the 2024/25 CoRE grants were open from February to May over 40 applications were received. • Over one hundred Primary Producer Rate Rebate applications have been assessed and approved. • Rural Land Management Grant (RLMG) were promoted to rural residents via a green wedge newsletter and at rural community event. Almost 200 grant applications have been assessed and approved. • In addition, nine community capacity building events have been held to assist rural landholders develop skills for managing the land sustainably, including a Rural Hume Rural Home bus tour with 40 participants and a information session on *Bushbank* a program to increase biodiversity.
2.1.6 Implement the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) Framework by progressively developing individual plans for each of the conservation reserves. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	Infrastructure and Assets	Conservation Management Plans for Princes Nature Reserve and Harpers Creek Parklands are completed and are being implemented. Maygar Greybox Management Plan is underway.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Strategic Objective 2.2 Demonstrate environmentally sustainable leadership and adapt to climate change.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
2.2.1 Implement programs to support environmental sustainable leadership including Enviro Champions, Gardens for Wildlife, and Environmental Scholarship programs. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	Programs to support environmentally sustainable leadership included: • Enviro Champions Great Green Get Together 2023 projects promoted to the community in Live Green Spring Summer newsletter. Ten applicants are participating in the 2024 program. A refreshed, contemporary program will be offered in 2025. The Enviro Champions program was selected as a finalist for the Premier's Sustainability Awards. • The Gardens for Wildlife program supports residents to create home gardens that attract native wildlife, providing habitat and food sources and increasing biodiversity. Since 1 July 2023, 38 garden visits were completed and 1,750 indigenous seedlings were donated. Through the evaluation process, community members expressed feeling more engaged with their community, and more connected to nature as a result of participation. • Five Environmental Scholarships have been distributed, increasing residents' knowledge of sustainability practices and supporting career development. • The 'Flick the Switch' schools energy saving program was delivered to five Hume schools, and focused on empowering students to lead energy saving initiatives.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Strategic Objective 2.2 Demonstrate environmentally sustainable leadership and adapt to climate change.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
2.2.2 Finalise the review of the Land and Biodiversity Plan and commence implementation. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	In November the Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030 was adopted by Council, this included a 2024-2025 Action Plan.
2.2.3 Enhance Council's response to climate change including the development of a climate action plan to cover actions within Council operations and to support the Hume community and businesses adapt to climate change. *Council's Role: Facilitator* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	Infrastructure and Assets	Hume's Climate Action Plan was adopted by Council in September 2023. Since July 2023 actions have included: • Ongoing roll out of solar and energy efficiently on Council building and audits for efficient electrification of four community centres. • Engagement of consultants to provide Passive House input into the Jackson's Creek Community Centre and developed specifications for the design team. • Engagement of consultants to update the major road streetlighting business case, assist with a grant application and undertake design phase for upgrade of standard High Pressure Sodium street lights to energy efficient LEDs • Scoping for Electric Vehicle recharging on leased Council land has commenced but progressing slowly • Appointment of a project manager for the expanded Household Energy Program.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Strategic Objective 2.2 Demonstrate environmentally sustainable leadership and adapt to climate change.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
2.2.4 Undertake investigations and progress initiatives to improve stormwater harvesting, including at Cloverton, and subject to funding, Jack Roper Reserve Broadmeadows and/or John Ilhan Memorial Reserve Broadmeadows. and/or O'Brien Street retarding basin Sunbury. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	Infrastructure and Assets	In March 2024 Council endorsed the Stormwater Offsets Scheme. Initiatives to improve stormwater harvesting have included: • Jack Roper Reserve - Tender documents were prepared which will seek to improve the area. The tender will be released in 2024. • John Ilhan Reserve - The Cultural Heritage Management Plan for John Ilhan Memorial Stormwater Harvesting project has been approved. The ecological assessment and Golden Sun Moth survey results have been received. The survey found Golden Sun Moth's in the area. An approval from the Australian Government may be required, depending on the disturbance from construction works. • Sunbury Cemetery Trust - The draft agreement has been agreed. Detailed design discussions have commenced. Investigations are underway to consider the scope to include the Kathleen Aitken reserve, which is an oasis reserve in the draft Open Space Strategy. • Cloverton Stormwater Harvesting Scheme - Council has been awarded $150,000 from the Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action for the project, however will be on hold until the Cloverton Boulevard Bridge is completed in early 2025.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Strategic Objective 2.2 Demonstrate environmentally sustainable leadership and adapt to climate change.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
2.2.5 Support the transition of the Hume economy to a Circular Economy. *Council's Role: Facilitator, Advocate* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Planning and Places	Since July 2023, initiative to support the transition to a circular economy have included: • A training program for key Council engineering and project staff was delivered focusing on Circular Design and Circular Construction. • A circular economy training program is underway to increase understanding across local businesses and will include a full day event in October. This event with include alumni businesses from past programs interacting with the new businesses undertaking the current program.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Strategic Objective 2.3 Design and maintain our City with accessible spaces and a strong sense of place.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
2.3.2 Finalise a new Open Space Strategy and continue to implement improvements to active and passive open spaces and playspaces. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Planning and Places	In April, the draft Open Space Strategy was endorsed for public exhibition, this is now closed and officers are reviewing feedback. The intent of the strategy is to protect, optimise and grow Hume's open space assets and address the need for greater investment in playspace renewal, tree canopy, waterways, and the inequity in open space for the established suburbs. Since July 2023, improvements to active and passive open spaces and playspaces include: **Completed -** Cimberwood Drive Reserve, Craigieburn, Churchill Avenue Reserve, Tullamarine, Andlon Court Reserve, Tullamarine, Clovelly Drive Reserve, Craigieburn. Grove Road Reserve, Craigieburn **Underway -** Hatty Court Reserve, Campbellfield, Turnberry Drive Reserve, Sunbury, Strathconnon Square Reserve, Tullamarine, **Planning complete –** Highgate Recreation Reserve, Craigieburn, McKeown Outlook Reserve, Roxburgh Park, Balyang Park, Craigieburn **Planning underway -** Lawson Street Reserve, Sunbury, Grey Box Woodlands Park, Broadmeadows, Bradford Avenue Reserve, Greenvale, Haddon Hall Drove Reserve, Attwood, Kirkham Drive Reserve, Greenvale, Vacluse Avenue Reserve, Gladstone Park, Redwood Close Reserve, Meadows Heights, Canadian Court Reserve, Meadows Heights, Bellfield Common Craigieburn. Improvements are made after engagement with the community and design considers accessibility and inclusivity to promote participation and connection. CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles are adopted to promote positive interaction and a sense of safety. Sustainability is supported via the selection of equipment, materials and soft landscaping which consider supplier location, maintenance, conservation, and suitability of location.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Strategic Objective 2.3 Design and maintain our City with accessible spaces and a strong sense of place.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
2.3.4 Develop open space masterplans for Merlynston Creek and Aitken Creek. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 70% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Planning and Places	**Aitken Creek Master Plan** A draft masterplan has been endorsed by council and is currently being shared with the community for comment. Finalisation of the masterplan is anticipated for late 2024 or early 2025. **Merlynston Creek Master Plan** Engagement with external stakeholders has commenced to understand the extent and impact of their projects within the master plan area and we are working through the next steps.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Strategic Objective 2.3 Design and maintain our City with accessible spaces and a strong sense of place.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
2.3.5 Continue the implementation of the Waste and Resource Recovery strategy, and implement initiatives to reduce the incidence of illegal dumped waste in Hume City. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	Infrastructure and Assets	The Waste Response Team commenced in mid-October 2023. The new education process which focuses on behaviour change supports residents taking responsibility for their waste, including moving it back inside their property and arranging a hard waste collection or disposal at a Resource Recovery Centre, Since October, officers have attended over 4,600 incidents of illegal dumping in residential areas. In accordance with the Waste Strategy, a review of our bulk waste services was undertaken, with service changes to commence 1 July 2024. These changes include the ability for residents to choose tip vouchers, hard waste bookings or a combination of these that meets their needs. Further, bundled branches were added to the acceptable hard waste items, and the Hume Clean Days were expanded to Saturdays and Sundays, with green waste being added to the accepted items. In June 2024, all Hume households received an information package on these changes and how to use Council's waste services and dispose of waste responsibly.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Strategic Objective 2.4 Connect our City through efficient and effective walking, cycling and public transport and road networks.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
2.4.1 Subject to the completion of external approvals, progress construction of Yirragan Road connection to Buckland Way, Sunbury. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 50%	Infrastructure and Assets	A Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) has not been approved for the proposed road alignment. Therefore, the intended preliminary works have not been able to proceed. In May 2024, Council resolved to continue with the current plan for design and construction of the road and to submit the CHMP assessment report to the Registered Aboriginal Party to seek their approval. A further report will be provided to Council on the outcome of this process and the required next steps.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 2 A CITY THAT CARES ABOUT OUR PLANET, IS APPEALING AND CONNECTED.

Strategic Objective 2.4 Connect our City through efficient and effective walking, cycling and public transport and road networks.

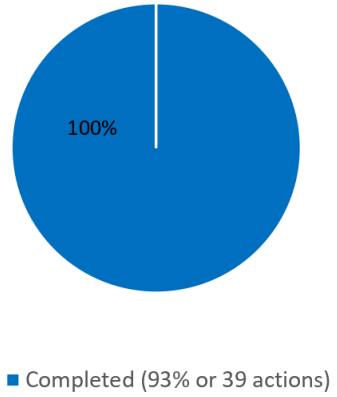
Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
2.4.2 Develop and commence implementation of a Transport Strategy to improve transport networks, and continue to undertake initiatives to enhance walking and cycling. *Council's Role: Service Provider, Facilitator* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Planning and Places	Following community engagement in March, the Transport Strategy was prepared and present Council in late June and adopted at the Council Meeting on 8 July 2024. The annual Walking & Cycling Program consider accessibility and inclusivity to promote health and wellbeing. They are intended to provide community members with safe connections using CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles, appropriate signage and line marking. The current status of the Walking & Cycling Program projects are: • **Work completed –** Path, signage and line marking for the Greenvale to Attwood Shared Path • **Work underway** - Cooper Street path connection • **Planning completed -** Hatty Court drinking fountain & bike repair station. • **Planning underway** - Malcolm Creek Trail, Aitken Creek Shared Path (Roxburgh Park to Craigieburn Station Connection, Kismet Creek Shared Path

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 3 A COUNCIL THAT INSPIRES LEADERSHIP, IS ACCOUNTABLE AND PUTS THE COMMUNITY FIRST

Summary of progress and Strategic Indicators

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS FOR THEME 3 1 JULY 2023 – 30 JUNE 2024



STRATEGIC INDICATORS TO 30 JUNE 2024

Strategic Objective 3.1: Empower and engage our community through advocacy and community engagement.

Indicator	Target	2023/24 Result
Community satisfaction with Council decisions	Target by 2025 = 60%	2023/24 result is 56/100. Previous year result was 55/100 in 2022/23. (Source: Hume City Council, Community Survey 2021/22, Community Indicators Survey 2022/23)
Percentage of Council decisions made at meetings closed to the public	Target by 2025 = 15%	22.5% is the result to date in 2023/24. This result in 2022/23 was 14.1%. (Source: Local Government Performance Reporting Framework)
Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement	Target by 2025 = 55%	2023/24 result is 56/100. Previous year result was 52/100 in 2022/23. (Source: Hume City Council, Community Survey 2021/22, Community Indicators Survey 2022/23)

THEME 3 A COUNCIL THAT INSPIRES LEADERSHIP, IS ACCOUNTABLE AND PUTS THE COMMUNITY FIRST

Summary of progress and Strategic Indicators

Strategic Objective 3.2: Deliver responsible and transparent governance, services and assets that respond to community needs.

Indicator	Target	2023/24 Result
Adjusted underlying surplus as a percentage of underlying revenue	Target by 2025 = 5.33%	Result for 1July 2023 to 30 June 2024 is -10.58%. In 2022/23, the result was -2.34%. (Source: Local Government Performance Reporting Framework)
Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation	Target by 2025 =82.94%	Result for 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 is 107.04%. In 2022/23, the result was 84.15%. (Source: Local Government Performance Reporting Framework)
Percentage of Council Plan Actions completed	Target by 2025 = 80%	Thirty nine actions (93%) have been completed in 2023/24. Thirty six actions (80%) were completed in 2022/23. (Source: Hume City Council, Council Plan Quarterly Reports)
Percentage of Capital Works completed	Target by 2025 = 90%	125% of planned Capital Works have been completed. Due to projects progressing quicker than anticipated, funding was brought forward from 2024/25 to enable projects to be completed in 2023/24. This is a new indicator for the 2023/24 year. (Source: Hume City Council, Project Management Office)

THEME 3 A COUNCIL THAT INSPIRES LEADERSHIP, IS ACCOUNTABLE AND PUTS THE COMMUNITY FIRST

Summary of progress and Strategic Indicators

Strategic Objective 3.3: Advance organisational high-performance through innovation and partnerships.

Indicator	Target	2023/24 Result
Employee Retention Rate	Target by 2025 = 92%	Employee retention rate was 91.0% for 2023/24. The result for 2022/23 financial year was 88.2%. (Source: Local Government Performance Reporting Framework)
Satisfaction with Council's overall performance	Target by 2025 = 65	2023/24 result is 64/100. Previous year result was 60/100 in 2022/23. (Source: Hume City Council, Community Survey 2021/22, Community Indicators Survey 2022/23)

THEME 3 A COUNCIL THAT INSPIRES LEADERSHIP, IS ACCOUNTABLE AND PUTS THE COMMUNITY FIRST

Strategic Objective 3.1 Empower and engage our community through advocacy and community engagement.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
3.1.1 Implement and support programs and advisory committees/reference groups to foster community leadership and increase community participation into Council decision making processes including: • Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group (RAPWG) • Hume Interfaith Network (HIN) • Multicultural Advisory Group (MAG) • Hume Community Safety Advisory Committee • Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce • Hume Sustainability Taskforce (HST) • Youth Action Committee (YAC) • Hume Clean Taskforce Advisory Committee  *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100%	City Services and Living, City Planning and Places, Infrastructure and Assets	Since July 2023 support for programs and advisory committees/reference groups has included: • Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group (RAPWG) will continue to implement the current RAP actions throughout the review and development of the new RAP. The RAPWG delivered the "Deadly December Christmas Party" and a Sorry Day event at the Stolen Generations Marker with a keynote provided by Aboriginal Olympian Klye Van der Kuyp. • Hume Interfaith Network (HIN) has held three events: an Interfaith Dinner, a joint meeting with Merri-bek and Whittlesea Interfaith Networks and a Harmony Day Community Sports Day showcasing the new sporting facilities in Kallkallo. • Multicultural Advisory Group (MAG) provided input into the planned Housing Amendment C263 and gambling Harm Minimisation Policy. The MAG partnered with the Victoria University to support the delivery of the "Understanding reporting barriers and support needs of people experiencing racism" project, and hosted a focus group to confirm priority actions and her what issues are affecting the multicultural community. • The Community Safety Advisory Committee continue to provide a forum for committee members to discuss and address topical safety issues, and for multiple agencies to share updates and information. • The Hume Jobs and Skills Task Force support the governance of the Hume Multiversity and initiatives delivered to support economic participation of Hume residents. • Sustainability Taskforce has provided input to Land & Biodiversity Plan, Transport Strategy, Open Space Strategy and land development in Westmeadows near former waste disposal site. • Youth Action Committee (YAC) planned the Mind Matters Summit held in October and are planning two events for the 2024/25 year. • Hume Clean Taskforce Advisory Committee have identified projects and initiatives to implement and received an update on Council's current actions for littering and illegal dumping.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 3 A COUNCIL THAT INSPIRES LEADERSHIP, IS ACCOUNTABLE AND PUTS THE COMMUNITY FIRST

Strategic Objective 3.1 Empower and engage our community through advocacy and community engagement.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
3.1.3 Undertake initiatives to enhance Council consultation and engagement practices, including strengthening engagement and communication with our multicultural communities. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	Customer and Strategy	A new community engagement platform was launched in August 2023, providing an improved user experience and interactive engagement tools, Since July 2023, 154 consultation projects have been undertaken including the Sunbury Aquatic & Leisure Centre - outdoor area & water play area consultation and the Council Plan and Budget Ideas 2024/25. From the 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, over 33,500 unique visitors accessed Council's community engagement platform, visiting approximately 34,500 times. In October, Council's annual community survey was completed by 1,151 respondents (502 telephone interviews, 553 email surveys, 48 online surveys) with results presented to Councillors in November. To support multilingual engagement, the survey was made available in English, Arabic, Turkish and Vietnamese. The Multicultural Communications Framework was launched, developed in partnership with Hume's multicultural community and the Multicultural Communications Advisory Group (MCAG) was established. The MCAG have contributed to: • Shaping the Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) implementation campaign. • Developing accessible content on Council's webpage to ensure community members have information on accessing services and programs, such as 'know your bin day'. • The development of the 'Information in your language' page that provides information on a range of Council services in 12 community languages. • Providing feedback on the content and style of Hume Highlights magazine. Additionally, initiatives to upskill staff working with the community include: • Guides to support writing styles, translating materials, photography and How to reach guides that provide insight into how different language communities prefer to receive information and key demographics. • Delivered training on tools and information to support staff to communicate with our diverse community.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
■ Complete ■ Not Complete

THEME 3 A COUNCIL THAT INSPIRES LEADERSHIP, IS ACCOUNTABLE AND PUTS THE COMMUNITY FIRST

Strategic Objective 3.1 Empower and engage our community through advocacy and community engagement.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
3.1.5 Work with the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) for the preparation of the 2024 Council Elections, including supporting VEC in their electoral boundary review for Hume City. *Council's Role: Statutory Authority* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	Finance & Governance	The Minister has approved the new electoral boundaries which will come into effect later this year once the election process commences. Council has sent more than 16,500 letter to update electoral roll details. This includes property owners, occupiers or individuals representing a corporation who can apply to vote at the 2024 local election. A lease has been provided to the VEC to use Council-owned facilities in Sunbury as the Election office. In June, timelines for the election were altered after the Victorian Government passed the Local Government Amendment (Governance and Integrity) Bill 2024. Officers will continue to work with the VEC to prepare both the VEC and Council for the elections.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 3 A COUNCIL THAT INSPIRES LEADERSHIP, IS ACCOUNTABLE AND PUTS THE COMMUNITY FIRST

Strategic Objective 3.2 Deliver responsible and transparent governance, services and assets that respond to community needs.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
3.2.2 Commence implementation of the organisation's transformation reform program to enhance service efficiencies and improve transparency and performance accountability. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	Customer and Strategy	The Digital Transformation Program was launched in June 2024 with the engagement of KPMG as the implementation partner and TechnologyOne as the software provider. The program will provide an upgraded software solution that will streamline operations and productivity to deliver scalable solutions that will better meet the needs of our growing community. Data governance framework have been developed and will be implemented over the next 3-6 months. Work is being progressively implemented to improve data reporting and insights for service areas: Lifelong Learning, Waste Management and People and Culture.
3.2.3 Plan for, deliver, and undertake initiatives to improve utilisation of community infrastructure and facilities: including finalising and implementing the Community Infrastructure Plan, Community Facilities Strategic Review and Youth Facilities Review. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Planning and Places City Services and Living	Since July 2023, community infrastructure projects have included: • Business cases for the implementation of: the Regional Kalkallo Library, Tullamarine Library and Greenvale Library. • Feasibility study and business care for the Roxburgh Park Youth & Recreation Centre redevelopment. • Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre Urban Plaza. • Youth Innovation Committee established in January 2024 with 8 young people attending regular meetings to inform the development and activation of the Craigieburn Youth Centre. • Bookable, the new online integrated booking system for Community Centres has been launched and is now live. A series of information and training sessions have been provided to hirers and staff. The Youth Central Broadmeadows project has been moved to be included in Hume Central program, with the business case to be completed in 24/25 financial year

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 3 A COUNCIL THAT INSPIRES LEADERSHIP, IS ACCOUNTABLE AND PUTS THE COMMUNITY FIRST

Strategic Objective: 3.3 Advance organisational high-performance through innovation and partnerships.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
3.3.1 Undertake a range of initiatives and programs to enhance and uplift the skills, capabilities and workplace safety of Council's workforce, including developing and implementing a 'People & Culture Strategy', 'Workforce Plan' and the 'Gender Equality Action Plan' and a 'Workplace Diversity and Inclusion Strategy'. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	People and Culture	**Workforce Plan 2021-25 and People and Culture Strategy.** Since July 2023, key highlights have included: • Mental health and wellbeing support developed for Council employees in the form of online learning and resources. • Support for leaders including: Analysis of training needs and development, delivery of a l Leadership Toolkit and Leadership Forums. • Launch of new employee performance process to support staff development and wellbeing. • Project kick off to develop an Occupational Health and Safety Strategy and an Early Childhood Education (ECE) Workforce Plan 2024-2029. **Gender Equality Action Plan 2021-25 (GEAP).** Since July 2023, three actions are in progress, and two have been completed. Key highlights include: • Diversity and Inclusion Governance Framework implemented and operational. • Delivered seven internal events and activities. • Training provide to staff with topics including: pronouns, inclusion and online learning courses. • In accordance with the requirements of the Gender Equality Act 2020, Council submitted its first progress report by the 20 February 2024 deadline. This report encompassed a workplace gender audit, an overview of policies, programs, and services that were subject to gender impact assessments, actions taken based on each assessment, updates on GEAP strategies and measures, and an analysis of the workplace gender audit data, highlighting Council's advancements in workplace gender equality indicators. The Commissioner of Gender Equality is reviewing Council's progress report for compliance. • An internal review of the remaining GEAP strategies to ensure alignment with Council Plan priorities, and development of Diversity and Inclusion Governance Framework Working Groups Workplans for 2024/25 has been completed.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 3 A COUNCIL THAT INSPIRES LEADERSHIP, IS ACCOUNTABLE AND PUTS THE COMMUNITY FIRST

Strategic Objective: 3.3 Advance organisational high-performance through innovation and partnerships.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
3.3.2 Undertake service reviews, business process improvements and initiatives to improve the Customer Experience provided across Council services, programs and activities. *Council's Role: Service Provider* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	Customer and Strategy	Since July 2023, a range of service planning activities have occurred, including: • Consideration of increased Kindergarten hours as part of state government reform and required updates to the Kindergarten Infrastructure Service Plan (KISP). • Continued implementation of the Building Service Review project (See 2.1.1) including merging processes to the same software solution and online lodgement for planning permit applications and some environmental planning applications. • The Economic Development service review has been finalised. • The final report for the review of the Youth Outreach Program was received from the consultant in March. Since July 2023 Initiatives to improve the Customer Experience have included: • Introduction of multilingual service 'Speak to us in your language', allowing community members to book time with a Council Officer who speaks their preferred language. Since July 2023 the service has received more than 70 booking via the online booking system, and each week receives more than 30 requests in person or over the phone. • Seven common requests have been reviewed through customer journey mapping. The Customer Experience Action Plan was endorsed in December, key initiatives have included: • Completed the redesign of online forms and customised Snap Send Solve questions and installation of QR codes on public bins to provide easy reporting of issues. • A new telephone system has been implemented to reduce call wait times. Acknowledgement and closure emails have been introduced to ensure community members are informed of the status and outcome of their requests with the opportunity to also provide feedback.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THEME 3 A COUNCIL THAT INSPIRES LEADERSHIP, IS ACCOUNTABLE AND PUTS THE COMMUNITY FIRST

Strategic Objective: 3.3 Advance organisational high-performance through innovation and partnerships.

Major Strategy or Action	Division	Description of Progress (Year to date)
3.3.3 Facilitate regional outcomes for the benefit of Hume City's community through innovate partnerships shared procurement and actively contributing to strategic networks and alliances. *Council's Role: Facilitator* **Progress Indicator** 100% This is a multi-year action. The status reflects the percentage of the initiatives expected to be completed within the 2023/24 financial year.	City Services and Living	In April, Council endorsed the Partnership Framework and Guidelines as a tool to secure long term social and economic benefit for its residents. Development of the Framework was informed by interviews with nine external stakeholders who shared insights around the benefits and challenges associated with working in Partnership. The project working group provided comprehensive feedback on the final draft, and Councillors drew on their own experience of working in Partnership arrangements to contribute to the Framework's vision and purpose.

The progress indicator displayed above is based on the status as follows:
Complete Not Complete

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

REPORT NO:	9.5
REPORT TITLE:	Hume Submission - Plan for Victoria
SOURCE:	Rachel Dapiran, Director City Planning and Places
DIVISION:	City Planning & Places
FILE NO:	HCC16/907
POLICY:	-
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	1.1: Create learning opportunities for everyone to reach their potential, through all stages of life
ATTACHMENT:	1. *Hume City Council - Draft Plan for Victoria Submission*

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

1.1 The Victorian Government are drafting a new blueprint to manage future growth across the state entitled Plan for Victoria and are seeking submissions.

1.2 Plan for Victoria is likely to include draft housing targets that each local government is expected to meet to cater for population growth and housing need up until 2051.

1.3 Officers have prepared a draft submission to respond to both Plan for Victoria and the draft housing targets (Attachment 1) for approval by Council.

1.4 The submission addresses key matters for consideration for Hume City including:

1.4.1 The importance of additional housing being matched by infrastructure investment and better coordination.

1.4.2 Future growth being focused on achieving housing diversity as well as additional housing.

1.4.3 Ensuring growth is accompanied by a focus on good urban design, open space and the need for road and active transport upgrades.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

2.1 That Council approves the submission (Attachment 1) to the Plan for Victoria and the draft housing targets as the Hume City Council response.

3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

3.1 As a Local Government, Hume City Council will have authority to undertake actions in response to the Policy under various Acts.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

4.1 There is no cost involved in preparing the submission as it was completed using existing staff resources.

REPORT NO: 9.5 (cont.)

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

5.1 Environmental sustainability has been considered in the response to the pillar Sustainable Environments and Climate Action.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

6.1 Climate Change inputs and adaptation have been considered in the response to the pillar Sustainable Environments and Climate Action and throughout the submission.

7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

7.1 Application of the Charter of Human Rights has been considered in response to the Policy.

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

8.1 Community consultation is not required prior to Council considering the recommendation in this report. This submission is being made as part of a State Government led community consultation process.

9. DISCUSSION:

9.1 Plan for Victoria will be the Victorian Government blueprint for managing population growth in Victoria. It follows the release of the Victorian Housing Statement that has a series of actions to facilitate the delivery of 800,000 news homes across the state over the next 10 years. The Housing Statement includes an Activity Centre program that Hume is part of through the Broadmeadows Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC).

9.2 Plan for Victoria is pitched at a very high level based on a series of pillars that are currently open for community consultation and there has been broad engagement with the community and stakeholders.

9.3 Submissions are open until 30 August and the finalised document will be released in December 2024 along with the final housing targets.

DTP are seeking submissions on "*big ideas for Victoria's future*" based on five pillars, which are:

Pillar 1 - Affordable housing and choice
Pillar 2 - Equity and jobs
Pillar 3 - Thriving and livable suburbs and towns
Pillar 4 - Sustainable environments and climate action
Pillar 5 - Self Determination and caring for country

9.4 The submission outlines the context and observations of living and working in Hume, along with some practical recommendations, which if implemented, would have a positive impact on our community. The submission also includes discussion of the 'missing pillar' of implementation and governance.

9.5 The issues discussed in the submission are not new to Hume. The submission brings together considerable 'lived experience' of our residents with input from Councillors.

9.6 Many of the recommendations in Council's submission refer to issues raised through general business (GB) items and notices of motions (NOM) in relation to the need for infrastructure investment, coordination of services and construction, the importance of land for places of worship, the delivery of retail centres and better urban design.

9.7 There is also a link to Hume's advocacy priorities and some system-wide reforms suggested around the need for a new body to coordinate infrastructure coordination, a greater focus on canopy cover and more efficient infrastructure funding.

9.8 The Victorian government has also released draft 2051 housing targets for all Councils. Hume has a history of providing substantial new housing at affordable price points. Council welcomes the targets to help achieve more balanced growth across Victoria.

9.9 Turning these targets into actual homes will require a range of policy changes, infrastructure investments and support from the Victorian Government.

10. CONCLUSION:

10.1 Following submission of the response to DTP, Council officers will seek detailed conversations about the next steps including the incorporation of these recommendations and a formal partnership with the Victorian Government to achieve the long-term 2051 housing targets.

REPORT NO: 9.5 (cont.)

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

HUME CITY COUNCIL

DRAFT PLAN FOR VICTORIA SUBMISSION

DRAFT

OUR CITY TODAY

Current population
*266,000**

Population growth by **2041**
*389,000**





More than
ONE QUARTER+
(just over 1 in 4) of the population
is **aged under 18 years**



ONE IN NINE+
Residents are **65 years or older**



HEALTH CARE & SOCIAL ASSISTANCE, CONSTRUCTION, TRANSPORT, POSTAL & WAREHOUSING, RETAIL TRADE AND MANUFACTURING+
Are the **top industries** for **employed** Hume residents







26,000º
businesses in Hume
employing **123,000** people

TWO OUT OF FIVE#
employed residents
work within the
municipality

Residents come from
170 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES+
with **40%** of all residents **born overseas**





Residents speak over
155 LANGUAGES+
with **49%** speaking a language **other than English** at home



78% OF 20-24+
year olds have completed **year 12** or equivalent



More than
4 OUT OF 5≈
people agree that it is a good thing for a society to be made up of people from **different cultures**

More than **65** primary/secondary **schools** across Hume teaching over
46,000 STUDENTS↑



28.7% OF 25-54+
year olds have completed a **bachelor's degree or higher**







Current Hume **households**
AROUND 90,000Δ

Forecast Hume households in **2041**
129,600*



x Source: Local Government Performance Reporting Framework
□ Source: ABS Estimated Resident Population
* Source: Forecast! D
+ Source: ABS 2027 Census
0 Source: Economyld
≈ Source: 2022/23 CIS
Source: 2023/24 CIS
Δ Source: Hume City Rates Database, March 2024
↑ Source: Dept of Education
◊ Source: Victorian Building Authority

There are around

250 PLAYGROUNDS/ PLAYSPACES

in Hume, this equates to around **1 playground** per **155 children** aged 0-9 years*

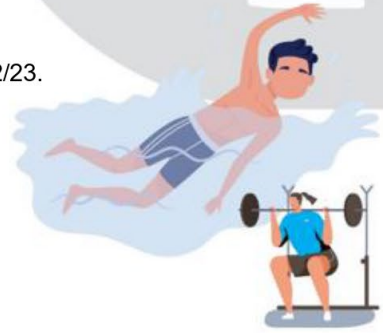


Almost

1,250,000[X]

visits were made to Council's **three major leisure facilities** in 2022/23.







Just over

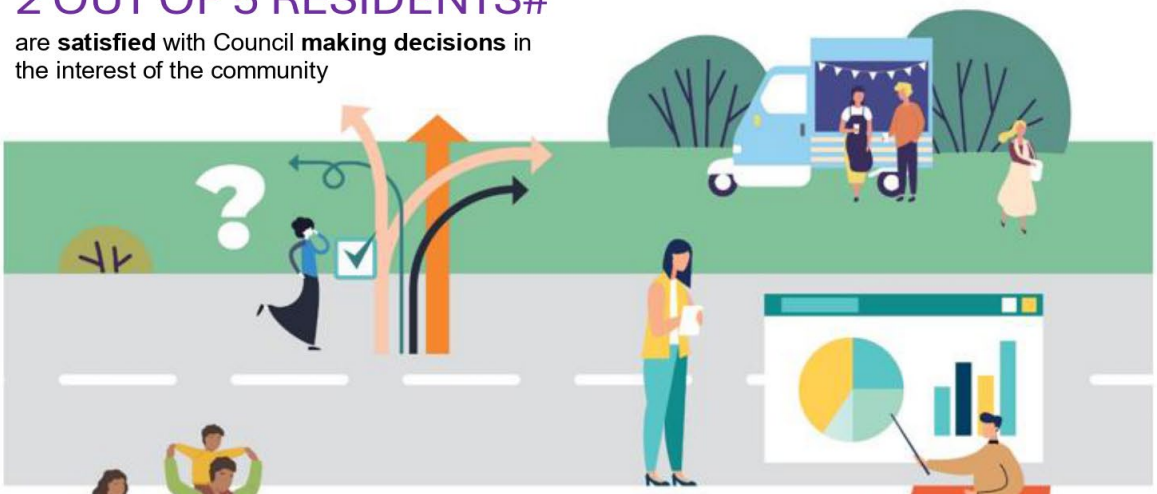
2 IN 5 RESIDENTS[≈]

are involved in **community or sporting** groups

Almost

2 OUT OF 5 RESIDENTS#

are **satisfied** with Council **making decisions** in the interest of the community





TWO THIRDS#

of resident's rate Council's overall **performance** as **good**




More than
HALF OF RESIDENTS≈
visit **parks, gardens, ovals** or **green spaces** at least once a week
3 OUT OF 5 #
residents rate the availability of **walking** and **bike tracks** in their area as **good**
3,100
DOMESTIC/
RESIDENTIAL0
building approvals in **2023** calendar year
Almost
2 IN 5
RESIDENTS ≈
participate in **civic engagement** activities
Almost
HALF OF RESIDENTS ≈
feel their community is good at getting involved in **local issues** and **activities**
Almost
TWO THIRDS ≈
of residents are **happy** with **Hume's facilities** and services such as shops, childcare, recreation and leisure facilities and urban design

HUME CITY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Update the Melbourne Airport Environs Overlay (MAEO) to reflect the 2022 Master Plan and review broader coverage to unlock increased densities and diverse housing options in Hume.

2. Create a template for good design of townhouses and medium density products (not just apartments) for all price points and housing markets.

3. Pilot inclusionary zoning or similar approach to enable inclusion of affordable housing in new developments.

4. Expand the Broadmeadows Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC) boundary to encompass land in the Northmeadows area, east of the railway line.

5. Identify opportunities for land to be transitioned for housing and employment land. This could include clarifying that non-residential uses should be located on the periphery of nominated town centres to help unlock larger residential zoned parcels of land for affordable housing.

6. Staging of future road and public transport upgrades including the Merlynston Creek Crossing (Advocacy priorities - Appendix 3).

7. Redevelopment of Broadmeadows station to meet the needs of a Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC) and address issues around safety, amenity, and accessibility.

8. Extend on demand bus trials to Hume, boost regular bus services, particularly east-west bus services to connect jobs along Sydney Road.

9. Support early delivery of bus routes mimicking the Suburban Rail link north corridor and consider.

10. Support for electric vehicles and micromobility devices, such as e-scooters, as innovative and sustainable transport solutions.

11. Review the development contributions system in all development settings to close gaps and look for innovative funding solutions.

12. Formalise ongoing local government involvement in GAIC allocation process to ensure transparency and streamline the GAIC WIK process.

13. Plan for Victoria to emphasise the importance of 'place' and enable small scale funding opportunities and joint projects with local government such as closing the open space gaps in areas that will grow, public realm improvements, wayfinding, active transport and other place-based infrastructure to support growth.

14. Greater guidance around the requirements for car parking that considers the local context - such as whether an area is a designated activity centre or an area slated for minimal growth and change.

15. Investigate what mechanisms can be introduced or strengthened to ensure timely delivery of retail town centres and conveniences to greenfield areas, including consumer protections to improve amenity and the quality of life of residents.

16. Develop and implement uniform housing design guidelines that addresses canopy coverage requirements (including targets), improve streetscape outcomes and improve thermal efficiency through interventions such as provision of eaves, upper-level built form articulation/activation and provision of light-coloured roofs.

17. Introduce a mechanism to coordinate the servicing authorities to share trenches and vertically 'stack' services to enable more space for trees – this could be part of the remit of a new coordination body as referred to in missing pillar recommendation 1 on page 18.

18. Facilitate the increase of open space in areas of low provision and increasing residential densities, as well as completely public land connections along waterways.

19. Improve environmental land management, protect significant landscapes and clearly identify changing climate measures to enable a local response.

20. Establish clear and consistent expectations for the inclusion of quality open spaces in housing provisions.

21. Introduce further resourcing to support RAPs in the planning process, especially given the need to make timebound decisions and provide greater certainty.

22. Review of current approach to cultural heritage to ensure more holistic approach earlier in the process that protects heritage - but also enables development.

23. Pilot a new cooperative approach in the Sunbury South PSP to working with cultural heritage that could be used as a template in other areas.

24. Identify opportunities to build on the success of the Waterways of the West project.

25. Establish a dedicated infrastructure coordination body that has responsibility and authority for better prioritising and sequencing investment to ensure the delivery of more complete and connected communities.
Features could include:
- A clear mandate and powers to require coordination across agencies.
- Develop consistent land use, population, employment, and other growth assumptions for state and local government to agree and apply.
- Support all departments and agencies to finalise provision standards to cater for growth expected under new draft housing targets.
- Develop a clear mechanism to assist the sequencing and prioritisation of infrastructure investment.
- Take a partnership approach with local government.
- Pursue models that enable earlier delivery of infrastructure.

26. Trial a new model at the Cloverton MAC to test a place-based model of infrastructure coordination (See Appendix 2).

27. Require an implementation plan to accompany all PSP and precinct plans.

INTRODUCTION

Hume City Council supports the Victorian Government focus on the crucial issues of housing supply and affordability and welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the pillars that represent the thinking behind Plan for Victoria.

Hume is home to two distinct growth corridors, established suburbs with a rich history but in need of renewal, green wedge, Melbourne Airport and significant industrial area along the Hume Highway. We are uniquely placed to provide input and possible solutions to inform a new strategic planning blueprint for Victoria.

Hume City Council supports the commentary around Plan for Victoria reflected in the submissions of the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and the Outer Melbourne Councils (OMC).

Our submission addresses each pillar of Plan for Victoria and reflects the lived experience of our communities after more than a decade of sustained growth. We are uniquely positioned to provide context, examples and recommendations on how we can ensure Plan for Victoria achieves the balance needed to accommodate change and maintain liveability for current and future generations.

Throughout the submission are references to a range of recommendations that relate to impacts of climate change and need for reforms to protect biodiversity values and reduce the exposure of current and future residents to significant climate risks.

The submission includes reference to the draft housing targets and Hume's response which includes commentary on what assistance would be required and possible impacts on liveability that need to be considered.

Hume City Council is very supportive of the stated ambition of Plan for Victoria to direct more growth into middle ring suburbs. After over a decade of greenfield growth where infrastructure investment has been patchy and often delayed, council is concerned that continuing to direct more growth to greenfield areas risks perpetuating the inequity in the standard of living that exists between parts of Melbourne.

Council remains willing to accept further growth in our established areas closer to transport and services but emphasises the importance of integrated planning, investment and sequencing of growth to ensure a better standard of living for all.

To shine a light on these implementation issues this submission introduces the concept of the missing pillar, labelled *Implementation and governance*. This new pillar is crucial to ensuring the ambitions and aspirations of Plan for Victoria can be delivered on the ground and revolve around infrastructure coordination, investment, and the need for a deeper, mature state-local government partnership.



HUME ENGAGEMENT WITH CURRENT VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

Hume City Council has a proud history of providing affordable housing options for working people during the manufacturing boom of the 1950s and 1960s, through to recent waves of migration that have seen a welcome influx of migrants from across the world.

Hume City Council continues to deliver much needed homes for current and future Victorians. In the past year we approved 3,000 new homes to be built in Hume with the majority of these in our northern and Sunbury growth corridors.

The government aspiration to enable more growth in established areas with existing infrastructure means Hume will cater for further housing growth in both its growth and established suburbs.

Council supports the concept of an Activity Centre plan for the Broadmeadows Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC) being developed by the Victorian Government. This focus is complimentary to the Hume Central program (Appendix 1) which supports transformational change including a new town square, hotel and commercial spaces.

Hume is also home to the future MAC at Cloverton (Lockerbie) located in Kalkallo that that will service a population of up to 380,000 people - the size of a new Canberra. The Cloverton Regional Partnership has been established between Hume City Council, Shire of Mitchell, and Whittlesea City Council to drive this once in a generation opportunity to plan for a new city to service the thousands of current and future residents.

We are encouraged by conversations with the State Government about the opportunity for this to be a pilot to showcase better infrastructure coordination which will be a theme in this submission, although we are awaiting a formal response. See Appendix 2 for more detail.

Council also recognises significant Victorian Government investments in Hume City including an additional 120 homes at the Banksia Gardens estate, the Gap and Watsons Road Level crossing removals, the Centre of Health and Community Centre of Excellence and new Tech School at Kangan Batman TAFE, the roundabout at Mitchell Street Kalkallo, duplication of Mickleham Road, delivery of the Sunbury Multi Deck Car park and recent announcements of Growth Area Infrastructure Contribution (GAIC) funding to support bus services, land for emergency services and a pedestrian crossing in Kalkallo.

Council has a range of advocacy requests which can be found at Appendix 3 through the Hume Priorities booklet.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING and CHOICE

HUME CONTEXT, ACTIONS UNDERWAY AND OBSERVATIONS:

Housing affordability is a key issue facing Australians and we welcome the Victorian Government's efforts to address this by boosting housing supply.

It is important that Plan for Victoria provides the framework for reforms that facilitate not only greater housing supply - but also a recognition of the need for well-designed housing that provides greater choice for residents to meet their changing needs.

Council has facilitated the delivery of 11,700 homes in the past five years, which has delivered homes for 37,000 new residents. Our current population forecasts for 2024 stands at 270,000 and we are home to almost 90,000 households.

If delivered, the draft housing targets for Hume will lead to the unlocking of an additional 98,000 new homes up until 2051. This will lead to an increase of over 250,000 people, meaning Hume City could become a council of over half a million people. The implications for service delivery and infrastructure provision are significant.

Council has separately provided a response to the draft housing targets and how they can be achieved in partnership with the state government. See Appendix 4.

As mentioned above council is home to the Broadmeadows MAC under the activity centre program, and aspirations for growth compliment the Hume Central Program.

To achieve further growth council needs the activity centre boundary to be large enough to encompass areas where there is an opportunity for additional housing. This change should also cover any further gaps between the current boundary and Hume's housing Amendment (Amendment C263) in order to not exacerbate this missed opportunity.

Hume is proud to be home to Melbourne Airport and supports its 24-hour no curfew status. However, there is a need to review the Melbourne Airport Environs Overlay (MAEO) to unlock housing capacity in Hume in areas that are currently restricted but no longer impacted since the introduction of the 2022 Master Plan. Affected suburbs such as Broadmeadows, Dallas and Jacana are well located close to transport and services with housing stock in need of renewal.

Hume's population's profile is changing, and our current housing choices do not meet everyone's needs. Limited housing options leads to difficulties for individuals and families finding suitable and affordable homes in Hume. For example, currently nearly half of our population is made up of small households (1 or 2 people) yet only 9% of houses are 1 or 2 bedrooms.

To tackle this challenge, the Council adopted the Hume Housing Diversity Strategy: A Home for Everybody in 2023, with the aim of improving housing choice and design in Hume. Public exhibition of the amendment has recently concluded.

In addition to choice, it is also critical that new housing is well designed for housing at all price points and reflects the reality of the local market. A lack of good design has implications for the lives of residents, as well as community acceptance of greater density that underpins the draft housing targets. Which is why, as part of Amendment C263, Hume released the draft Good Design Guide to inform the design on new medium density housing.

Dedicated assistance from the Victorian Government Architect to create a templated design for

housing at different price points could be trialled to further encourage better design.

Given affordability is not just about purchase price, it is also suggested environmentally sustainable design is critical to build healthy homes that are more energy efficient and reduce running costs.

As a council that is home to significant public housing, we are committed to the provision and upgrade of high-quality public and social housing to ensure more climate resilient homes. Council reiterates its position outlined in the submission to the National Housing and Homelessness Plan.

Council is seeking to engage with social housing providers to encourage providers to pursue opportunities in Hume in social and community housing. The current voluntary system could be strengthened by an inclusionary zoning trial in key locations.

There are areas within Hume's greenfield and established areas where additional land for housing and employment uses could be unlocked. For example, many growth areas have experienced an influx of ad hoc non-residential development outcomes on residential zoned sites that are suitable for housing on main roads.

These ad hoc 'out of centre' developments include service stations, convenience restaurants, medical centres, childcare centres and food and drinks premises.

They are disconnected from residents, impact the commercial viability and delivery of designated local convenience and town centres and reduce sites for more housing.

To give an established area example, the Maygar Barracks is owned by the Commonwealth and while it is currently used as a detention centre and for defence related purposes. This land could transition in the future to more productive uses such as industrial and employment related activities given its size and strategic location.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAN FOR VICTORIA

1. Update the Melbourne Airport Environs Overlay (MAEO) to reflect the 2022 Master Plan and review broader coverage to unlock increased densities and diverse housing options in Hume.

2. Create a template for good design of townhouses and medium density products (not just apartments) for all price points and housing markets.

3. Pilot inclusionary zoning or similar approach to enable inclusion of affordable housing in new developments.

4. Expand the Broadmeadows Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC) boundary to encompass land in the Northmeadows area, east of the railway line.

5. Identify opportunities for land to be transitioned for housing and employment land. This could include clarifying that non-residential uses should be located on the periphery of nominated town centres to help unlock larger residential zoned parcels of land for affordable housing.

EQUITY and JOBS

HUME CONTEXT, ACTIONS UNDERWAY AND OBSERVATIONS:

Hume City boasts a diverse population with almost 40% of residents born overseas, speaking 155 languages. There are also residents who have lived locally for many years and there are high levels of unemployment and disadvantage.

The pursuit of equity and jobs are a key part of our Council Plan and key strategies and underpin our Hume Social Justice Charter.

Hume City has a leading approach to boosting economic participation and inclusion. Hume is home to 26,000 businesses and over 134,000 jobs -a higher number than many growth areas. However, only 35% of those jobs belong to local residents due to entrenched disadvantage, difficulty in migrants gaining recognition of their qualifications and the higher order nature of employment at the Melbourne Airport and CS Behring Australia.

To counter this imbalance council has pursued policies and programs to promote 'local jobs for local people'. Council is engaged with education providers such as Kangan Batman TAFE which has a campus in Broadmeadows and will also run a new TAFE in Sunbury.

With the focus on addressing the critical issue of housing, opportunities to provide employment opportunities close to where people live must not be overlooked. Across many growth areas the available supply of developable employment land is decreasing.

Much of the theoretical supply of employment land is too constrained to be feasible to develop. Increasing the supply of employment land should also be a focus, including undertaking employment PSPs.

One of the barriers for residents to connect to local jobs is a lack of access to public transport and connecting roads – often shaped by land use planning. There are legacy gaps in our transport network that make east-west movement difficult and limit access to jobs and services for parts of the municipality, particularly for workers arriving/departing for work and shift work.

One of the key enablers to growth and east-west movement could be the construction of the Merlynston Creek crossing to open land in eastern Broadmeadows for affordable housing and local job creation.

There are also a range of public transport 'black spots' in Hume, and roads in need of upgrading and investment. Most of Hume's residents don't live within walking distance of a train station, leaving buses as their sole public transport option to reach local destinations.

Bus services are not always frequent or reliable and don't connect to important centres such as La Trobe University as the closest tertiary institution to Hume.

The Broadmeadows Train Station has been identified as a 'superhub' as part of the future Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) North Project. Currently it is a highly utilised but rundown station sorely in need of redevelopment to improve safety, amenity, and accessibility.

Some of the inequitable access to public transport and delay in arterial road investment has arisen from a lack of staging and sequencing in the release of Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs) and the location of land zoned for development. For instance, in Craigieburn most of the land in the Urban Growth Zone (UGZ) is located around 3km from the original Craigieburn township where there is a train station and bus interchange.

The residential development west of the train station in Craigieburn and Greenvale has led to higher levels of car ownership and a need for bus services to fill the void. It is critical for the remaining PSP program that there is better staging coordinated between state and local government, particularly in relation to public transport connectivity.

Council would support small investments to improve active transport links such as walking and cycling paths, on demand buses, and electric micro-mobility that could assist in connecting residents to public transport routes and enhance last kilometre connectivity. See the recently endorsed Hume Transport Strategy for further information.

Hume is a strong supporter the transition to electric vehicles (EVs) including our own fleet. There is a need to consider mechanisms to support more equitable access to EV recharging infrastructure across Victoria and incentives for industry transition.

To enable an integrated and holistic approach to growth it is imperative that all current, planned and future transport investment is represented in a new Victorian Transport Plan accompanying Plan for Victoria. An integrated plan will ensure the additional pressure in growth areas and established areas created by greater density is catered for through future road and public transport upgrades.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAN FOR VICTORIA

Support development of a Victorian Transport Plan to accompany Plan for Victoria including:

1. Staging of future road and public transport upgrades including the Merlynston Creek crossing (Advocacy priorities - Appendix 3).

2. Redevelopment of Broadmeadows station to meet the needs of a Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC) and address issues around safety, amenity, and accessibility.

3. Extend on demand bus trials to Hume, boost regular bus services, particularly east-west bus services to connect jobs along Sydney Road.

4. Support early delivery of bus routes mimicking the Suburban Rail link north corridor and consider.

5. Support for electric vehicles and micromobility devices, such as e-scooters, as innovative and sustainable transport solutions.

THRIVING and LIVEABLE SUBURBS AND TOWNS

HUME CONTEXT, ACTIONS UNDERWAY AND OBSERVATIONS:

Hume City boasts two distinct growth corridors and a range of established and developing suburbs. Hume City is also home to a new city in Cloverton in the north that is supported by a Regional Partnership with the Shire of Mitchell and City of Whittlesea.

Council supports the intent of the Victorian Government to re-balance Melbourne's future growth to be 70% in established areas and 30% in Greenfields and appreciate the way it ensures all councils play a role in meeting future growth needs.

However, there are still legacy issues in greenfield areas that need attention and investment.

The current contribution system results in underinvestment in infrastructure, meaning there is a delay in delivery of key infrastructure and services for residents. This lack of timely infrastructure has long term implications for the health, well being and education and job prospects of people in greenfield areas.

Hume City has growing areas like Craigieburn and Greenvale that encompass older and newer areas that are disconnected from railway corridors and suffer from gaps in the road network, and heavily congested roads in need of duplication such as Mickleham Road and Somerton Road. There is a need for substantial investment in the frequency and connectivity of the bus network to ensure greater public transport options for residents.

While the early provision of schools in greenfield areas has been most welcome, there are often long delays in the delivery of retail and town centres that the community relies on. In particular the promise of retail facilities to future residents that are not delivered until years after people have moved in undermines the quality of life for residents, and is an amenity and consumer issue that requires further attention.

Council has provided local infrastructure to these growing communities such as community centres which provide a host of direct services to residents, including open space and recreational facilities. Funding sources include Development Contribution Plans (DCPs), Infrastructure Contributions Plans (ICPs), state government grants such as the Growing Suburbs Fund (GSF), Building Blocks kindergarten funding and rate funding.

To date, Hume has been relatively successful in the implementation of DCPs and ICPs. This has only been possible through extensive use of Work in Kind (WIK) agreements with developers. However, there are systemic issues that are placing increasing pressure on Council's ability to meet the demand for infrastructure.

Councils have an obligation to complete all projects included in DCPs and ICPs, irrespective of escalating costs or changing needs, exposing them to significant financial risks.

Even with the policy shift to direct growth to established areas with infrastructure capacity and near public transport, increasing densities will still require some infrastructure augmentation and a funding regime to support it.

To redress this ongoing issue, Hume City is supportive of a redesign of the development contributions system to ensure it is fairer, more transparent and delivers the local infrastructure our community needs.

It should also be noted that in both greenfield and established area local facilities were built for current projections and will potentially need to be expanded if there are greater densities.

Car parking continues to be an ongoing issue for communities. It requires a nuanced approach that differentiates between the needs of quiet residential streets to those of activity centres, where there is access to public and active transport.

Lastly, achieving a thriving and liveable neighbourhood relies on the practical implementation of a plan in a precinct. A focus on placemaking is central to this - especially where there is the knitting together of new and existing areas.

To give a Hume example, Sunbury will double in size and comprises a historic and established town centre but is beginning to see significant growth to its north and south. Local government plays a key role in placemaking, and key growth locations would benefit from a greater and more intentional 'place' focus.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAN FOR VICTORIA

1. Review the development contributions system in all development settings to close gaps and look for innovative funding solutions.

2. Formalise ongoing local government involvement in GAIC allocation process to ensure transparency and streamline the GAIC WIK process.

3. Plan for Victoria to emphasise the importance of 'place' and enable small scale funding opportunities and joint projects with local government such as closing the open space gaps in areas that will grow, public realm improvements, wayfinding, active transport and other place-based infrastructure to support growth.

4. Greater guidance around the requirements for car parking that considers the local context - such as whether an area is a designated activity centre or an area slated for minimal growth and change.

5. Investigate what mechanisms can be introduced or strengthened to ensure timely delivery of retail town centres and conveniences to greenfield areas, including consumer protections to improve amenity and the quality of life of residents.

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTS and CLIMATE ACTION

HUME CONTEXT, ACTIONS UNDERWAY AND OBSERVATIONS:

Hume City has significant heritage, landscape, and biodiversity values. These include a range of indigenous plants, distinctive ridgelines, native vegetation, wildlife, waterways, and sites of cultural and geological significance.

About half of Hume City's total land area is designated as green wedge zone. This land is characterised by grasslands and grassy woodlands of the Victorian volcanic plains and intersected by several steep creek valleys and narrow floodplains. Climate risks such as floods, drought and fire threaten the health of these ecosystems and landscapes.

Hume also enjoys over 3,886ha of open space covering 7% of the municipality. This includes multiple expansive regional parks including the Woodlands Historic Park, Greenvale Reservoir and Jacksons Creek biik wurrdha Regional Parklands.

Balancing support for biodiversity and the need for additional housing is a delicate balance.

Council recognises the important role of compact mixed-use neighbourhoods in delivering more walkable communities, and increased greening to offset the heat island affects experienced in council areas like Hume with low canopy cover.

Promoting greater density must be complemented by protecting and growing our open spaces in the face of significant population growth, a reduction in the size of lots and the need to provide greater recreational opportunities.

To cater for growth and support biodiversity public open space will need to be multi-functional, well maintained and attractive to ensure all residents access the health and wellbeing benefits of nature. During heat waves, green spaces in our urban areas are particularly important to help provide heat havens for local wildlife and residents.

Council has an endorsed a Climate Action Plan that commits to a carbon neutral target for Council operations by 2030, and a Draft Open Space Strategy that will prioritise increasing the quality and quantity of open space, and boost the urban forest canopy cover with greater tree planting. The health and wellbeing benefits of open space are well documented ad need to be recognized as a high value asset – not to be considered surplus space.

Plan for Victoria must consider how to facilitate increased open space in areas with historically low access, especially in areas that are also identified for additional housing. How to close the public land gap along our waterways should also be a priority.

With market conditions leading to smaller and narrower lots with higher site coverage, the role of the nature strip in contributing to canopy tree coverage is more important than ever.
Green design and street trees are crucial to neighbourhood character as well as providing a sense of place and helping mitigate climate change impacts.

At a practical level there is often conflict between street trees, car parking and underground utilities in nature strips that means trees are removed or there is not enough space for them in new developments.

To encourage greater canopy cover in lots over 300sqm, Hume now applies permit conditions to all subdivision permits, requiring the provision of one canopy tree or similar within the front setback of each dwelling and a minimum garage setback.

Similar design guidelines cannot currently be applied where the popular Small Lot Housing Code applies (where no permit is required). This creates a challenge in ensuring we can provide additional diverse housing options and promote a more climate resistant streetscape.

Promotion of greater canopy overage could also be achieved by reviewing road reserve guidelines to ensure room for trees, encouraging appropriate planting in open spaces, and considering tree requirements on private property.

Council also has a range of other actions to mitigate climate change impacts including a stormwater quality offsets scheme that enables council to deliver stormwater harvesting projects in a more flexible way. Hume residents are also particularly vulnerable to heat waves and further work is required to ensure there is equitable access to 'cool' places.

How our waterways and public land can be better planned and managed is also a key concern of Hume. Regional planning and management for our waterways, such as that seen in the marram baba Merri Creek Regional Parklands, should be considered a template approach, and rolled out more widely.

Improving environmental land management, particularly weed control, for private and public landowners should be addressed. Poor management not only deteriorates the land, but also creates problems for neighbours.

Understanding the state government's position on sea level boundaries, changes flood areas and bushfire areas in light of climate change risks will enable Councils such as Hume to respond locally. It is also important that Plan for Victoria explicitly address the water security challenges we are facing, emphasising the need to find additional sources of water for the environment, agriculture, and to meet the demands of new housing and employment.

Lastly, it is recognised that all named waterways will support the increasing importance of waterway-based open spaces in accommodating cultural heritage, ecological, flooding and where possible, shared trails for local enjoyment and commuting.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAN FOR VICTORIA

1. Develop and implement uniform housing design guidelines that addresses canopy coverage requirements (including targets), improve streetscape outcomes and improve thermal efficiency through interventions such as provision of eaves, upper-level built form articulation/activation and provision of light-coloured roofs.

2. Introduce a mechanism to coordinate the servicing authorities to share trenches and vertically 'stack' services to enable more space for trees – this could be part of the remit of a new coordination body as referred to in missing pillar recommendation 1 on page 18.

3. Facilitate the increase of open space in areas of low provision and increasing residential densities, as well as completely public land connections along waterways.

4. Improve environmental land management, protect significant landscapes and clearly identify changing climate measures to enable a local response.

5. Establish clear and consistent expectations for the inclusion of quality open spaces in housing provisions.



HUME CONTEXT, ACTIONS UNDERWAY AND OBSERVATIONS:

Hume City is located on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people. The Gunung-Willam-Balluk clan are the Traditional Owners of much of Hume City.

Our municipality remains rich in Aboriginal cultural heritage and home to more than 700 registered Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Places including burial sites, artefact scatters, object collections, quarries, scarred trees and stone features.

Hume has a large and growing population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. The Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group (RAPWG) advises Council on the priorities of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and guides the implementation of Hume's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) 2020-22.

Council hopes to showcase a collaborative approach through a range of programs and projects such as Sunbury Community, Arts and Cultural Precinct. Council is committed to meeting its obligations under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 in relation to Cultural Heritage Management Plans (CHMPs) to avoid or minimise harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage in a designated area.

The planning system was not designed to cater for the nuance, sensitive negotiations and time required to resolve cultural heritage issues. At the same time the development industry is driven by timelines and the need for certainty, and this jars with the current approach to cultural heritage.

There is considerable time pressure on Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) to provide advice and approval on projects and plans, especially where there is significant cultural heritage, and this has created an administrative and resource burden.

In the Sunbury South PSP there are council-led capital works projects – including Yirrangan Road - and a range of residential developments that have not progressed, awaiting resolution of CHMP processes. This could impact the ability to meet Hume's housing targets and reduce the funding to deliver community facilities.

In the future Cloverton MAC, there is an emerging commitment to create a new city that will respect and celebrate the stony rises and waterway landscape, working with Wurundjeri.

Beyond the CHMP process, increased opportunities to build on the successful Waterways of the West and Jacksons Creek bilk wurrdha Regional Parklands should be identified.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAN FOR VICTORIA

1. Introduce further resourcing to support RAPs in the planning process, especially given the need to make timebound decisions and provide greater certainty.

2. Review of current approach to cultural heritage to ensure more holistic approach earlier in the process that protects heritage - but also enables development.

3. Pilot a new cooperative approach in the Sunbury South PSP to working with cultural heritage that could be used as a template in other areas.

4. Identify opportunities to build on the success of the Waterways of the West project.

MISSING PILLAR
IMPLEMENTATION AND GOVERNANCE

HUME CONTEXT, ACTIONS UNDERWAY AND OBSERVATIONS:

Council supports the current five pillars and has made practical recommendations on how Plan for Victoria can include suggestions to ensure they deliver liveable communities.

However, the lived experience of our communities has demonstrated that the current system is not supported by a clear, robust or transparent implementation program.
There is need for an additional pillar related to implementation and governance.

Infrastructure spending has not kept pace with growth and is getting more expensive. Road projects such as the duplication of Mickleham Road that have come years after growth has occurred, have seen huge increases in the escalated cost, further delaying crucial next stages.

The lack of coordination and joined up planning and infrastructure delivery and investment has had further negative impacts for local communities. It leads to delays in infrastructure, gaps in provision and lengthy commutes to jobs and congestion. In practical terms it means residents do not get the complete communities they deserve in a timely way.

As a result of this lack of coordination, opportunities for co-location, innovation, joint procurement, and other efficiencies are not realised.

Given state government departments are portfolio based and not corridor or placed based – there is often a siloed approach to infrastructure investment, project management and long-term planning in growing areas. There are often delays caused by various referral authorities and there is a need to better support them and hold them accountable for their role in the planning system.

At a practical level there is no mechanism for state and local government to work together – or with industry – to ensure the timing and roll out of upgrades to minimise disruptions to local communities and save money by scheduling works at the same time.

While some disruptions can't be avoided, if the state is to continue to grow and accommodate over 2 million homes there needs to be better sequencing of works.
A new approach is required.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAN FOR VICTORIA

1. Establish a dedicated infrastructure coordination body that has responsibility and authority for better prioritising and sequencing investment to ensure the delivery of more complete and connected communities. Features could include:
   - A clear mandate and powers to require coordination across agencies.
   - Develop consistent land use, population, employment, and other growth assumptions for state and local government to agree and apply.
   - Support all departments and agencies to finalise provision standards to cater for growth expected under new draft housing targets.
   - Develop a clear mechanism to assist the sequencing and prioritisation of infrastructure investment.
   - Take a partnership approach with local government.
   - Pursue models that enable earlier delivery of infrastructure.

2. Trial a new model at the Cloverton MAC to test a place-based model of infrastructure coordination (See Appendix 2).

3. Require an implementation plan to accompany all PSP and precinct plans.

APPENDIX 1 - HUME CENTRAL PROGRAM

Hume Central is a program of interconnected projects that centres around the transformation of a council car park to become the beating heart of Broadmeadows – a true town centre and destination in one of Melbourne's fastest growing regions, bringing community together to work, learn, play and enjoy.

This is a Council-led initiative to transform Broadmeadows utilising Hume City Council's land around the area but is focused on staying connected to the local community and seeking investment from the private sector.

Hume City Council's vision aligns with Broadmeadows designation as one of the Victorian State Government's Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC) of focus for increased housing supply.

Hume Central is planned to be activated through a series of complementary and interdependent projects that will help Broadmeadows fulfill its promise.

BROADMEADOWS TOWN SQUARE:

The proposal for a new Town Square includes a new community gathering place in the heart of Broadmeadows envisaging a large screen, shade, seating and opportunities for public art and events. This could become reinvigorated community space to accommodate current and future needs incorporating learning and community use spaces.

REFURBISHMENT OF THE BROADMEADOWS HUME GLOBAL LEARNING CENTRE:

This refurbishment is now complete and returns much needed community spaces and civic uses to this important building in the heart of Broadmeadows.

The refurbishment has returned a formal Council Chamber and public gallery, new community spaces, bookable meeting rooms for community events, meetings and training and a new café run by Bean and Brite who are a social enterprise.

A HOTEL AND MIXED-USE BUILDING:

Council has run a market process to utilise some of its land to seek a partner to build a proposed hotel, which would be located on the corner of Tanderrum Way, and could also include features related to hospitality, office space and possibly some retail.

The project has progressed to a Request for Proposal (RFP) process and there is now a Heads of Agreement (HOA) in place for a market sounding process. This process invites companies to submit more information and a detailed proposal of how they would design, develop, and deliver the project.

BROADMEADOWS TOWN CENTRE CAR PARK:

We are currently working on draft plans and documentation for the new car park at Hume Central to support the unlocking of car park land for more active uses. If approved, the car park, which would be located on the corner of Pascoe Vale and Camp Road, would be developed in stages to support the gradual activation of land within Hume Central.

The incremental car park amenity will service the Hume Central precinct, inclusive of a safe pedestrian friendly connection across Dimboola Rd.

APPENDIX 2 - POTENTIAL PLAN FOR CLOVERTON MAC PILOT

Appoint a lead group/agency from State Government to establish governance around a new Cloverton State-Local Taskforce with a clear remit to trial coordination and cooperation in a manner never contemplated before in a precinct.

Taskforce to have senior representatives from DTP and all relevant state government departments and agencies, Infrastructure Victoria, the Victorian Government Architect, and include the CEOs of the three councils from the Regional Partnership as equal partners.

Role of Cloverton State-Local Taskforce:

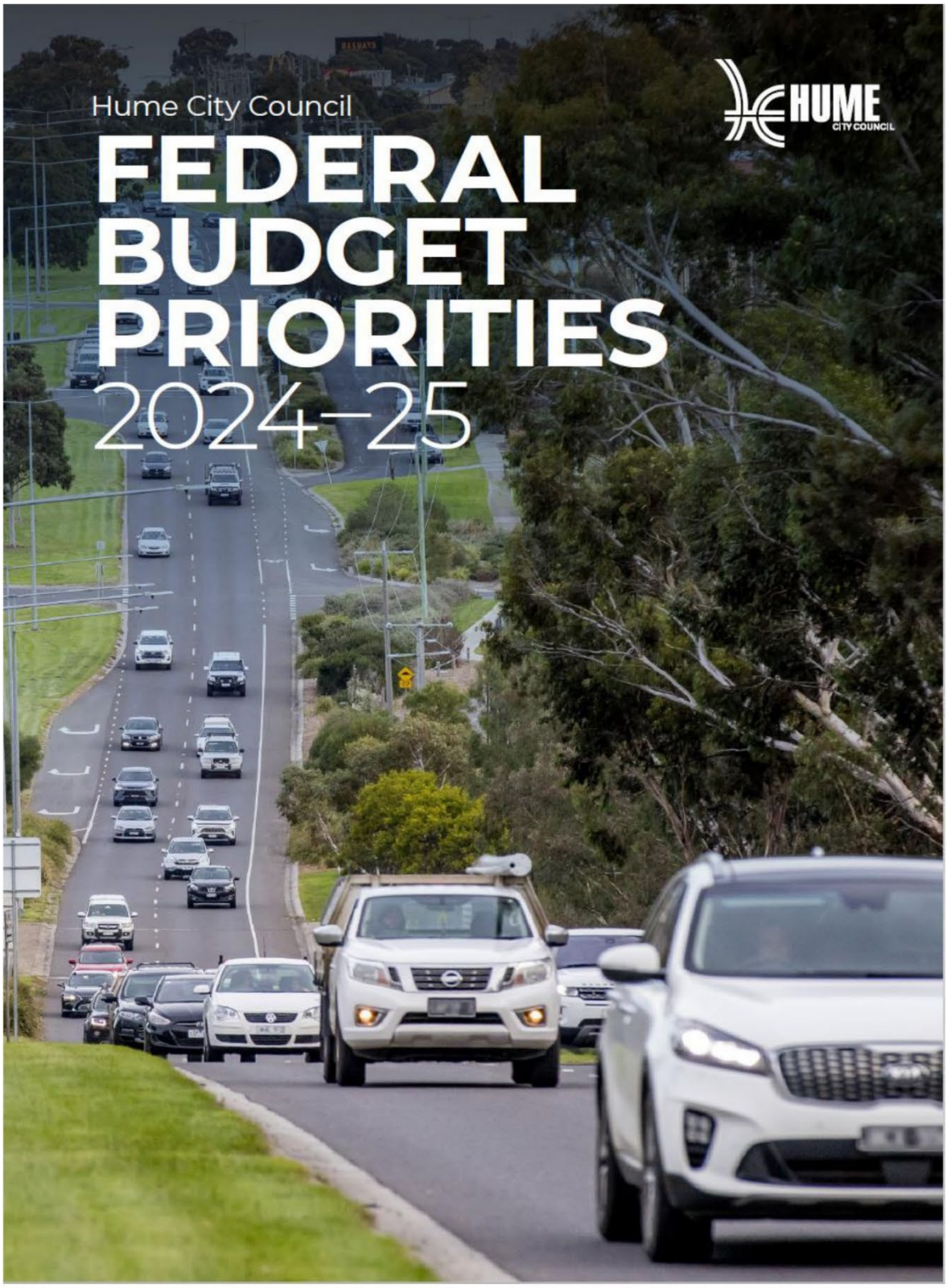
- Establish guiding principles including what success looks like in the MAC.
- Confirm a single source of data, including current and future local, state, and regional infrastructure need.
- Taskforce to recommend regional infrastructure needs and options for co-location, coordination, funding and innovation.
- Taskforce to explore innovative models, including co-location and integration of housing, regional infrastructure and environmental outcomes that deliver a safe, walkable, climate-resilient city in the north, home to thousands of jobs.
- Taskforce to provide input to the Cloverton masterplan that will be developed with Stockland as the sole landowner in the MAC.

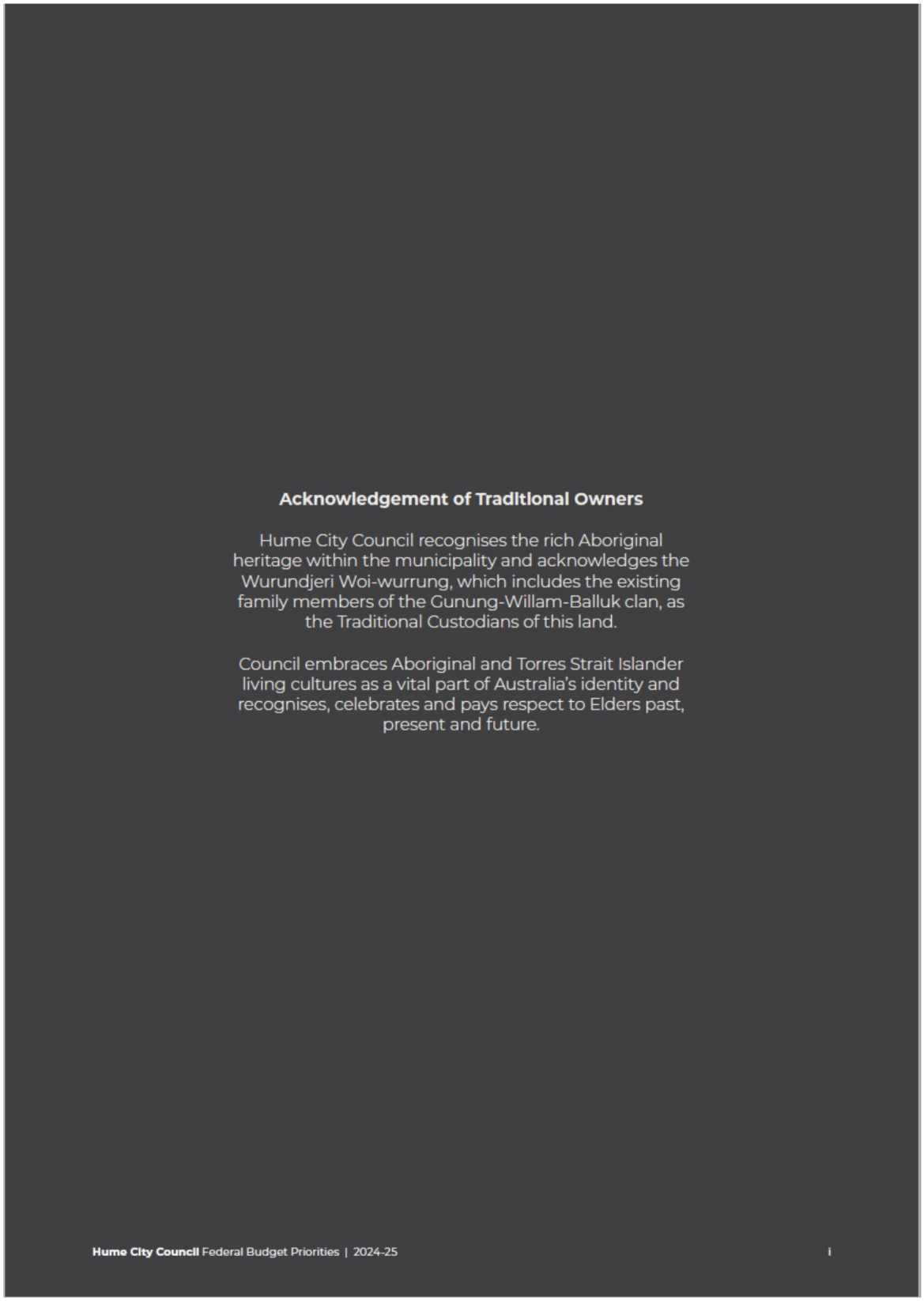
A governance pathway for Taskforce options to relevant cabinet committees and budget considerations for future decisions would need to be established.

*The notion of a pilot has been shared with the Victorian Government and consistent with a letter from the three councils of the Regional Partnership bringing to their attention the opportunity presented by Cloverton and the endorsed position supported at a historic joint meeting in October 2023. We are awaiting a formal response.

DRAFT

APPENDIX 3 – HUME CITY COUNCIL – FEDERAL BUDGET PRIORITIES 2024 – 2025





Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

Hume City Council recognises the rich Aboriginal heritage within the municipality and acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, which includes the existing family members of the Gunung-Willam-Balluk clan, as the Traditional Custodians of this land.

Council embraces Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander living cultures as a vital part of Australia's identity and recognises, celebrates and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

Contents

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners	i
City Snapshot	2
Message from the Mayor	3
Priority projects and themes	4
Places for people	5
Connecting our communities	10
Equity for all	16

City Snapshot

HUME CITY 2021 CENSUS



252,723
CURRENT POPULATION

388,891*
POPULATION GROWTH BY 2041

3rd most disadvantaged
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA IN METRO MELBOURNE





40% born overseas
RESIDENTS COME FROM 170 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES WITH 40% OF ALL RESIDENTS BORN OVERSEAS

Residents speak over 155 languages
WITH 49% SPEAKING A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME



Message from the Mayor

Hume City Council is proud to present its 24-25 Pre-Budget Submission to the Commonwealth Government on behalf of the Hume community.

Located just 15 km north of Melbourne's CBD, Hume is a rapidly growing and culturally diverse municipality. Its uniqueness is found in its contrasts; featuring vast greenfield developments, industrial precincts of state significance and urban renewal opportunities – positioned between key arterial roads, including the Hume and Calder Freeways and Melbourne Airport.

Hume is well positioned to deliver additional employment and housing to help meet Australia's housing supply needs. However, congestion remains a barrier and Hume rates highly as one of Melbourne's most socially disadvantaged municipalities.

Our budget submission seeks federal support for the renewal of key local precinct's in Broadmeadows and Sunbury, the development of a new town centre in Cloverton – to bring jobs and services closer to our existing and future communities.

Initiatives include congestion-easing upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

With a proven track record and committed funding, Council looks forward to collaborating with the federal government on creating economic partnerships and housing opportunities, urban renewal, and easing congestion to deliver a better future for our diverse residents both now and in the future.



Sincerely,

Councillor Naim Kurt
Mayor of Hume City Council

Priority Projects and Themes

Hume City Council is seeking Federal Government support to deliver city building initiatives that will address housing stress, promote economic growth and lead to improved connections to jobs and education.

PLACES FOR PEOPLE

Hume Central: Invest in one of the State's priority activity centres in Broadmeadows to create a vibrant and active town centre on Council-owned land that addresses job creation, learning and community connections. 6

Sunbury Community, Arts and Cultural Precinct: Invest in a much-valued heritage site in Sunbury, joining Hume City Council and the Victorian State Government to create a thriving arts and cultural precinct. 8

Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre: Support a three three-tiered approach to the development of a new city centre in Melbourne's north in partnership with the councils of Hume, Whittlesea and Mitchell Shire. 9

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Mickleham Road: Invest in the completion of duplication to ease congestion and boost road capacity for a growing community. 11

Somerton Road: Lift investment in upgrading a critical rural road to urban standards to improve movement east to west and access to jobs and industry. 12

Merlynston Creek Crossing: Co-Fund the construction of the Merlynston Creek Crossing to open land in eastern Broadmeadows for affordable housing and local job creation. 13

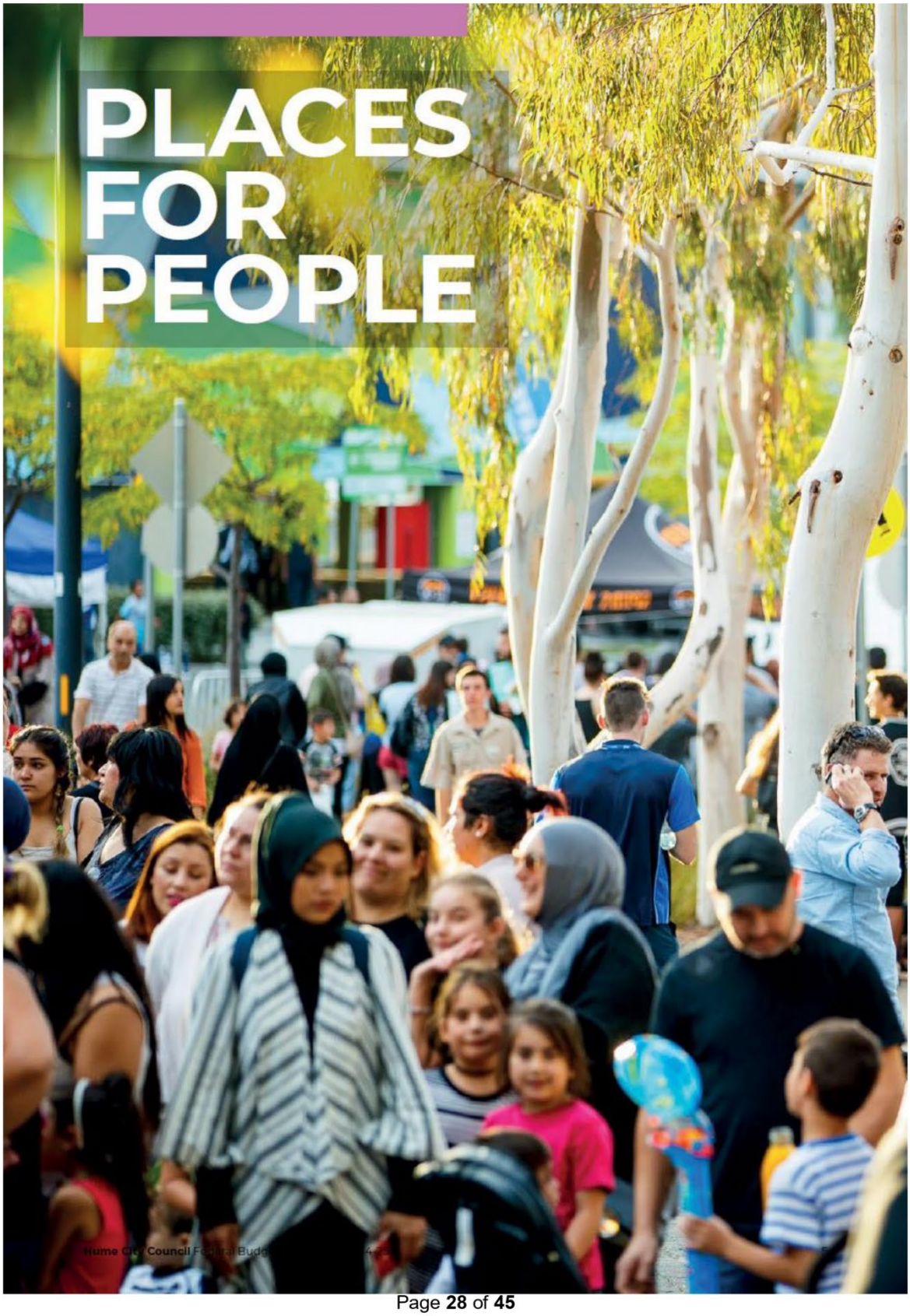
Broadmeadows Train Station: Support the upgrade of the station to enhance safety, accessibility, and amenity, reinforcing its role as one of Melbourne's key transport hubs in the North. 14

Bulla Bypass: Develop a bypass for the existing 165-year-old bridge to improve safety, drive economic growth and better service a growing community. 15

EQUITY FOR ALL

Social and affordable housing: Address inequitable housing access in Hume through funding social and community housing providers. 17

A university in Hume: Federal Government support to deliver a tertiary education campus in Hume. 18


PLACES
FOR
PEOPLE

PLACES FOR PEOPLE

Hume Central

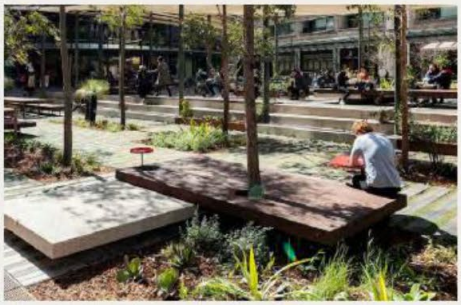
The Opportunity: Invest in one of the State's priority activity centres in Broadmeadows to create a vibrant and active town centre on Council-owned land that addresses job creation, learning and community connections.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Broadmeadows

This is a Council-led initiative to transform Broadmeadows utilising Hume City Council's land around the Broadmeadows Town Hall, Global Learning Centre and Council offices. Hume City Council's vision aligns with Broadmeadow's designation as one of the Victorian State Government's Metropolitan Activity Centres and activity centre of focus for increased housing supply.

Two significant investment opportunities exist for the Federal Government to partner with Hume City Council on the transformative project that is Hume Central.







Artist's impressions only

PLACES FOR PEOPLE

Hume Central
Broadmeadows Town Square

Hume Central's town square aligns with the Australian Government's focus on supporting the delivery of best-practice investment in urban infrastructure, connecting people and communities to services and opportunities that improve liveability and inclusion.

The Square aligns with the Australian Government's focus on enhancing affordable housing in designated activity areas, promising a synergy of residential growth and vibrant community life. Council has allocated over $6 million to its four-year capital program. It is seeking a similar contribution from the Federal Government to deliver this project. This town square will be a cornerstone for social cohesion in an economically challenged area, offering place-making activations and substantial employment opportunities. Its development is not just an investment in infrastructure but also in the community's spirit, supporting social interaction and cultural celebration in a safe, accessible, and lively environment.

Project outcome: Construction of Hume Central's town square, a key element in transforming Broadmeadows into a bustling, multicultural activity centre. The project promises significant job creation during construction and ongoing community events.

Ask: $7–12 million

Other contributions: Hume City Council has allocated $6 million.

Lead organisation: Hume City Council

Hume Central
Broadmeadows Car park

The proposed phased development of a new Broadmeadows Car Park addresses the growing need for accessible infrastructure to support the revitalised town square and community spaces. The initial phase involves constructing a ground-level car park, with plans to expand vertically as demand increases. This pragmatic approach balances immediate needs with future scalability. Situated near the Broadmeadows train station, a major transport hub, the car park's design will adhere to sustainable principles, ensuring an eco-friendly and efficient solution for increased vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Development of this car park is key to ensuring Hume Central's accessibility, functionality, and overall success.

Project outcome: Delivery of this car park is essential to the accessibility and functionality of the surrounding community spaces, contributing significantly to the overall success of the Hume Central precinct.

Ask: $10 million

Other contributions: Hume City Council has allocated $9 million in its four-year capital program.

Lead organisation: Hume City Council





Artist's impressions only

PLACES FOR PEOPLE

Sunbury Community, Arts and Cultural Precinct

The Opportunity: Invest in a much-valued heritage site in Sunbury, joining Hume City Council and the Victorian State Government to create a thriving arts and cultural precinct.

Federal Electorate: Hawke
State Electorate: Sunbury

The Sunbury Community, Arts and Cultural Precinct is a visionary project designed to celebrate and preserve Sunbury's rich cultural heritage, while fostering a thriving hub for arts, community, and social engagement. This site is located on the former Sunbury asylum site built in 1879, and has a long-standing connection to the Sunbury arts community. Developed through extensive community consultation, the precinct will evolve into a dynamic destination, accommodating a range of activities including dance, performing arts, and incubator spaces for small businesses and artists.

Additionally, the precinct will feature food and beverage options to complement its role as a tourism and commercial hub. This development is not just about physical infrastructure, but about creating a space that embodies Sunbury's unique cultural identity, supports local talent, and provides a vibrant, welcoming environment for Sunbury's growing community.

Project outcome: State-of-the-art facilities for dance and performing arts, innovative incubator spaces for entrepreneurs and artists, and diverse culinary offerings, enriching the tourism and commercial appeal of the area.

Ask: $3 million

Other contributions:

- Hume City Council has allocated $5 million
- Victorian State Government has allocated $3 million

Lead organisation: Hume City Council









Artist's impressions only

PLACES FOR PEOPLE

Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC)

The Opportunity: Support a three-tiered approach to the development of a new city centre in Melbourne's north in partnership with the councils of Hume, Whittlesea and Mitchell Shire.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Kalkallo

Cloverton is an opportunity to create a city centre that services a population of 380,000 and achieve outcomes for the current and future community not seen in a greenfield context before.

The MAC is in single land ownership of a mature developer who is committed to creating an exemplary precinct.

Together, the three Councils have a shared vision. To elevate this collaboration, the leadership of the Federal and Victorian Government's is crucial to initiate a trial that illustrates a deep partnership across three tiers of government.

To take this goodwill to the next level, it needs the leadership of the Federal and Victorian Governments to usher in a trial that illustrates a deep three levels of government partnership.

The partnership could provide a platform to explore innovative models, including co-location and integration of housing, regional infrastructure and environmental outcomes that deliver a safe, walkable, climate resilient city in the north.

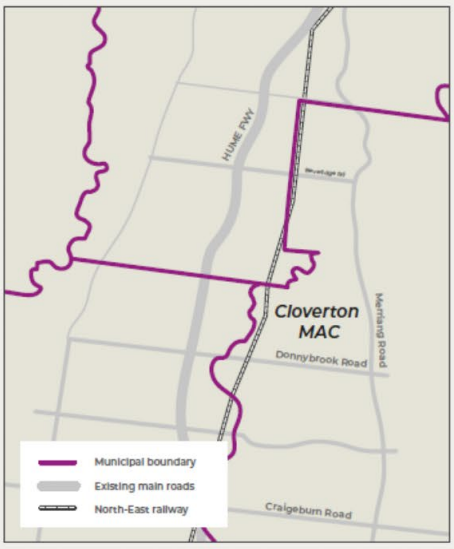
Project outcome:

- Early delivery of a new train station in the MAC to facilitate development of employment services that will support the operation of the Beveridge Intermodal Freight Terminal (BIFT) and surrounding state significant industrial areas
- The planning and delivery of regional scale social infrastructure, such as a performing arts centre and indoor courts early delivery will help to activate the centre and support economic activity
- The planning and delivery of a new hospital

Ask: Funding for coordination and collaboration with the Victorian State Government to fund implementation.

Other contributions: Mitchell Shire Council, City of Whittlesea and working in partnership with Stockland, primary landowner.

Lead organisation: Hume City Council




CONNECTING
OUR
COMMUNITIES
Hume City Council Federal Budget Priorities 2024-25

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Mickleham Road

The Opportunity: Invest in the completion of duplication to ease congestion and boost road capacity for a growing community.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Greenvale, Kalkallo

Project outcome: Duplication of Mickleham Road from Dellamore Boulevard to Craigieburn Road, and Craigieburn Road to Donnybrook Road.

Ask: Funding for the completion of this project based on the completed Business Case.

Lead organisation: Victorian State Government

The growth in Greenvale (population predicted to double by 2036) and Craigieburn (population predicted to increase by 50 per cent by 2036) is placing pressure on several key road links in Hume City's Northern Growth Corridor.

Almost 64% of our population rely on cars to get them to and from their job. Compounding this, inadequate public transport provision in this region has led to an over-reliance on cars. Without duplication of Mickleham Road between Somerton Road and Craigieburn Road, congestion will continue to worsen.

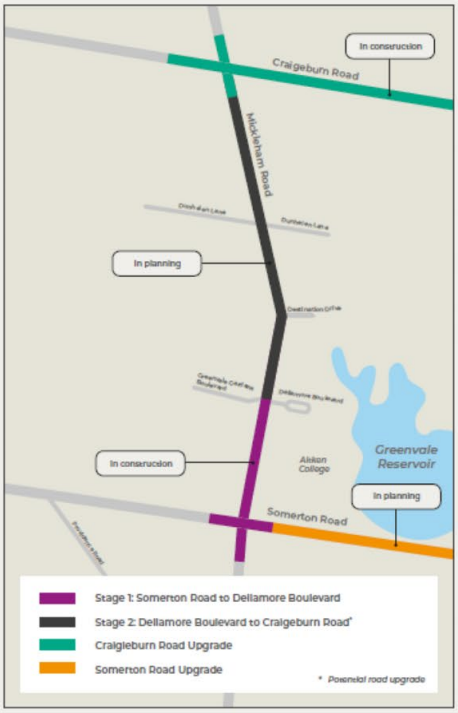
The first stage of the duplication of Mickleham Road between Somerton Road and Dellamore Boulevard is currently underway. This is an important start to this major transport route in our city, but funding to take the duplication all the way to Craigieburn is critical for our rapidly growing community.

This improvement will:

- better connect the growing suburbs of Greenvale, Craigieburn and Mickleham to major freeway network and jobs, notably at Melbourne Airport
- improve connectivity for workers to the fast-growing State Significant Industrial areas in Mickleham
- reduce congestion on the Hume Freeway
- limit 'rat running' traffic on less safe rural roads (e.g., Oaklands Road) and impacting on rural businesses

It is essential that our community has access to congestion-free roads to get to their place of work, education and health services.

The State Government has completed a business case for this important project, funding is required for implementation.



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Somerton Road

The Opportunity: Lift Investment in upgrading a critical rural road to urban standards to improve movement east to west and access to jobs and industry.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Greenvale

Somerton Road (linked to Cooper Street) is an important west-east road link in the Northern Growth Corridor. It connects fast growing residential areas, such as Greenvale, Craigieburn and Epping, with health services (including the Northern Hospital), train stations, shopping centres, the Hume Highway, Epping Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market and provides an important alternative route to Melbourne Airport.

Somerton Road is currently duplicated between the Hume Highway and Roxburgh Park Drive. Vehicles and cyclists travelling further west must negotiate a single carriageway to Mickleham Road.

Most of the roads have no footpaths or shared paths, and the bus stops for the three bus routes operating in this section are difficult to access, posing significant safety concerns.

Project outcome: Duplication of Somerton Road between Roxburgh Park Drive to Mickleham Road.

Ask: Funding for the completion of this project based on the completed Business Case.

Lead organisation: Victorian State Government

The further duplication of Somerton Road will alleviate current traffic congestion and mitigate the implications of future population growth in this important part of Melbourne's north.

The State Government has completed a business case for this important project, funding is required for implementation.



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Merlynston Creek Crossing

The Opportunity: Co-fund the construction of the Merlynston Creek Crossing to open land in eastern Broadmeadows for affordable housing and local job creation.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Broadmeadows

The Merlynston Creek Crossing is a critical infrastructure project to unlock land in the vicinity of the Broadmeadows Town Centre, just ten minutes from the train station, for affordable housing and jobs.

Currently, significant road congestion impedes the development of underutilised land in this strategically important area, stifling local job creation and economic growth. Utilising surplus Federal Government land from the Maygar Barracks, the crossing will alleviate traffic and serve as a catalyst for revitalising the Broadmeadows Metropolitan Activity Centre, improving accessibility and enhancing the quality of life for residents.

Project outcome: Delivery of Merlynston Creek Crossing, addressing a critical infrastructure need and stimulating local job opportunities and economic activity.

Ask: $5 million

Other contributors: Hume City Council is proposing each level of government – Federal, State and Local – contribute $5 million to a collective value of $15 million to deliver this project.

Lead organisation: Hume City Council



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Broadmeadows Train Station

The Opportunity: Support the upgrade of Broadmeadows Train Station to enhance safety, accessibility, and amenity, reinforcing its role as one of Melbourne's key transport hubs.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Broadmeadows

Our community cannot wait until the completion of the Suburban Rail Loop for an accessible and safe train station in Broadmeadows.

The Station provides a direct bus link to Melbourne Airport and is therefore a significant visitor gateway.

Key issues include non-compliant accessibility ramps, narrow walkways, inadequate lighting, and poor integration with surrounding commercial and residential areas. With almost 7% of our community needing assistance with day-to-day activities, they deserve a Broadmeadows Train Station that is safe and accessible for people with disabilities.

Project outcome: The upgraded Broadmeadows Train Station will support greater usage and benefit the diverse range of users accessing the town centre's crucial health, education, civic and employment services.

Ask: Work with Victorian State Government to fund improvements to address safety, amenity and accessibility.

Lead organisation: Hume City Council with asset owner State Government

Upgrading the station is crucial for improving access to the Broadmeadows Town Centre's health, civic, employment, and education precinct, which includes major employers such as Kangan Institute (TAFE), Northern Health, and DPV Health.

An improved station will significantly enhance the experience and safety of transport users, and the attractiveness of Broadmeadows as a place to invest for jobs.

Images (below): Current state of Broadmeadows Train Station





CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Bulla Bypass

The Opportunity: Develop a bypass for the existing 165-year-old bridge to improve safety, drive economic growth and better service a growing community.

Federal Electorate: Hawke
State Electorate: Sunbury

The proposed Bulla Bypass is an arterial road that is critical to relieving pressure on the Sunbury-Bulla Road and improving connectivity between Sunbury and the existing and future employment nodes and service centres in the Northern Growth Corridor. Currently the Sunbury and Bulla communities are serviced by a single lane bluestone arched bridge built in 1859.

Sunbury's population is expected to grow from 42,494 to over 86,000 in the next 20 years.

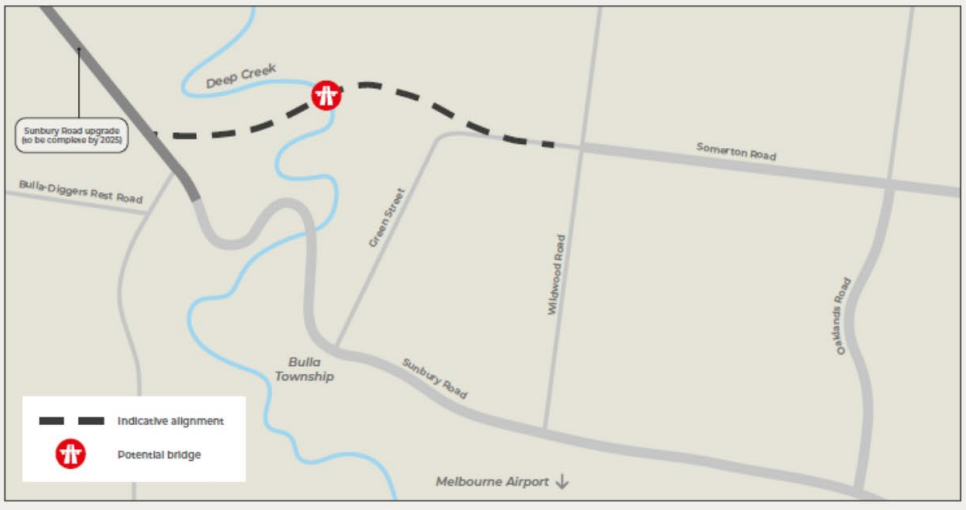
Project outcome: Delivery of Bulla Bypass

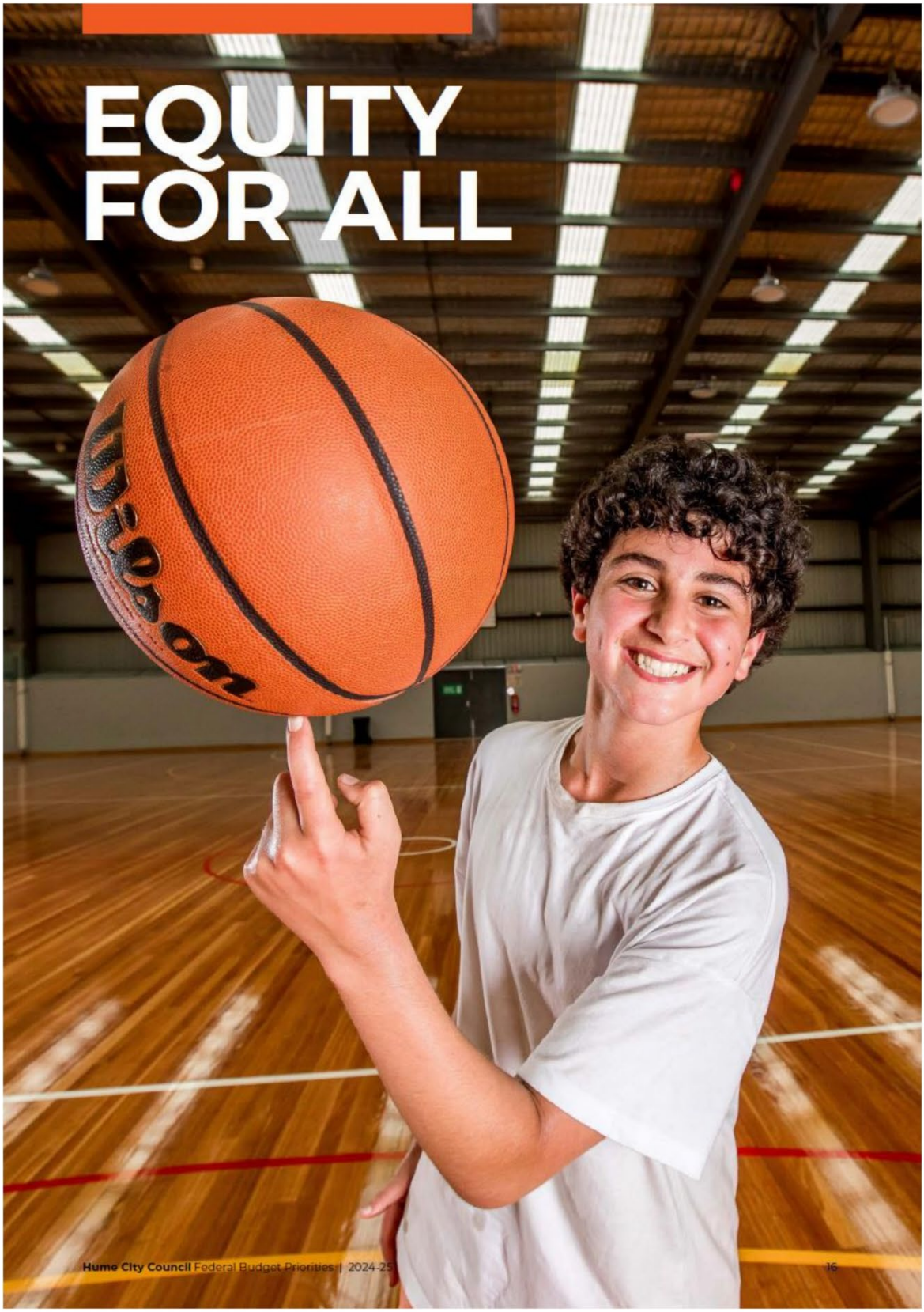
Ask: Work with the Victorian State Government to fund the construction of works, based on the specifications outlined in the completed Business Case.

Lead organisation: Victorian State Government

Development of over 19,000 new houses has begun along Lancefield Road and the Sunbury South precinct.

This new housing is adding more traffic directly on to Sunbury-Bulla Road, with volumes reaching 27,000 vehicles per day.




EQUITY
FOR ALL
Hume City Council Federal Budget Priorities | 2024-25
16

EQUITY FOR ALL

Social and Affordable Housing

The Opportunity: Address inequitable housing access in Hume through funding social and community housing providers.

Federal Electorate: Calwell, Hawke, Maribyrnong

State Electorate: Broadmeadows, Kalkallo, Sunbury, Greenvale

Project outcome: Increased access to social and affordable homes in Melbourne's north.

Ask: $10 million of the social housing accelerator fund to community housing providers in Hume to purchase land for social and affordable homes.

Lead organisation: Hume City Council

Investment in social and affordable housing is needed in Hume. Cost of living pressures and our status as one of Greater Melbourne's most disadvantaged areas means housing that was once relatively affordable is now out of reach for much of our community.

The majority of Hume's social housing is over 30 years old and falls short of the liveability our residents deserve.

Affordable rental housing stock has fallen from over 75% in 2005 to less than 10% today.

Hume has one of the highest rates of people joining the housing register and there has been a decline in social housing stock from 4.6% of all housing in 1996 to 2.8% today.



EQUITY FOR ALL

A university in Hume

The Opportunity: Federal Government support to deliver a tertiary education campus in Hume.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Kalkallo

Just 20% of people in Hume have an undergraduate degree or higher, compared to almost 33% in Greater Melbourne. There is no university campus located in Hume; a physical campus that can be easily accessed by our community is needed to improve our higher education attainment.

The establishment of a tertiary provider in Hume's north will also provide much-needed local job opportunities, partnerships for workforce development and the next generation of industry leaders.

Project outcome: Delivery of a University campus in Hume City's north.

Ask: Funding to support the establishment of a university campus, working in collaboration with the Victorian State Government.

Lead organisation: Federal Government



Get in contact
Carmen Frawley, Coordinator Advocacy
carmenf@hume.vic.gov.au

hume.vic.gov.au

APPENDIX 4 - DRAFT RESPONSE TO HOUSING TARGETS

This is a response on behalf of Hume City Council to the draft housing targets released in June 2024, that form part of the reforms that support greater supply of housing.

Council supports the Victorian Government focus on housing affordability and supply and recognises it as a significant issue for our community and across the state and nation.

Hume City Council has a proud history of providing affordable housing options for working people during the manufacturing boom of the 1950s and 1960s, through to recent waves of migration that have seen a welcome influx of migrants from across the world.

Council continues to deliver much needed homes for current and future Victorians. In the past year we approved 3,000 new homes to be built in Hume with the majority of these in our northern and Sunbury growth corridors. The government aspiration to enable more growth in established areas with existing infrastructure means Hume will cater for further housing growth in both its growth and established suburbs.

Hume City Council support targets as a guide for achieving more balanced growth across Victoria. Council is prepared to work with the Victorian Government to achieve the draft targets set for Hume and looks forward to further analysis and discussions over the next few months through a partnership model. Turning these targets into actual homes will require a range of policy changes, infrastructure investments and factors referenced below.

As a council that has already enabled the delivery of significant housing, we welcome the Victorian Government's clear intention to spread growth more evenly. It is critical that areas that are well located near existing infrastructure meet the targets for growth, ensuring a better balance between greenfield and established areas in meeting Victoria's future housing need.

The addition of the proposed 98,000 extra dwellings in Hume will more than double the number of homes in Hume by 2051, meaning that Hume could become a council supporting around 500,000 residents by that date. This is considerably bigger than the population figure of 389,000 that Council is currently forecasting to call Hume home by 2041.

A population of this size will have a significant implication for the delivery of services and infrastructure for our community – in addition to the many legacy issues our residents are currently experiencing such as infrastructure gaps and delays, and the impacts of congestion, reduced access to jobs and health and wellbeing issues.

The potential impact of population growth on livability as Victoria grows should warrant a broader public conversation, and we encourage the Victorian Government to build in public consultation as an ongoing feature of implementing housing targets.

While the allocation of targets to areas with infrastructure capacity will mean less new infrastructure is needed in the short term, there will also be increased need in the medium-long term as the population grows. It is critical planning is done for this infrastructure to ensure the investment happens in a timely way to avoid cost escalations and reduced amenity for communities.

Our response is in three parts – (1) broad commentary on the draft housing targets, (2) how council may meet the target and what support is needed to achieve this in terms of numbers and to ensure livability and (3) a suggested partnership approach.

This response should also be read in conjunction with our more detailed Hume City Council *Plan for Victoria* submission that contains a number of recommendations.

(1) Factors to consider in meeting the draft housing targets:

Since the release of the draft housing targets council has appreciated the further information provided by the Victorian Government on the methodology used to formulate the targets. This methodology considers some starting assumptions, recent trends, and the policy aspiration based on proximity to jobs and public transport.

Council understands there is an opportunity to refine these numbers based on further modelling and a deeper look at capacity and assessing feasibility. Council is willing to undertake this further work and analysis with DTP.

We know the impact of land economics and viability differs considerably across the state. For instance, there are many established suburbs in Hume where underlying land value means that for the foreseeable future it is only economically viable to build townhouses rather than apartments.

A viable apartment market may develop over the next decade providing greater options for current and future residents as envisaged in our Housing Diversity Strategy.

The draft housing targets could be more likened to a 'housing capacity' – rather than expected actual dwelling delivery targets. This is more realistic language given achieving these targets will require delivery at a higher and more sustained level than ever seen before.

Planning and zoning changes are just part of the changes that need to be made to turn these targets into homes on the ground. There are a range of other non-planning factors slowing housing builds - namely industry capacity issues (labour, materials) and their interaction with tax settings and access to finance costs.

There is a need to test the accuracy of draft housing targets and housing capacity with what the building industry can sustainably and affordably deliver.

There is also a need to consider applying diversity targets to ensure there are different types and sizes of housing encouraged through the targets and delivered on the ground to ensure a housing mix that needs the need of all current and future Victorians.

(2) Meeting the targets – what is required

Council is willing to work towards the draft housing targets and continue to play our role in meeting Victoria's growth. As you can see from the table below, we will fall short based on current plans but expect that with increasing densification and some assistance council can aim to add a substantial amount of additional homes on the ground.

CURRENT GROWTH LOCATIONS	ADDITIONAL HOMES	SUPPORT REQUIRED
➢ Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs) in two growth corridors ➢ Implementation of Housing Diversity Amendment	➢ 33,000 – full build out of gazetted PSPs ➢ 14,000 – new PSPs ➢ 15,000 – housing amendment in established areas	➢ Infrastructure investment and coordination ➢ New PSPs added to the VPA program at the right time
FUTURE GROWTH LOCATIONS		
➢ Cloverton ➢ Broadmeadows MAC ➢ General infill	➢ 5,000 – Cloverton city with denser MAC ➢ 3,000 (TBC) – Broadmeadows MAC with wider catchment ➢ 10,000 (TBC) – key strategic sites and additional infill	➢ Broadmeadows MAC boundary to be expanded ➢ Review of Melbourne Airport Environs Overlay (MAEO) ➢ Adoption of Housing Diversity Amendment (C263)
TOTAL:	**80,000+**	

What will be required to achieve this from a planning point of view:

- Appropriate planning tools, pathways and settings
- Rezoning assistance – specific sites
- A broader Broadmeadows MAC boundary than currently proposed
- Review of the MAEO
- An updated development contribution scheme
- Focus on good design through practical templates
- Focus on housing choice as well as supply
- Assistance with encouraging lot consolidation.

What will be required to achieve targets and support well-functioning complete communities:

- Infrastructure investment commitments to support growth
- A focus on infrastructure coordination – support for a new body and powers
- A Victorian Transport Plan with timelines for delivery
- Assistance in understanding future service delivery and infrastructure need and a roadmap for how this will be funded and met
- Reflect the importance of open space as a high value asset
- Recognition of legacy needs and gaps
- State government focus on creating a public narrative around growth.

(3) Genuine partnership approach

There will need to be considerable local-state officer engagement on the next stage of modelling the targets and establishing the structure and mechanisms to support them.

Given the size of the task it is critical there is a partnership approach taken to achieving these targets and an appropriate governance framework put in place.

It is suggested the Victorian Government enters a compact with councils that sets out roles and responsibilities of both parties to achieve these targets as well as commitments on planning support, infrastructure contributions and possible infrastructure investment.

Hume City Council is a signatory to the Activity Centre Roundtable Communique (signed by Mayor/Administrators of Hume, Darebin, Kingston, Moonee Valley and Whittlesea) that relates to the Activity Centre program and includes a similar request for engagement on the content of the changes and a genuine partnership with the Victorian Government.

Council is open to discussing what shape the governance takes but consider it crucial to successful implementation of the targets.

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

REPORT NO:	9.6
REPORT TITLE:	Greenvale North Part 2 Precinct Structure Plan - Council Submission
SOURCE:	Matt Novacevski, Coordinator Growth Area Planning
DIVISION:	City Planning & Places
FILE NO:	HCC18/463
POLICY:	-
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	2.1: Facilitate appropriate urban development and enhance natural environment, heritage, landscapes and rural places
ATTACHMENTS:	1. *Council submission to Greenvale North Part 2 PSP* 2. *Table of requested changes to PSP and background documents* 3. *Greenvale North Part 2 PSP Map (Place-based plan)*

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of a submission to the draft Greenvale North Part 2 Precinct Structure Plan ("the PSP") as prepared by the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA).

1.2 The submission is in response to the VPA's public exhibition of the PSP, conducted over June 2024.

1.3 The PSP area covers 33ha, north of the Greenvale Reservoir, which is to be protected by a bund Melbourne Water will be constructing.

1.4 While the PSP includes a number of positive measures, Council's submission focuses on providing more viable transport options for future residents, mitigating traffic impacts on surrounding areas, the provision of community infrastructure and ensuring the development is responsive to landscape.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

2.1 That Council endorses the attached submission for submission to the Victorian Planning Authority in response to the publicly exhibited draft of the Greenvale North Part 2 Precinct Structure Plan.

3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

3.1 Council's submission is made in line with its responsibilities under the *Planning and Environment Act* 1987, including upholding the objectives of planning as expressed under Section 4 of The Act.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

4.1 While the submission has been prepared with staff time, development in the PSP area will have impacts on community infrastructure. Council's submission advocates for development contributions to be provided to fund upgraded community facilities in surrounding areas.

REPORT NO: 9.6 (cont.)

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

5.1 The VPA has prepared the draft PSP with policy provisions to encourage more sustainable development in the precinct. Council's submission focuses heavily on ensuring viable alternatives to car transport are provided including bus capable road access and a shared path network for active transport and micromobility.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

6.1 Alongside Council's advocacy to ensure viable alternatives to car transport are provided in the PSP area, the PSP includes tree canopy targets that are supported by Council as a way of mitigating urban heat as climate change impact.

7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

7.1 Council's submission upholds Hume City Council's *Social Justice Policy* by advocating for the provision of affordable housing, accessible transport options for all and the provision of community infrastructure to support quality of life. The provision of viable and accessible transport options as alternatives to car transport supports Section 12 of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities, which relates to freedom of movement.

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

8.1 Community members have had the opportunity to lodge submissions through the VPA's public consultation process. Council staff attended a community drop-in session held by the VPA in Greenvale during the public exhibition period and considered feedback from that session in drafting this submission.

9. DISCUSSION:

9.1 The Greenvale North Part 2 PSP area encompasses 33ha of land (shown on the place-based plan in Attachment 3 to this report) directly north of the Greenvale reservoir, west of Aitken Boulevard and east of Mickleham Road.

9.2 The PSP area is within Melbourne's urban growth boundary and is surrounded by Precinct Structure Plan areas that are being progressively developed including Greenvale North Part 1 to the west and east, and to the north, Craigieburn West.

9.3 The PSP has been on the VPA's work program and is listed under the Victorian Government's Housing Statement.

9.4 The PSP is set to provide 380 lots, a bus capable road connecting Greenvale North Part 1 and Craigieburn West PSP areas, a local park, and support for the delivery of schools and community infrastructure in surrounding areas.

9.5 Development in the area has historically been constrained by drainage issues associated with the Greenvale Reservoir. These will be addressed by Melbourne Water's bund construction, which will protect the reservoir's water supply.

REPORT NO: 9.6 (cont.)

9.6 The PSP area has one sole landowner seeking to develop the land. Over the development of the PSP, Council staff have worked with the VPA, developer and other agencies to provide advice and to advocate for local priorities.

9.7 The work of Council staff has contributed to a PSP that includes many elements worthy of support including a bus capable road running through the precinct, shared path network that provides for active transport, open spaces and tree canopy density targets.

9.8 Council's submission to the draft PSP focuses on a series of key issues including:

9.8.1 Ensuring the transport network provided mitigates traffic impacts on surrounding areas and provide viable alternative options to car transport for future residents.

9.8.2 Ensuring the PSP provides adequate design guidance to allow for attractive, functional streetscapes that contribute to quality of life.

9.8.3 Ensuring all possible measures are taken to support affordable housing provision and ensure that development contributes funding towards community infrastructure that future residents will use.

9.8.4 Providing robust policies to ensure development is responsive to the site and provides a sense of place that draws on landscape.

9.8.5 Providing for housing diversity and seeking a specific location for a convenience store/shop in the PSP that is easy walking distance from the local park and areas earmarked for greater housing density. This is particularly important given the development of residential areas surrounding the Greenvale North Part 2 PSP site.

9.9 The PSP includes guidelines around the provision of affordable housing in the precinct. Council is seeking to negotiate an agreement with the developer under Section 173 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to ensure that an affordable housing contribution in line with Council's Affordable Housing Policy is made, along with community infrastructure contributions. At time of writing, these negotiations are yet to reach fruition.

9.10 It is Council's preference that a Section 173 Agreement is concluded with the developer as a means of ensuring the delivery of affordable housing, given the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* currently provides no other means to mandate the delivery of affordable housing.

9.11 Should Section 173 Agreement negotiations not reach fruition, the Victorian Planning Authority will develop an Infrastructure Contributions Plan (ICP) for the precinct that ensures funding from development will go towards a set series of community infrastructure projects. The projects nominated in the PSP for inclusion in a prospective ICP are in line with Council's community infrastructure priorities, however the ICP cannot provide for any contributions towards affordable housing.

9.12 Once the VPA receives submissions, it will consider any amendments to the draft Precinct Structure Plan and its incorporation into the Hume Planning Scheme through a planning scheme amendment. Should the VPA not be able to resolve all submissions, it will refer submissions to an Independent Planning Panel.

REPORT NO: 9.6 (cont.)

10. CONCLUSION:

10.1 Council staff have prepared a submission to the VPA's draft Greenvale North Part 2 PSP which reinforces a series of municipal priorities. The submission is supportive of many positive elements and requests improvements to the plan that, if adopted, would bolster mobility and quality of life for future residents.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Our File: HCC22/532
Enquiries: Megan Taylor
Telephone: 0419 419 398

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

26 August 2024

Justin O'Meara
Executive Director - Metropolitan Melbourne
Victorian Planning Authority

Via email care of Tony Marks: Tony.Marks@vpa.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr O'Meara,

RE: HUME CITY COUNCIL SUBMISSION - GREENVALE NORTH PART 2 PSP

Hume City Council appreciates the opportunity to make a submission to the draft Greenvale North Part 2 PSP, as developed by the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA).

Council appreciates the VPA's willingness to consider its input and engage community throughout the process.

This submission is structured around a set of key issues of major interest to Council, raised in the spirit of ensuring any future development is responsive to place, allows for conditions conducive to a thriving community and is appropriately serviced with transport options and community infrastructure.

The Greenvale North Part 2 PSP is unique in that it is located between other existing and developed PSP areas including the Craigieburn West PSP, Greenvale West PSP and Greenvale North Part 1 PSP.

Council's submission highlights the need for this PSP area to connect and integrate with surrounding PSP areas in terms of transport, mobility, design and landscape response - particularly given residents of this future community will need to access community facilities and employment in surrounding areas.

To aid legibility, Council's submission is set out in a series of key issues with priorities and requested changes summarised in dot points at the beginning of each section.

The below discussion and recommendations should be read in conjunction with the detailed comments provided in Attachment 2 using the VPA's agency comments table.

DRAFT

1. TRANSPORT

From the beginning of the preparation of the Greenvale North Part 2 PSP in early 2022, Council officers have consistently highlighted transport as a key area of concern. Greenvale is a particularly car dependent area of Hume City, with no access to a railway station and few public transport options. While the Greenvale Part 2 PSP is a relatively small PSP area, it is one of many that, together with others in Greenvale and surrounds, are delivering a significant amount of housing with little access to public transport infrastructure. This has resulted in high levels of car dependency, as residents do not have viable alternative options. Council is keen to work with State Government to ensure more viable public transport options are available to current and future residents, and this includes discussions on how improved train station access and connections to the rail network can be established.

In relation to the Greenvale North Part 2 PSP, issues raised in Council's Agency Validation submission generally remain current.

Council:

- Supports the provision of a bus capable road in its current alignment as set out in the draft PSP and considers this a non-negotiable priority.
- Welcomes the shared path network as a means of supporting active transport, and particularly the provision of a shared use path along the Yarra Valley Water Easement.
- Emphasises the need to ensure the shared use path alignment connects with the Craigieburn West ICP on the northern boundary, with movement plans to be amended if and as necessary to facilitate this.
- Welcomes the requirement that lots be provided on the Local Access Level 2 street for a convenience shop to be established (Objective 14/Requirement 23 of the PSP). Council asks that an optimal location for these lots should be noted on plans in the PSP, per similar circumstances in other PSPs. The location must maximise walking access to the housing amenity/higher density areas considering topography.
- Requests that policy at Requirement 28 of the draft PSP be updated to require development proposals to demonstrate how impacts on the existing movement network will be mitigated, particularly Koomba Cresent, through measures including Local Area Traffic Management.

The provision of the Local Access Level 2 street as a bus capable road is particularly important to avoid exacerbating car dependency in the Greenvale North Part 2 PSP area and surrounds. Council has indicated that the road network to the east of the PSP area along Compass Drive, and including relevant intersections, will be capable of providing bus capable access into the PSP area. Council notes that a planning permit application for subdivision to the north of the precinct is now subject to decision at VCAT (Hume Council reference P24329, 20 Dunhelen Road) but the plans presented as part of the application factor in a bus capable Local Access Level 2 road connecting southwards into the Greenvale North Part 2 PSP area. Council looks forward to working with the Department of Transport and Planning to deliver bus services to the precinct in future.

The importance of the bus capable road and provision of active transport infrastructure is further demonstrated in examining the transport assessments exhibited as part of the draft PSP. Council officers have provided extensive comments through the PSP process on progressive versions of the Stantec Transport Impact Assessment (TIA), regarding

the impacts development will have on surrounding areas and traffic generation from the development itself.

Council officers remain concerned that the PSP is based on TIA information that underestimates traffic impacts on adjacent roads. This underestimation of traffic impacts is based on the assumptions underpinning the TIA. Council maintains the position that a trip generation rate of 10.7 vehicle movements per dwelling (in line with Austroads Standards) should underpin the TIA, rather than the nine movements per dwelling that is used. While the nine movements measure was adopted in the Craigieburn West PSP, the context and characteristics of this precinct (including its steep topography) suggest the 10.7 movement rate would be more accurate and should inform any updates to the PSP. The overly conservative nature of the modelling assumptions further strengthens the need for the delivery of the bus capable road, active transport infrastructure and for the strengthening of requirement 28 of the PSP to encompass local area traffic management requirements.

Despite the measure of nine daily vehicle movements per dwelling being used in the TIA, it is notable that the TIA suggests that development impacts will result in Koomba Crescent handling 40% above its theoretical capacity, with Fairways Boulevard and Lysterfield Drive predicted to also operate above their theoretical capacity (Stantec report, p.37). Even without the TIA adopting the Austroads standard trips generation figure in line with Council's preference, the TIA's demonstration of impacts on the road network already indicates that measures to provide viable alternatives to car transport are essential, and measures to mitigate traffic flow on to roads outside the precinct that will be running at above their theoretical capacity are required. These include the provision of safe active transport infrastructure and the amendments to Requirement 28 set out above.

In terms of pedestrian and cycling access, Council welcomes the inclusion of a shared path along the Yarra Valley Water Pipe Track as developer works. It is important that shared paths in the precinct are designed to connect with shared use paths in the Craigieburn West PSP to allow for more seamless pedestrian and cycling connections. Council asks that the VPA checks the alignment of the shared use path across both precincts and updates plans as necessary to ensure shared use paths connect. While there will be further comments later in this submission in relation to the Yarra Valley Water Pipe Track, Council supports Requirements 6 and 7 of the PSP being updated with a directive to minimise crossings of the Pipe Track shared path.

2. RESPONSE TO LANDSCAPE, TREE PROTECTION AND OPEN SPACE

The preparation of the Greenvale North Part 2 PSP requires consideration of specific landscape features including the site's topography and view lines. These considerations affect the layout of the road network, how housing subdivisions should be set out (which is addressed in more detail in the "Housing" section of this submission) and the configuration of movement networks and the public realm.

Council:

- Supports the inclusion of draft PSP Guideline 5 stating that *"significant landscape features, such as high points, vegetation, open space and waterways, should be used as focal points for view lines along streets".*
- Generally, supports the policies set out in *"High Quality Public Realm".*
- Supports the size of the local park (LP-01) being 0.95ha, particularly in light of the topography of the site and surroundings.

- Requests the single tree to be retained shown in Plan 6 of the PSP north-east of LP-01 to be protected in a squared off green reserve with an area extending approximately 10m beyond the Tree Protection Zone.

Historically, the land around the Greenvale Reservoir (located on the fringe of the PSP area) has been available for the local community to use as open space. With increased development in the area, including the PSP as proposed, the need for public access to Melbourne Water land around the reservoir to be restored is heightened. The fact the PSP is delivering a limited amount of community infrastructure, including limited open space, further exacerbates the need for community access to this Melbourne Water land as a destination and recreation space for families and residents.

3. HOUSING

Council appreciates the development of policies encouraging affordable housing and greater housing diversity in the precinct, and particularly commends the VPA for including provisions regarding affordable housing in the PSP. Housing diversity and affordability are vital priorities for Council across the municipality, as set out in *Planning Scheme Amendment C263* recently exhibited by Council, which implements Council's *Housing Diversity Strategy* and *Affordable Housing Policy* into the planning scheme. The comments provided below reflect the objectives of the housing amendment C263.

Council:

- Supports the viable densities objectives in the PSP and suggests that densification be encouraged along the Local Access Level 2 street.
- Appreciates the affordable housing policies included in the PSP while noting the limitations of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* in ensuring the development of affordable housing.
- Appreciates the inclusion of Requirements (R2 and R3) to set out how housing needs to be designed in a way that is responsive to landscape, including highly sloping land.
- Supports the housing amenity area as a focal point for densification but suggests it could be reconfigured to focus densification more along the Local Access Level 2 street.
- Asks that the preferred location of the convenience shop specified at Objective 14/Requirement 23 of the PSP be identified in the Place Based Plan/Housing Plan so that walking access from the housing amenity area is optimised, within easy walking distance from the park LP-01.

Council's support of the viable densities objectives in the PSP comes with a hope that it will facilitate more diverse housing, including one-and-two-bedroom dwellings. In relation to affordable housing, Council has been negotiating with the proponent in working towards a Section 173 Agreement to facilitate affordable housing provision as part of infrastructure contributions. While appreciative of the policy content regarding affordable housing in the PSP and cognisant of the limitations of the *Planning and Environment Act* 1987 in this regard, Council considers that a Section 173 agreement is the best means of ensuring affordable housing is provided in line with set parameters. This agreement is discussed further in the "Development Contributions" section of Council's submission.

While supportive of setting ambitious density targets within the PSP, topography and landscape conditions on site mean that density must be carefully designed and guided

through policy within the PSP. Council appreciates the inclusion of Requirements R2 and R3 for residential subdivision to fit into the landscape with minimal landscape scarring, avoidance of cut and hill and minimising of driveway grades. It is important that the otherwise commendable pursuit of greater housing density within this PSP area does not deliver poor urban design outcomes.

Council appreciates and supports the VPA's inclusion Guideline 6 on the provision of retirement living or aged care, given the number of applications for such developments being lodged in adjacent PSP areas. It is important that these developments are designed to be responsive to context, provide public transport access and provide active interfaces with the surrounds including public realm.

HOUSING AMENITY AREA

Council supports the identification of an amenity area within the precinct to facilitate the appropriate and convenient location of higher density housing. The location of the Local Access Level 2 street/bus capable road on the eastern edge of the amenity area is positive, as is the inclusion of design guidelines encouraging rear-loaded medium density housing to be located within the amenity area.

While the location of the amenity area near the local park (LP-01) is theoretically desirable, the slope of land in this area may limit the potential for densification on the park interfaces. It may be prudent to reconfigure more of the amenity area to be located along the Local Access Level 2 street but still with easy access to the local park.

Council particularly supports higher density development near and along the Local Access Level 2 street because:

- The road will form a future public transport route with bus capable access connecting beyond the precinct, along with the provision of shared pathways. Densification maximises the benefits of this infrastructure, promoting more use of public and active transport.

- It remains within walking distance to the local park, the local convenience shop (as required to be located along this road) and the shared path within the Yarra Valley Water Easement.

- Higher density development, particularly rear-loaded townhouse development, would reduce the number of cross overs along the Access Street Level 2.

Prioritising densification along the Local Access Level 2 street would also go some way to addressing topographic constraints, which may limit the development of more dense housing around sections of the local park.

4. PIPE TRACK

Council appreciates the inclusion of a shared path along the Yarra Valley Water Easement however it is considered that there needs to be additional guidance around how development interacts with the Yarra Valley Water Easement / Pipe Track.

The below details requirements from the Craigieburn West PSP linear reserve which should be adapted and incorporated for use in this PSP:

Development of the Yarra Valley Water Easement must:

- *Provide for a 3-metre shared user path which is interconnected with the surrounding footpath and cycle network.*
- *Be designed and located to provide efficient movement of pedestrians and cyclists.*
- *Provide for pedestrian and cyclist priority over vehicular traffic.*
- *Where a local access street crosses the linear park, measures to facilitate active transport priority (such as a raised pavement treatment) must be implemented to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.*
- *Provide for active and e-mobility crossings in lieu of additional road crossings (requiring 3-metre width shared user path to legally allow e-mobility over pipe track).*
- *Utilise the cross section designs in Appendix XX where appropriate.*
- *Maintain a road frontage on one side at all times.*
- *Ensure pedestrian access is provided to all residential lot frontages via a road or paper road.*

Pending Yarra Valley Water requirements, Council asks that the draft PSP should be updated to:

- Include requirements for Tree Root Control Barriers, seating, picnic tables and drinking fountains in the design and construction of the shared user path and pipe track reserve.
- Include additional guidance material for development along and interfacing with the pipe track, as outlined above and including:
    - Requiring no more than one vehicle crossing point along the reserve within the PSP area.
    - The requirement for at least one road frontage be provided to the pipe track at all times.
    - Guidelines, requirements and cross sections for all interfaces to the pipe track, similar to those in the Craigieburn West PSP.

5. SECTIONS

Council appreciates the inclusion of sections (Figure 1-Figure 6 of the PSP) setting out design requirements for streets interfacing with the heritage area and reservoir. To provide the guidance necessary to meet PSP policies around ensuring a high-quality public realm (particularly Objectives 8 and Objectives 9 of the PSP), Council requests the following additional sections and updates to existing sections:

- The provision of a regular cross section for the Local Access Street Level 2 (portion not interfacing with the Yarra Valley Water Pipe Track).
- The provision of cross sections covering both sides of the Yarra Valley Water Pipe Track. As detailed above, a mix and match approach similar to the Greenvale West PSP green link cross sections could be used.

DRAFT

- Amend Local Access Level 1 – Reservoir interface cross section to show a 2m garden bed with understorey and tree planting abutting the reservoir fence.
- As noted in Section 4 of this submission, the provision of cross sections covering all interfaces with the Yarra Valley Water Pipe Track (including beyond the Local Access Level 2 Street).
- Colouring the Shared Use Paths yellow in all cross sections for clarity.
- Including cross sections for street designs in areas of significant sloping (similar to the Sunbury South PSP).
- Include references to cross sections to be applied in particular areas on Plan 5 (Movement Network and Public Transport) to avoid ambiguity.
- Cross sections involving the Yarra Valley Water Pipe Track should include an annotation specifying that crossings of the easement are to be minimised.

The above changes would provide improved design guidance and clarity of intent around the application of sections. This in turn would better support safer, better designed streets that respond to the area's landscape including topography, supporting policy objectives at section 3.2 of the PSP – (Safe, Accessible and Well Connected).

Council's request for sections to consider all aspects of the Yarra Valley Water easement and Pipe Track reflects the importance of this open space corridor throughout the precinct, and the importance of optimising design around the easement to allow for access and safe movement.

6. ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

Council notes the identification of significant Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in the planning phase of the PSP, and supports the relevant policies (Objective 6, Requirement 8) should they be supported by the Wurundjeri-Woi Wurrung Traditional Owners Corporation (as Registered Aboriginal Party). We note that Guideline 11 (rather than Guidelines 12 and 13 as suggested on p. 20 of the PSP) applies to areas of Cultural Heritage. To better support stewardship of Cultural Heritage, Council would support an amendment to the wording of this clause, to read:

"Aboriginal cultural heritage should be recognised through the design of public places, infrastructure and interpretive installations in ways that meet the aspirations of the Registered Aboriginal Party. Meaningful opportunities should be explored through cultural heritage interpretation trails along public path networks in areas of known historic cultural history or areas of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity, in consultation with relevant stakeholders."

While this matter is not specifically dealt with through the PSP process, Council would be amenable to discussions on the future management of any places of cultural heritage significance, and facilitating management that meets the aspirations of the Registered Aboriginal Party as Traditional Owners.

7. DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Council notes the draft PSP provision that development proponents would be bound by the provisions of the standard ICP Plan (per p.6 of the draft PSP). Council has been

negotiating with the development proponent regarding a potential Section 173 Agreement for Development Contributions, which would:

- Facilitate a potential affordable housing contribution in line with Council's *Affordable Housing Policy* and informed by the insights in the *Affordable Housing Report* that is provided as part of the PSP's background documentation.

- Provide contributions to essential community infrastructure.

At the time of writing this submission, negotiations between Council and the proponent have not reached a conclusion. Council's preference is that a Section 173 Agreement be concluded so that an affordable housing contribution can be made as part of this development, along with community infrastructure contributions in line with the standard ICP community infrastructure levy. Should negotiations with the development proponent not come to fruition, Council would be supportive of a standard ICP applying to fund the listed projects under Table 18 (Precinct Infrastructure Table) of the draft PSP.

In this context, we note the *Community Facilities & Open Space Needs Assessment* (Public Place, 2023) prepared on behalf of the proponent and exhibited as part of the PSP background documentation illustrates that the proposed development would generate further demand on already planned community facilities within the Greenvale Central and Craigieburn West PSP areas, and that ICP funding under the capped community levy should be put towards the funding of these centres.

Council therefore emphasises the clear nexus between development in the Greenvale North Part 2 PSP and the need for development contributions to support the Craigieburn West Level 2 Community Facility, and the Greenvale West Community Centre. In lieu of a satisfactory Section 173 Agreement being concluded between Council and the proponent for development contributions, this should happen by way of an ICP.

8. CONCLUSION

Council appreciates the opportunity to lodge its submission to the draft Greenvale North Part 2 PSP, and the collaborative approach that the VPA has taken in working with agencies. We trust that community submissions to the draft PSP will be given due consideration in ensuring the draft PSP is responsive to the unique context, landscape and surrounds in ways that will allow for a thriving future community to take shape.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR
HUME CITY COUNCIL

DRAFT

Attachment 2 – Hume City Council table of requested changes to PSP and background documents

Page number PSP/Ordinance Footer number	**Reference** Section Objective/Requirement/ Guideline/Table/Plan/ Appendix/Other	**Agency comment** Explain why the change has been requested	**Change needed** Y/N	**Change requested** Exact wording for the change requested, italicize word changes where appropriate
PSP P11	Plan 3 – Catchments	Catchments as the crow flies are not realistic given road/pathway network and topography.	Y	Alter the catchment to be as per road travelled for accuracy.
PSP P17	S3.2 – R 6	No crossings are indicated on Plan 5.	Y	Update Plan 5 (Movement Network and Public Transport) to include pedestrian and cyclist crossings every 400-800m of roads.
PSP P17-18	S3.2 – Requirements and Guidelines	No requirement or guideline around minimising crossings of the Yarra Valley Water (YVW) Pipetrack.	Y	Include a requirement to minimise crossings of the YVW pipetrack (suggest no more than one).
PSP P18	S3.2 – G 10	There is no connector road in this precinct.	Y	Change 'connector roads' to "*Local Access Street Level 2*".
PSP P19	S3.2 – Plan 5 (Movement Network and Public Transport)	Shared Use Path (SUP) abutting the reserve on the west is misaligned with that from the Craigieburn West PSP (CWPSP). If not provided, then who connects the two?	Y	Include an E-W section of the SUP abutting the wetlands in CWPSP to avoid misalignment. Alternatively the CWPSP should be amended to include this missing section, as well as remove the misaligned local access street and SUP into the True North precinct abutting Aitken Hill and upgrade of the Local Access Street Level 2 to be bus-capable.
PSP P19	S.3.2 – Plan 5 (Movement Network and Public Transport)	Relevant cross-sections are not referenced	Y	Relevant cross-sections and interfaces should be indicated on the Plan to avoid ambiguity. Note: Only an interface of the Local Access Street Level 2 with the Yarra Valley Water (YVW) reserve is provided in Appendix D, but no guidance is provided as to its interface for the sections that are not co-located with the Local Access Street Level 2.
PSP - p.26	Plan 6	Habitat zones HZ1 and HZ2 (as per Biosis report) are currently located within the waterway and drainage reserve, but they should be marked conservation reserve.	Y	Amend Plan 6 to clearly delineate conservation reserve status for habitat zones HZ1 and HZ2.

PSP P26	Plan 6	Public Realm and Water Show single tree to be retained in a squared off green reserve with approximately 10m beyond the Tree Protection Zone	Y	Amend PSP plan 6 to show tree reserve protecting River Red Gum tree 27, in a squared off green reserve with 10m beyond the Tree Protection Zone.
PSP P29	S3.5 – O14 and R23	Support the inclusion of a convenience centre, but would like to see location on plans to ensure the centre is located to maximise walking accessibility from higher density housing and the local park.	Y	A location should be indicated on all relevant plans, maximising walkable access from the housing amenity area and local park LP-01.
PSP P30	S3.5 – R26	Add wording to" prioritise the delivery of key movements, i.e. the Local Access Street Level 2"	Y	Include a dot point: "Prioritise development sequencing that delivers the bus-capable Local Access Street Level 2 as early as possible."
PSP P31	S3.6 – R28	Add wording to "demonstrate how the impact on the existing movement network will be mitigated and supported/prioritised (e.g., Koomba Crescent mitigated and Compass Drive prioritised)." Refer to Priority 3 (Lay Foundations For Transformational Change) and Action 12.3 of the Transport Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2022-2026 as part of the (Victorian) Climate Change Act 2017.	Y	Add extra dot point reading "Demonstrate, including through Local Area Traffic Management measures, how the impact on the movement network surrounding the precinct will be mitigated, particularly along Koomba Crescent".
PSP P40	Appendix D	A regular Local Access Street Level 2 cross-section is missing Add cross sections for all interfaces with the YVW pipe track reserve (with streets on both sides excluding along the park frontage, and path shown clearly outside the LP-01.) Shared Use Paths (SUPs) should not be coloured green as they are not dedicated bicycle paths or lanes. Also needs interfaces with YVW Pipe track and the Yuroke Creek/Waterway & Drainage Reserve. For full completion also one with the	Y	Add a Local Access Street Level 2 (without interface to pipe track) cross-section. Add cross sections to provide appropriate design guidance on all interfaces with the YVW pipe track (including both sides of the pipe track). Colour SUPs yellow. Include cross-sections for areas of significant sloping. Include reference of retention of footpaths on both sides as per R7.

		Local Park and along specific slopes (cf. Sunbury South and Lancefield Road PSPs). Both with corresponding Interfaces & Slopes Plan. All cross-sections that reference that verge widths may be reduced should also explicitly state the retention of pedestrian paths as well.		Include references to all these cross-sections on Plan 5 to remove ambiguity.
PSP - P42	Figure 4	Cross section-Local Access Street Level 1 (18m) Reservoir Interface Add 2m wide buffer garden bed to reservoir fence and show trees, shrubs and low planting prioritising indigenous species.	Y	Amend relevant cross section to show 2m wide garden bed buffer to reservoir fence, including trees, shrubs and lower planting prioritising indigenous species.
Appendix D	Appendix D (Sections)	Recommended additional cross section is applied to the PSP for further guide PSP implementation. Access Street on sloping land (to guide max. grades to frontages) – this should be an additional cross section Figure # to guide specific road designs. control. Refer to Sections 11-15 (p.86-90) of the Sunbury South PSP	Y	Add a cross section to Appendix D for a local access street level 1 on sloping land. Section 11-15 (p.86-90) of the Sunbury South PSP is an example of a similar PSP section previously developed.
PSP P45	Appendix E – Glossary	Many terms lack relevance for this PSP. Active Transport is not defined to also include e-mobility and other forms of micromobility as per comment on Submission 13.71.	Y	Add Active Transport to indicate it also includes e-mobility and other forms of micromobility.

Background Information – Requested Changes

Page number **PSP/Ordinance Footer number**	**Reference** **Section Objective/Requirement/ Guideline/Table/Plan/ Appendix/Other**	**Agency comment** **Explain why the change has been requested**	**Change needed** **Y/N**	**Change requested** **Exact wording for the change requested, italicize word changes where appropriate**
Background Report P28-30	4.1.2 + Figure 9	The 800m radii are not distance travelled. Considering the topography 800m is also not a realistic distance to measure a walkable catchment. The PSP itself might just be for 1200 new residents, but within the greater	Y	Alter the catchments to be as per road travelled for accuracy.

		network would cater for significantly more residents. A local convenience shop/cafe/milk bar as part of the PSP formalised in the PSP would benefit Plan Melbourne's 20-minute neighbourhood objective and the PSP Performance Target (T19)		
Background Report P70	Bullet point 5	The language strongly insinuates the traffic generation rate of 9 vpd/lot should be lowered. While this was used in the Craigieburn West PSP, we feel this is a problematic assumption given the topography and land use factors. 10.7 vehicles per day per lot (vpd/lot) is recommended as per Austroads Guide to Traffic Management Part 12: Integrated Transport Assessments for Developments. Additionally, this rate is based on the one used by Traffic for New South Wales (TfNSW) – please note that TfNSW has drafted an updated guide out for consultation at the time of writing. This suggests a generation rate of 10.58 vpd/lot. Considering the relatively remote location of the precinct, further hampered by steep topography and a bus route availability pending DTP delivery, it can be reasonably expected that this precinct will be heavily reliant on the use of cars. Thus, the rate for this precinct can be expected to be higher.	Y	Remove the text *"This traffic generation rate is considered to be conservative on the high side and should a lower rate be realized then the resultant traffic generation would also reduce".* A text indicating for the opposite (i.e. higher traffic generation rate) should be considered instead.
BR P71	Future External Road Network (First L1 bullet point)	The Traffic Impact Assessment Report (TIAR) indicates that Koomba Crescent will operate at >40% above its theoretical maximum capacity.	Y	As it is in the TIAR, Koomba Crescent should be acknowledged and discussed in this section of the summary of the assessment as it will experience the highest impact external to the precinct. Additionally, Dunhelen Lane's threshold numbers contain a typo.
TIAR P30	Table 7.1	As indicated, Koomba Crescent is anticipated to perform at >40% above its theoretical	Y	Change 'Within Target Volumes?' from "Yes" to "No" for Koomba Crescent.

		maximum capacity, which is not within Target Volumes.		
TIAR P37	Bullet point 10, sub point 3	>40% is significantly above the theoretical maximum capacity, especially considering Council does not support the suggest traffic distribution of a 50:50 split between traffic going north and east – with a higher amount expected to go east via Koomba Crescent.	Y	Include the actual number of how much Koomba Crescent is anticipated to operate. (i.e. 2,807 vpd as per Table 7.1).
TIAR P37	Bullet point 10, sub point 3	Similar to above comment – Fairways Blvd (East) and Lysterfield Dr already are and are anticipated to operate highly significantly above their theoretical maximum capacity (>65%).	Y	Include the actual number of how much Fairways Blvd (East) and Lysterfield Dr are anticipated to operate (i.e, 11,563 and 11,538 respectively, as per Table 7.1).

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

Plan 2 Place Based Plan



Copyright, Victorian Planning Authority, 2024. The state of Victoria does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of information in this publication and any person using or relying upon such information does so on the basis that the state of Victoria shall bear no responsibility or liability whatsoever for any errors, faults, defects or omission in the information. Created by Verity Miles

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

REPORT NO:	9.7
REPORT TITLE:	Monthly Capital Works Update
SOURCE:	Astrid Hartono, Manager Infrastructure Delivery
DIVISION:	Infrastructure & Assets
FILE NO:	-
POLICY:	-
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	3.2: Deliver responsible and transparent governance, services and sustainable assets that respond to community needs
ATTACHMENT:	1. *Monthly Capital Works Report - July 2024 -* ***Confidential***

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

1.1 This monthly report responds to Notice of Motion 23/021

Provide any over budget costs for all capital works, and that these details are then presented at the next council open public meeting immediately after the cost increases have been confirmed and bearing in mind the agenda preparation lead times.

1.2 The report provides data from the month of July 2024.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

2.1 That Council receive and note the report.

3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

3.1 Not applicable.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

4.1 At the end of July 2024, $7,104,240 has been spent on the 24/25 capital program. Note due to the end of financial year, there is a slight delay in processing some invoices. This figure may change.

4.2 This represents 5% of the allocated budget ($148,425,888.69), noting that the budget is currently still in the process of being reconciled following the end of financial year period.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

5.1 Environmental sustainability is considered in the planning and delivery of the capital works program.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

6.1 There are no impacts on climate change adaptation as a result of this report.

REPORT NO: 9.7 (cont.)

7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

7.1 The charter has been reviewed in relation to this report and there are no issues to be considered in this regard.

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

8.1 Community consultation is undertaken on individual projects as appropriate.

9. DISCUSSION:

9.1 The table below provides the capital projects that have received finalised costing for construction (contract awarded) in the month of July. Projects highlighted as red have been awarded as over budget (including contingency), projects highlighted as green have been awarded within the available budget (including contingency).

9.2 Confidential Attachment 1 provides additional financial information and upcoming Tenders that can't be publicly disclosed until the projects are progressed.

Description	Budget position
3 year old kinder expansion at Craigieburn Child & Family Centre	Within budget
3 Year Old Kinder Expansion at Bluebird Way Child & Community Centre	Within budget
Reconstruction of Hothlyn Drive, Craigieburn - between Stockton and Walter Street	Within budget
Construction of Water Park at Sunbury Aquatic and Leisure Centre	Over budget
Southern landscaping at Kalkallo North Community Centre	Within budget
Supply and installation of sports lighting – Bulla, Craigieburn, Westmeadows Tennis Club.	Within budget
Footpath Construction Works at Tullamarine, Westmeadows and Attwood	Over budget
Homestead Community Learning Centre Refurbishment	Over budget
Parks Horticulture and Landscape Maintenance	Within budget

9.3 Some key projects completed in this financial year (to date) are listed below:

- Valley Park Community Centre
- Sunbury Multideck Carpark

10. CONCLUSION:

10.1 The delivery of the 2024/25 capital works program is progressing well.

REPORT NO:	9.8
REPORT TITLE:	Correspondence received from or sent to Government Ministers or Members of Parliament - July 2024
SOURCE:	Brendan Clifford, Chief Information Officer Paul White, Coordinator Knowledge Management
DIVISION:	Customer & Strategy
FILE NO:	HCC04/13
POLICY:	-
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	3.2: Deliver responsible and transparent governance, services and sustainable assets that respond to community needs
ATTACHMENTS:	1. *Congratulations Motion - Maria Vamvakinou* 2. *Fuel excise levy* 3. *Maintenance of Sunbury Roads and removal of graffiti* 4. *Cairn on Oaklands Road Bulla* 5. *Response to Request for Extended Family Violence Local Government Program Funding* 6. *Cost of Living Pressure and Whitegoods Product Destruction* 7. *Dirt Bikes in Parks* 8. *Copper thefts at sport grounds* 9. *Encourage women to stand for council* 10. *Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussions* 11. *Public Transport Services in Melbourne's North* 12. *Access to Universities for Hume residents - Public Transport* 13. *Submission on cost shifting and financial sustainability* 14. *Broadmeadows Suburban Revitalisation Board* 15. *2024/25 Advocacy Priorities* 16. *Housing Activity Centre Roundtable Communique* 17. *Building Blocks Inclusive Grant Program 2024/2025*

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

This report presents a summary of correspondence relating to Council resolutions or correspondence that is considered to be of interest to Councilors received from or sent to State and Federal Government Ministers and Members of Parliament.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes this report on correspondence received from or sent to Government Ministers or Members of Parliament.

3. DISCUSSION:

There is a range of correspondence sent to or received from State and Federal Government Ministers and Members of Parliament during the normal course of Council's operations.

This report contains correspondence of this nature registered in Council's record keeping system during July 2024:

Table 1 Correspondence in relation to notices of motion items from Council meetings.

Table 2 Correspondence that may be of interest to Councillors.

REPORT NO: 9.8 (cont.)

Table 3 Correspondence in relation to grant / funding opportunities from State and Commonwealth government.

Copies of the documents are provided as attachments to this report.

Table 1 - Correspondence in relation to Council Notices of Motion Items						
Direction	**Subject**	**Minister or Member of Parliament**	**Date received / sent**	**Responsible officer**	**Council Minute ref**	**Attachment**
Outwards	Congratulations Motion - Maria Vamvakinou	Member for Calwell	15/07/2024	Mayor	CGM61	1
Outwards	Request for reduction in fuel excise levy	Federal Treasurer	16/07/2024	Mayor	NOM24/11	2
Inwards	Response - Maintenance of Sunbury Roads and removal of graffiti	Minister for Roads and Road Safety	16/07/2024	Mayor	NOM24/20	3
Outwards	Maintenance of historical Cairn on Oaklands Road Bulla	Minister for Roads and Road Safety	18/07/2024	Mayor Manager Assets	NOM24/26	4
Inwards	Response - Request for Extended Family Violence Local Government Program Funding	Minister for Prevention of Family Violence	17/072024	Mayor	NOM24/19	5

Table 2 – General correspondence that may be of interest to Councillors						
Direction	**Subject**	**Minister or Member of Parliament**	**Date received / sent**	**Responsible officer**	**Council Minute ref**	**Attachment**
Inwards	Cost of Living Pressure and Whitegoods Product Destruction Greenwash.	Sunbury Branch ALP	7/07/2024	CEO		6
Outwards / Inwards	Dirt Bikes in Parks Spaces in Hume - Safety Risk	Kalkallo Branch ALP	12/07/2024	Manager Parks		7
Outwards / Inwards	Copper thefts at sport grounds in Kalkallo and Mickleham - Safety Risk	Kalkallo Branch ALP	12/07/2024	Coordinator Sports & Recreation		8
Inwards	Seeking support to encourage women to stand for council at the 2024 local government elections	Minister for Women	12/07/2024	Manager Governance		9

REPORT NO: 9.8 (cont.)

Outwards	Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussions - 19 June 2024 - Thank you for your attendance	• Member for Northern Metropolitan Region - Erdogan, Enver • Member for Yan Yean • Member for Broadmeadows • Member for Greenvale • Member for Kalkallo • Member for Northern Metropolitan Region – Sheena Watt • Member for Pascoe Vale • Member for Sunbury • Member for Thomastown • Member for Northcote • Minister for Employment (State)	12/07/2024	Manager Economic Development		10
Outwards	Request for Meeting re Public Transport Services in Melbourne's North - Northern Council Alliance	Northern Council Alliance	15/07/2024	Mayor		11
Outwards	Access to Universities for Hume Residents - Public Transport	• Minister for Education / Deputy Premier • Minister for Public and Active Transport	31/07/2024	Mayor		12

REPORT NO: 9.8 (cont.)

Outwards	Submission on cost shifting and financial sustainability - Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee - For your reference	• Member for Broadmeadows • Member for Sunbury • Member for Greenvale • Member for Kalkallo • Member for Northern Metropolitan Region • Member for Western Metropolitan Region	17/07/2024	Mayor		13
Outwards	Broadmeadows Suburban Revitalisation Board – Mid-Transition Annual Report	Minister for Suburbs	17/07/2024	Broadmeadows Suburban Revitalisation Board		14
Outwards	2024/25 Advocacy Priorities for Hume - Seeking support to in progressing priorities	• Member for Broadmeadows • Member for Sunbury • Member for Greenvale • Member for Kalkallo • Member for Northern Metropolitan Region • Member for Western Metropolitan Region	18/07/2024	Mayor Coordinator Advocacy		15
Outwards	Activity Centre Roundtable Communique on Housing Activity Centre Program - July 2024	• Northern Council Alliance Minister for Planning • Minister for Infrastructure • Minister for Home Affairs • Minister for Housing	31/07/2024	Mayor		16

Table 3 – Correspondence in relation to grant / funding opportunities

REPORT NO: 9.8 (cont.)

Direction	Subject	Minister or Member of Parliament	Date received / sent	Responsible officer	Council Minute ref	
Inwards	Building Blocks Inclusive Grant Program 2024/2025	Member for Kalkallo	26/07/2024	Coordinator Grants and Projects		17

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Our File: HCC22/688
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

10 July 2024

Ms Maria Vamvakinou MP
Federal Member for Calwell
Level 2, Office 1
14 Dimboola Road
BROADMEADOWS VIC 3047

Dear Ms Vamvakinou, Maria

RE: BEST WISHES ON YOUR RETIREMENT FROM FEDERAL POLITICS

Hume City Council at its meeting on 11 June 2024 resolved that Council:

> *"Acknowledges the work of Maria Vamvakinou, Federal Member for Calwell in the Australian Parliament and we invite her to a Council briefing to thank her for her work prior to the end of this term of Council."*

I like to take this opportunity, on behalf of Hume City Council, to thank you for your years of service to the Australian and Hume community, in your role as Federal Member for Calwell.

We would like to personally thank you for your friendship and continued support in person. Please join Council for dinner, followed by a discussion at our Council Briefing meeting:

Date: Monday 2 September 2024

Time: 5.30pm - Dinner
6.30pm - Council Briefing meeting

Location: Town Hall Broadmeadows

Please contact Carmen Frawley, Coordinator Advocacy, at
to confirm your attendance.

I look forward to having you join us in celebration and recognition of your achievements and efforts.

Kind regards,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR
HUME CITY COUNCIL

2. PRAYER

The Mayor read the following:

Tonight's prayer was to be led by Ahmed Kucukali, from the Islamic Sciences and Research Academy however they have advised they are unable to attend the meeting tonight.

Can I now ask those present to please stand if you are able to for the Prayer.

Almighty God, we humbly beseech Thee to vouchsafe Thy blessing upon this Council. Direct and prosper its deliberations to the advancement of Thy glory and the true welfare of the people of the Hume City. Amen.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies have been received from Cr Sam Misho and Cr Trevor Dance.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

The Mayor read the following:

Councillors' attention is drawn to the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Governance Rules in relation to the disclosure of conflicts of interests. Councillors are required to disclose any conflict of interest immediately before consideration or discussion of the relevant item. Councillors are then required to leave the Chamber during discussion and not vote on the relevant item.

Nil.

5. CONGRATULATIONS AND CONDOLENCES

CNM391 **CONDOLENCE MOTION – KATHLEEN MARY TREMLETT –"TREM"**

Moved Cr Jack Medcraft, **Seconded** Cr Jarrod Bell

That Council acknowledges the passing of Kathleen Mary Tremlett.

CARRIED

CGM61 **CONGRATULATIONS MOTION – MARIA VAMVAKINOU**

Moved Cr Karen Sherry, **Seconded** Cr Jarrod Bell

Acknowledges the work of Maria Vamvakinou, Federal Member for Calwell in the Australian Parliament and we invite her to a Council briefing to thank her for her work prior to the end of this term of Council.

CARRIED

6. CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Council Meeting of 27 May 2024 and the Confidential Council Meeting of 27 May 2024, including Confidential Minutes.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL
1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

Our File: HCC22/688
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

10 July 2024

The Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP
Federal Treasurer
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Via email: Jim.Chalmers.MP@aph.gov.au

Dear Treasurer,

RE: REQUEST FOR REDUCTION IN FUEL EXCISE TAX

Hume City Council at its meeting on 12 March 2024 resolved:

"To write to the Australian Federal Government seeking a 50% reduction in the fuel excise tax."

As you would know, the fuel excise is a flat sales tax levied by the Australian Government on petrol and diesel. From 5 February 2024 the rate increased from 48.8 cents per litre to 49.6 cents per litre for every litre of fuel purchased.

While 0.8 cents is not a dramatic rise, the latest increase mean close to $40 in total excise costs per tank for a large SUV with an 80-litre fuel tank.

The fuel excise tax impacts our community, particularly in growth areas where lack of transport infrastructure forces our residents to drive to get to work/find work and care for their families. According to the ABS 2021 Census, in Hume 63.8% of people travelled to work in a private car (compared to 49.7% for Greater Melbourne). Only 4.3% took public transport (compared to 5.2% for Greater Melbourne). In the northern suburbs of Hume car usage for travelling to work is even higher (Craigieburn 65.2%, Mickleham 67.9% and Kalkallo 65.7%).1

Australian motorists will pay $67.6 billion over the next four years (2023-24 to 2026-27), as forecasted in the October 2023 Federal budget. For a typical household, this year's fuel excise bill will be over $1,000.

The fuel excise tax also impacts the Council's ability to deliver programs and services. Hume City is a large municipality and spans a total area of 504 square kilometres. We estimate that we pay approximately $500k per annum in fuel excise tax to support our fleet of vehicles to provide essential services such as rubbish collection.

We are grateful on behalf of our community for the Australian Government's recent action to provide cost of living relief through stage three tax cuts and much-needed energy bill relief, however more is needed for our residents. Hume City is the third most disadvantaged municipality in Melbourne. Tax cuts only benefit community members who are employed, and in Hume 7.5% of residents are unemployed, much lower than 5.3% in greater Melbourne.2

In 2022 the Coalition Government temporarily halved the fuel excise, providing a 24.2 cent per litre (GST inclusive) cut to petrol over a period of six months as part of their pre-election cost of living package.

[1] https://profile.id.com.au/hume/travel-to-work?WebID=10
[2] Employment status | Hume City | Community profile (id.com.au)

We now call on the current Australian Government to reduce the excise to better support our community and seek a 50% reduction in this tax.

I would appreciate the opportunity to meet to discuss this request further. Please have your Diary Manager contact Carmen Frawley, Coordinator Advocacy, to arrange a mutually convenient time.

Kind regards,



CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR
HUME CITY COUNCIL

the Mt Ridley Road water filling station (opposite Highview Place, Craigieburn).

2. **Recalls the numerous occasions it has written to relevant authorities requesting the area be cleaned and permanently fenced off (most recent correspondence in June 2023 from former Mayor Haweil).**
3. **Writes to the Minister for Roads and Road Safety and relevant officials in the Department of Transport and Planning to stress again the need to urgently implement a permanent solution to address this issue.**

CARRIED

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
10.4	**NOM24/11 - Cr Sam Misho**	143

The Chief Executive Officer read a public comment received from Mr Kevin Balaam to the gallery.

Moved Cr Sam Misho, **Seconded** Cr Jarrod Bell

Australia is currently facing high inflation which is making it hard for our community and everyday Australian families to make ends meet.

The fuel excise is a flat sales tax levied by the Australian Federal Government on petrol and diesel and from 5 February 2024 the rate has increased from 48.8 cents per litre to 49.6 cents per litre for every litre of fuel purchased.

While 0.8 cents is by no means a dramatic rise, the latest increase will mean close to $40 in total excise costs per tank for a large SUV with an 80-litre fuel tank.

Australian motorists will pay $67.6 billion over the next four years (2023-24 to 2026-27), as forecasted in the October 2023 Federal budget. For a typical household, this year's fuel excise bill will be over $1,000. For Hume City Council, it is estimated that we pay approximately $500k per annum in fuel excise to support our fleet of vehicles to provide essential services such as rubbish collection.

In 2022 the coalition government temporarily halved the fuel excise, providing a 24.2 cent per litre (GST inclusive) cut to petrol over a period of six months as part of their pre-election cost of living package. We call on the Australian Government to reduce the excise to better support our community.

That Council writes to the Australian Federal Government seeking a 50% reduction in the fuel excise tax.

CARRIED

11. ITEMS TO BE TABLED

NIL

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

The Hon Melissa Horne MP

Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Ports and Freight
Minister for Roads and Road Safety

121 Exhibition Street
Melbourne, Victoria 3000 Australia

Ref: CMIN-1-24-3774

Cr Naim Kurt
Mayor
Hume City Council
PO Box 119
DALLAS VIC 3047
naimk@hume.vic.gov.au

Dear Cr Kurt

Thank you for your letter of 25 June 2024 regarding vegetation maintenance and removal of graffiti within the Hume City Council.

The Victorian Government is investing a total of at least $6.6 billion over 10 years into road maintenance and renewal works, including flood recovery. This will see $964 million invested in maintaining our road network in this fiscal year alone. This new multi-year funding approach means the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) can plan a long-term road maintenance program and deliver works in a strategic manner across the state. It will also allow DTP to take a more efficient and sustainable approach to road maintenance over the next decade.

DTP undertakes inspections, maintenance, and repairs in accordance with its Road Management Plan (RMP) as required under the Road Management Act. The RMP includes measures for responding to potential roadside hazards that may impact on road users. DTP's highest priority for managing the network is to ensure the focus is for ongoing public safety to further reduce the risk of incidents or accidents is maintained.

Regarding vegetation management, DTP is prioritising its 2024–2025 financial year vegetation program to prioritise safety issues, such as overhanging vegetation encroaching into traffic lanes or blocking safety signs and ensuring intersection safe sight distance. DTP will continue to monitor the state road network and undertake maintenance to address road hazards in accordance with the RMP.

Unsightly graffiti on our road network is an ongoing frustration for local municipalities, DTP, and the community.

VICTORIA State Government

DTP prioritises the removal of graffiti that is deemed racist, offensive, or obscuring a safety sign as promptly as possible. Within this framework, "offensive graffiti" is deemed as any graffiti that targets a specific demographic or individual (e.g., racist, homophobic, political) or uses terms that are generally considered offensive. In contrast, general tagging and other non-targeted graffiti are not classified as "offensive" and their removal is prioritized based on other competing maintenance needs, such as pavement repairs, sign maintenance, vegetation works, and other services.

Thank you again for sharing your concerns. Your feedback is important to the Allan Labor Government as it continues to work hard to improve the road network in Victoria.

Yours sincerely

Hon Melissa Horne MP
Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Ports and Freight
Minister for Roads and Road Safety

Date: 15/07/2024

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC24/688 (HCC-CM24/267)
Enquiries: David Fricke
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

The Hon. Melissa Horne MP
Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Level 20, 1 Spring Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Email: minister.horne@minstaff.vic.gov.au

Dear ~~Minister,~~ Melissa

RE: MAINTENANCE OF HISTORICAL CAIRN ON OAKLANDS ROAD, BULLA

Hume City Council at its meeting on 11 June 2024 resolved that:

> *"Council writes to The Hon Melissa Horne MP, Minister for Roads and Road Safety seeking advice from VicRoads on the status of maintenance of the historical cairn erected in 1924 at Oaklands Road, Bulla commemorating explorers Hume and Hovell, while noting that 2024 marks the 200th anniversary of their expedition and resident advocacy for the restoration of the monument which is in a state of disrepair."*

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the famous expedition of explorers Hamilton Hume and William Hovell from the Lake George district in Sydney's south to the area where present-day Geelong is situated. To mark the centenary of the expedition in 1924, a cairn was unveiled at Oaklands Road, Bulla near a site where Hume and Hovell camped in December 1824. Melbourne's Argus newspaper reported on 11 December 1924 that the memorial was unveiled at 4.30pm on Saturday 13 December 1924 and that: "at Bulla the earlier part of the day will be devoted to a picnic, in which five schools-Broadmeadows, Greenvale, Tullamarine, Keilor, and Bulla-will take part.

The cairn is located approximately opposite the driveway of 95 Oaklands Road, in a section where VicRoads is the responsible road authority for the roadside.

The 200th anniversary that is approaching in December 2024 was brought to Council's attention by an interested community member.

I write to you on their behalf, to bring your attention to this issue and to seek advice on what maintenance schedule exists for this site, what opportunities exist for the site's restoration ahead of the 200th anniversary of the Hume and Hovell expedition and what more can be done to improve the presentation of this important historical marker to ensure that it is preserved for future generations.

We would welcome any advice on the above matters.

Should you require any further information, please contact Mr David Fricke, Manager Assets on .

Yours sincerely,

Cr NAIM KURT
MAYOR






ERECTED
IN MEMORY OF
THE EXPLORERS
WHO CAMPED
NEAR THIS SITE
DECEMBER 1824

and opportunities with local schools and emergency services, and provide a briefing report back to Council on the findings.

CARRIED

The Deputy Mayor vacated the chair at 8:11pm.

The Mayor took over the chair at 8:11pm

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
10.2	**NOM24/26 - Cr Joseph Haweil**	**69**

Councillor Karen Sherry left the meeting prior to discussion on Item 10.2 *NOM24/26 - Cr Joseph Haweil*, the time being 8:12pm.

Moved Cr Joseph Haweil, **Seconded** Cr Jack Medcraft

Councillor Karen Sherry returned to the meeting during discussion on Item 10.2 *NOM24/26 - Cr Joseph Haweil*, the time being 8:15 pm.

Councillor Chris Hollow left the meeting during discussion on Item 10.2 *NOM24/26 - Cr Joseph Haweil*,, the time being 8:15 pm.

Councillor Chris Hollow returned to the meeting during discussion on Item 10.2 *NOM24/26 - Cr Joseph Haweil*, the time being 8:17 pm.

That Council writes to The Hon Melissa Horne MP, Minister for Roads and Road Safety seeking advice from VicRoads on the status of maintenance of the historical cairn erected in 1924 at Oaklands Road, Bulla commemorating explorers Hume and Hovell, while noting that 2024 marks the 200th anniversary of their expedition and resident advocacy for the restoration of the monument which is in a state of disrepair.

CARRIED

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
10.3	**NOM24/27 - Cr Carly Moore**	**71**

Moved Cr Carly Moore, **Seconded** Cr Joseph Haweil

That Council directs officers to develop a framework to guide the consistent development and renewal of lease and license agreements for use of Hume sporting grounds, facilities and assets. The framework is to consider the community benefit and levels of community accessibility derived from agreements, equitable contributions toward the recoupment of maintenance and renewal investment and the equity of fees to be charged at differing facility types.

CARRIED

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
10.4	**NOM24/28 - Cr Jim Overend**	**73**

Moved Cr Jim Overend, **Seconded** Cr Jarrod Bell

Vicki Ward MP

Minister for Prevention of Family Violence
Minister for Employment

1/2 Treasury Place,
East Melbourne 3002

BAC-CO-48036

Cr Naim Kurt
Mayor
Hume City Council
1079 Pascoe Vale Road
BROADMEADOWS VIC 3047

Dear Mayor Kurt

Thank you for your email of 17 June 2024 addressed to the Premier of Victoria, the Hon Jacinta Allan MP, regarding the rates of family violence in Hume and your interest in extending current Free from Violence Local Government Program funding. Your email has been referred to me as the matter you raise fall within my portfolio responsibilities. I appreciate you taking the time to write and share Council concerns about the persistence of family violence across Victoria, particularly in the Hume municipality.

I commend Hume City Council's longstanding commitment to preventing and responding to family and gender-based violence through the delivery of a range of initiatives in your community, including as part of the *Free from Violence Local Government Program*.

In recognition of councils' unique position to address family violence and all forms of violence against women through a whole-of-council approach, the Victorian Government is continuing to invest in this program until 2027. This commitment supports an additional 12 councils, alongside those currently funded, to implement prevention work and build sustainable foundations for future primary prevention initiatives. The Victorian Government is committed to evaluating the program's effects across all councils involved. The evaluation findings will inform future investment decisions to support local communities across Victoria to prevent family and gender-based violence.

As highlighted in your letter, we continue the work to eradicate family violence in our communities. As you acknowledge, the Victorian Government recently announced a new package of reforms to prevent violence against women and children, support victim survivors to be safe and recover, and strengthen perpetrator accountability.

The package includes a strong focus on preventing violence and changing culture, particularly through Respectful Relationships education and a nation-first prevention saturation pilot project in Ballarat. For further information about the women's safety

VICTORIA State Government

package, including details on how it will target family violence at every stage from prevention to response, please visit: https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/changing-laws-and-culture-save-womens-lives.

The government's ongoing efforts to strengthen the way we prevent and respond to family violence over the coming years will soon be outlined in the third Family Violence Reform Rolling Action Plan, which is planned for release in late-2024. If you would like to learn more about Victoria's family violence reforms, you may wish to visit: https://www.vic.gov.au/family-violence-support.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Jo Pride, Executive Director, Policy, Prevention and Impact, at the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Thank you for taking the time to write to me and for the advocacy of Hume Council in this important policy area.

Yours sincerely



Vicki Ward MP
Minister for Prevention of Family Violence

7/7/24

AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY

7 July 2024

To:

Josh Bull – MP Sunbury VIC

josh.bull@parliament.vic.gov.au

Tim Pallas - Treasurer Victoria

treasurer@dtf.vic.gov.au

Lily Dambrosia – Minister for Environment and Climate Action

lily.dambrosio@parliament.vic.gov.au

Sam Rae - MP Hawke

sam.rae.mp@aph.gov.au

Tanya Plibersek - Minister for the Environment and water Australia

Minister.Plibersek@dcceew.gov.au

Sheena Frost - Chief Executive Officer – Hume Council VIC

contactus@hume.vic.gov.au

Naim Kurt – Mayor Hume Council VIC

NaimK@hume.vic.gov.au

Jarrod Bell - Hume Councilor, Jacksons Creek Ward

JarrodB@hume.vic.gov.au

Kerry Macdonald & Nick Withers – Co-Convenors LEAN VIC

vic@lean.net.au

Sunbury Labor

Dear Representatives/Honorable Representatives,

Re: Sunbury Branch ALP - Cost of Living Pressure and Whitegoods Product Destruction Greenwash.

I write to you on behalf of the Sunbury Branch ALP regarding the attached resolutions developed by the Sunbury Branch Environmental and Climate Change Panel, pertaining to alleviating cost of living pressure and whitegoods product destruction greenwash.

Motions 1 & 2 were passed at the Sunbury Branch ALP meeting on 12 June 2024. The two motions are self-explanatory.

The purpose of the Sunbury Branch ALP Environmental and Climate Change Panel is to develop ideas from rank-and-file members regarding environmental and climate change locally to present to the branch for action.

Accordingly, we write to you to request actions to address the entrenched practice of retailers greenwashing around product destruction of working white goods, that could otherwise be reused and/or refurbished for use by low-income families.

We offer to brief representatives/ministers and their advisers.

I request that you please respond via email sunbury.labor@gmail.com regarding this matter by **COB 12 August 2024.**

Your assistance with these matters will be appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Brad Stewart
President
Sunbury Branch ALP

Alleviating cost of living pressure & whitegoods product destruction greenwash

JUNE 2024

SUNBURY MOTION 1

Product Destruction, Greenwashing and Reuse of White Goods

Our Branch expresses its ongoing concern about the pressures facing all Victorians, and especially those on low incomes, as a result of climate change and cost-of-living pressures.

The Sunbury Branch write to Member for Sunbury Josh Bull MP (with copies to the Treasurer as well as the Ministers for Environment, Climate Action and Health) and LEAN requesting the following actions to address the entrenched practice of retailers greenwashing around product destruction of working white goods that could otherwise be reused and/or refurbished for use by low-income families. Copy of briefing paper to be distributed to minister office and with offer to brief minsters and their advisers.

These actions include:

Product Destruction Disclosures and Alternatives to Product Destruction

1. Whenever businesses take working white goods (through replacement, trade-in, recycling service or upgrade schemes) and recycle them, they are required to declare these activities as a Product Destruction Program (PDP), specify downstream destruction methods.
2. If the business decides to publicly report a recycling metric, it must be based on a downstream mass balance i.e. 60% metal recycled, 40% plastics / foam / hardened glass landfilled.
3. White Good Retailers be required to advise potential customers their white goods will be destroyed if collected by them and provide a local organisation where their working white goods could be donated and refurbished for reuse for low-income families to alleviate cost of living pressures.

Audits and Enforcement

4. That the EPA and/or Recycling Victoria undertake and publish results of audits of replacement, recycling, trade-in and upgrade scheme of working white goods that are GPS tracked to investigate the claims and reality of use of these good for recycling versus product destruction.
5. That the Victorian Treasurer and Minister for Climate Action raise these concerns with the Federal Treasurer regarding greenwashing in Product Destruction Schemes which represent performative sustainability over truly sustainable outcomes. This advocacy would also inform recent greenwashing work undertaken by the ACCC, and the reality that around 30,000 working white goods are destroyed by JB Hi Fi and The Good Guys.

Addressing the impacts of climate change and cost-of-living pressures on low-income Victorians

6. That the State Government look at ways they could, in collaborating with Councils and Victoria's charitable sector test, tag, refurbish and pass on these working white goods.
7. Investigate ways they could provide financial support to Local Government and the charitable sector to operationalize a refurbishment and reuse of white goods scheme.

Alleviating cost of living pressure & whitegoods product destruction greenwash

JUNE 2024

SUNBURY MOTION 2

Product Destruction, Greenwashing and Reuse of White Goods

That the Branch send a copy of the above Motion, briefing paper and Preamble to the Mayor, Councilors and CEO of Hume City Council for their information.

Further, the Sunbury Branch request that Council:

1. Considers the introduction of Test and Tag facilities and the sale of or working white goods at the Sunbury Recycle Shop and Community Centres and Houses.

2. Hume City Council captures working white goods at its Sunbury Waste and Recycling, test and tag them and display a small number at its Community Centres and Houses. Make them available for free for families in need and/or with a Concession Card. *Small nominal cost for others.

3. Explore potential partnership with local charities, men's sheds and service clubs for a white-good reuse and refurbishment program.

4. Hume City Council take a leadership role and require Hume Hard Rubbish contractor to offer fridges to local charities and if required renegotiate hard rubbish contract to prioritize white-good reuse over recycling.

5. Hume City Council take a leadership role in communicating the current situation on product destruction of whitegoods and the alternatives that could mitigate the local impacts of climate change and cost of living pressures for low-income residents in Sunbury.

6. Hume City Council, take a leadership role with local white good appliance retailers and explore the establishment of potential local circular ecosystems with local traders for white good appliance recycling and its promotion.

Performative sustainability, white good recycling briefing paper

JUNE 2024

The 2023 JB Hi-Fi Sustainability Report stated they recycled 3,604 tonnes of big and bulky appliances. As part of the JB Hi-Fi / Good Guys premium delivery service, removing customers old whitegoods appliance and recycling them. What a great example of ESG corporate leadership recycling white goods. Designing out friction and making it easy for customers to recycling their old whitegoods, they should get an award or was it something else?

Approximately 35,000 white goods were collected in this program recycled and conservatively estimate 80% of these white goods were in working condition and could have test & tagged and with minor refurbishment returned to the market. Instead, they were channelled into a product destruction program.

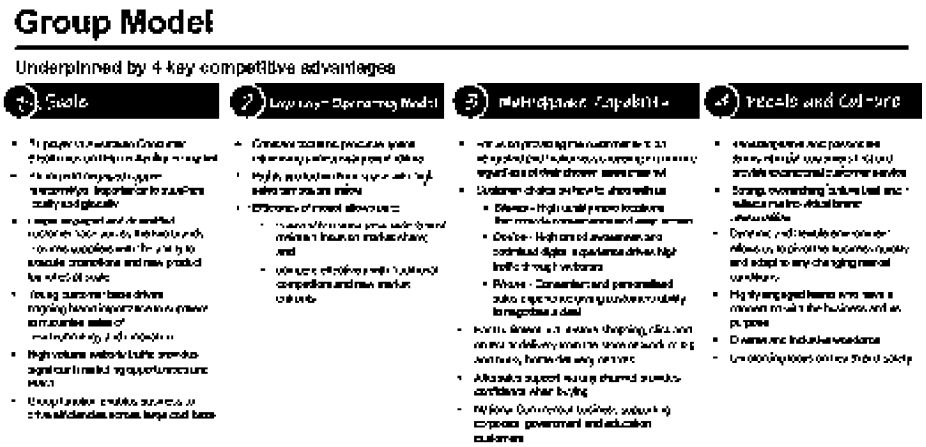
To ensure 35,000 old white goods do not enter the market and impact JB Hi-Fi and Good Guys targets markets.



*Vinnies, Salvation Army & Facebook Marketplace are noted competitors and listed as competitive threats in whitegoods appliance retailer SWOT analysis.

voiding situation that have Vinnies, Outlook or Lions selling white goods between $60-$250 to low-income families and compete against retailer low-end price sensitive customer base $800-$1,500 for white goods.

It is common for retailers to have "scale" as a pillar in their group operating models.



*Example of large retailer whitegoods investor briefing presentation, outlining its group operating model to grow investor returns.

Retailers who have "scale" in group operating model:

A. **aim to secure large and diversified customer base.**

B. **view viewing all customers as potential targets meaning both low-income families and wealthy double-income households with no dependents are considered key markets.**

The logic behind scale in a group operating model is that it allows businesses to spread costs over a larger base, and as fixed costs remain constant irrespective of growth in sales increase. Results in higher profitability and enables an organisation to lower its prices out competing its rival competitors growing market share, which ultimately leads to long-term profitable growth. It is a basic principle in business, and it works.

We do not criticize "scale" as a strategy, it is a fundamental business principle. It has complication for society when it is executed in the old-world linear economy. Make, break destroy replace.

Retailers can do partnerships with charities and/or refurbish customer whitegoods that are in working condition and re-circulate them back into the economy at profit. It is their discretion how they manage their acquired assessment. What we have issue with is organisations adopting the linear make, break destroy business operation. Their product destruction should be disclosed and not greenwash branded.

The idea that a white good retailer purchases 3 SecondBite meals for $1.20 every time they destroy a fridge as part of a premium online booked recycling service. It should not provide them a social licence to brand themselves as green and champions of reducing the cost of living. Disclosure should be required.

IDEAS on how a Rotary White Goods Recycling Program for Low-Income Families could wok

Program Concept

- Collect working old fridges and freezers from individuals purchasing new appliances.
- Allow donors to optionally pay a small fee to support the program.
- Ensure all donated appliances are tested and tagged for safety.

Donation Process

- Establish partnerships with local appliance retailers to inform customers about the program.
- Set up an online form for individuals to schedule pick-up or drop-off of their old appliances.
- Could be integrated into City of Hume Hard Rubbish Collection?

Collection and Transportation

- Organize a volunteer team for pick-up and transportation of donated appliances.
- Coordinate with local moving or logistics companies for assistance if needed.
- Ensure proper handling and transport to avoid damage to the appliances.

Testing and Tagging

- Set up a testing facility with necessary equipment to check the functionality and safety of the appliances.
- Train volunteers or hire certified technicians to perform testing and tagging.
- Maintain records of all tested appliances, including their condition and any repairs needed.

Distribution to Families

- Collaborate with local social services, community centers, and non-profits to identify low-income families in need.
- Create an application or referral system for families to request appliances.
- Arrange for delivery of the appliances to the families, ensuring they receive instructions on proper use and maintenance.

Funding and Sustainability

- Seek grants, sponsorships, and donations to cover operational costs.
- Utilize the optional fee paid by donors for testing and tagging to support the program financially.
- Implement periodic fundraising events and campaigns to sustain the program long-term.

Community Engagement

- Promote the program through local media, social media, and community events.
- Highlight success stories and testimonials from families who have benefited from the program.
- Encourage community members to volunteer their time or donate funds to support the initiati

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC04/50
Enquiries: Mark Doyle
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

12 July 2024

Kalkallo Branch Executive
Australian Labor Party (Victorian Branch)

Via email: kalkallolabor@gmail.com

Dear Kalkallo Branch Executive,

RE: DIRT BIKES IN PARK SPACES IN HUME

Thank you for your letter regarding a motion passed at your meeting on 27 March 2024 in relation to dirt bikes in park spaces in Hume and the associated safety risks this poses to park users.

I requested that Council Officers investigate this matter and have been advised that when parks and open spaces are being designed, consideration is given to installing infrastructure to reduce unauthorised vehicle access into these spaces. This is an increasing issue across the municipality and efforts are being made to reduce the impacts of dirt bikes in parks.

Council have recently installed chicanes at a linear park in Broadmeadows/Dallas which has resulted in a reduction of incidents involving dirt bikes. This design solution will be considered where suitable at other locations throughout Hume where we received reports of anti-social behaviour.

Other solutions such as placement of bollards, landscape rocks, trees etc have also been used to reduce access for dirt bikes into open spaces to improve the safety of the parks for all users.

Council will continue to monitor these issues and design solutions to ensure we can provide a safe and welcoming environment for parks users as far as practically possible.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Council's Manager City Parks & Open Spaces,

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

Labor Kalkallo Branch

MICKLEHAM • KALKALLO • CRAIGIEBURN • YUROKE
WALLAN • BEVERDIGE • OAKLANDS JUNCTION

Cr Naim Kurt
Mayor
Hume City Council
PO Box 119
DALLAS VIC 3047

Dear Mayor,

At the March meeting of the Kalkallo Branch of the Australian Labor Party (Victorian Branch) on the 27 March 2024, the following motion was passed.

That the Kalkallo branch write to Labor councillors in the Aitken Ward and the Mayor of Hume City Council bringing to the notice of Hume City Council concerns around dirt bikes in park spaces. Dirt bikes in park spaces pose a safety risk to users, especially young children.

That the Kalkallo branch urge Council to investigate ways and means to mitigate this issue, including putting in infrastructure and engaging the community to address root cause the issue.

Carried unanimously

Kind regards,

Kalkallo Branch Executive
E: kalkallolabor@gmail.com

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Our File: HCC12/201
Enquiries: Luke Maguire
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
www.hume.vic.gov.au

12 July 2024

Kalkallo Branch Executive
Australian Labor Party (Victorian Branch)

Via email: kalkallolabor@gmail.com

Dear Kalkallo Branch Executive,

RE: COPPER THEFTS AT SPORTSGROUNDS IN KALKALLO AND MICKLEHAM

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding copper wiring thefts at local sporting reserves in Kalkallo and Mickleham.

Hume City Council understands the impacts of copper wire theft on local community sporting clubs and the significant financial implications of replacement and rectification.

To assist in mitigating future copper wire thefts Council has undertaken the following measures:

1. Concrete sealing of pit cables and burying of pit locations were possible.
2. Sealing of switchboard panels and locked enclosures of switchboards at targeted locations.
3. Direct burying of replaced cabling where possible to impede ability to remove copper wire.
4. Use of aluminium cabling instead of copper on future sports reserve projects.
5. Security patrols of sporting reserves.
6. Regular liaison with Victoria Police regarding targeted locations.

If you have any queries in relation to the project, please contact Luke Maguire, Acting Manager Active Living, on or

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

Labor Kalkallo Branch

MICKLEHAM • KALKALLO • CRAIGIEBURN • YUROKE
WALLAN • BEVERDIGE • OAKLANDS JUNCTION

Cr Naim Kurt
Mayor
Hume City Council
PO Box 119
DALLAS VIC 3047

Dear Mayor,

At the March meeting of the Kalkallo Branch of the Australian Labor Party (Victorian Branch) on the 27 March 2024, the following motion was passed.

That the Kalkallo branch write to Labor councillors in the Aitken Ward and the Mayor of Hume City Council bringing to the notice of Hume City Council concerns around the stealing of copper wire at turfs around Mickleham and Kalkallo and the impact on safety. Poorly lit turf and playing areas present safety risks during night, especially with shorter days and the beginning of footy season.

That the Kalkallo branch requests Hume City Council investigate prevention and mitigation strategies for these issues prioritising the safety and accessibility of Hume residents using turf and playing area.

Carried unanimously

Kind regards,

Kalkallo Branch Executive
E: kalkallolabor@gmail.com

The Hon. Natalie Hutchins MP

Minister for Jobs and Industry
Minister for Treaty and First Peoples
Minister for Women

Level 36, 121 Exhibition Street,
Melbourne 3000

BAC-CO-45924

Hume City Council
Ms Sheena Frost and Cr Naim Kurt
1079 Pascoe Vale Road
BROADMEADOWS 3047
contactus@hume.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms Frost and Cr Kurt,

We are writing to seek your support to encourage committed, motivated and passionate women to stand for council at the 2024 Victorian local government elections.

The 2020 elections set a national record for gender representation. But we know that more must be done to drive equality and diversity in councils' elected representatives. This cannot be achieved without sector leaders, partners and stakeholders actively encouraging women that reflect the rich diversity of our communities, to consider running.

Our equal state: Victoria's gender equality strategy and action plan 2023-2027 sets out a state-wide framework for enduring and sustained action on gender equality. An important part of this strategy is a target to achieve gender equality on councils by 2025.

To support this target, initiatives such as the Victorian Government's *Women Leading Locally Program* are providing women across Victoria with the skills and resources to advance their leadership ambitions and campaign with confidence.

In addition, on 21 June 2024, the Victorian Government passed new Local Government Act 2020 reforms that will elevate governance and integrity standards in Victoria's 79 councils. These reforms support an inclusive environment for diverse elected representatives to thrive.

To reach our shared goal of gender equality on councils, a number of researchers and advocates advise that at least 1,000 women need to stand at the 2024 elections. This is a target we can achieve with focus, determination and action. With council nominations closing on 17 September 2024, now is the time to act.

The Municipal Association of Victoria is hosting a range of information sessions across Victoria for prospective candidates. For further information, please visit www.mav.asn.au/stand-for-council-2024.

The Victorian Local Governance Association also offers a range of online resources to support and encourage diverse women to stand for council at www.vlga.org.au.

VICTORIA State Government

OFFICIAL

Thank you in advance for supporting women to take their seats in council chambers all over Victoria.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Ellie Bowtell, Manager, Office for Women at the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing at ellie.bowtell@dffh.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Natalie Hutchins

The Hon. Natalie Hutchins MP
Minister for Women
Minister for Treaty and First Peoples
Minister for Jobs and Industry

11 / 7 / 2024

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

File No: HCC14/675
Enquiries: George Osborne
Email:

HUME CITY COUNCIL
1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

12 July 2024

Mr Anthony Cianflone MP
MP for Pascoe Vale

Via email: anthony.cianflone@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr ~~Cianflone~~ Anthony,

RE: THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to you and your colleagues for attending the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussion on 19 June 2024 at Parliament. Your presence provided us with a valuable opportunity to showcase the impactful work that the taskforce has achieved providing strategic stewardship over Council's skills and employment initiatives designed to connect our residents with local jobs.

In particular, I would like to thank our local MPs, Kathleen Matthews-Ward, Ros Spence, Iwan Walters and Josh Bull, for their continuing support of skills and employment matters and place-based initiatives aimed at enhancing economic inclusion for Hume residents.

Hume City Council is acutely aware of the challenges posed by unemployment, especially in certain pockets of Hume. Council firmly believes in the transformative power of sustainable, meaningful employment, recognising that "Jobs change lives." Demonstrating sector leadership, Council is committed to supporting local jobs for local people.

Over the past 13 years, we have been fortunate to receive invaluable support from the State Government, notably through funding for targeted place-based initiatives such as the Hume Community Revitalisation Project (HCRP). Scheduled to conclude on 30 June 2025, the HCRP has yielded positive outcomes since its inception in 2017.

It has strengthened community-led governance, facilitated strategic coordination among Council, DJSIR, and local stakeholders, and provided crucial wrap-around support for job seekers.

Since 2017, the HCRP has supported 1,705 residents in priority postcodes with high unemployment rates, including 563 individuals placed into employment and 30 women supported in starting their own businesses through the Stepping Stone project. These achievements underscore our commitment to fostering inclusive economic growth and opportunity within our community.

Please find attached information that outlines the positive outcomes achieved by Council's Economic Development Department through the funding received as well as some wider outcomes. Also attached is the "Local Jobs for Local People" booklet, which outlines Council's collaborative partnership model in improving the economic inclusion of our community.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Looking ahead, Council is keen to adopt an even more integrated approach to skills and employment and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to future policies across both skills and employment or serve as a case study for local and national discussions.

I also express Council's interest in meeting with other Ministers, including the Treasurer, Deputy Premier Ben Carroll and Ministers Vicki Ward and Natalie Hutchins, to gain insights into government policy positions and explore collaborative opportunities.

We also would be delighted to invite Ministers to attend a Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce meeting to gain firsthand insights into the diversity of its membership, learn more about the local employment and skills issues and participate in relevant events such as industry-specific jobs expo as the opportunity arises.

Given the experience and expertise of the Taskforce, we invite you to utilise it as an advisory body to inform funding decisions around employment and skills in our local Hume community and the northern corridor more broadly.

Lastly, Council seeks consideration for the continuation of the existing funding beyond 30 June 2025 to sustain and expand the impactful work initiated under the HCRP through the Strengthening Pathways to Economic Participation program.

Systemic change in addressing unemployment necessitates sustained funding and support from government. As such, we respectfully request continued support for the HCRP and your advocacy for further consideration of place-based funding approaches.

We stand ready to undertake pilot programs or utilise our expertise to deliver impactful outcomes if opportunities for funding arise.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to further engagement and follow up.

If you would like any further information please contact Rachel Dapiran, Director of City Planning and Places on or at

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

File No: HCC14/675
Enquiries: George Osborne
Email:

12 July 2024

Ms Bronwyn Halfpenny MP
MP for Thomastown

Via email: bronwyn.halfpenny@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms ~~Halfpenny~~ Bronwyn,

RE: THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to you and your colleagues for attending the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussion on 19 June 2024 at Parliament. Your presence provided us with a valuable opportunity to showcase the impactful work that the taskforce has achieved providing strategic stewardship over Council's skills and employment initiatives designed to connect our residents with local jobs.

In particular, I would like to thank our local MPs, Kathleen Matthews-Ward, Ros Spence, Iwan Walters and Josh Bull, for their continuing support of skills and employment matters and place-based initiatives aimed at enhancing economic inclusion for Hume residents.

Hume City Council is acutely aware of the challenges posed by unemployment, especially in certain pockets of Hume. Council firmly believes in the transformative power of sustainable, meaningful employment, recognising that "Jobs change lives." Demonstrating sector leadership, Council is committed to supporting local jobs for local people.

Over the past 13 years, we have been fortunate to receive invaluable support from the State Government, notably through funding for targeted place-based initiatives such as the Hume Community Revitalisation Project (HCRP). Scheduled to conclude on 30 June 2025, the HCRP has yielded positive outcomes since its inception in 2017.

It has strengthened community-led governance, facilitated strategic coordination among Council, DJSIR, and local stakeholders, and provided crucial wrap-around support for job seekers.

Since 2017, the HCRP has supported 1,705 residents in priority postcodes with high unemployment rates, including 563 individuals placed into employment and 30 women supported in starting their own businesses through the Stepping Stone project. These achievements underscore our commitment to fostering inclusive economic growth and opportunity within our community.

Please find attached information that outlines the positive outcomes achieved by Council's Economic Development Department through the funding received as well as some wider outcomes. Also attached is the "Local Jobs for Local People" booklet, which outlines Council's collaborative partnership model in improving the economic inclusion of our community.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Looking ahead, Council is keen to adopt an even more integrated approach to skills and employment and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to future policies across both skills and employment or serve as a case study for local and national discussions.

I also express Council's interest in meeting with other Ministers, including the Treasurer, Deputy Premier Ben Carroll and Ministers Vicki Ward and Natalie Hutchins, to gain insights into government policy positions and explore collaborative opportunities.

We also would be delighted to invite Ministers to attend a Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce meeting to gain firsthand insights into the diversity of its membership, learn more about the local employment and skills issues and participate in relevant events such as industry-specific jobs expo as the opportunity arises.

Given the experience and expertise of the Taskforce, we invite you to utilise it as an advisory body to inform funding decisions around employment and skills in our local Hume community and the northern corridor more broadly.

Lastly, Council seeks consideration for the continuation of the existing funding beyond 30 June 2025 to sustain and expand the impactful work initiated under the HCRP through the Strengthening Pathways to Economic Participation program.

Systemic change in addressing unemployment necessitates sustained funding and support from government. As such, we respectfully request continued support for the HCRP and your advocacy for further consideration of place-based funding approaches.

We stand ready to undertake pilot programs or utilise our expertise to deliver impactful outcomes if opportunities for funding arise.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to further engagement and follow up.

If you would like any further information please contact Rachel Dapiran, Director of City Planning and Places on or at .

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

File No: HCC14/675
Enquiries: George Osborne
Email:

12 July 2024

Mr Iwan Walters MP
MP for Greenvale

Via email: iwan.walters@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr ~~Walters~~ Iwan,

RE: THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to you and your colleagues for attending the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussion on 19 June 2024 at Parliament. Your presence provided us with a valuable opportunity to showcase the impactful work that the taskforce has achieved providing strategic stewardship over Council's skills and employment initiatives designed to connect our residents with local jobs.

In particular, I would like to thank you and our other local MPs, Kathleen Matthews-Ward, Ros Spence, and Josh Bull, for your continuing support of skills and employment matters and place-based initiatives aimed at enhancing economic inclusion for Hume residents.

Hume City Council is acutely aware of the challenges posed by unemployment, especially in certain pockets of Hume. Council firmly believes in the transformative power of sustainable, meaningful employment, recognising that "Jobs change lives." Demonstrating sector leadership, Council is committed to supporting local jobs for local people.

Over the past 13 years, we have been fortunate to receive invaluable support from the State Government, notably through funding for targeted place-based initiatives such as the Hume Community Revitalisation Project (HCRP). Scheduled to conclude on 30 June 2025, the HCRP has yielded positive outcomes since its inception in 2017. It has strengthened community-led governance, facilitated strategic coordination among Council, DJSIR, and local stakeholders, and provided crucial wrap-around support for job seekers.

Since 2017, the HCRP has supported 1,705 residents in priority postcodes with high unemployment rates, including 563 individuals placed into employment and 30 women supported in starting their own businesses through the Stepping Stone project. These achievements underscore our commitment to fostering inclusive economic growth and opportunity within our community.

Please find attached information that outlines the positive outcomes achieved by Council's Economic Development Department through the funding received as well as some wider outcomes. Also attached is the "Local Jobs for Local People" booklet, which outlines Council's collaborative partnership model in improving the economic inclusion of our community.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Looking ahead, Council is keen to adopt an even more integrated approach to skills and employment and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to future policies across both skills and employment or serve as a case study for local and national discussions. I also express Councils interest in meeting with other esteemed Ministers, including the Treasurer, Deputy Premier Ben Carroll and Ministers Vicki Ward and Natalie Hutchins, to gain insights into government policy positions and explore collaborative opportunities.

In addition, we would be delighted to invite Ministers to attend a Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce meeting to gain firsthand insights into the diversity of its membership, learn more about the local employment and skills issues and participate in relevant events such as industry-specific jobs expo as the opportunity arises. Given the experience and expertise of the Taskforce, we invite you to utilise it as an advisory body to inform funding decisions around employment and skills in our local Hume community and the northern corridor more broadly.

Lastly, Council seeks consideration for the continuation of the existing funding beyond 30 June 2025 to sustain and expand the impactful work initiated under the HCRP through the Strengthening Pathways to Economic Participation program. Systemic change in addressing unemployment necessitates sustained funding and support from government. As such, we respectfully request continued support for the HCRP and advocate for further consideration of place-based funding approaches. Additionally, we stand ready to undertake pilot programs or utilise our expertise to deliver impactful outcomes if opportunities for funding arise.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to further engagement and follow up.

If you would like any further information please contact Rachel Dapiran, Director of City Planning and Places on or at

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

File No: HCC14/675
Enquiries: George Osborne
Email:

HUME CITY COUNCIL

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

12 July 2024

Mr Josh Bull MP
MP for Sunbury

Via email: josh.bull@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr ~~Bull~~ Josh,

RE: THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to your colleagues for attending the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussion on 19 June 2024 at Parliament. Their presence provided us with a valuable opportunity to showcase the impactful work that the taskforce has achieved providing strategic stewardship over Council's skills and employment initiatives designed to connect our residents with local jobs.

In particular, I would like to thank you and our other local MPs, Kathleen Matthews-Ward, Iwan Walters and Ros Spence, for your continuing support of skills and employment matters and place-based initiatives aimed at enhancing economic inclusion for Hume residents.

Hume City Council is acutely aware of the challenges posed by unemployment, especially in certain pockets of Hume. Council firmly believes in the transformative power of sustainable, meaningful employment, recognising that "Jobs change lives." Demonstrating sector leadership, Council is committed to supporting local jobs for local people.

Over the past 13 years, we have been fortunate to receive invaluable support from the State Government, notably through funding for targeted place-based initiatives such as the Hume Community Revitalisation Project (HCRP). Scheduled to conclude on 30 June 2025, the HCRP has yielded positive outcomes since its inception in 2017.

It has strengthened community-led governance, facilitated strategic coordination among Council, DJSIR, and local stakeholders, and provided crucial wrap-around support for job seekers.

Since 2017, the HCRP has supported 1,705 residents in priority postcodes with high unemployment rates, including 563 individuals placed into employment and 30 women supported in starting their own businesses through the Stepping Stone project. These achievements underscore our commitment to fostering inclusive economic growth and opportunity within our community.

Please find attached information that outlines the positive outcomes achieved by Council's Economic Development Department through the funding received as well as some wider outcomes. Also attached is the "Local Jobs for Local People" booklet, which outlines Council's collaborative partnership model in improving the economic inclusion of our community.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Looking ahead, Council is keen to adopt an even more integrated approach to skills and employment and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to future policies across both skills and employment or serve as a case study for local and national discussions.

I also express Council's interest in meeting with other Ministers, including the Treasurer, Deputy Premier Ben Carroll and Ministers Vicki Ward and Natalie Hutchins, to gain insights into government policy positions and explore collaborative opportunities.

We also would be delighted to invite Ministers to attend a Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce meeting to gain firsthand insights into the diversity of its membership, learn more about the local employment and skills issues and participate in relevant events such as industry-specific jobs expo as the opportunity arises.

Given the experience and expertise of the Taskforce, we invite you to utilise it as an advisory body to inform funding decisions around employment and skills in our local Hume community and the northern corridor more broadly.

Lastly, Council seeks consideration for the continuation of the existing funding beyond 30 June 2025 to sustain and expand the impactful work initiated under the HCRP through the Strengthening Pathways to Economic Participation program.

Systemic change in addressing unemployment necessitates sustained funding and support from government. As such, we respectfully request continued support for the HCRP and your advocacy for further consideration of place-based funding approaches.

We stand ready to undertake pilot programs or utilise our expertise to deliver impactful outcomes if opportunities for funding arise.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to further engagement and follow up.

If you would like any further information please contact Rachel Dapiran, Director of City Planning and Places on or at

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

File No: HCC14/675
Enquiries: George Osborne
Email:

HUME CITY COUNCIL
1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

12 July 2024

Ms Kat Theophanous MP
MP for Northcote

Via email: Kat.Theophanous@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms Theophanous, Kat

RE: THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to you and your colleagues for attending the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussion on 19 June 2024 at Parliament. Your presence provided us with a valuable opportunity to showcase the impactful work that the taskforce has achieved providing strategic stewardship over Council's skills and employment initiatives designed to connect our residents with local jobs.

In particular, I would like to thank our local MPs, Kathleen Matthews-Ward, Ros Spence, Iwan Walters and Josh Bull, for their continuing support of skills and employment matters and place-based initiatives aimed at enhancing economic inclusion for Hume residents.

Hume City Council is acutely aware of the challenges posed by unemployment, especially in certain pockets of Hume. Council firmly believes in the transformative power of sustainable, meaningful employment, recognising that "Jobs change lives." Demonstrating sector leadership, Council is committed to supporting local jobs for local people.

Over the past 13 years, we have been fortunate to receive invaluable support from the State Government, notably through funding for targeted place-based initiatives such as the Hume Community Revitalisation Project (HCRP). Scheduled to conclude on 30 June 2025, the HCRP has yielded positive outcomes since its inception in 2017.

It has strengthened community-led governance, facilitated strategic coordination among Council, DJSIR, and local stakeholders, and provided crucial wrap-around support for job seekers.

Since 2017, the HCRP has supported 1,705 residents in priority postcodes with high unemployment rates, including 563 individuals placed into employment and 30 women supported in starting their own businesses through the Stepping Stone project. These achievements underscore our commitment to fostering inclusive economic growth and opportunity within our community.

Please find attached information that outlines the positive outcomes achieved by Council's Economic Development Department through the funding received as well as some wider outcomes. Also attached is the "Local Jobs for Local People" booklet, which outlines Council's collaborative partnership model in improving the economic inclusion of our community.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Looking ahead, Council is keen to adopt an even more integrated approach to skills and employment and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to future policies across both skills and employment or serve as a case study for local and national discussions.

I also express Council's interest in meeting with other Ministers, including the Treasurer, Deputy Premier Ben Carroll and Ministers Vicki Ward and Natalie Hutchins, to gain insights into government policy positions and explore collaborative opportunities.

We also would be delighted to invite Ministers to attend a Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce meeting to gain firsthand insights into the diversity of its membership, learn more about the local employment and skills issues and participate in relevant events such as industry-specific jobs expo as the opportunity arises.

Given the experience and expertise of the Taskforce, we invite you to utilise it as an advisory body to inform funding decisions around employment and skills in our local Hume community and the northern corridor more broadly.

Lastly, Council seeks consideration for the continuation of the existing funding beyond 30 June 2025 to sustain and expand the impactful work initiated under the HCRP through the Strengthening Pathways to Economic Participation program.

Systemic change in addressing unemployment necessitates sustained funding and support from government. As such, we respectfully request continued support for the HCRP and your advocacy for further consideration of place-based funding approaches.

We stand ready to undertake pilot programs or utilise our expertise to deliver impactful outcomes if opportunities for funding arise.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to further engagement and follow up.

If you would like any further information please contact Rachel Dapiran, Director of City Planning and Places

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

File No: HCC14/675
Enquiries: George Osborne
Email:

HUME CITY COUNCIL
1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

12 July 2024

Ms Kathleen Matthews-Ward MP
MP for Broadmeadows

Via email: kathleen.matthews-ward@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms ~~Matthews-Ward~~ Kathleen,

RE: THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to you and your colleagues for attending the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussion on 19 June 2024 at Parliament. Their presence provided us with a valuable opportunity to showcase the impactful work that the taskforce has achieved providing strategic stewardship over Council's skills and employment initiatives designed to connect our residents with local jobs.

In particular, I would like to thank you and our other local MPs, Ros Spence, Iwan Walters and Josh Bull, for your continuing support of skills and employment matters and place-based initiatives aimed at enhancing economic inclusion for Hume residents.

Hume City Council is acutely aware of the challenges posed by unemployment, especially in certain pockets of Hume. Council firmly believes in the transformative power of sustainable, meaningful employment, recognising that "Jobs change lives." Demonstrating sector leadership, Council is committed to supporting local jobs for local people.

Over the past 13 years, we have been fortunate to receive invaluable support from the State Government, notably through funding for targeted place-based initiatives such as the Hume Community Revitalisation Project (HCRP). Scheduled to conclude on 30 June 2025, the HCRP has yielded positive outcomes since its inception in 2017.

It has strengthened community-led governance, facilitated strategic coordination among Council, DJSIR, and local stakeholders, and provided crucial wrap-around support for job seekers.

Since 2017, the HCRP has supported 1,705 residents in priority postcodes with high unemployment rates, including 563 individuals placed into employment and 30 women supported in starting their own businesses through the Stepping Stone project. These achievements underscore our commitment to fostering inclusive economic growth and opportunity within our community.

Please find attached information that outlines the positive outcomes achieved by Council's Economic Development Department through the funding received as well as some wider outcomes. Also attached is the "Local Jobs for Local People" booklet, which outlines Council's collaborative partnership model in improving the economic inclusion of our community.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Looking ahead, Council is keen to adopt an even more integrated approach to skills and employment and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to future policies across both skills and employment or serve as a case study for local and national discussions.

I also express Council's interest in meeting with other Ministers, including the Treasurer, Deputy Premier Ben Carroll and Ministers Vicki Ward and Natalie Hutchins, to gain insights into government policy positions and explore collaborative opportunities.

We also would be delighted to invite Ministers to attend a Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce meeting to gain firsthand insights into the diversity of its membership, learn more about the local employment and skills issues and participate in relevant events such as industry-specific jobs expo as the opportunity arises.

Given the experience and expertise of the Taskforce, we invite you to utilise it as an advisory body to inform funding decisions around employment and skills in our local Hume community and the northern corridor more broadly.

Lastly, Council seeks consideration for the continuation of the existing funding beyond 30 June 2025 to sustain and expand the impactful work initiated under the HCRP through the Strengthening Pathways to Economic Participation program.

Systemic change in addressing unemployment necessitates sustained funding and support from government. As such, we respectfully request continued support for the HCRP and your advocacy for further consideration of place-based funding approaches.

We stand ready to undertake pilot programs or utilise our expertise to deliver impactful outcomes if opportunities for funding arise.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to further engagement and follow up.

If you would like any further information please contact Rachel Dapiran, Director of City Planning and Places on

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

File No: HCC14/675
Enquiries: George Osborne
Email:

12 July 2024

Ms Lauren Kathage MP
MP for Yan Yean

Via email: lauren.kathage@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms ~~Kathage~~ Lauren,

RE: THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to you and your colleagues for attending the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussion on 19 June 2024 at Parliament. Your presence provided us with a valuable opportunity to showcase the impactful work that the taskforce has achieved providing strategic stewardship over Council's skills and employment initiatives designed to connect our residents with local jobs.

In particular, I would like to thank our local MPs, Kathleen Matthews-Ward, Ros Spence, Iwan Walters and Josh Bull, for their continuing support of skills and employment matters and place-based initiatives aimed at enhancing economic inclusion for Hume residents.

Hume City Council is acutely aware of the challenges posed by unemployment, especially in certain pockets of Hume. Council firmly believes in the transformative power of sustainable, meaningful employment, recognising that "Jobs change lives." Demonstrating sector leadership, Council is committed to supporting local jobs for local people.

Over the past 13 years, we have been fortunate to receive invaluable support from the State Government, notably through funding for targeted place-based initiatives such as the Hume Community Revitalisation Project (HCRP). Scheduled to conclude on 30 June 2025, the HCRP has yielded positive outcomes since its inception in 2017.

It has strengthened community-led governance, facilitated strategic coordination among Council, DJSIR, and local stakeholders, and provided crucial wrap-around support for job seekers.

Since 2017, the HCRP has supported 1,705 residents in priority postcodes with high unemployment rates, including 563 individuals placed into employment and 30 women supported in starting their own businesses through the Stepping Stone project. These achievements underscore our commitment to fostering inclusive economic growth and opportunity within our community.

Please find attached information that outlines the positive outcomes achieved by Council's Economic Development Department through the funding received as well as some wider outcomes. Also attached is the "Local Jobs for Local People" booklet, which outlines Council's collaborative partnership model in improving the economic inclusion of our community.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Looking ahead, Council is keen to adopt an even more integrated approach to skills and employment and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to future policies across both skills and employment or serve as a case study for local and national discussions.

I also express Council's interest in meeting with other Ministers, including the Treasurer, Deputy Premier Ben Carroll and Ministers Vicki Ward and Natalie Hutchins, to gain insights into government policy positions and explore collaborative opportunities.

We also would be delighted to invite Ministers to attend a Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce meeting to gain firsthand insights into the diversity of its membership, learn more about the local employment and skills issues and participate in relevant events such as industry-specific jobs expo as the opportunity arises.

Given the experience and expertise of the Taskforce, we invite you to utilise it as an advisory body to inform funding decisions around employment and skills in our local Hume community and the northern corridor more broadly.

Lastly, Council seeks consideration for the continuation of the existing funding beyond 30 June 2025 to sustain and expand the impactful work initiated under the HCRP through the Strengthening Pathways to Economic Participation program.

Systemic change in addressing unemployment necessitates sustained funding and support from government. As such, we respectfully request continued support for the HCRP and your advocacy for further consideration of place-based funding approaches.

We stand ready to undertake pilot programs or utilise our expertise to deliver impactful outcomes if opportunities for funding arise.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to further engagement and follow up.

If you would like any further information please contact Rachel Dapiran, Director of City Planning and Places on or at

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

File No: HCC14/675
Enquiries: George Osborne
Email:

HUME CITY COUNCIL
1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

12 July 2024

Ms Sheena Watt MP
MP for Northern Metropolitan

Via email: sheena.watt@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms ~~Watt~~ Sheena,

RE: THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to you and your colleagues for attending the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussion on 19 June 2024 at Parliament. Your presence provided us with a valuable opportunity to showcase the impactful work that the taskforce has achieved providing strategic stewardship over Council's skills and employment initiatives designed to connect our residents with local jobs.

In particular, I would like to thank you and our other local MPs, Kathleen Matthews-Ward, Iwan Walters, Ros Spence and Josh Bull, for your continuing support of skills and employment matters and place-based initiatives aimed at enhancing economic inclusion for Hume residents.

Hume City Council is acutely aware of the challenges posed by unemployment, especially in certain pockets of Hume. Council firmly believes in the transformative power of sustainable, meaningful employment, recognising that "Jobs change lives." Demonstrating sector leadership, Council is committed to supporting local jobs for local people.

Over the past 13 years, we have been fortunate to receive invaluable support from the State Government, notably through funding for targeted place-based initiatives such as the Hume Community Revitalisation Project (HCRP). Scheduled to conclude on 30 June 2025, the HCRP has yielded positive outcomes since its inception in 2017.

It has strengthened community-led governance, facilitated strategic coordination among Council, DJSIR, and local stakeholders, and provided crucial wrap-around support for job seekers.

Since 2017, the HCRP has supported 1,705 residents in priority postcodes with high unemployment rates, including 563 individuals placed into employment and 30 women supported in starting their own businesses through the Stepping Stone project. These achievements underscore our commitment to fostering inclusive economic growth and opportunity within our community.

Please find attached information that outlines the positive outcomes achieved by Council's Economic Development Department through the funding received as well as some wider outcomes. Also attached is the "Local Jobs for Local People" booklet, which outlines Council's collaborative partnership model in improving the economic inclusion of our community.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Looking ahead, Council is keen to adopt an even more integrated approach to skills and employment and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to future policies across both skills and employment or serve as a case study for local and national discussions.

I also express Council's interest in meeting with other Ministers, including the Treasurer, Deputy Premier Ben Carroll and Ministers Vicki Ward and Natalie Hutchins, to gain insights into government policy positions and explore collaborative opportunities.

We also would be delighted to invite Ministers to attend a Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce meeting to gain firsthand insights into the diversity of its membership, learn more about the local employment and skills issues and participate in relevant events such as industry-specific jobs expo as the opportunity arises.

Given the experience and expertise of the Taskforce, we invite you to utilise it as an advisory body to inform funding decisions around employment and skills in our local Hume community and the northern corridor more broadly.

Lastly, Council seeks consideration for the continuation of the existing funding beyond 30 June 2025 to sustain and expand the impactful work initiated under the HCRP through the Strengthening Pathways to Economic Participation program.

Systemic change in addressing unemployment necessitates sustained funding and support from government. As such, we respectfully request continued support for the HCRP and your advocacy for further consideration of place-based funding approaches.

We stand ready to undertake pilot programs or utilise our expertise to deliver impactful outcomes if opportunities for funding arise.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to further engagement and follow up.

If you would like any further information please contact Rachel Dapiran, Director of City Planning and Places on or at

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

File No: HCC14/675
Enquiries: George Osborne
Email:

12 July 2024

The Hon. Enver Erdogan
Minister for Corrections
Minister for Youth Justice
Minister for Victim Support
MP for Northern Metropolitan

Via email: enver.erdogan@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Minister ~~Erdogan~~ Enver,

RE: THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to you and your colleagues for attending the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussion on 19 June 2024 at Parliament. Your presence provided us with a valuable opportunity to showcase the impactful work that the taskforce has achieved providing strategic stewardship over Council's skills and employment initiatives designed to connect our residents with local jobs.

In particular, I would like to thank you and our other local MPs, Kathleen Matthews-Ward, Ros Spence, Iwan Walters and Josh Bull, for your continuing support of skills and employment matters and place-based initiatives aimed at enhancing economic inclusion for Hume residents.

Hume City Council is acutely aware of the challenges posed by unemployment, especially in certain pockets of Hume. Council firmly believes in the transformative power of sustainable, meaningful employment, recognising that "Jobs change lives." Demonstrating sector leadership, Council is committed to supporting local jobs for local people.

Over the past 13 years, we have been fortunate to receive invaluable support from the State Government, notably through funding for targeted place-based initiatives such as the Hume Community Revitalisation Project (HCRP). Scheduled to conclude on 30 June 2025, the HCRP has yielded positive outcomes since its inception in 2017.

It has strengthened community-led governance, facilitated strategic coordination among Council, DJSIR, and local stakeholders, and provided crucial wrap-around support for job seekers.

Since 2017, the HCRP has supported 1,705 residents in priority postcodes with high unemployment rates, including 563 individuals placed into employment and 30 women supported in starting their own businesses through the Stepping Stone project. These achievements underscore our commitment to fostering inclusive economic growth and opportunity within our community.

Please find attached information that outlines the positive outcomes achieved by Council's Economic Development Department through the funding received as well as some wider outcomes. Also attached is the "Local Jobs for Local People" booklet, which outlines Council's collaborative partnership model in improving the economic inclusion of our community.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Looking ahead, Council is keen to adopt an even more integrated approach to skills and employment and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to future policies across both skills and employment or serve as a case study for local and national discussions.

I also express Council's interest in meeting with other Ministers, including the Treasurer, Deputy Premier Ben Carroll and Ministers Vicki Ward and Natalie Hutchins, to gain insights into government policy positions and explore collaborative opportunities.

We also would be delighted to invite Ministers to attend a Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce meeting to gain firsthand insights into the diversity of its membership, learn more about the local employment and skills issues and participate in relevant events such as industry-specific jobs expo as the opportunity arises.

Given the experience and expertise of the Taskforce, we invite you to utilise it as an advisory body to inform funding decisions around employment and skills in our local Hume community and the northern corridor more broadly.

Lastly, Council seeks consideration for the continuation of the existing funding beyond 30 June 2025 to sustain and expand the impactful work initiated under the HCRP through the Strengthening Pathways to Economic Participation program.

Systemic change in addressing unemployment necessitates sustained funding and support from government. As such, we respectfully request continued support for the HCRP and your advocacy for further consideration of place-based funding approaches.

We stand ready to undertake pilot programs or utilise our expertise to deliver impactful outcomes if opportunities for funding arise.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to further engagement and follow up.

If you would like any further information please contact Rachel Dapiran, Director of City Planning and Places on or at

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

File No: HCC14/675
Enquiries: George Osborne
Email:

12 July 2024

The Hon. Vicki Ward
Minister for Employment
Minister for Prevention of Family Violence
MP for Eltham

Via email: vicki.ward@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Minister ~~Ward~~ Vicki,

RE: THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to you and your colleagues for attending the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussion on 19 June 2024 at Parliament. Your presence provided us with a valuable opportunity to showcase the impactful work that the taskforce has achieved providing strategic stewardship over Council's skills and employment initiatives designed to connect our residents with local jobs.

In particular, I would like to thank our local MPs, Kathleen Matthews-Ward, Ros Spence, Iwan Walters and Josh Bull, for their continuing support of skills and employment matters and place-based initiatives aimed at enhancing economic inclusion for Hume residents.

Hume City Council is acutely aware of the challenges posed by unemployment, especially in certain pockets of Hume. Council firmly believes in the transformative power of sustainable, meaningful employment, recognising that "Jobs change lives." Demonstrating sector leadership, Council is committed to supporting local jobs for local people.

Over the past 13 years, we have been fortunate to receive invaluable support from the State Government, notably through funding for targeted place-based initiatives such as the Hume Community Revitalisation Project (HCRP). Scheduled to conclude on 30 June 2025, the HCRP has yielded positive outcomes since its inception in 2017.

It has strengthened community-led governance, facilitated strategic coordination among Council, DJSIR, and local stakeholders, and provided crucial wrap-around support for job seekers.

Since 2017, the HCRP has supported 1,705 residents in priority postcodes with high unemployment rates, including 563 individuals placed into employment and 30 women supported in starting their own businesses through the Stepping Stone project. These achievements underscore our commitment to fostering inclusive economic growth and opportunity within our community.

Please find attached information that outlines the positive outcomes achieved by Council's Economic Development Department through the funding received as well as some wider outcomes. Also attached is the "Local Jobs for Local People" booklet, which outlines Council's collaborative partnership model in improving the economic inclusion of our community.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Looking ahead, Council is keen to adopt an even more integrated approach to skills and employment and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to future policies across both skills and employment or serve as a case study for local and national discussions.

I also express Council's interest in meeting with other Ministers, including the Treasurer, Deputy Premier Ben Carroll and Ministers Vicki Ward and Natalie Hutchins, to gain insights into government policy positions and explore collaborative opportunities.

We also would be delighted to invite Ministers to attend a Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce meeting to gain firsthand insights into the diversity of its membership, learn more about the local employment and skills issues and participate in relevant events such as industry-specific jobs expo as the opportunity arises.

Given the experience and expertise of the Taskforce, we invite you to utilise it as an advisory body to inform funding decisions around employment and skills in our local Hume community and the northern corridor more broadly.

Lastly, Council seeks consideration for the continuation of the existing funding beyond 30 June 2025 to sustain and expand the impactful work initiated under the HCRP through the Strengthening Pathways to Economic Participation program.

Systemic change in addressing unemployment necessitates sustained funding and support from government. As such, we respectfully request continued support for the HCRP and your advocacy for further consideration of place-based funding approaches.

We stand ready to undertake pilot programs or utilise our expertise to deliver impactful outcomes if opportunities for funding arise.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to further engagement and follow up.

If you would like any further information please contact Rachel Dapiran, Director of City Planning and Places on

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

File No: HCC14/675
Enquiries: George Osborne
Email:

HUME CITY COUNCIL

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www hume.vic.gov.au

12 July 2024

The Hon. Ros Spence
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Carers and Volunteers
MP for Kalkallo

Via email: ros.spence@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Minister Spence, Ros

RE: THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to your colleagues for attending the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce discussion on 19 June 2024 at Parliament. Their presence provided us with a valuable opportunity to showcase the impactful work that the taskforce has achieved providing strategic stewardship over Council's skills and employment initiatives designed to connect our residents with local jobs.

In particular, I would like to thank you and our other local MPs, Kathleen Matthews-Ward, Iwan Walters and Josh Bull, for your continuing support of skills and employment matters and place-based initiatives aimed at enhancing economic inclusion for Hume residents.

Hume City Council is acutely aware of the challenges posed by unemployment, especially in certain pockets of Hume. Council firmly believes in the transformative power of sustainable, meaningful employment, recognising that "Jobs change lives." Demonstrating sector leadership, Council is committed to supporting local jobs for local people.

Over the past 13 years, we have been fortunate to receive invaluable support from the State Government, notably through funding for targeted place-based initiatives such as the Hume Community Revitalisation Project (HCRP). Scheduled to conclude on 30 June 2025, the HCRP has yielded positive outcomes since its inception in 2017.

It has strengthened community-led governance, facilitated strategic coordination among Council, DJSIR, and local stakeholders, and provided crucial wrap-around support for job seekers.

Since 2017, the HCRP has supported 1,705 residents in priority postcodes with high unemployment rates, including 563 individuals placed into employment and 30 women supported in starting their own businesses through the Stepping Stone project. These achievements underscore our commitment to fostering inclusive economic growth and opportunity within our community.

Please find attached information that outlines the positive outcomes achieved by Council's Economic Development Department through the funding received as well as some wider outcomes. Also attached is the "Local Jobs for Local People" booklet, which outlines Council's collaborative partnership model in improving the economic inclusion of our community.

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Looking ahead, Council is keen to adopt an even more integrated approach to skills and employment and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to future policies across both skills and employment or serve as a case study for local and national discussions.

I also express Council's interest in meeting with other Ministers, including the Treasurer, Deputy Premier Ben Carroll and Ministers Vicki Ward and Natalie Hutchins, to gain insights into government policy positions and explore collaborative opportunities.

We also would be delighted to invite Ministers to attend a Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce meeting to gain firsthand insights into the diversity of its membership, learn more about the local employment and skills issues and participate in relevant events such as industry-specific jobs expo as the opportunity arises.

Given the experience and expertise of the Taskforce, we invite you to utilise it as an advisory body to inform funding decisions around employment and skills in our local Hume community and the northern corridor more broadly.

Lastly, Council seeks consideration for the continuation of the existing funding beyond 30 June 2025 to sustain and expand the impactful work initiated under the HCRP through the Strengthening Pathways to Economic Participation program.

Systemic change in addressing unemployment necessitates sustained funding and support from government. As such, we respectfully request continued support for the HCRP and your advocacy for further consideration of place-based funding approaches.

We stand ready to undertake pilot programs or utilise our expertise to deliver impactful outcomes if opportunities for funding arise.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to further engagement and follow up.

If you would like any further information please contact Rachel Dapiran, Director of City Planning and Places (

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

Local jobs for local people

A GUIDE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT



scanlon foundation

HUME CITY COUNCIL

WELCOMINGCITIES



Acknowledgements

The Scanlon Foundation and Hume City Council have collaborated to publish the first edition of this instructional handbook in September 2017.

The content reflects the ongoing efforts and dedication of Hume City Council, including the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce, Hume Employment and Learning Committee and the Local Employment Partnerships Team, all based within the Council's Economic Development Department.

We wish to acknowledge and thank the following people for participating in the development of this publication:

- George Osborne, Maria Dimitriou, Silvia Sidzimovska, Connie D'Souza and Vivian Butler from Hume City Council
- Peter Scanlon AO and Anthea Hancocks from the Scanlon Foundation
- Aleem Ali from Welcoming Cities
- Professor Greg Baxter, Chair, Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce
- Abdul Kuddus, Thuy Thi Nguyen, Sivaprakasan Thachilath and colleagues from Lawand Trade
- Kasey Findlay and Nour Elalfy of PARKROYAL Melbourne Airport
- Leading Senior Constable Grant Young of Victoria Police
- Hannah McEwan, Rebecca Woods and Adria Portelli from Lendlease Craigieburn Central
- Janey Kuzma from the Australian Department of Employment
- Elysia Delaine and Sally James from The Brotherhood of St Laurence
- Toni Wren, employment and social policy consultant
- Phil Cooper, uWorkin
- Sue Vittori, of Vittori Communications (writing)
- Melanie Faith Dove (photography)
- Johanna Villani Design (graphic design).

Foreword



"When we adopted our original Social Justice Charter in 2001, Hume City Council made clear our intention to continually strive to improve the wellbeing of everyone living in our community. We also committed to respecting and supporting their right to work.

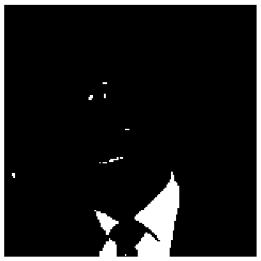
One way we are doing this is by actively connecting unemployed residents with local job opportunities through our Local Jobs for Local People Program.

Jobs change lives and councils are perfectly placed to connect local employers with local jobseekers. We can broker relationships, flush out the hidden job market, open up exclusive access for residents to apply for positions, and coordinate meaningful training and support. The result is a win-win-win situation for local employers, jobseekers and our community as a whole.

Our Hume Local Employment Partnerships Team has already had a significant impact on the lives of thousands of Hume residents by successfully matching them or one of their family members with local jobs. This approach has also significantly strengthened the council's relationships with our business community and local service providers.

I encourage other councils to follow our lead."

CR DREW JESSOP MAYOR OF HUME



"High unemployment contributes to a wide range of social and economic problems in local communities.

While federal and state governments will continue to deliver policies and fund programs that address unemployment, local government is in a unique position to tackle this issue at the community level.

I applaud Hume City Council for its innovative Local Jobs for Local People Program and hope this handbook inspires other councils to implement this effective place-based approach to support their own communities."

PETER SCANLON AO CHAIR, SCANLON FOUNDATION



"Having a job is financially and socially empowering. However, migrants and refugees who come to Australia face many barriers to entering the workforce.

People come here seeking opportunities and a better life, not handouts. Getting a job builds self-esteem and a sense of belonging. Working close to home anchors people more deeply into their local community, improves local knowledge and opens up social networks.

When I first heard about Hume City Council's Local Jobs for Local People Program it struck me as being such an obvious role for local government to play, especially in communities looking for solutions to socio-economic challenges.

I commend this innovative program to other councils and hope it will eventually become standard practice in Australia's local government sector."

ALEEM ALI NATIONAL MANAGER, WELCOMING CITIES

Contents

Front cover: from left, Abhishek Desai, Jamaica Blue Café; Hannah McEwan, Lendlease-Craigieburn Central; Thuy Thi Nguyen, Lawand Trade.

Foreword 1

Introduction 3

SECTION 1

Local jobs for local people: An overview 4

Benefits of the Hume City model 7

The Hume story 8

SECTION 2

The program in action: Case studies 10

SECTION 3

How to implement the program 14

Hume program governance structure 16

The labour market facilitation process 18

Critical success factors 27

Glossary and abbreviations 28

Below: Hume City Council's Local Employment Partnerships Team connects local employers with local jobseekers.



Introduction

Changing lives and communities

Jobs change lives. They empower individuals, sustain families and strengthen communities.

High unemployment levels affect many communities across Australia and the task of tackling this problem has traditionally fallen to the federal and state governments.

Local councils are also in an excellent position to understand the changing needs of local businesses and residents and to help address unemployment by brokering local jobs for local people.

Hume City Council in outer-metropolitan Melbourne has developed a pioneering program that transforms the lives of unemployed residents and increases economic participation at the local level.

Hume's Local Jobs for Local People Program provides a free service that connects local employers with willing local job candidates. Its primary aim is to enable and support the transition of unemployed residents into jobs in the municipality.

By taking a holistic approach to implementing this place-based employment program, the council has strengthened its relationships with local residents, businesses and service providers – and changed thousands of lives for the better. The program's success is demonstrating that local labour market facilitation is another way councils can foster cohesive, resilient and economically healthy communities.

The Local Jobs for Local People Program model can be easily replicated in other municipalities. It can be targeted or scaled depending on the needs of each community.

What is the purpose of this handbook?

Hume City Council has embedded the concept of helping local people find local jobs into its strategic planning and daily operations.

The council has established a dedicated Local Employment Partnerships Team, galvanised collaboration among local stakeholders and grown its Local Jobs for Local People Program into a municipality-wide agenda.

This handbook is designed to provide local government leaders with the practical knowledge needed to implement the Hume program model in their own communities. It will be of particular interest to councils wanting to:

- increase the wellbeing, social inclusion and economic participation of their residents
- increase engagement with local employers and developers, and
- enhance the overall economic prosperity of their community.

The content will also be of interest to federal and state government decision-makers, employers, employment service providers, vocational training organisations and other organisations working to address unemployment and improve social cohesion.

What do we mean by 'local jobs' and 'local people'?

The Local Jobs for Local People Program focuses on helping unemployed residents find work in their local community.

For the purposes of this handbook, the term 'local jobs' refers to jobs that are based inside the municipal boundaries of the council implementing the program. 'Local people' refers to residents living in the relevant municipality.

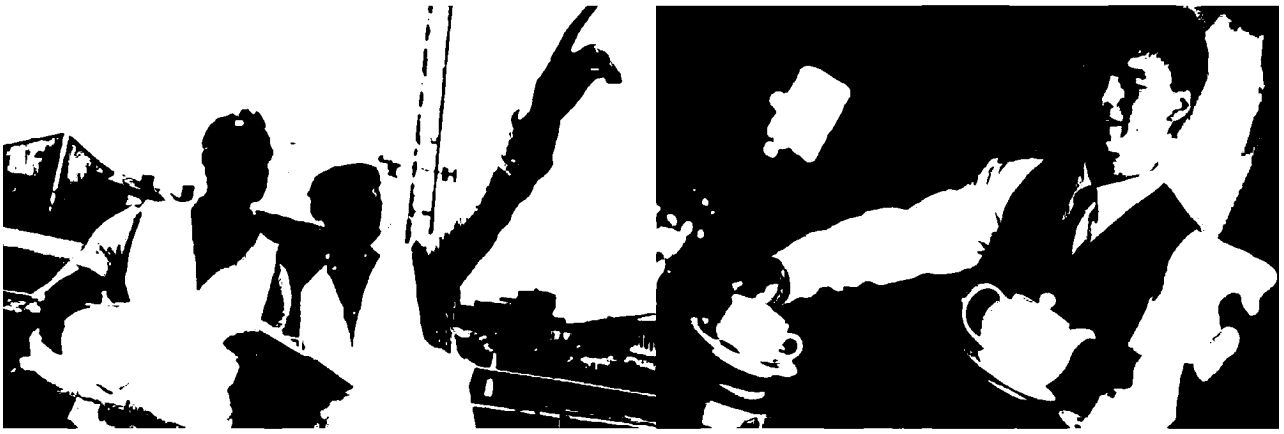
What do we mean by a 'place-based approach'?

Placed-based approaches develop and deliver local solutions to local problems. They are particularly effective for addressing intergenerational poverty and disadvantage.

Genuine place-based approaches bring together community members, organisations, businesses, and services to solve local problems and build on local strengths.

SECTION 1

Local jobs for local people
An overview



Tackling unemployment at the local level

Local government is uniquely placed to bring together all stakeholders to develop a shared, holistic approach to addressing unemployment at the local level.

Councils already engage with local businesses, residents and service providers on a daily basis. A council is in the best position to know when a business is planning to expand or when a new commercial, residential or infrastructure development is in the pipeline.

Each council's economic development team works hard to attract new investment and infrastructure into their municipality. They are among the first to know when a business or other employer is thinking of moving into the area. They can engage early and work closely with employers to map out their immediate and ongoing recruitment needs.

The Local Jobs for Local People Program model developed by Hume City Council enables a council to assist unemployed residents while also giving employers streamlined access to a supply of local job candidates who are motivated, capable and ready to work.

A neutral employment broker

Under the model, the council acts as a neutral and trusted broker between employers, developers, community organisations, education providers, employment service providers and local residents who are looking for work.

The council's Local Employment Partnerships Team aims to connect employers – on the demand side, with local jobseekers – on the supply side. This team delivers the following services at no cost to employers or residents:

- labour market facilitation
- online talent communities
- employer-led information sessions
- targeted job search workshops and drop-in sessions
- one-on-one coaching and support for jobseekers
- promotion for job vacancies
- priority or exclusive access for local residents to some vacancies
- pre-screening and shortlisting of applicants
- tailored skills development solutions designed with training partners
- traineeship and apprenticeship programs offered exclusively to local residents
- jobs fairs and other major employment-oriented events
- embedding the 'employ local' philosophy into the council's own recruitment practices
- post-placement follow-up and support.

Local Jobs for Local People Program – the process

ENGAGE

- Identify opportunities for future jobs growth
- Engage with employers to identify recruitment needs
- Establish local partnerships and online talent communities
- Communicate job vacancies through local network

EDUCATE

- Conduct employer-led information sessions
- Present targeted job search support workshops
- Develop tailored skills training through partners
- Support individual jobseekers with job searches and applications

EMPLOY

- Pre-screen applicants
- Recommend a shortlist of suitable local candidates to employers
- Coach jobseekers through interview processes
- Provide post-placement support to employers and employees to ensure sustainable employment

Which jobseekers are supported?

The Local Jobs for Local People Program assists unemployed and underemployed local residents, particularly those experiencing disadvantage and barriers to obtaining work. Target groups include, but are not limited to:

- culturally and linguistically diverse residents
- recently arrived migrants and refugees
- youth aged 16–24
- retrenched workers
- mature-aged jobseekers (45+)
- people with a disability
- parents returning to work
- public housing residents.

Collaboration drives community outcomes

Promoting collaboration between stakeholders and establishing strong local governance and partnerships are essential elements of the Local Jobs for Local People Program model.

The council partners with employers, training organisations, employment service providers, and other community and government services to facilitate a municipality-wide approach to connecting residents with job opportunities in the local area.

The council's local knowledge, networks and neutrality help to maximise buy-in from all parties.

This holistic partnership model builds strong governance and makes the program sustainable for the longer term.



"Hiring from your local talent pool signals to your customers and clients that you're a true citizen of your area. You've invested in its growth, the wellbeing of its citizens and the health of the local economy. World citizenship must begin at home, afterall."

WILLIAM CRAIG '5 BENEFITS OF HIRING LOCALLY', *FORBES* MAGAZINE ARTICLE (2016)

Accessing the 'hidden' job market

80% OF AUSTRALIAN JOBS ARE NOT ADVERTISED

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (2006), around 80% of Australia's jobs are filled from what is referred to as the 'hidden market'.

Hidden jobs are not advertised on mainstream employment websites and are generally filled by word-of-mouth. Jobseekers – and labour market facilitators – need to dig deeper to find them.

This makes networking the most effective job search technique for people looking for entry-level or low-skilled jobs that are less likely to be featured on job boards that charge employers to advertise positions. The more widely advertised positions, which represent only 20% of the market, also attract larger numbers of applicants, making the process far more competitive.

The Local Jobs for Local People approach focuses on flushing out the hidden job market at the local level and matching the available jobs with suitable local candidates.

Where possible, the council's labour market facilitation officers (LMFOs) negotiate with the employer to offer priority or exclusive access to suitable local residents. When a skills gap is identified, they broker an appropriate training solution.

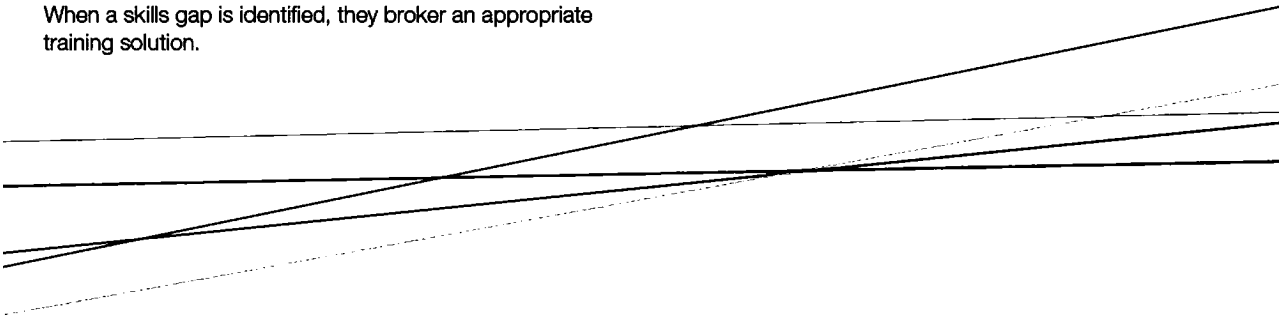
A flexible, replicable approach

The Local Jobs for Local People Program can be delivered as a holistic agenda across an entire municipality and also targeted to meet the needs of a specific recruitment task, locality or category of jobseekers.

For example, the program can:

- be aligned with an industry downturn or a major new development
- focus on supporting residents living in a suburb with a high level of unemployment, or
- assist different categories of jobseekers, such as youth, the long-term unemployed, migrant women, or a specific cultural group.

The program is scalable and replicable across all employer sectors. It can assist organisations and recruitment tasks of all sizes, from a small café to a major shopping centre development.



"Councils have a unique role, as planning and economic development departments are often the first point of contact for employers looking to expand or start a new facility in the area. Councils can impress upon them the benefit of hiring locally – such as shorter commuting times ensuring a more flexible workforce, and how rising employment levels can increase the buying power of local residents, which in turn increases revenue for local businesses.

In customer-facing businesses, including growing industries such as the service sector and health and social assistance, ensuring your workforce reflects and understands your customers has demonstrated business benefits. Councils can be a catalyst to connect employers and local training and employment services to better match demand with supply."

TONI WREN EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL POLICY CONSULTANT

Benefits of the Hume model

The Local Jobs for Local People Program generates many complementary economic and social benefits for local employers, jobseekers and communities.

Benefits for jobseekers

- Practical pathways from unemployment to employability and work.
- Access to free, expert support with job searches, writing resumes, interview skills, and advice about how to prepare for upcoming job opportunities.
- Exclusive access to current information about local job vacancies and associated training opportunities. E.g. resident-only access to online talent communities, social media updates, skills development courses and job trials.
- Exclusive or priority access to some job vacancies.
- Direct contact with employers at information sessions, workshops and site visits.
- Free expert help to prepare resumes and cover letters and practice for interviews.
- Less commuting time, more quality time at home with their families, stronger connections into the local community.
- Participation is voluntary.
- Post-placement support maximises the likelihood of achieving sustainable employment.

Benefits for employers

- Direct and fast access to the local labour force.
- The local people applying for positions genuinely want to work.
- Specialist recruitment support free of charge, including shortlisting candidates and bulk pre-screening for major campaigns. Support to fill one position or 1000.
- Practical training solutions tailored to suit the needs of their business.
- A neutral, non-commercial recruitment partner able to assist with future workforce planning needs.
- Employees with strong connections into the local community. Research indicates that people who live and work locally are more likely to stay in their jobs and be happy in their jobs.
- The opportunity to adopt a 'hire local' policy as a sign of business loyalty to the local community.

Benefits for councils

- Improved collaboration and resourcing between local, state and federal government agencies.
- A stronger platform for engaging with the business community.
- An additional 'point of difference' and incentive to attract developers and investors to the area.
- A broader approach and higher profile for council's economic development team within the community.
- Improved engagement with disadvantaged and potentially isolated residents.
- The ability to be proactive in addressing high unemployment and breaking the grip of intergenerational welfare dependency in local families.
- The capacity to target the program at a particularly disadvantaged geographic or social demographic within the community.

Benefits for communities

- More empowered local families, deeper local connections and improved social cohesion.
- Increased participation of residents in the local workforce, generating substantial economic benefits. More of the income earned locally will be spent in local businesses.
- Better coordination and collaboration between local stakeholders involved in employment, education, vocational training and social support services.
- Reduced reliance from local employers on workers coming in from other LGAs. Potential to reduce the outflow of local residents to jobs in other municipalities.
- Stronger relationships between the local business community and local residents.
- A potentially cleaner environment and less congestion on local roads and public transport due to a reduction in long distance commuting.

The Hume story

A city of socio-economic contrasts

Hume City is one of Australia's fastest growing and most culturally diverse municipalities.

The LGA is located in an urban growth corridor on the north-west edge of metropolitan Melbourne and encompasses the busy Melbourne International Airport precinct and the Calder, Tullamarine and Hume freeway corridors.

Hume welcomed over 8,800 new residents in the 2016-17 financial year, including Australia's second-highest intake of humanitarian entrants. Over 35% of its residents were born overseas and almost half speak a language other than English at home.

In many respects the local economy is thriving, with Hume's population and jobs market growing at around double the national average.

In contrast, Hume is also one of Melbourne's most socio-economically disadvantaged LGAs. Its unemployment rate, at over 10%, is almost double the national level. Three suburbs have over 20% unemployment and the region has Victoria's third highest rate of youth unemployment (16%).

Despite strong jobs growth, the downturn in the manufacturing industry, particularly the automotive sector, is having a significant impact on the resident workforce. In the face of high local unemployment, around two thirds of the people who work in Hume travel there from other municipalities.

A municipality-wide approach

Hume City Council was one of the first councils in Australia to adopt a Social Justice Charter declaring its intention to address social, cultural, economic and other factors that impact the aspirations of its citizens.

In 2012, this commitment led the council to look for practical solutions to the local unemployment situation. Hume's *Economic Development Strategy 2030* and 4-year Council Plan prioritised the need to stimulate economic participation by generating more jobs for local people.

The Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce (the Taskforce) was established to guide a whole-of-government and community approach to improving employment opportunities for local residents while also supporting local businesses. This influential council committee includes representatives from all tiers of government, business and industry, community services, and secondary and higher education providers.

The council also established an Employment and Learning Committee (ELC) to bring together government service providers and local training providers. The Chair of this committee sits on the Taskforce.

The council's Local Jobs for Local People Program works alongside these forums in what has grown to become a municipality-wide approach to connecting unemployed residents with local employment opportunities.

"Only one third of more than 70,000 jobs in Hume City are filled by local residents – two thirds of the workforce come from outside. And yet we have high local unemployment. That's why we have made this place-based partnership model a local priority.

We are working with our businesses, community partners, and our colleagues in the Australian and Victorian governments to change this trend and make a positive impact for our residents.

Our goal is to see at least half the jobs in Hume taken up by Hume residents. Supporting economic participation is one of our priorities and has become a focus for our whole community."

GEORGE OSBORNE MANAGER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HUME CITY COUNCIL

Lasting impacts for residents and employers

In five years, more than 5,000 job vacancies have been identified and promoted to Hume residents through the program and over 1,200 residents have secured employment as a result.

More than 450 of these placements were due to the council's LMFOs engaging directly with individual employers and providing them with recruitment support. The remaining placements were achieved through hosting jobs fairs.

The council monitored each of the 450 directly brokered placements after commencement and found that 70% resulted in employment being sustained for six months or longer.

Early in the program, the ratio of residents placed in work compared to the number of jobs identified was 1 in 5. In the past financial year, building on lessons learned, a more targeted approach by the LMFOs achieved 150 job placements from 180 identified vacancies – increasing the outcomes ratio to 4 in 5.

Program achievements 2012–2017

5,000 LOCAL JOB VACANCIES
identified over 5 years

1,200 JOB PLACEMENTS
facilitated by council's Local Employment Partnerships Team

70% OF DIRECTLY BROKERED PLACEMENTS
resulted in sustained employment

Hume Local Jobs for Local People Program

4,000 attendees, 420 placements

- Hume Joblink
- Melbourne Airport Joblink
- Craigieburn Central Joblink

CRAIGIEBURN JOBS FAIR 2013
5,100 attendees, 330 job placements

CRAIGIEBURN CENTRAL OPENING 2013
2000 jobs made available to local residents

HIGHLANDS SHOPPING CENTRE 2012
42 locals placed in jobs prior to opening

SECTION 2

The program in action
Case studies



Craigieburn Central's Retail Manager, Hannah McEwan chats with Abhishek Desal, owner of Jamaica Blue Café.



Hannah McEwan and Craigieburn Central Centre Manager, Rebecca Woods, assist a local resident at the Craigieburn Jobs Fair.

Launching a new 'town centre'

Craigieburn Central Town Centre opened in late 2013 and presented the perfect opportunity to apply the Local Jobs for Local People approach to a major recruitment task.

Around 2,000 jobs were on offer in the new shopping centre. Hume City Council negotiated with the developer, Lendlease, to have all the jobs made available to local residents via a new Craigieburn Central Joblink talent community (www.craigieburncentral.com.au/community/joblink). The website was funded and managed by Lendlease and used the same online platform as the Hume Joblink talent community,

The council and Lendlease also partnered to deliver the Craigieburn Jobs Fair two months before the centre's soft opening. Around 30 of the new retail tenants promoted 660 job vacancies at the fair, which attracted over 5,000 local residents. The event resulted in 330 job placements for local people.

The organisers were overwhelmed by the incredible response from the community to the jobs fair. A senior Lendlease spokesman said at the time that the council-supported recruitment process offered "a seamless and easy way to recruit" and "delivered our retailers a better experience in the recruitment space than they would have got anywhere else".

Locals give contractor a secure base

Family company Assetlink was awarded the cleaning and security contract at Craigieburn Central one month before the centre was due to open and needed to recruit 30 to 40 staff in a very short time frame.

The council linked the company with the local talent pool and pre-screened candidates. Meeting rooms in the Craigieburn Library – a council facility – were made available for Assetlink to conduct interviews.

The contractor ended up finding all its new employees from the local community.

Café owner goes with local talent

Café owner Abhishek Desal was one of the new retailers who participated in the jobs fair. He employed all but one of the staff for his café, Jamaica Blue, from the local talent pool.

"The council process makes my life much easier in terms of recruitment," says Abhishek, who continues to source new staff through the Local Jobs for Local People Program.

"I want to employ local people because they live close to work and are part of the local community," he explains. "I myself am local, and all our regular customers are local, so it is important for me that the staff serving our customers reflect the local community."

Lawand Trade – embracing local labour

The local employer

Lawand Trade pioneered the export of Australian packaged foods and beverages to the Middle East during the early 1990s.

In recent years, the 26-year-old company has expanded its business into East Asia. It currently exports over 150 Australian brands and has its own offices in all its markets.

Lawand Trade relocated its corporate headquarters and warehouse from Sydney to Melbourne in early 2017. While preparing for the relocation, the company's General Manager – Operations, Abdul Kuddus, met with Hume City Council's Economic Development Manager, George Osborne.

"I just wanted to find out more about the council and the local area," says Abdul. "However, I was pleasantly surprised when George handed over a brochure with heaps of important information about the various activities the council undertakes, one of them being the Local Jobs for Local People Program.

"This program was very simple but very effective," Abdul explains. "I provided a brief synopsis of our recruitment needs to the council's employment partnerships team and they organised everything, from shortlisting candidates to scheduling convenient interview dates and times."

The company initially employed six casual staff sourced from the local community. Two have since been made permanent employees.

"Lawand Trade is happy, as we are providing jobs to deserving candidates who belong to the community where we are located," Abdul says. This means his team members have reduced travel times to and from work, are closer to home and their families, and are familiar with the local area.

"Hats off to Hume City Council and its entire team; it works like a corporate entity," he says. "I'm extremely impressed by the way this council functions to assist the local community and local businesses."

The local employee

Thuy Thi Nguyen had worked at the Ford Motor Company's Broadmeadows assembly plant for 12 years when it closed its doors in October 2016.

In her mid-50s, single and with a teenage daughter to support, Thuy was feeling cut adrift and worried.

"I was impatient to find myself another job and feeling very stressed that I wasn't going to find one," says Thuy. "Then a friend recommended this program run by Hume City Council, which helps local people in need of finding a job."

Thuy attended a number of employment transition activities, including a jobs fair, and received one-on-one support from council officers. Eventually she was matched with a warehouse assistant position at Lawand Trade's head office in West Meadows, which she began in January 2017.

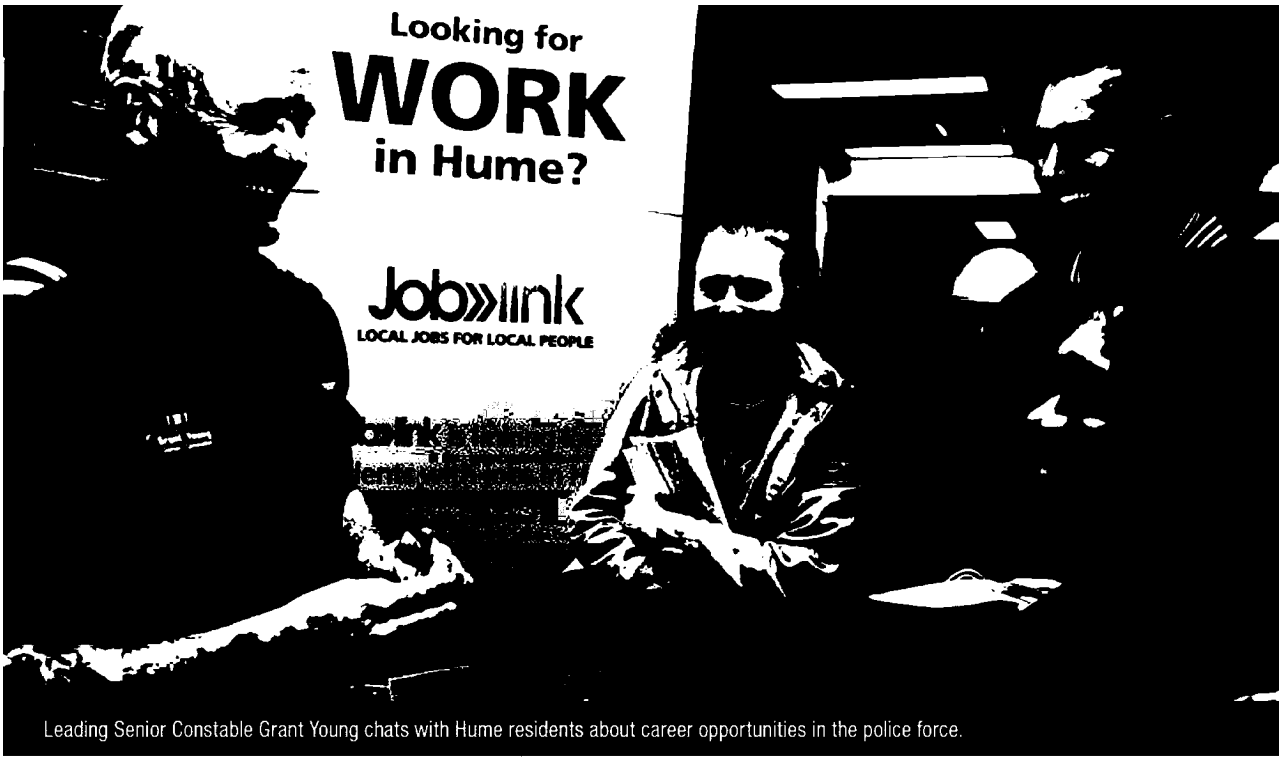
"I'm so thankful for the help I had from the team at the council," says Thuy. "They were so friendly and helpful and recommended different jobs that were best suited to my needs and experience. In the end, it only took three months to find a new job."

Thuy's work at Lawand Trade is "completely different" to her old job on the Ford assembly line. The position has worked out so well that Thuy is now responsible for overseeing the production of one of the warehouse's processing stations.

"It's only a 15-minute drive from my home in Broadmeadows to where I work," adds Thuy. "This makes it so easy for me to make new friends in my local area, get to work on time and get home to my family quickly at the end of the day."



Thuy Thi Nguyen and her colleagues at Lawand Trade.



Leading Senior Constable Grant Young chats with Hume residents about career opportunities in the police force.

WANTED! Local jobseekers willing to be a force for good

Victoria Police is currently conducting its largest ever recruitment drive, with a mission to fill over 3000 new positions in four years.

The extra personnel are being recruited by 2020 to cope with population growth and address rising crime rates. The huge recruitment task is behind Victoria Police's 'Be a Force for Good' campaign and has been the catalyst for a partnership with Hume City Council's Local Jobs for Local People Program.

The police and the council's Local Employment Partnerships Team have joined forces to encourage more Hume residents, including school leavers, to consider a career in policing.

Victoria Police's recruitment team presents information sessions for local residents, raising awareness about the diverse roles and career paths available within the police force. They also explain the eligibility requirements and application process.

A senior recruitment officer delivers the sessions, which feature talks from locally based police officers. The events are promoted and hosted by the council and the LMFOs provide follow-up support for people who decide to apply.

The free sessions have been attracting large numbers of local people from different age groups, genders and cultural backgrounds.

Leading Senior Constable Grant Young says this is exactly the range of people Victoria Police wants to engage with for recruitment purposes.

"The people who make up our police force need to truly reflect the community we serve in terms of diversity in age, cultural background, gender and sexual orientation," explains Grant, who works in the Applicant Attraction Unit in Victoria Police's Recruiting Services Branch.

"If police officers aren't representative of the whole community, how can we expect to have the full trust and support of the people we are there to protect?"

People are often surprised to learn about the huge range of roles available in the police force. "We refer to it as offering 500 career paths in one," explains Grant.

These days, local knowledge and community involvement are valued and encouraged in the force. While candidates need to be physically fit, recruiters also look for maturity, emotional intelligence and the ability to communicate and empathise with people.

Police often work with councils to tackle problems in local areas, however this collaboration usually occurs in response to public safety or crime-related issues, Grant adds.

"This local employment program in Hume City is a great example of how we can work together proactively to create positive opportunities within a community," he says. "After all, we have shared interests – the council has lots of residents who want to work and we have lots of jobs available for people who want to be a force for good in the community."

Traineeship gives Nour a new career path

The local employee

Nour Elalfy could have ended up as another contributor to Hume City's high youth unemployment statistics. Instead, the 20-year-old registered to participate in the Local Jobs for Local People Program and is now working in a luxury hotel and pursuing a career in hospitality.

Nour is in his first year of a 4-year traineeship with the PARKROYAL Melbourne Airport and studying a Certificate III in Hospitality through William Angliss Institute. The traineeship is giving him the chance to learn customer service roles across all aspects of the hotel's operations.

"When I left school I worked in a few different jobs," says Nour, whose parents migrated to Australia from Egypt before he was born. "I tried working as a mechanic and then as a painter, and then I got a certificate in warehousing and tried that.

"But there wasn't enough work and it was mostly short-term contracts," he says. "And I realised that I didn't like working in jobs where every single day was exactly the same as the day before and where I was often working in isolation from other people."

Nour asked a council officer whether there were any positions available in customer service or hospitality. It was his lucky day. His name was included in a list of unemployed Hume residents who were being considered for two new traineeships with the PARKROYAL Melbourne Airport.

"I'd never been inside a hotel like this before and didn't think I'd ever have the chance to work in such a great environment," he says. "There were only two traineeships available and 16 of us competing for them, so I was really surprised when I made it through."

Eight months later, a member of the council's employment team still keeps in touch with Nour and his managers to find out how his traineeship is progressing.

What he likes most about the job is that no day is the same. "I'm learning something new and dealing with different situations every day – that's what I enjoy and what keeps it exciting for me," he says. "And every day I'm meeting new people and making them feel good about being here in the hotel, which is great for strengthening my character and interpersonal skills."

The local employer

Pan Pacific Hotels Group commenced operating PARKROYAL Melbourne Airport in 2011. Since then, hotel management has used Hume City Council's free job listings and recruitment support.

"The council has been quite proactive in reaching out to us about the recruitment services they can offer in terms of helping us find good job candidates from the local area," says Kasey Findlay, the hotel's Director of Human Capital and Development.

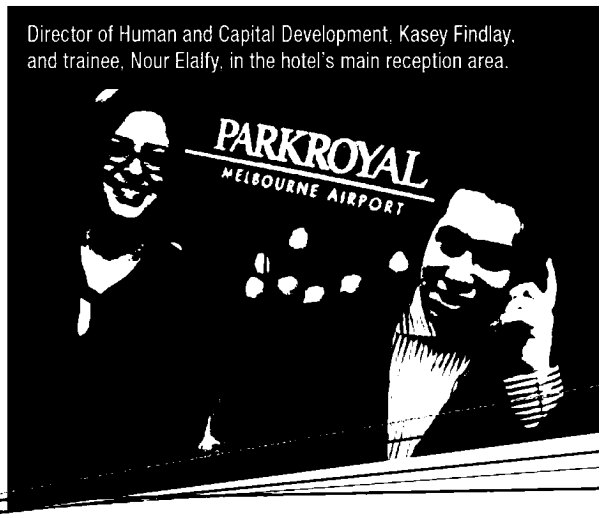
When the hotel's corporate social responsibility team wanted to find out how the organisation could be of greater support to the Hume community, they contacted the council for ideas.

"They told us about the high level of unemployment in this area and we agreed that creating new employment opportunities was the best way to contribute to the wellbeing of this community," Kasey explains. The hotel and the council collaborated to develop a pilot program that offered two traineeships exclusively to unemployed local residents.

The council contacted local employment service providers and drew on its online talent communities to identify 16 jobseekers who were put forward as candidates. The candidates attended a job information session and were taken on a tour of the hotel. Then each person attended a formal interview.

From the hotel's perspective, there are many benefits to employing people who live locally, including local knowledge and better staff retention. It is also easier to fill an unexpected gap in a staff roster when there are employees who live close by.

"It's great for a council to want to get involved in helping its own residents find work," Kasey says. "I've been really impressed with their flexible and full service approach to supporting businesses and residents through this local employment program."



Director of Human and Capital Development, Kasey Findlay, and trainee, Nour Elalfy, in the hotel's main reception area.

SECTION 3

How to implement the program



Build solid foundations

It takes time and a structured approach to establish the collaborative cross-sector partnerships needed for a successful Local Jobs for Local People Program.

Hume City Council advises other councils to treat the program as an umbrella agenda that drives decisions and actions at the local level. The first 12 to 18 months will involve:

- developing a compelling business case and an investment and/or program logic
- establishing strong governance and cross-sectoral partnerships
- securing financial and in-kind resources
- introducing an internal labour market facilitation capability
- setting up complementary social media and talent community forums
- engaging with local employers and jobseekers, and
- delivering targeted place-based or topical campaigns that demonstrate the benefits of the program.

These are not consecutive activities and need to be managed concurrently.

Once these foundations are in place, the Local Jobs for Local People Program can be embedded as a core function of the council and gradually scaled up.

Prepare the business case

Being able to clearly articulate the rationale behind the program and its intended outcomes will help secure internal and external buy-in for the initiative. Issues to consider when developing the business case include:

- socio-economic factors affecting the local community
- the local and wider costs of low economic participation and high unemployment
- the likely benefits of taking action (refer to page 7)
- alignment with existing council charters, plans and strategies
- the value proposition

The *Hume Horizons 2040* community vision features the following strategic objectives:

1. Support and enhance skill development and educational opportunities to reduce disadvantage and improve employment prospects and quality of life.
2. Create conditions that support business growth and create local jobs for Hume residents.

Examples of **value proposition statements** for the Local Jobs for Local People Program include:

- To foster a truly collaborative, community-wide approach to increasing economic participation among local residents.
- To provide a seamless, coordinated approach for local employers and industry to access local human capital.
- To tailor meaningful training pathways and support to build the capacity of local residents (human capital) to compete for local job vacancies.
- To strengthen relationships between the business community and residents to generate local employment opportunities.
- To increase the collaboration between local stakeholders involved in education, employment, vocational training and social support services.
- To strengthen the council's role in developing and coordinating strategic programs aimed at achieving localised employment and learning outcomes.

Establish collaborative governance

Embedding a broad-based and sustainable governance structure is critical. Hume City Council recommends establishing a taskforce as a formal committee of council to leverage whole-of-government and community support.

This taskforce provides strategic stewardship and advocacy to drive the community-wide agenda of generating local job opportunities for local people.

Having inclusive, cross-sectoral membership and clear terms of reference for the taskforce are important for sustaining the partnership model. This also increases the program's capacity to collaborate with stakeholders at the local level.

Employment and Learning Committees (ELCs) are an integral component of the partnership model. ELCs are formal committees that bring together organisations with a focus on employment and training, including jobactive providers, disability employment services, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Employment, local training providers and other relevant community service providers.

ELCs are important for referring jobseekers into the program and local talent communities and securing strong attendances at employer-led sessions.

The Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce meets quarterly and includes 24 representatives from all tiers of government and the local business, education, training and community sectors. It is a formal committee of the council and supports the wider delivery of the Local Jobs for Local People Program. The Taskforce's objectives are to:

1. Establish and maintain a sustainable partnership model and governance structure.
2. Increase the supply of work-ready local people in the context of local jobs in both known and emerging pipeline opportunities.
3. Improve how local labour market programs, training programs and social support services align with the needs of local industry and employment opportunities in Hume.
4. Facilitate a strategy that addresses workforce development and planning, workforce retention and an adaptive workforce aligned to changing business needs.
5. Identify and support projects to address each of the above objectives.

The Chair of the Hume ELC is represented on the Taskforce.

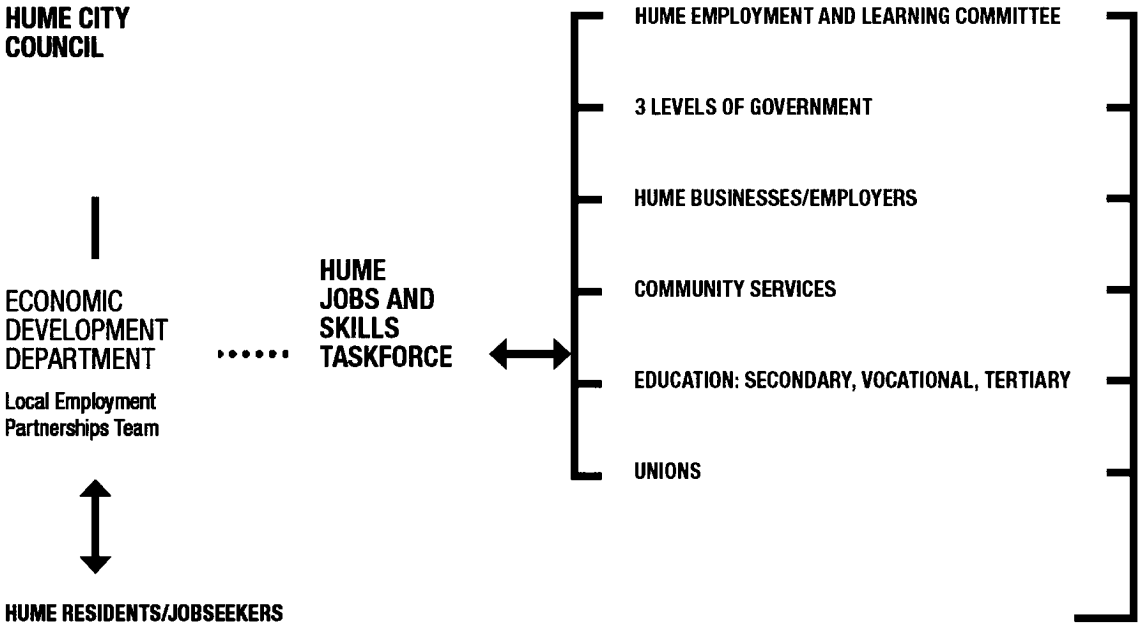


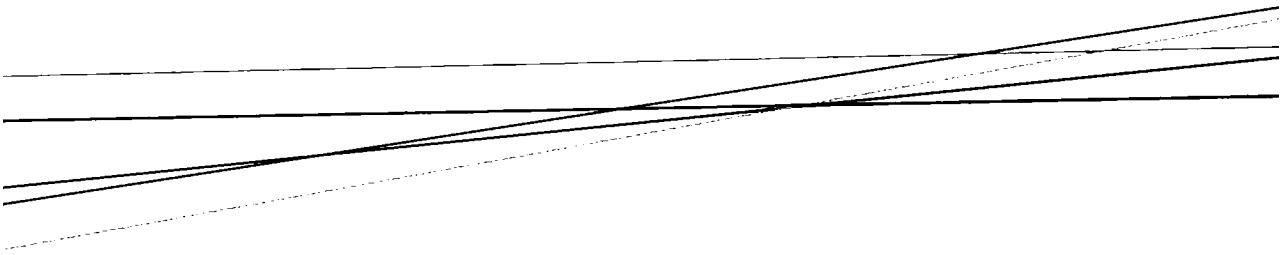
"A successful taskforce relies on three elements: the diverse expertise and experience of its members, and their common passion for the cause, together with the knowledge that through collaboration we can achieve much more than is possible as individuals.

Selecting taskforce members who have the expertise, passion and willingness to collaborate provides a strong foundation for action."

PROFESSOR GREG BAXTER CHAIR, HUME JOBS AND SKILLS TASKFORCE

Hume program governance structure





"The Australian Government Department of Employment has worked in partnership with the Hume City Council over a number of years to help local job-seekers find work and meet the needs of businesses looking for staff.

Much of the success is based on Council's deep understanding of the local community and its willingness to broker local tailored solutions in collaboration with the Department and the network of Australian Government-funded jobactive employment services providers. This effective partnership has resulted in positive outcomes for employers, jobseekers and the broader community."

JANEY KUZMA STATE MANAGER – VICTORIA, AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT

Secure funding and resources

Identifying and connecting into government funding streams can help to sustain the program and gradually expand its impact. Councils in designated growth areas, or with communities experiencing high levels of unemployment and/or disadvantage, can access federal and state government funding to employ labour market facilitators.

Funding may be available through government programs focusing on employment; social procurement; human services; education and training; youth, multicultural and women's affairs; economic development; business and industry support; infrastructure and regional development. Philanthropic trusts, non-profit community service organisations, businesses and industry associations can also provide funding and in-kind support. Targeted funding and sponsorships can be sought for job fairs, internships, apprenticeships and traineeship programs.

It is also important that the council invests in the program, with a view to the broader economic and social benefits to the municipality of having more residents working locally and spending their income in the local area.

Employ a labour market facilitation team

The Hume team

Hume City Council delivers its Local Jobs for Local People Program through a team based in the council's Economic Development Department. The team comprises a Coordinator Local Employment Partnerships, a Local Employment Partnerships Officer, and two Labour Market Facilitation Officers.

The primary focus of the Local Employment Partnerships Team is connecting employers within the LGA with the local labour force. Team members source local employment opportunities from the visible jobs pipeline while also flushing out the hidden market.

New job opportunities are shared with the wider local employment service network, the regional office of the Victorian Department of Human Services and community service networks to obtain referrals of potential local candidates.

The team aims to provide a holistic and seamless transition for their employer and jobseeker clients, adopting a dual approach that focuses on:

- the *supply side* – the needs of the jobseeker, and
- aligning these to the *demand side* – the needs and requirements of the employer.

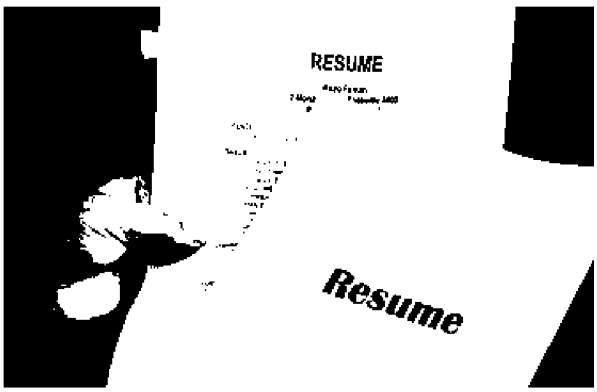
Team members can be referred to as labour market facilitation officers (LMFOs), employment partnership officers (EPOs), employment and learning officers (ELOs) or employer engagement officers (EEOs) depending on the focus of their position and each council's preferred terminology. Their role is to:

- implement the Local Jobs for Local People Program
- identify employment and skills gaps in industry sectors
- identify and source hidden jobs
- identify issues around recruitment and labour market supply
- identify issues around business sustainability, and
- build an overall picture of common issues for businesses within a particular industry sector.

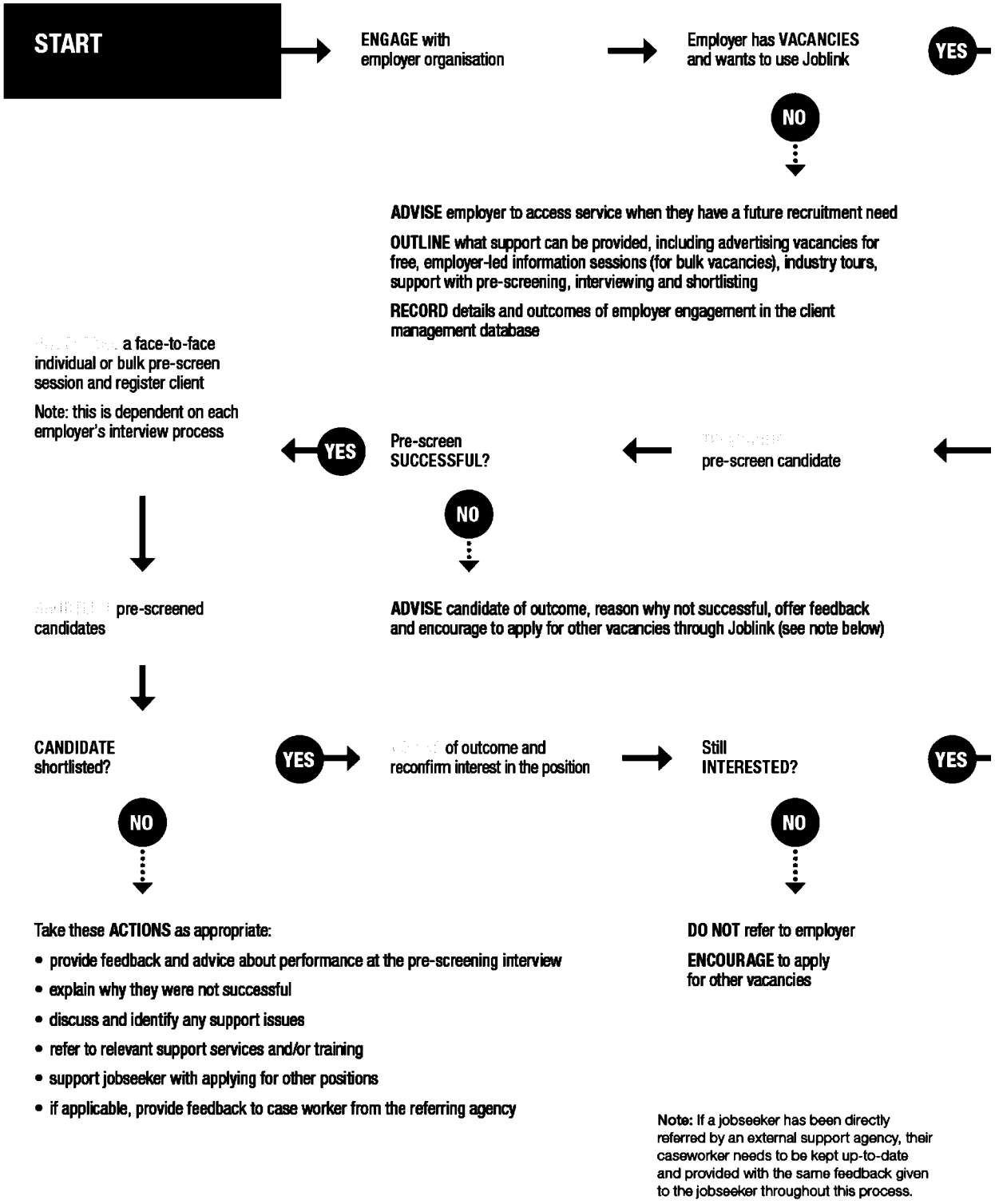
Specific operational tasks include:

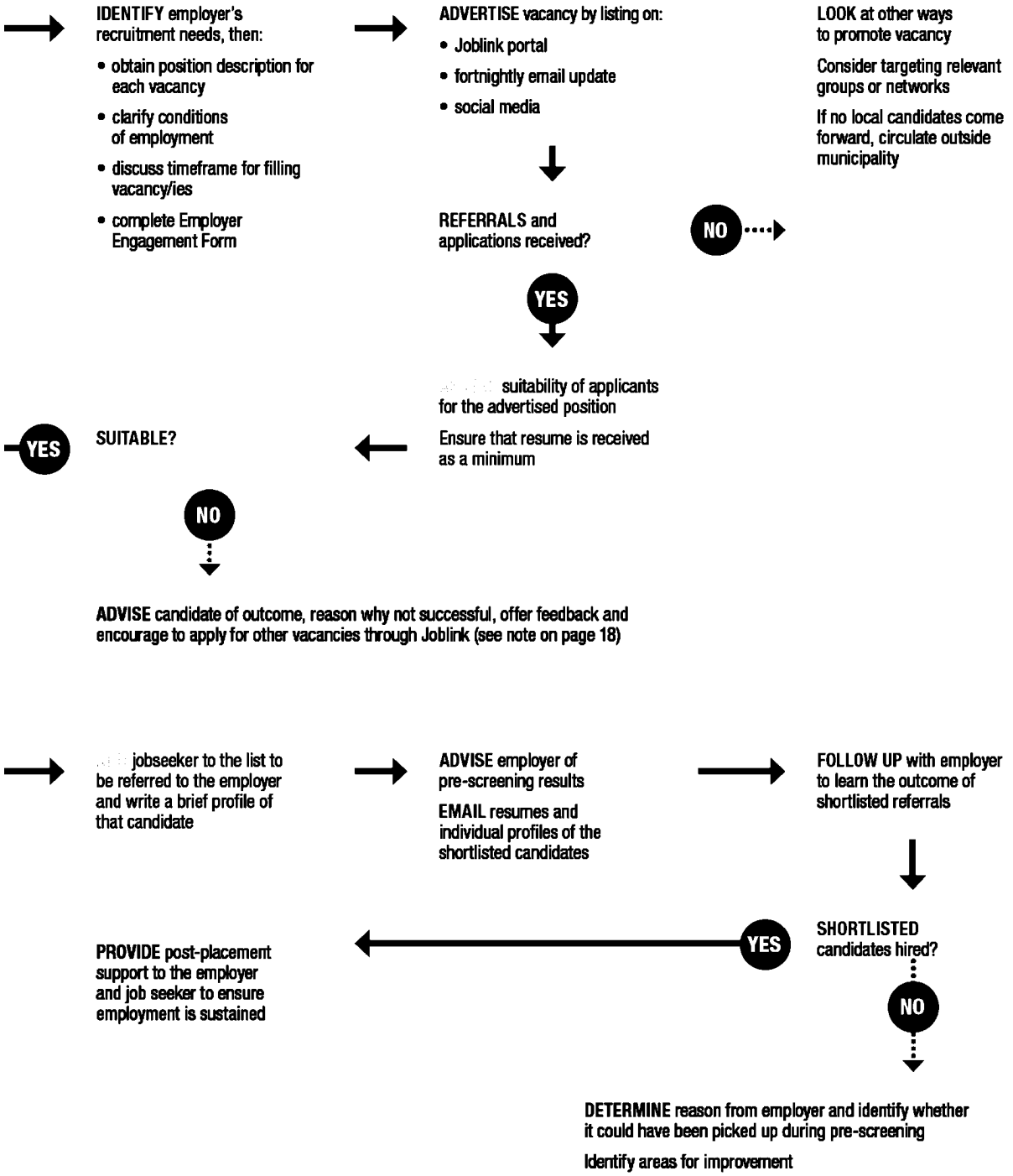
- assessing the job readiness of jobseekers sourced via talent communities and referral agencies
- managing online talent community and social media portals
- liaising with industry and employers to identify industry needs
- liaising with referral agencies, employment service providers and external stakeholders about employers' requirements and expectations in relation to upcoming vacancies
- working closely with stakeholders in the education and vocational training sectors to ensure that courses are tailored to meet employers' and jobseekers' needs
- reverse marketing any suitable candidates referred to available vacancies
- generating vacancies and employment opportunities in the local area, and
- reporting against the milestones and key performance indicators set out in council strategies, investment and program logics, and any external funding agreements.

The end-to-end labour market facilitation process is illustrated in the flow-chart on pages 18-19.



The labour market facilitation process





Process diagram developed by Maria Dimitriou.

Engage and partner with stakeholders

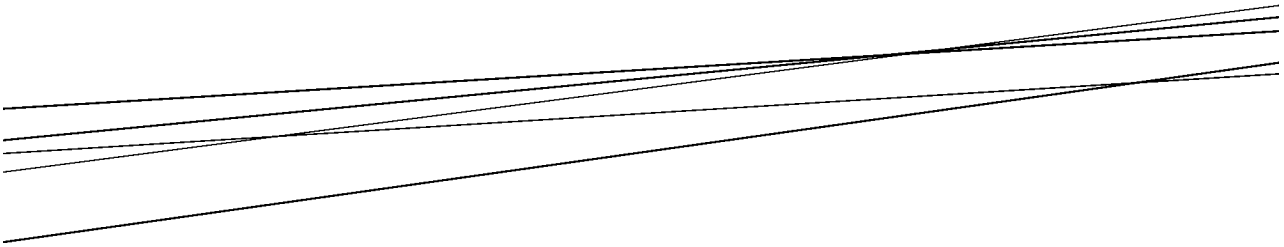
Building and sustaining partnerships is critical to the success of this program. Start by embedding broad-based local governance, as this is supports collaboration. Then establish a structured approach to partnering with local stakeholders from the following sectors:

- services that support unemployed people living in the LGA
- learning and training organisations
- employers/industry

Partners should include but not be limited to:

- state and federal government agencies
- industry representatives and employers
- secondary, tertiary and vocational education providers
- employment service providers
- Centrelink
- non-vocational social support service providers
- other departments within the host council
- local learning and employment networks
- secondary schools
- unions

It is important to approach potential partners with the goal of finding common ground and shared values and then leveraging each other's strengths. Applying for funding in partnership with other organisations can increase the likelihood of success.



"We have an extensive jobseeker database and local referral network for sourcing potential job candidates. Our Labour Market Facilitation Officers have been able to influence employers and put forward local candidates they normally wouldn't have considered without our support.

This approach has been so successful that local businesses are now coming to us when they need to recruit more employees, rather then us having to always seek them out."

MARIA DIMITRIOU COORDINATOR LOCAL EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIPS, HUME CITY COUNCIL

"Council has a central role as a neutral and trustworthy enabler and broker and can establish an incredible web of productive connections across the local community.

We have forged strong partnerships with training providers, including our local TAFE college, government support agencies, employment agencies, and existing and prospective local employers.

These partnerships have laid the foundations for our Local Jobs for Local People Program and I cannot stress the importance of putting in the time and effort to sustain and deepen these relationships for the longer term. It's about genuinely engaging and partnering."

GEORGE OSBORNE MANAGER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HUME CITY COUNCIL

"Hume City Council (HCC) plays an instrumental role in working with the local community to reduce the high levels of youth unemployment through their Local Jobs for Local People Program. As local government, the council is a trusted broker between employers, education institutions and service providers.

The Brotherhood of St Laurence is working with HCC on this initiative by establishing a Hume Community Investment Committee, which reports into the Jobs and Skills Taskforce, and funding the employment of Employer Engagement Officers (EEOs) who are embedded within HCC's Economic Development Department. The EEOs are able to leverage existing HCC networks to connect local young people with employment and training opportunities, including participants in the Brotherhood's programs.

Through this partnership, the Brotherhood is able to capitalise on the expertise of HCC to increase access to local employment opportunities for young people who are struggling to transition into the labour market."

SALLY JAMES PRINCIPAL ADVISOR, YOUTH TRANSITIONS, BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE

Engage with employers

LMFOs spend much of their time out in the community engaging directly with local businesses, industries and other employers. This list indicates the wide range of employers that can be targeted through the program:

- Aged care providers
- Banking and financial services
- Building and construction companies
- Charities
- Childcare providers
- Cleaning contractors
- Community and health services
- Educational institutions – kindergartens, schools, TAFE colleges, universities, RTOs
- Food production companies
- Government departments, regional offices and statutory authorities
- Hotels, restaurants and cafés, caterers
- Retailers, including large supermarket and hardware chains, department stores and shopping centre managers
- Manufacturing – light and heavy industries
- Property developers
- Retail development companies
- Security companies
- Technology and telecommunications companies
- Tourism and accommodation operators
- Transport, freight and logistics companies
- Utilities – e.g. water authorities, electricity and gas retailers and distributors
- Warehousing and cold storage
- Waste management and recycling

Use talent communities and social media

A talent community complemented by regular Facebook posts is an important engagement tool within the Hume City model.

Talent communities are shared web platforms that link registered local talent with job vacancies and volunteering opportunities in their local communities. Local residents can register to join a talent community operated by a council, which gives them priority access to local listings.

A talent community website is different from a mainstream, jobs board-style employment website that charges employers to advertise vacancies.

Paid classified job advertisements are mostly skewed towards white collar or fluoro collar (skilled blue collar) jobs. With a talent community, all advertised jobs within the council region, including those sourced through local labour market facilitation, are aggregated and populated on the shared platform. This creates a one-stop-shop for local employment.

Benefits include:

- access is free for jobseekers and for employers wanting to list job vacancies
- registration can be restricted to a defined demographic stipulated by the sponsor organisation, giving members exclusive access to local listings and information
- all vacancy types are listed, including entry level or lower skilled blue collar jobs that are otherwise hidden from the market
- the site is accessible via the desktop, tablet or mobiles and is optimised to link with social media to enrich social inclusion
- members can search by location, employer or job type, as well as accessing local training opportunities, events and information, and
- council LMFOs can use the database of registered jobseekers as a resource when searching for candidates for specific vacancies.

Each online talent community takes about six weeks to set up. The sponsor organisation pays an initial establishment fee and then a monthly subscription fee. Once operational, the site requires ongoing maintenance and moderation.

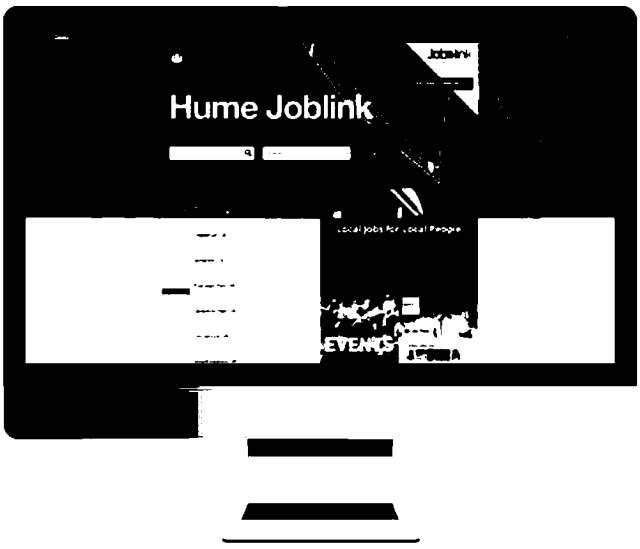
Hume talent communities

Employment vacancies in Hume City are aggregated into **three** talent communities hosted on the Australian-based uWorkin technical platform (www.uworkin.com):

- **Hume Joblink –** established with funding from the federal government and managed by Hume City Council: www.humejoblink.com.au
- **Melbourne Airport Joblink –** a partnership between the council and Melbourne Airport: www.melbourneairportjoblink.com.au
- **Craigieburn Central Joblink –** funded and managed by Lendlease: www.craigieburncentraljoblink.com

Hume City Council's Local Employment Partnerships Team offers the following advice:

- Do not rely solely on a talent community or Facebook to connect local employers and jobseekers. These are essential tools to support the program, however the most crucial element is providing direct human intervention and recruitment support via an internal team of LMFOs.
- A talent community needs to be kept up-to-date and continually enhanced to keep it relevant and useful for local residents. These improvements need to be budgeted for each year.



Deliver targeted events

Holding regular events promotes face-to-face engagement between local jobseekers and employers. This supports a direct flow of information and helps to develop mutual awareness and understanding. Some events can be treated as direct recruitment exercises.

Employer-led information sessions

These events are best held regularly and provide a simple and effective means of achieving employment placements for local residents.

Employers are invited to speak to residents about their recruitment needs and processes, organisational culture and expectations. The sessions enable employers to speak directly to their future workforce. They give job seekers first-hand knowledge of local employers and an opportunity to receive tips and feedback about how to increase their chances of employment.

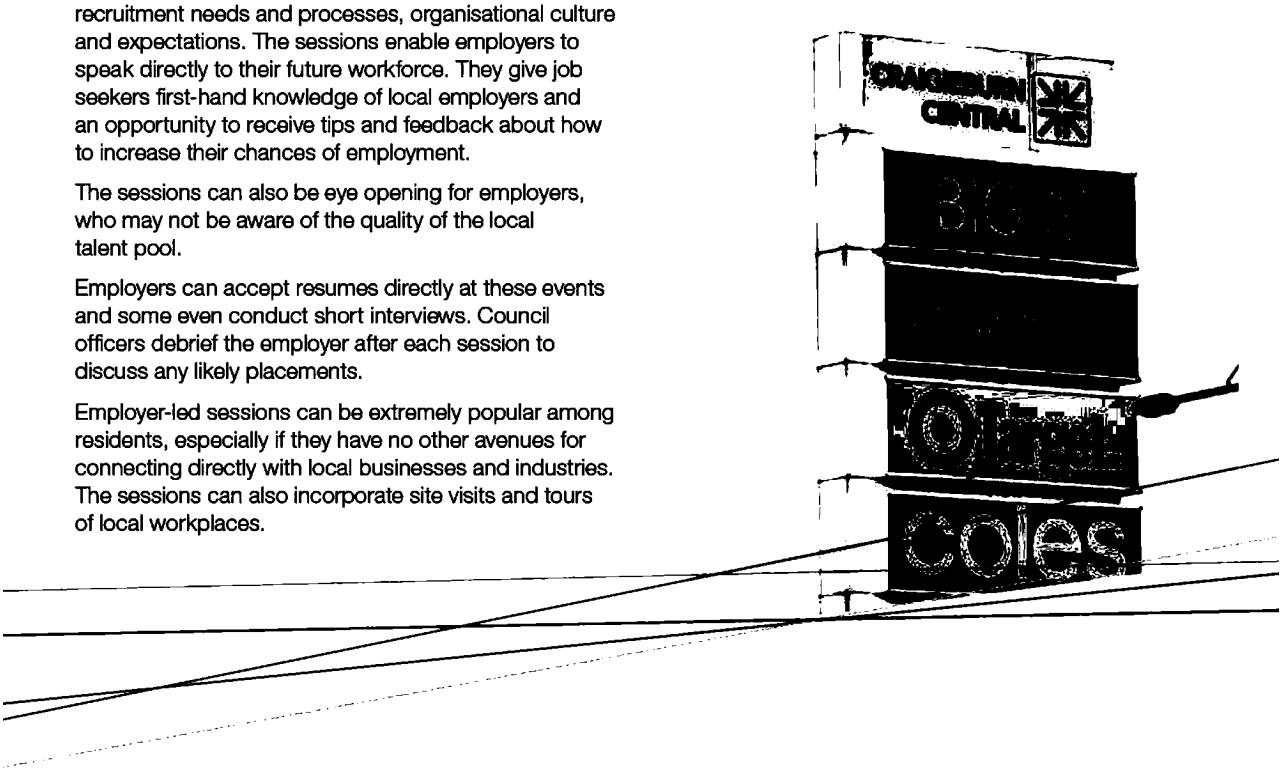
The sessions can also be eye opening for employers, who may not be aware of the quality of the local talent pool.

Employers can accept resumes directly at these events and some even conduct short interviews. Council officers debrief the employer after each session to discuss any likely placements.

Employer-led sessions can be extremely popular among residents, especially if they have no other avenues for connecting directly with local businesses and industries. The sessions can also incorporate site visits and tours of local workplaces.

Employers such as Bunnings, Commonwealth Bank, BigW, Coles, TNT, Woolworths and the Department of Justice have delivered employer-led sessions in Hume City.

Topical sessions involving a number of different employers, training providers and support services have also been presented on subjects such as 'Careers in child care', 'Job search and application techniques', and 'Resume and cover letter writing'.



"It's great to see local councils taking the lead on this issue as there are often placed-based factors contributing to high unemployment in some communities. A local response developed by local people is critical to solving localised issues.

A lot of outer-metro councils within driving distance of capital cities lose valuable human and financial capital every day because their residents are being pulled towards the capital's main central business district. The result is that a high proportion of the local workforce travels in from other municipalities and then spends the money they earn back in their home suburbs.

A talent community provides the platform to execute a 'live local, work local, spend local' strategy. Further, there is also a huge, hidden local job market that you won't find advertised on mainstream job classified websites."

PHIL COOPER MANAGING DIRECTOR, UWORKIN

Targeted workshops

Targeted workshops are presented to complement employer-led sessions. They prepare residents to make the best impression when meeting with employers and applying for positions.

Topics covered include: personal presentation, resumes and cover letters, mock interviews and interview techniques. Workshops are also conducted after the information sessions to help residents with application processes.

Drop-in job search sessions

Fortnightly or monthly drop-in job search sessions can be held in a local library or another council venue.

These sessions give residents the chance to drop in during a set time period for one-on-one assistance from a member of the Local Employment Partnerships Team.

Jobs fairs

Staging a jobs fair is a major undertaking and is best aligned with a significant change in the local employment market.

The best outcomes are achieved when the fair is delivered in partnership with government and community service providers, employers, and education and training institutions.

Hume City Council and its partners hosted two jobs fairs between 2013 and 2017:

- Craigieburn Jobs Fair in 2013 was held to support the recruitment campaign leading up to opening Craigieburn Central shopping centre.
- Broadmeadows Jobs Fair in 2016 was held in response to the downturn in the Australian automotive industry and the closure of Ford Motor Company's Broadmeadows manufacturing plant.

Broadmeadows Jobs Fair

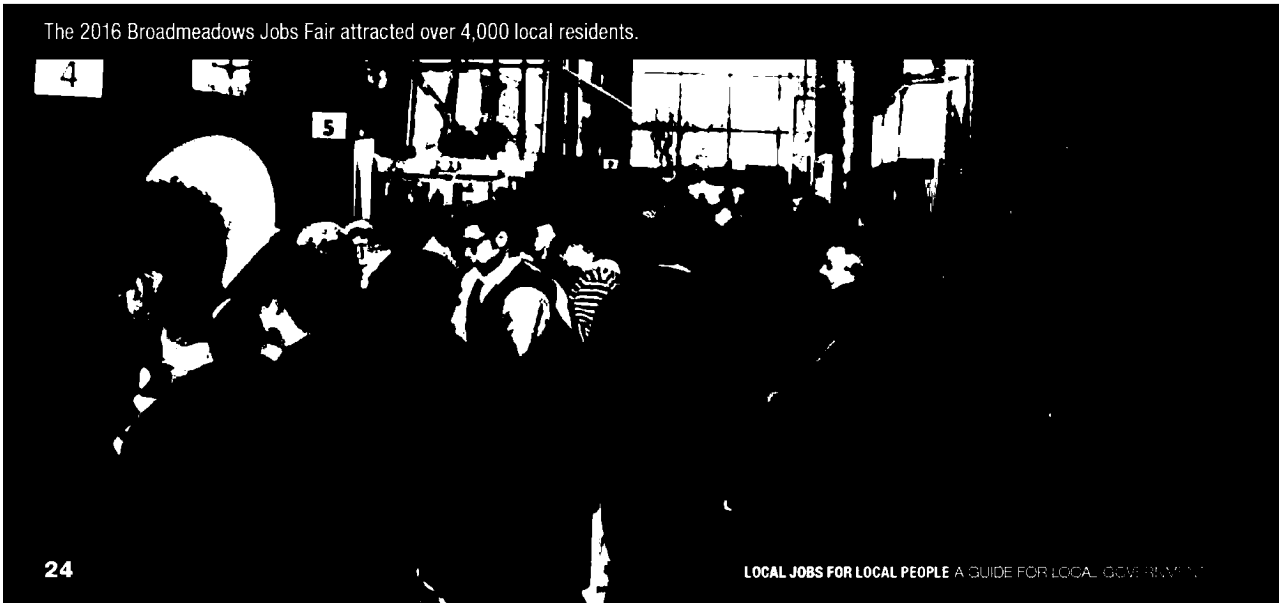
The Broadmeadows Jobs Fair was conducted in August 2016, two months before Ford was due to close its local factory.

The fair was funded under the federal government's structural adjustment program designed to help workers about to be retrenched from the automotive sector to quickly transition into new employment.

It aimed to give jobseekers an opportunity to connect directly with a wide range of employers and learn about job opportunities in those organisations. There was a focus on providing information about entry level and semi-skilled positions, traineeships and apprenticeships aligned with the demographic profile of the region. Results included:

- 4,000 attendees in 5 hours (2.00pm to 7.00pm)
- 56 exhibitors ranging across aviation, transport, manufacturing, aged care, child care, cleaning and security, fast food, residential development, employment services and training
- 1,056 listed employment opportunities
- 14 workshops and seminars
- 2,206 resumes collected
- 258 interviews organised
- 420 employment placements

The 2016 Broadmeadows Jobs Fair attracted over 4,000 local residents.





Walk the talk

A council implementing a Local Jobs for Local People Program needs to lead the way and practice the approach in its own recruitment campaigns. This sets the standard for external stakeholders and directly exposes councillors and staff to the program and its benefits.

To make this happen, the Local Employment Partnerships Team needs to establish strong internal relationships with other council departments and work teams.

Provide post-placement support

When they finally secure a job, some disadvantaged jobseekers can find it difficult to adjust to being in the workforce.

This issue is particularly evident among people who:

- have been unemployed for a long time
- are from families experiencing intergenerational unemployment
- have recently arrived in Australia, and/or
- have little or no proficiency in English.

Under the Hume City Council model, council officers maintain contact with successful applicants and their employers for several months after each placement. They provide additional support if and when required to increase the chances of achieving sustainable employment outcomes.

This support is provided in collaboration with any employment or community service providers also involved in assisting the successful job applicants.

Youth internships

Hume City Council developed the Splash Aqua Park and Leisure Centre as a major new recreation facility in Craigieburn.

In the lead up to the centre's opening recruitment campaign, the Local Employment Partnerships Team partnered with the council's Sports and Recreation team to create 20 internships for unemployed local youth. The 8-week internships were offered with support from the Australian Government's Youth Jobs PaTH initiative.

The interns were placed in council-operated sports and leisure centres throughout Hume City, where they received work experience relevant to the entry-level positions due to be advertised for the new leisure centre.

The interns were also linked into targeted training, such as lifeguard and first aid courses. Once the internships were completed, those wishing to apply for positions at the new leisure centre were given help to prepare applications and practice interview techniques.



Adria Portelli, left, and Hannah McEwan work with Lendlease-Craigieburn Central.

Record, monitor and evaluate

The council's Local Employment Partnerships Team needs to maintain an up-to-date register of local jobseekers, their job search process, and any training or job placements.

Record each person's name, age, contact details, suburb, situation (e.g. retrenched worker, parent returning to work, school leaver, newly arrived migrant or refugee, public housing resident), skills and experience, and outcomes from participating in the program.

This information resource is essential for identifying potential candidates for new vacancies and for reporting the outcomes of the program to council, the taskforce, and external funding partners.

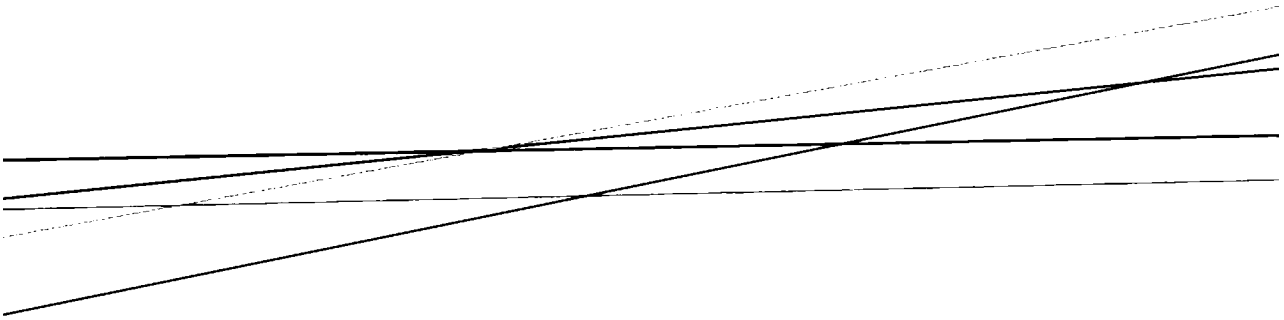
The information can be captured in a dedicated client relationship management database or an Excel spreadsheet, depending on available systems and resources. The most important requirement is that the record is updated regularly and contains all relevant information.

Funding bodies are more likely to support programs that provide evidence of past and intended outcomes and socio-economic impacts.

Developing an outcomes evaluation framework and obtaining independent assessments of the program's delivery processes and outcomes will provide meaningful evidence to support future funding applications and acquittals.

"Local businesses love to employ local people. And local residents love having a short commute to and from work. If we can help employers find local workers we've achieved a win-win situation for everyone and contributed to the long-term economic health of our community."

MARIA DIMITRIOU COORDINATOR LOCAL EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIPS, HUME CITY COUNCIL



Critical success factors

- ☑ Establish a solid business case to present to management.
- ☑ Engage with your councillors to generate understanding and support.
- ☑ Establish strong, collaborative local governance.
- ☑ Embed the 'local jobs for local people' approach in strategic plans and community vision statements.
- ☑ Establish and adequately resource an internal team of LMFOs.
- ☑ Build strong partnerships over time with local stakeholders.
- ☑ Continue to secure internal and external funding and resources.
- ☑ Be neutral and fair in all dealings with employment service providers, training organisations and other stakeholders.
- ☑ Keep the program approach flexible so recruitment and training solutions can be tailored and targeted.
- ☑ Use online talent communities to connect local employers and jobseekers, however do not rely on them as the sole methods of engagement. The most crucial element is providing direct support through an internal team of LMFOs.
- ☑ Uncover the hidden local job market.
- ☑ Tailor messages about the program for each audience. For example, if a high proportion of residents have low levels of education or English proficiency, bear that in mind when communicating with them and assist employers to do the same.
- ☑ Walk the talk. Demonstrate the intention to employ local people in the council's internal recruitment activities.
- ☑ Monitor job placements for at least six months to support sustainable employment outcomes.
- ☑ Keep rigorous records and monitor and evaluate program outcomes.

Glossary and abbreviations

EEO	Employer Engagement Officer
ELC	Employment and Learning Committee. ELCs are formal committees that bring together employment and learning providers to support the community by maximising employment and learning opportunities for local residents. Membership includes jobactive providers, disability employment services providers, local and state government employment and human services representatives, local learning and employment networks, and local training providers.
ELO	Employment and Learning Officer
ESP	Employment service provider. Organisations funded under the Australian Government's jobactive initiative to connect employers and jobseekers.
HCC	Hume City Council
jobactive	The Australian Government's initiative to get more Australians into work. It connects jobseekers with employers and is delivered by a network of jobactive employment service providers in over 1,700 locations. These service providers are important collaborators in a council-led Local Jobs for Local People Program.
LGA	Local Government Area
LJFLP	Local Jobs for Local People
LLEN	Local Learning and Employment Networks. LLENs is a Victorian initiative that networks with families, schools and employers to help disengaged youth find valuable education, training and employment pathways.
LMF	labour market facilitation
LMFO	Labour Market Facilitation Officer
place-based	placed-based approaches develop and deliver local solutions to local problems. They are particularly effective for addressing entrenched poverty and disadvantage.
RTO	registered training organisation
Scanlon Foundation	A philanthropic foundation established in 2001 with the purpose of enhancing and fostering social cohesion within Australia.
Youth Jobs PaTH	an Australian Government initiative to address youth unemployment. It is designed to support young people to gain the skills and work experience they need to get a job and has three elements: Prepare – Trial – Hire. The initiative supports employers to host internship placements and provides them with incentives when they take on a young person.
Welcoming Cities	An initiative of the Scanlon Foundation and Welcome to Australia that supports local councils and community leaders to leverage the ideas and innovation that come from being welcoming and inclusive.

HOW TO BECOME A **WELCOMING CITY**

Welcoming Cities is an initiative that supports local councils and their communities to become more welcoming and inclusive. Welcoming Cities is creating a national network of cities, shires, towns and municipalities that are committed to an Australia where everyone can belong and participate in social, economic and civic life.

Numerous campaigns and initiatives support the development of socially cohesive communities, but how do you know if you are being successful and how do you benchmark and advance this work?

Welcoming Cities supports local councils and their communities in **four** key areas:

1. Knowledge Sharing
2. Partnership Development
3. Celebrating Success
4. Standard + Accreditation

To join a growing global movement of welcoming, prosperous and cohesive communities, go to **www.welcomingcities.org.au**

WELCOMINGCITIES

Contact

Hume City Council
Local Employment Partnerships Team
Phone: +61 3 9205 2834
Email: Joblink@hume.vic.gov.au
www.hume.vic.gov.au

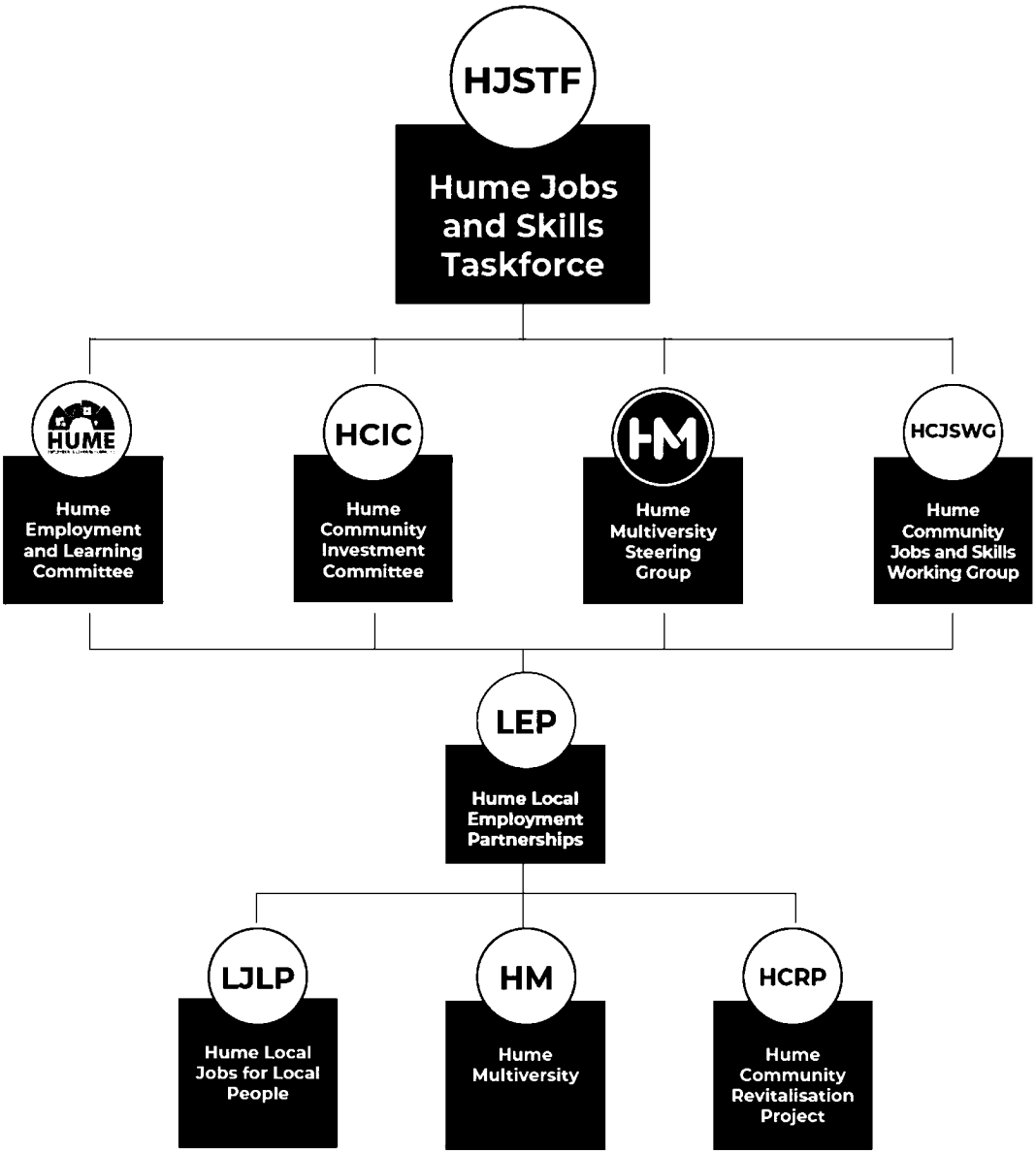
Scanlon Foundation
www.scanlonfoundation.org.au

Welcoming Cities
www.welcomingcities.org.au

Hume City Council
Local Employment Partnerships

Governance:

The Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce provides strategic stewardship for Hume City in planning and leveraging whole of government and community support to address and tackle high unemployment, promote social and economic inclusion in Hume City. In doing this it advocates for initiatives that create close links between employment and training service providers and employers. The aim is to improve local employment opportunities for Hume City residents and assist in developing a more effective and more accessible local workforce for businesses.



Hume City Council
State of Employment

Unemployment in Hume City 2017 - 2023

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Hume City	10.5%	8.1%	8.3%	12.3%	9.5%	7.3%	6.9%
Greater Melbourne	6.1%	5.0%	4.9%	6.9%	5.4%	3.9%	4.0%

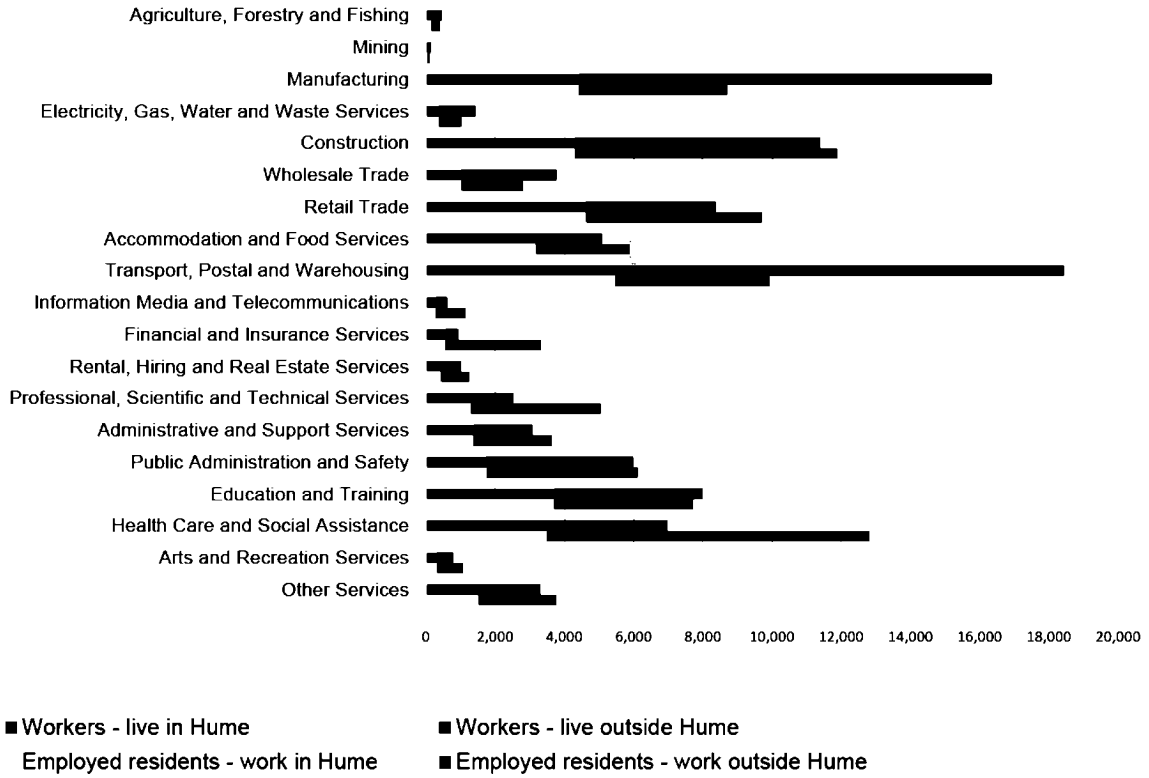
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Small Area Labour Markets, Data for December Qrt 2017 to December Qrt 2023.

Local Jobs Advertised on Hume Joblink 2017 - 2023

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Hume City	790	1,533	1,617	1,682	2,307	3,775	2,040

Source: Hume Joblink, Community Analytics - Jobs by Location, Data for December Qrt 2017 to December Qrt 2023.

Workers in Hume vs Employed Residents Location of Work

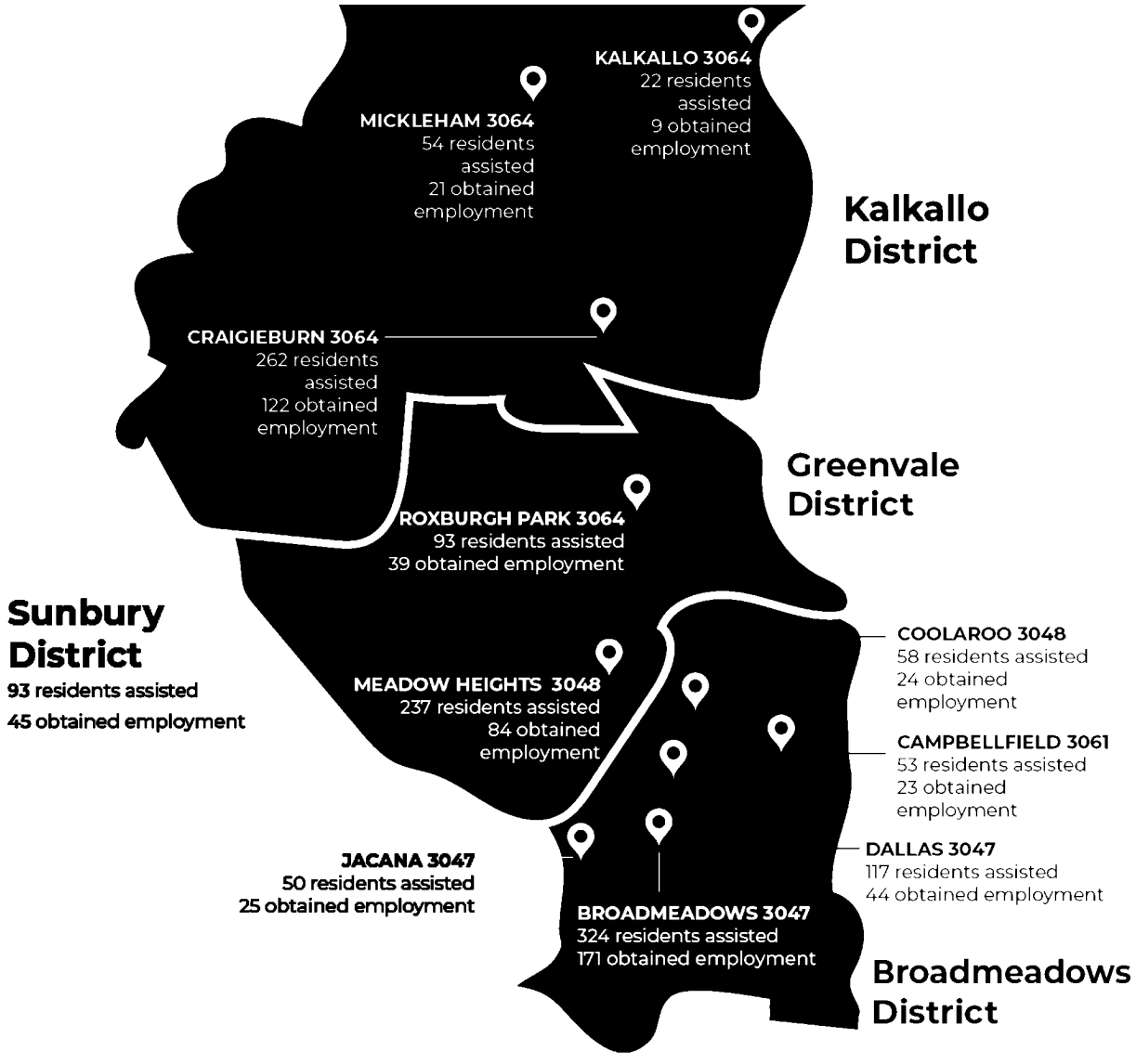


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Census of Population and Housing 2021

Employment Outcomes
July 2017 - May 2024

1,705
Hume residents assisted in HCRP postcodes*

563
Residents obtained employment



Please Note: Sunbury is outside of the postcodes funded for support by the Hume Community Revitalisation Project
** Funding provided to support residents living in 3047, 3048, 3061 and (as of 2021) 3064 postcodes.*

Source: VEC (15/05/2024), Electoral Boundaries - State Districts,
www.vec.vic.gov.au/electoral-boundaries/state-districtsstate-districts

Community Revitalisaton Projects

Stepping Stones to Financial Wellbeing and Social Inclusion

Mar 2018 - Jun 2023
108 participants

30 women started their business

26 women were supported into employment

25 women were supported to start studying and/or training

10 women received intensive support and additional referrals

ERS

July 2018 to Dec 2020

The Employment Readiness Scale™ (ERS) and CEAV's one-on-one Career Counselling have effectively assessed and enhanced jobseekers' work readiness. This vocational tool has empowered participants to take charge of their career paths with personalised action plans.

Imagineering

This project was piloted as part of the Hume CR project in 2018/19. The aim of Imagineering was to create aspiration in primary and secondary students as well as their parents.

Accelerate

2023
10 participants

Accelerate is designed for past participants of 'Passport to Work' and/or Uplift programs who had not been successful in gaining employment and who may require additional support to help them enter the workforce.

6 obtained employment (3 permanent, 3 casual)

Uplift

July 2023
12 participants

Uplift is designed specifically as a series of tailored short workshops and deep coaching to assist our most 'stuck' jobseekers with positive wellness and setting goals.

8 obtained employment (7 permanent, 1 casual)

8 progressed to Passport to Work

Passport to Work

Mar 2018 - Dec 2023
186 participants

The 'Passport to Work' program helps jobseekers through coaching and mentoring to stretch their capacity, moving them forward with small yet continuous interventions.

104 obtained employment (85 permanent, 19 casual)

3 engaged in self-employment activities

15 commenced studying and/or training

5 commenced volunteer roles

> **Since participating in the program, my self-confidence has improved quite a lot. I feel more empowered to make decisions that matter to me and to my family. I no longer feel lonely as I have developed friendships with the other ladies who attend the program. We all have the same experiences and we all have a common goal which is to start our businesses.**
>
> *~ Suzane, Stepping Stones participant*

> **I am so grateful, that I was referred to the Passport to Work program. It prepared me for everything needed for job searching and getting the job**
>
> *~ Lucy, Passport to Work participant*

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIPS ACHIEVEMENTS

6 INDUSTRY JOB EXPOS

- hospitality & tourism
- manufacturing
- caring & support
- transport & logistics
- Melbourne Airport

- **1,363** jobs on offer
- **1,520** attendees
- **582** employment placements

11 MULTIVERSITY SIGNATORIES

La Trobe University
Victoria University
Deakin University
Melbourne Polytechnic
Kangan Institute
Holmesglen
GOTAFE
Illuminate Education
NORTH Link
Caravan Industry Victoria
Brite Institute

**See Hume Multiversity infographic for further details*

1 TALENT COMMUNITY

11,587 registered Joblink users
15,425 Hume job vacancies

LOCAL JOBS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

1,910 JOB PLACEMENTS

Facilitated by Council's Local Employment Partnerships team through employer-led sessions, targeted workshops & building youth pathways programs.

1,471 residents achieved employment of 6 months or more

104 SEED EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

- **35** full time placements
- **29** part time placements
- **40** casual/contract placements

92 employees sustained employment

17 SEED MEMBER ACTION PLANS

- **210** actions
- **77%** (161) be inclusive
- **15%** (31) leadership & collaboration
- **9%** (18) spend local & spend social

2 CAREER EXPOS SUPPORTED

- Women in manufacturing
- Women in STEM and construction

Craigieburn 2013
5,100 attendees
330 job placements
700 employment opportunities

Broadmeadows 2016
4,000 attendees
420 job placements
1,200 employment opportunities

HUME COMMUNITY REVITALISATION PROJECTS

- **7** projects supported between 2017 to 2023
- **4** current programs
- **3** pilot programs

**See 'Community Revitalisation Projects' page for info*

$6.06M [approx.] FUNDING SOURCES

- Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Employment and Workplace Relations
- Brotherhood of St Laurence
- Victoria University (project & staffing)
- Local Solutions Fund
- Scanlon Foundation

HM

CONNECTING BUSINESS, EDUCATION AND COMMMUNITY

2023

$92,500 IN TERTIARY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

offered to 21 students

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

8 recipients of Bachelor Degree qualification

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY

5 recipients of Certificate IV Bachelor Degree qualifications

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

8 recipients of Bachelor Degree qualification

ILLUMINATE CHALLENGE

Core Challenge:
The Digital Divide

7 participating schools
53 students 10 Teams
1 winner - Hume Anglican Grammar

HOLMESGLEN / HUME SMALL BUSINESS EXPO

6 September 2023

250 attendees
24 exhibitors
8 workshops

COLLABORATIONS WITH VICTORIA UNIVERSITY

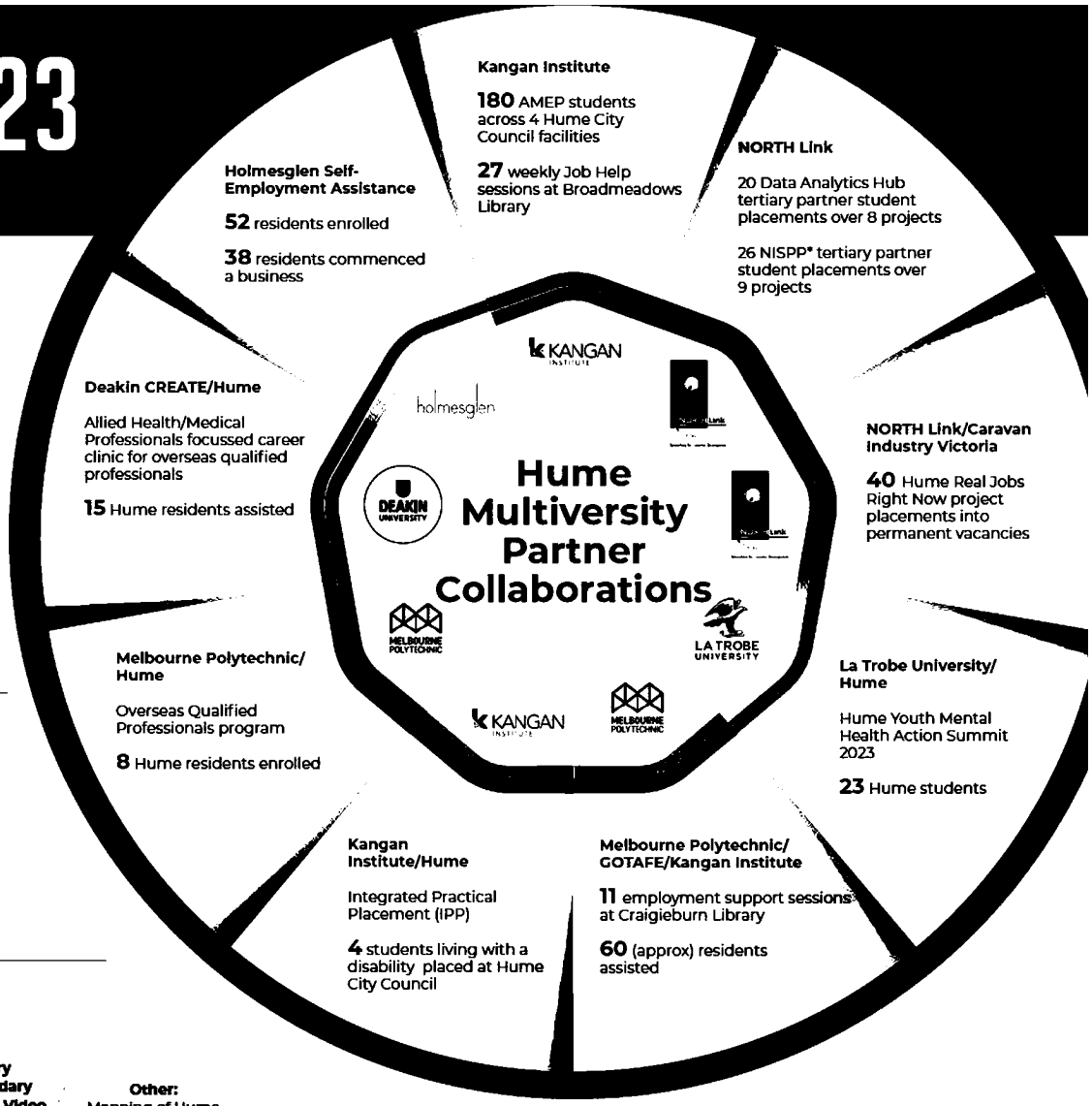
Victoria University Research Showcase
32 Hume Staff
4 Research Domain Presentations

Bachelor of Early Childhood Education
20 Hume students in 2023, 97 students since start

SEED Short Course Training Sessions
11 Communicate with influence participants
12 Leading a Team participants

Primary to Secondary Transitions Video Project
3 VU student placements with Hume Youth Services

Other:
Mapping of Hume jobs and skills eco system and production of report

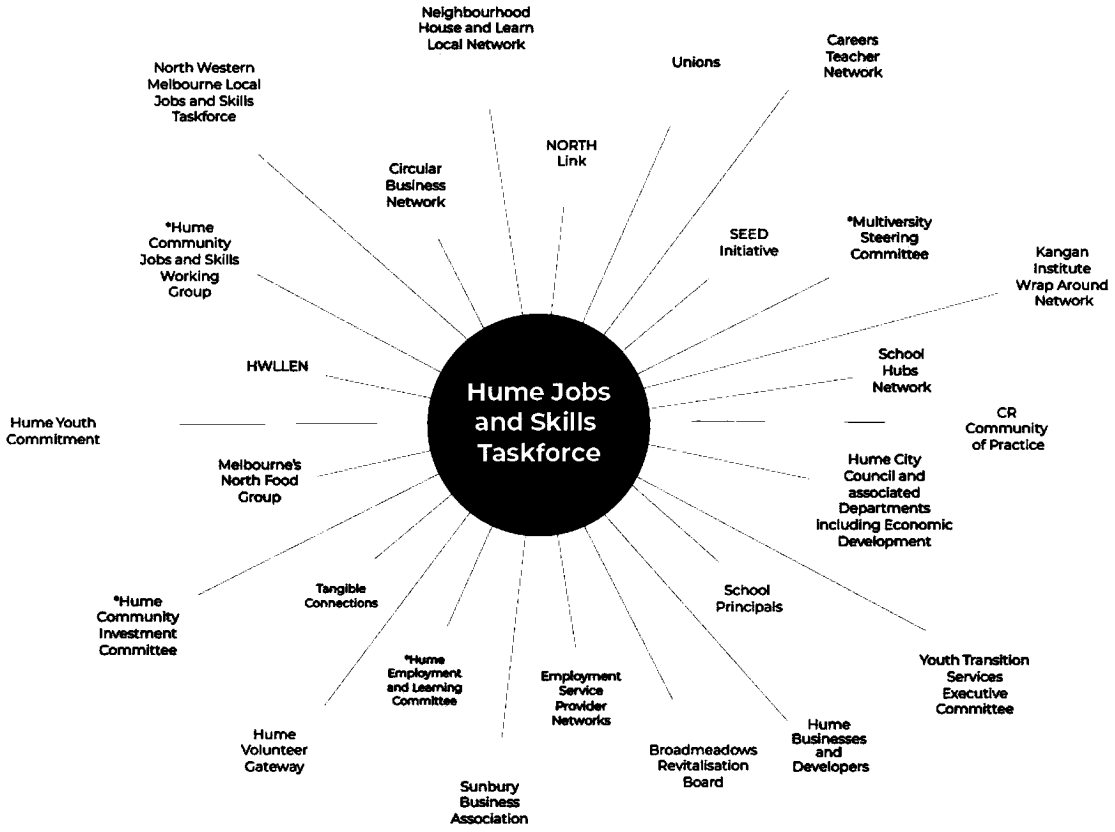


Northern Industry Student Placement Program (NISPP)

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce
Connecting to local networks and groups

For the shared purpose of improving education attainment, workforce participation and business growth in Hume.



Direct links to the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK









The Hon. Jacinta Allan MP
Premier of Victoria
Level 1, 1 Treasury Place
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002
Via email: Jacinta.Allan@parliament.vic.gov.au

12 June 2024

Dear Premier

Request for Meeting re Public Transport Services in Melbourne's North

Following a meeting at La Trobe University on 2 May attended by the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor, local industry group NORTH Link and the Mayors and CEOs of the eight northern Councils, we resolved to write to you to seek a meeting to discuss options for improving public transport across Melbourne's northern suburbs.

In 2022, the Northern Councils came together to plan for an enhanced public transport network across our northern suburbs.

We did this work because the current public transport offerings in our region are outdated and in urgent need of improvement.

The shortcomings of public transport in Melbourne's north are exacerbated by the fact that this is a fast-growing region. We urgently need more frequent bus services, more efficient connectivity, and greater access so that our community can get to jobs, health, and education facilities. Currently, our community must either rely on a public transport service that does not meet their requirements, or else drive their own vehicle, which leads to increased congestion. In the north, a journey that is a 35-minute drive by car can be 2 hours or more by public transport and weekend services in key areas across the region are almost non-existent.

Additional bus services can be rolled out quickly, are modest in cost, and can help meet demand in advance of more permanent measures such as the Suburban Rail Loop. Over the medium-term, new routes could potentially also take advantage of enhanced connectivity to the North East Link.

Implementing a 'Suburban Rail Loop Bus' following the route of the SRL would have multiple benefits. As well as expanding Melbourne's bus network and helping people to get to critical employment and education centres, it would also improve cross-corridor connectivity, build the SRL brand, ease the current strain on the north's transport network, and reduce road congestion.

As part of our response to the recommendations of the *Northern Region Transport Strategy*, the Northern Councils Alliance has completed comprehensive research on bus provision in Melbourne's northern suburbs. This includes a *Bus Networks Study* that shows the need for investment in bus networks to meet regional needs.

Our research highlights the importance of improving services to La Trobe University and key precincts in Melbourne's north such as Epping and Melbourne Airport. Strengthening these precincts is a focus for the region more generally and is outlined in the *Melbourne's North Investment Attraction Strategy.* The report also recommends a variety of improvements across the region, including better cross-municipal routes and increased services for our growth areas.

In summary, we believe that investment as outlined in the *Bus Networks Study* is essential for:

- access to education and health services
- precinct development
- business and employment growth
- access for residents in growth areas
- future proofing the economic and social development of Melbourne's north
- ensuring equitable transport services and access for all members of our community.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss solutions for improved public transport and connectivity in Melbourne's north and to outline the findings and recommendations of the research studies we have undertaken.

Should you wish to learn more, please contact Ms Melissa Atallah, Executive Officer, Northern Councils Alliance on .

Yours sincerely

Cr. Tom Melican
Mayor, Banyule City Council
Chair, Northern Councils Alliance

Cr. Susanne Newton
Mayor
City of Darebin

Cr. Naim Kurt
Mayor
Hume City Council

Cr. Adam Pulford
Mayor
Merri-bek City Council

Cr. Louise Bannister
Mayor
Mitchell Shire Council

Cr. Ben Ramcharan
Mayor
Nillumbik Shire Council

Lydia Wilson
Chair Administrator
City of Whittlesea

Cr. Carli Lange
Mayor
Manningham City Council

Professor Theo Farrell
Vice- Chancellor and
President
La Trobe University

Linc Horton
Chair
NORTH Link

Cc: The Hon. Ben Carroll MP
The Hon. Gabrielle Williams MP
The Hon. Tim Pallas MP
The Hon. Danny Pearson MP
The Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP
The Hon. Ros Spence MP
The Hon. Colin Brooks MP
The Hon. Anthony Carbines MP
The Hon. Vicki Ward MP
The Hon. Jaclyn Symes
The Hon. Shaun Leane
The Hon. Enver Erdogan
Ms Bronwyn Halfpenny
Ms Kat Theophanous
Ms Lauren Kathage
Mr Josh Bull
Mr Iwan Walters
Mr Anthony Cianflone
Mr Nathan Lambert
Ms Kathleen Matthews-Ward
Ms Sonja Terpsta
Ms Sheena Watt

Responses to letter to the Premier	
Updated: 11 July 2024	
Premier	
The Hon. Ben Carroll MP	
The Hon. Danny Pearson MP	
The Hon. Gabrielle Williams MP	
The Hon. Tim Pallas MP	Acknowledgements – referred to Minister Williams – has asked the Minister to meet.
The Hon. Colin Brooks MP	
The Hon. Jaclyn Symes	Response -unable to accommodate a meeting
Ms Bronwyn Halfpenny	
Mr Josh Bull	
Mr Nathan Lambert	Response – on parental leave. Happy to utilise meetings with Darebin Mayor
Ms Sheena Watt	Response – Will consider
The Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP	
The Hon. Anthony Carbines MP	
The Hon. Shaun Leane	
Ms Kat Theophanous	
Mr Iwan Walters	
Ms Kathleen Matthews-Ward	Response – happy to meet and will return with a response
The Hon. Ros Spence MP	
The Hon. Vicki Ward MP	
The Hon. Enver Erdogan	Response has sent to Minister Williams and Minister Pearson
Ms Lauren Kathage	Response – Will consider
Mr Anthony Cianflone	
Ms Sonja Terpsta	Meeting in October tentatively organised

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our Ref:
Enquiries:
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

31 July 2024

The Hon. Ben Carroll
Minister for Education
Minister for Medical Research
Level 3, 1 Treasury Place
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Via email: ben.carroll@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Deputy ~~Premier,~~ Ben

RE: ACCESS TO UNIVERSITIES FOR HUME RESIDENTS

I write this letter to you to bring to your attention the need for improved bus routes and public transport options across our municipality, so our residents can access higher education across the North of Melbourne.

Hume City Council is one of Victoria's fastest-growing municipalities with new generations of migrant Australians, wishing to contribute to Victoria, yet our residents face significant transport challenges.

Due to inadequate public transport, 63.8% of Hume residents travel to work by private car, compared to 49.7% across Greater Melbourne with the issue being more pronounced across our northern suburbs like Craigieburn (65.2%), Mickleham (67.9%), and Kalkallo (65.7%). Public transport usage in Hume is only 4.3%, versus 5.2% in Greater Melbourne and the added barrier of needing a car to access education and employment means that Hume's unemployment rate stands at 7.5%, higher than Greater Melbourne's 5.3%.

Council values the Victorian Government's strong investment in education, but bus service improvements are urgently needed to ensure our residents can access higher education more easily. Enhancing bus routes to make them more frequent and reliable is crucial for connecting our residents to employment and educational opportunities across the North of Melbourne.

While recent bus extensions funded by the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution (GAIC) fund are very much appreciated, more progress is needed. Our growing municipality requires more direct public transport routes that will link our residents to universities and TAFE campuses.

This letter follows up on our correspondence from 18 October 2022 to the then Ministers for Public Transport and Higher Education. Although we understand the timing coincided with election-related changes, we have not received a response. We remain keen to work with you to improve bus services and enhance access to tertiary education.

In that letter we previously requested:

1. Planning for an interim Suburban Rail Loop Bus (SRLB) service along the SRL North line from Melbourne Airport via Broadmeadows and La Trobe university to Box Hill.
2. Government planning and consideration for Improved public transport options, so that Hume residents can access university courses close to home.
3. Requesting the Department of Education to collaborate with Hume City, Mitchell Shire, and Whittlesea City Councils in a unique partnership to advance the planning for the Lockerbie Metropolitan Activity Centre identified in Plan Melbourne

Our advocacy has been supported by the Northern Council Alliance (NCA) and Latrobe University who wrote to the Premier on 12 June 2024, which you were copied on reflecting some of the public transport shortcomings in Melbourne's North and the NCA's Bus Networks Study's recommendation for the SRLB.

Council continues to uphold the sentiments expressed in the previous letters (also attached) and would appreciate the opportunity to collaborate and meet with you to discuss these important transport improvements.

Should wish to discuss these matters with us further, please contact Megan Taylor (Manager City Strategy) at or .

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

31 July 2024

The Hon. Gabrielle Williams
Minister for Public and Active Transport
Minister for Government Services
Minister for Consumer Affairs
Level 3, 1 Treasury Place
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Via email: gabrielle.williams@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear ~~Minister~~ Gabrielle,

RE: ACCESS TO UNIVERSITIES FOR HUME RESIDENTS

I write this letter to you to bring to your attention the need for improved bus routes and public transport options across our municipality, so our residents can access higher education across the North of Melbourne.

Hume City Council is one of Victoria's fastest-growing municipalities with new generations of migrant Australians, wishing to contribute to Victoria, yet our residents face significant transport challenges.

Due to inadequate public transport, 63.8% of Hume residents travel to work by private car, compared to 49.7% across Greater Melbourne with the issue being more pronounced across our northern suburbs like Craigieburn (65.2%), Mickleham (67.9%), and Kalkallo (65.7%). Public transport usage in Hume is only 4.3%, versus 5.2% in Greater Melbourne and the added barrier of needing a car to access education and employment means that Hume's unemployment rate stands at 7.5%, higher than Greater Melbourne's 5.3%.

Council values the Victorian Government's strong investment in education, but bus service improvements are urgently needed to ensure our residents can access higher education more easily. Enhancing bus routes to make them more frequent and reliable is crucial for connecting our residents to employment and educational opportunities across the North of Melbourne.

While recent bus extensions funded by the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution (GAIC) fund are very much appreciated, more progress is needed. Our growing municipality requires more direct public transport routes that will link our residents to universities and TAFE campuses.

This letter follows up on our correspondence from 18 October 2022 to the then Ministers for Public Transport and Higher Education. Although we understand the timing coincided with election-related changes, we have not received a response. We remain keen to work with you to improve bus services and enhance access to tertiary education.

In that letter we previously requested:

1. Planning for an interim Suburban Rail Loop Bus (SRLB) service along the SRL North line from Melbourne Airport via Broadmeadows and La Trobe university to Box Hill.
2. Government planning and consideration for Improved public transport options, so that Hume residents can access university courses close to home.
3. Requesting the Department of Education to collaborate with Hume City, Mitchell Shire, and Whittlesea City Councils in a unique partnership to advance the planning for the Lockerbie Metropolitan Activity Centre identified in Plan Melbourne

Our advocacy has been supported by the Northern Council Alliance (NCA) and Latrobe University who wrote to the Premier on 12 June 2024, which you were copied on reflecting some of the public transport shortcomings in Melbourne's North and the NCA's Bus Networks Study's recommendation for the SRLB.

Council continues to uphold the sentiments expressed in the previous letters (also attached) and would appreciate the opportunity to collaborate and meet with you to discuss these important transport improvements.

Should wish to discuss these matters with us further, please contact Megan Taylor (Manager City Strategy) at @ or .

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

The Hon. Jacinta Allan MP
Premier of Victoria
Level 1, 1 Treasury Place
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002
Via email: Jacinta.Allan@parliament.vic.gov.au

12 June 2024

Dear Premier

Request for Meeting re Public Transport Services in Melbourne's North

Following a meeting at La Trobe University on 2 May attended by the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor, local industry group NORTH Link and the Mayors and CEOs of the eight northern Councils, we resolved to write to you to seek a meeting to discuss options for improving public transport across Melbourne's northern suburbs.

In 2022, the Northern Councils came together to plan for an enhanced public transport network across our northern suburbs.

We did this work because the current public transport offerings in our region are outdated and in urgent need of improvement.

The shortcomings of public transport in Melbourne's north are exacerbated by the fact that this is a fast-growing region. We urgently need more frequent bus services, more efficient connectivity, and greater access so that our community can get to jobs, health, and education facilities. Currently, our community must either rely on a public transport service that does not meet their requirements, or else drive their own vehicle, which leads to increased congestion. In the north, a journey that is a 35-minute drive by car can be 2 hours or more by public transport and weekend services in key areas across the region are almost non-existent.

Additional bus services can be rolled out quickly, are modest in cost, and can help meet demand in advance of more permanent measures such as the Suburban Rail Loop. Over the medium-term, new routes could potentially also take advantage of enhanced connectivity to the North East Link.

Implementing a 'Suburban Rail Loop Bus' following the route of the SRL would have multiple benefits. As well as expanding Melbourne's bus network and helping people to get to critical employment and education centres, it would also improve cross-corridor connectivity, build the SRL brand, ease the current strain on the north's transport network, and reduce road congestion.

As part of our response to the recommendations of the *Northern Region Transport Strategy*, the Northern Councils Alliance has completed comprehensive research on bus provision in Melbourne's northern suburbs. This includes a *Bus Networks Study* that shows the need for investment in bus networks to meet regional needs.

Our research highlights the importance of improving services to La Trobe University and key precincts in Melbourne's north such as Epping and Melbourne Airport. Strengthening these precincts is a focus for the region more generally and is outlined in the *Melbourne's North Investment Attraction Strategy.* The report also recommends a variety of improvements across the region, including better cross-municipal routes and increased services for our growth areas.

In summary, we believe that investment as outlined in the *Bus Networks Study* is essential for:

- access to education and health services
- precinct development
- business and employment growth
- access for residents in growth areas
- future proofing the economic and social development of Melbourne's north
- ensuring equitable transport services and access for all members of our community.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss solutions for improved public transport and connectivity in Melbourne's north and to outline the findings and recommendations of the research studies we have undertaken.

Should you wish to learn more, please contact Ms Melissa Atallah, Executive Officer, Northern Councils Alliance on or via email: .

Yours sincerely

Cr. Tom Melican
Mayor, Banyule City Council
Chair, Northern Councils Alliance

Cr. Susanne Newton
Mayor
City of Darebin

Cr. Naim Kurt
Mayor
Hume City Council

Cr. Adam Pulford
Mayor
Merri-bek City Council

Cr. Louise Bannister
Mayor
Mitchell Shire Council

Cr. Ben Ramcharan
Mayor
Nillumbik Shire Council

Lydia Wilson
Chair Administrator
City of Whittlesea

Cr. Carli Lange
Mayor
Manningham City Council

Professor Theo Farrell
Vice- Chancellor and
President
La Trobe University

Linc Horton
Chair
NORTH Link

Cc: The Hon. Ben Carroll MP
The Hon. Gabrielle Williams MP
The Hon. Tim Pallas MP
The Hon. Danny Pearson MP
The Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP
The Hon. Ros Spence MP
The Hon. Colin Brooks MP
The Hon. Anthony Carbines MP
The Hon. Vicki Ward MP
The Hon. Jaclyn Symes
The Hon. Shaun Leane
The Hon. Enver Erdogan
Ms Bronwyn Halfpenny
Ms Kat Theophanous
Ms Lauren Kathage
Mr Josh Bull
Mr Iwan Walters
Mr Anthony Cianflone
Mr Nathan Lambert
Ms Kathleen Matthews-Ward
Ms Sonja Terpsta
Ms Sheena Watt

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL
1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047
Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047
Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

Our File: HCC12/338
Enquiries: Andrew Johnson
Telephone:

Tuesday 18 October 2022

The Hon. Ben Carroll
Minister for Public Transport
Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Level 20, 1 Spring St
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Minister,

RE: ACCESS TO UNIVERSITIES FOR HUME RESIDENTS

At its meeting on 26 September 2022, Council resolved:

> *"That Council write to the Minister for Public Transport and the Minister for Higher Education seeking new bus routes from Craigieburn, Coolaroo and Upfield to Latrobe University and Vic University.*
>
> *The letter should recognise the difficulties Hume residents have in accessing universities due to the distances and poor public transport access to existing universities; seek confirmation of what the State Government is doing to improve bus services to existing universities; and seek information from the State Government on the future provision of university courses and campuses in suitable proximity to Hume residents."*

Hume recognises the importance of lifelong learning to the prosperity and wellbeing of its residents.

Council has committed significant resources into facilitating access to a full range of higher education opportunities within the municipality for its residents and those in nearby areas. This includes a near two-decade long commitment to the multiversity concept where tertiary and higher education providers offer courses through Council's award-winning libraries and facilities.

Whilst this is important it doesn't replace efficient access to the full range of courses at the State's universities.

Since the closure of Victoria University campus in Sunbury, there are no universities in the municipality and the nearest universities are La Trobe in Bundoora and Victoria University at Sunshine and St Albans.

A student residing in the Hume can expect a total travel time upwards of an hour and a half to reach the university campuses in Bundoora and Sunshine and approximately two hours to St Albans on public transport. This journey will entail 3-4 transfers between buses and/or trains.

These disconnected and very long journey times are a major barrier to residents in Hume realising their full potential, particularly for the many adults with young children that are the dominant household type in Hume.

We understand that no new bus routes are currently being planned to connect our fast growing residential and commercial population in Hume to these important higher education destinations, other than through the long-term planning for the Suburban Rail Loop (SRL). However, as you are aware, SRL North has a projected completion date of 2053.

We also understand that no provision is currently being made for another university campus in Melbourne's North that would be more proximate and accessible to our residents.

I seek confirmation of this and what the State Government is doing to address this access barrier through improved bus services to existing universities and provision of future university courses and campuses in suitable proximity to Hume residents.

I therefore seek your consideration of two immediate opportunities to address this:

First, we seek government consideration of the planning and provision of an interim Suburban Rail Loop Bus (SRLB) service to follow the proposed orbital line of SRL North from Melbourne Airport via Broadmeadows and La Trobe University to Box Hill.

This proposal has been developed by the Northern Region Transport Study (Stage 2) commissioned by the Northern Councils Alliance in partnership with the Department of Transport. The proposal is available at https://www.northerncouncils.org.au/_files/ugd/ec0a73_c5516ab69e4043d3ada5b986e97b30a8.pdf

Such a service requires little to no physical infrastructure so is a relatively fast and cost-effective interim solution to alleviate the lack of connectivity to the La Trobe University and National Employment Innovation Cluster at Bundoora from Hume.

Secondly, we seek government consideration of the planning and provision of public transport options for Hume residents to access university courses and campuses in suitable proximity to Hume residents.

Thirdly, we would welcome an opportunity for the Department of Education and Training to collaborate with the Hume City Council, Mitchell Shire Council and Whittlesea who have entered into a unique and progressive partnership to advance the planning for the Lockerbie Metropolitan Activity Centre (also known as Cloverton) identified in Plan Melbourne.

A new university campus would make a significant contribution to realising this vision.

Lockerbie Metropolitan Activity Centre is ideally located in the heart of the rapidly growing suburbs of Craigieburn, Mickleham, Kalkallo, Beveridge, Donnybrook and Wallan which are forecast to have a combined population in excess of 400,000 people in the future (which will be a city the size of Canberra in Melbourne's North).

Planning for the centre is currently being advanced through this Partnership Agreement and several State departments and the developer Stockland to create thriving communities with dynamic town centres where people live, shop and work.

Council will also be providing feedback to the State Government on these matter through their Major Review of Buses in Melbourne's North and North East currently being undertaken.

Please contact Andrew Johnson (Manager Strategic Planning) at or to discuss these needs and opportunities further.

Yours sincerely

Moore

CR CARLY MOORE
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL
1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047
Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047
Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

Our File: HCC12/338
Enquiries: Andrew Johnson
Telephone:

Tuesday 18 October 2022

The Hon. Gayle Tierney MLC
Minister for Higher Education
Minister for Training and Skills
Level 1, 2 Treasury Place
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Minister,

RE: ACCESS TO UNIVERSITIES FOR HUME RESIDENTS

At its meeting on 26 September 2022, Council resolved:

> *"That Council write to the Minister for Public Transport and the Minister for Higher Education seeking new bus routes from Craigieburn, Coolaroo and Upfield to Latrobe University and Vic University.*
>
> *The letter should recognise the difficulties Hume residents have in accessing universities due to the distances and poor public transport access to existing universities; seek confirmation of what the State Government is doing to improve bus services to existing universities; and seek information from the State Government on the future provision of university courses and campuses in suitable proximity to Hume residents."*

Hume recognises the importance of lifelong learning to the prosperity and wellbeing of its residents.

Council has committed significant resources into facilitating access to a full range of higher education opportunities within the municipality for its residents and those in nearby areas. This includes a near two-decade long commitment to the multiversity concept where tertiary and higher education providers offer courses through Council's award-winning libraries and facilities.

Whilst this is important it doesn't replace efficient access to the full range of courses at the State's universities.

Since the closure of Victoria University campus in Sunbury, there are no universities in the municipality and the nearest universities are La Trobe in Bundoora and Victoria University at Sunshine and St Albans.

A student residing in the Hume can expect a total travel time upwards of an hour and a half to reach the university campuses in Bundoora and Sunshine and approximately two hours to St Albans on public transport. This journey will entail 3-4 transfers between buses and/or trains.

These disconnected and very long journey times are a major barrier to residents in Hume realising their full potential, particularly for the many adults with young children that are the dominant household type in Hume.

We understand that no new bus routes are currently being planned to connect our fast growing residential and commercial population in Hume to these important higher education destinations, other than through the long-term planning for the Suburban Rail Loop (SRL). However, as you are aware, SRL North has a projected completion date of 2053.

We also understand that no provision is currently being made for another university campus in Melbourne's North that would be more proximate and accessible to our residents.

I seek confirmation of this and what the State Government is doing to address this access barrier through improved bus services to existing universities and provision of future university courses and campuses in suitable proximity to Hume residents.

I therefore seek your consideration of two immediate opportunities to address this:

First, we seek government consideration of the planning and provision of an interim Suburban Rail Loop Bus (SRLB) service to follow the proposed orbital line of SRL North from Melbourne Airport via Broadmeadows and La Trobe University to Box Hill.

This proposal has been developed by the Northern Region Transport Study (Stage 2) commissioned by the Northern Councils Alliance in partnership with the Department of Transport. The proposal is available at https://www.northerncouncils.org.au/_files/ugd/ec0a73_c5516ab69e4043d3ada5b986e97b30a8.pdf

Such a service requires little to no physical infrastructure so is a relatively fast and cost-effective interim solution to alleviate the lack of connectivity to the La Trobe University and National Employment Innovation Cluster at Bundoora from Hume.

Secondly, we seek government consideration of the planning and provision of public transport options for Hume residents to access university courses and campuses in suitable proximity to Hume residents.

Thirdly, we would welcome an opportunity for the Department of Education and Training to collaborate with the Hume City Council, Mitchell Shire Council and Whittlesea who have entered into a unique and progressive partnership to advance the planning for the Lockerbie Metropolitan Activity Centre (also known as Cloverton) identified in Plan Melbourne.

A new university campus would make a significant contribution to realising this vision.

Lockerbie Metropolitan Activity Centre is ideally located in the heart of the rapidly growing suburbs of Craigieburn, Mickleham, Kalkallo, Beveridge, Donnybrook and Wallan which are forecast to have a combined population in excess of 400,000 people in the future (which will be a city the size of Canberra in Melbourne's North).

Planning for the centre is currently being advanced through this Partnership Agreement and several State departments and the developer Stockland to create thriving communities with dynamic town centres where people live, shop and work.

Council will also be providing feedback to the State Government on these matter through their Major Review of Buses in Melbourne's North and North East currently being undertaken.

Please contact Andrew Johnson (Manager Strategic Planning) at or to discuss these needs and opportunities further.

Yours sincerely

Moore

CR CARLY MOORE
MAYOR

HUME CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HUME CITY COUNCIL

MONDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2022

7:00PM

TOWN HALL BROADMEADOWS AND ONLINE

CONFIRMED - 10 OCTOBER 2022

That Council notes the report from the Audit and Risk Committee on the activities undertaken by the Committee for the period 1 January 2022 – 30 June 2022.

CARRIED

9. NOTICES OF MOTION

9.1 NOM 22/04 Councillor Sam Misho

Moved Cr Sam Misho, **Seconded** Cr Naim Kurt

That Council:

1. Investigate the need for a suitable traffic management control (speed hump) to reduce the speed of vehicles as they enter Girgarre Street, Broadmeadows from Pascoe Vale Road, and

2. Receive a report at the 12 December Council meeting on the findings of the investigation

CARRIED

9.2 NOM 22/05 - Councillor Sam Misho

Moved Cr Sam Misho, **Seconded** Cr Naim Kurt

That Council write to the Minister for Public Transport and the Minister for Higher Education seeking new bus routes from Craigieburn, Coolaroo and Upfield to Latrobe University and Vic University.

The letter should recognise the difficulties Hume residents have in accessing universities due to the distances and poor public transport access to existing universities; seek confirmation of what the State Government is doing to improve bus services to existing universities; and seek information from the State Government on the future provision of university courses and campuses in suitable proximity to Hume residents.

CARRIED

9.3 NOM 22/06 - Councillor Naim Kurt

Moved Cr Naim Kurt, **Seconded** Cr Jim Overend

Cr Joseph Haweil joined the meeting at 9:06 pm after the motion was moved and prior to a vote on the item *NOM22/06 – Councillor Naim Kurt*.

1. **That Hume City Council acknowledges the public health risk that e-cigarettes and vaping is having on our community.**
2. **That the use of nicotine e-cigarettes are increasing the range of adverse health outcomes in our municipality, particularly in youth, including taking up smoking, addiction, poisoning, seizures, burns and lung injury.**
3. **That the unregulated nature of e-cigarettes and a failure to police the rules has lead to a black market and illicit trade of vaping products.**
4. **That the disposal of vape cartridges has lead to a proliferation of litter in our urban environment.**
5. **That Council joins with VicHealth, the Cancer Council of Victoria and Quit Victoria in advocating to the Victorian Government to overhaul legislation**

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12/403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

Mr Adem Somyurek MP
Member for Northern Metropolitan Region
Unit 1/747 Sydney Road
BRUNSWICK VIC 3056

Via email: adem.somyurek@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr ~~Somyurek~~ Adem,

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12/403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

Mr David Ettershank MP
Member for Western Metropolitan Region
Suite 101/19 Lacy Street
BRAYBROOK VIC 3019

Via email: david.ettershank@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr ~~Ettershank~~ David,

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12'403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

The Hon. Enver Erdogan MP
Member for Northern Metropolitan Region
281 Centre Road
BENTLEIGH VIC 3204

Via email: enver.erdogan@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear The Hon. ~~Erdogan~~ Enver,

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12/403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

Mr Evan Mulholland MP
Member for Northern Metropolitan Region
Shop 24, 55-63 Paringa Boulevard
MEADOW HEIGHTS VIC 3048

Via email: Evan.Mulholland@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr ~~Mulholland~~ Evan,

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12/403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

The Hon. Ingrid Stitt MP
Member for Western Metropolitan Region
Tenancy 2, 80 Carmody Drive
CAIRNLEA VIC 3023

Via email: Ingrid.Stitt@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear The ~~Hon.~~ Ingrid Stitt,

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12 403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

Mr Josh Bull MP
State Member for Sunbury
PO Box 635
SUNBURY VIC 3429

Via email: josh.bull@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr Bull, Josh

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12/403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

Ms Kathleen Matthews-Ward MP
State Member for Broadmeadows
Shop 42, 1099-1169 Pascoe Vale Road
BROADMEADOWS VIC 3047

Via email: Kathleen.Matthews-Ward@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms ~~Matthews-Ward~~ Kathleen,

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12/403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

The Hon. Lizzie Blandthorn MP
Member for Western Metropolitan Region
14-15, 180 Gaffney Street
COBURG NORTH VIC 3058

Via email: Lizzie.Blandthorn@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear The Hon. ~~Blandthorn~~ Lizzie,

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

Mr Iwan Walters MP
State Member for Greenvale
Suite C308, 1510 Pascoe Vale Road
COOLAROO VIC 3048

Via email: iwan.walters@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr Iwan Walters, Iwan

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12/403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

Ms Moira Deeming MP
Member for Western Metropolitan Region
Suite 1 & 2, Level 2. 13-15 Lake Street
CAROLINE SPRINGS VIC 3023

Via email: moira.deeming@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms ~~Deeming~~ Moira,

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12/403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

The Hon. Ros Spence MP
State Member for Kalkallo
PO Box 132
CRAIGIEBURN VIC 3064

Via email: ros.spence@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear The Hon ~~Spence~~ Ros,

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12/403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

Dr Samantha Ratnam MP
Member for Northern Metropolitan Region
Suite G-01, 60 Leicester Street
CARLTON VIC 3053

Via email: samantha.ratnam@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Dr Ratnam, Sam

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12/403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

Ms Sheena Watt MP
Member for Northern Metropolitan Region
G04/23 Black Street
BRUNSWICK VIC 3056

Via email: sheena.watt@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms ~~Watt~~ Sheena,

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File HCC12/403
Enquiries Carmen Frawley
Telephone

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

11 July 2024

Mr Trung Luu MP
Member for Western Metropolitan Region
Tenancy 3 1-13 Watton Street
WERRIBEE VIC 3030

Via email: trung.luu@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr Luu, Trung

RE: SUBMISSION ON COST SHIFTING AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

At the Council meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, Hume City Council approved a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services.

The submission provides information about the impacts of cost shifting and subsequent financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

I have attached a copy of this submission for your reference. We would appreciate any support that you can offer to help to address this situation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

REPORT NO:	9.3
REPORT TITLE:	Submission to State Government on Cost Shifting and Financial Sustainability
SOURCE:	Robert Costa, Manager Finance
DIVISION:	Finance & Governance
FILE NO:	HCC23/392
POLICY:	-
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	3.2: Deliver responsible and transparent governance, services and sustainable assets that respond to community needs
ATTACHMENTS:	1. *Hume City Council submission to the inquiry into local government funding and services impacting sustainability* 2. *Appendix 1 - Service Delivery Areas Impacted by Cost Shifting*

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

1.1 To provide a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services, raising awareness of the financial sustainability pressures that Council faces.

1.2 The submission emphasises the effects of rate-capping, cost shifting, cost escalations, and the unique challenges faced by interface councils.

1.3 The submission also aims to highlight the financial pressures Council faces under a rate-capped system and calls for a review to the regime. It also requests additional funding support from state and federal governments and an overhaul of the DCP/ICP mechanism.

1.4 Some proposed solutions and recommendations are included in the closing section of the submission (Attachment 1).

1.5 Attachment 2 (Appendix 1) outlines some of the services that Council delivers that are impacted by cost shifting.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

That Council provide a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee on the Inquiry into Local Government funding and services expressing concern about the extent of cost shifting from the State Government to Local Government, especially in the context of rate capping limiting Council's ability to meet the future operational and infrastructure needs of its community. The submission is included in Attachment 1 and the appendix to the submission is included in Attachment 2.

3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

Local Government Act, 1989; and

Local Government Act, 2020.

REPORT NO: 9.3 (cont.)

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

4.1 There will be no cost involved in preparing the submission as it will be completed using existing staff resources.

4.2 However, the impacts of cost shifting and cost escalations, coupled with the restrictions of a cap on the ability to generate sufficient rate revenue are significant and will continue to have detrimental impacts on Council's financial sustainability.

4.3 Cost-shifting and cost escalations:

4.3.1 Increased Financial Burden: Transferring responsibilities from higher levels of government to local councils without corresponding funding increases the financial burden on Council.

4.3.2 State Government Legislation: Legislation imposes actions on local councils that are often unfunded or underfunded. In a rate-capping environment, it is becoming increasingly difficult to sustain and absorb the costs associated with these services.

4.3.3 Long-term Financial Sustainability: An increase in government grants will help to bridge some of the funding gap. In addition, the Ministerial guidelines on the waste charge, if mandated, could significantly undermine the Council's long-term financial sustainability.

4.3.4 Resource Allocation: Rising costs may force Council to divert funds from other critical areas to manage these new responsibilities, leading to imbalanced resource allocation.

4.4 Rate-Capping:

4.4.1 Underfunding: The rate cap may result in insufficient revenue to cover the rising costs of maintaining and renewing community assets and delivering essential services.

4.4.2 Service Reductions: Limited financial resources could force Council to cut back on services, negatively impacting the community.

4.4.3 Deferred Maintenance: Inadequate funding may lead to postponing necessary maintenance, resulting in higher future costs and potential asset failures.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

5.1 Environmental sustainability is considered in the development of Council's operating and capital works budget.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

6.1 There are no impacts on climate change adaptation as a result of this report.

7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

7.1 The charter has been reviewed in relation to this report and there are no issues to be considered in this regard.

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

8.1 Community consultation, whilst not undertaken as part of this report, is taken into account in the development of Council's operating and capital works budget.

9. DISCUSSION:

9.1 Cost Shifting

9.1.1 Councils have regularly been impacted by the need to deliver unfunded or underfunded services, commonly referred to as cost shifting.

REPORT NO: 9.3 (cont.)

9.1.2 Cost shifting occurs when other tiers of government:

(a) Reduce funding allocated to Local Government in real terms: While expecting the same, if not higher, level of service delivery; or

(b) Introduce new responsibilities for Councils: Without providing adequate resources to support these new obligations.

9.1.3 This occurs when the obligation or financial burden of providing a specific service, benefit, asset, or regulatory function is transferred from one level of government to another without the necessary funding or revenue-raising capacity. This practice, particularly from the Victorian State Government and to a lesser extent from the Federal Government, has been a significant financial challenge for many years. It presents a considerable risk to the delivery of services and the financial stability of local governments.

9.2 Financial Sustainability

9.2.1 Financial sustainability within a local government context, refers to the ability of Council to manage its finances in a way that allows it to meet its current and future financial obligations without compromising the delivery of essential services and the maintenance of infrastructure. This involves:

(a) Balancing Budgets: Ensuring that revenue and expenditures are aligned so that the Council does not incur excessive debt or deplete its reserves.

(b) Long-term Planning: Incorporating long-term financial planning to anticipate and prepare for future financial challenges and opportunities.

(c) Efficient Resource Management: Utilising resources efficiently to maximise value for money and ensure that spending is aligned with strategic priorities.

(d) Revenue Management: Diversifying and optimising revenue streams to reduce dependency on rates income and to ensure a stable and predictable flow of funds.

(e) Cost Control: Implementing measures to control costs, including managing wage growth, operational efficiencies, and effective procurement practices.

(f) Asset Management: Maintaining and investing in infrastructure and other assets to ensure their long-term viability and to avoid the costs associated with deferred maintenance.

(g) Risk Management: Identifying and managing financial risks to minimise their impact on Council's financial health.

(h) Compliance and Accountability: Ensuring compliance with relevant laws, regulations, and standards, and maintaining transparency and accountability in financial decision-making.

9.2.2 Achieving financial sustainability allows Council to provide essential services, invest in necessary infrastructure, and adapt to changing economic conditions without placing undue financial burden on future generations.

9.3 Rate Capping

9.3.1 Council's revenue primarily comes from rates and charges, supplemented by grants, user fees, and statutory fees. Since 2016, rate capping, which limits Councils from raising rates beyond a cap typically tied to the CPI, has been in effect. However, the costs for local government, particularly in staffing, service delivery, and infrastructure renewal, have been rising significantly more than the CPI, posing financial challenges.

REPORT NO: 9.3 (cont.)

9.3.2 The introduction of rate capping under the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) has brought a renewed focus to Council's long-term financial sustainability. The FGRS continues to restrict Council's ability to raise revenue above the rate cap unless application is made to the Essential Services Commission for a variation. The FGRS cap is set at 2.75% for 2024/25.

9.3.3 The current rate cap system is not providing sufficient rate revenue to match the actual increase in the cost base of existing services and infrastructure, as outlined by the ESC in providing advice to the Minister. The inadequacy of the rate cap is evident in the experience of NSW, where the rate peg has led many councils to apply for large special variations to address its impact, resulting in significant rate shocks across NSW communities.

9.4 Expanding Areas of Cost Shifting

9.4.1 Traditionally, cost shifting has impacted areas like libraries and the school crossing supervision program. However, it is now encroaching into critical areas such as maternal and child health and building enforcement. Areas that were traditionally funded or at least partly funded by the state government have seen reduced funding in real terms over the years, or funding has ceased altogether. This expansion underscores cost shifting as a major concern, posing a serious threat to future financial sustainability, and forcing Council to absorb increasing costs of maintaining and delivering essential services.

9.4.2 Further details on the impacts of cost shifting are available in Attachment 2 (Appendix 1).

9.5 Compliance and Other Indirect Costs

9.5.1 The Fire Services Property Levy is set to increase significantly from 1 July 2024. This will likely lead to negative perceptions of Councils when the community receives their rates notices, as they will see the increase imposed by the state government. Unfortunately, Councils will bear the brunt of the community's backlash.

9.6 Interface Growth Council Challenges

9.6.1 The City of Hume has and continues to undergo a significant increase in population and households particularly through the northern corridor of the municipality. However, whilst the growth generates additional rates and contributed assets from developers, it also comes with a number of challenges in the form of increased service provision and the need to deliver, maintain and renew infrastructure assets (eg roads, open space and footpaths) and community facilities.

9.6.2 Further details of the impacts of the challenges faced by interface growth councils are contained in Attachment 1.

9.7 Cost Escalations

9.7.1 Cost escalations faced by Council has and will continue to impact on Council's Capital Works Program and Operating Budget.

9.7.2 Further details of the impacts of cost escalations are contained in Attachment 1.

9.8 Suggested Solutions to Help Achieve Financial Sustainability

9.8.1 Some suggested solutions are outlined below are further expanded on in Attachment 1:

(a) Revising the Rate Cap Methodology to better reflect the actual costs incurred by Council to deliver services and capital works to the community.

REPORT NO: 9.3 (cont.)

(b) Reviewing the Ministerial guidelines on the service rates and charges (guidelines) as they have the potential to impact Council's financial sustainability significantly and negatively.

(c) Reflecting service delivery costs in operating grants.

(d) Increasing capital grants to ensure that funding for capital projects does not place an unfair financial burden on Council.

(e) Adjusting Statutory Fees and Fines which do not account for the true costs associated with service delivery.

(f) Overhauling the DCP/ICP funding mechanism as it unfairly places all the risks of cost escalation on Council.

(g) Providing Council with access to funds collected under the Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy (MILL) which have been accumulating in the Sustainability Fund since 2005.

10. CONCLUSION:

Financial sustainability remains a concern for Council as it is impacted by rate capping, cost escalations, cost shifting and interface growth Council challenges. Councils are challenged with maintaining or increasing services and delivering community infrastructure within a rate-capped environment. Rates revenue, the largest source of Council funding, has been capped, while the costs of delivering services and infrastructure have increased significantly. Additionally, although many services are partly funded by state or federal grants, the proportion of funding from these grants relative to the total costs incurred by Councils in delivering services and capital infrastructure has been declining over time.



Hume City Council submission

Hume City Council welcomes this inquiry into the ongoing financial sustainability of the local government sector. Council is confronted with the challenge of maintaining or increasing services and delivering community infrastructure within a rate-capped environment, where rates revenue—the largest source of council funding—has been capped while the costs of delivering services and infrastructure have increased significantly.

Additionally, although many services are partly funded by state or federal grants, the proportion of funding from these grants relative to the total costs incurred by Council in delivering services and capital infrastructure has been declining over time.

Furthermore, State Government Legislation imposes actions on local councils that are often unfunded or underfunded. In a rate-capping environment, it is becoming increasingly difficult to sustain and absorb the costs associated with these services.

The provision of infrastructure and services form a key part of council's role in supporting the local community. In providing these, council must consider a range of 'Best Value' principles including service cost and quality standards, value-for-money, and community expectations and values. Council must also balance the affordability and accessibility of infrastructure and services with its financial capacity and in the interests of long-term financial sustainability.

The current rate cap system is not providing sufficient rate revenue to match the actual increase in the cost base of existing services and infrastructure, as outlined by the ESC in providing advice to the Minister. The inadequacy of the rate cap is evident in the experience of NSW, where the rate peg has led many councils to apply for large special variations to address its impact, resulting in significant rate shocks across NSW communities.

The submission covers financial sustainability of Council within the context of the following four key impacts:

- Rate capping
- Cost shifting
- Cost escalations
- Interface growth council challenges

Councils in Victoria are unable to raise their rates revenue to keep pace with the impacts of inflation and the related cost increases of delivering services, due to the rate capped environment. Hume City Council's rates and charges income makes up approximately 46% of total revenue and 64% of underlying revenue for the 2024/25 financial year (which excludes capital related income such as capital grants and developer contributed assets). Council's adopted Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 – 2025 highlights the issues caused by the introduction of the Fair Go Rates System (rate capping) on long term financial sustainability and continues to restrict Council's ability to raise revenue to maintain service delivery levels and invest in community assets and infrastructure.

Rate capping

Council's revenue primarily comes from rates and charges, supplemented by grants, user fees, and statutory fees. Since 2016, rate capping, which limits Councils from raising rates beyond a cap typically tied to the CPI, has been in effect. However, the costs for local government, particularly in staffing, service delivery, and infrastructure renewal, have been rising significantly more than the CPI, posing financial challenges.

The introduction of rate capping under the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) has brought a renewed focus to Council's long-term financial sustainability. The FGRS continues to restrict Council's ability to raise revenue above the rate cap unless application is made to the Essential Services Commission for a variation. The FGRS cap is set at 2.75% for 2024/25.

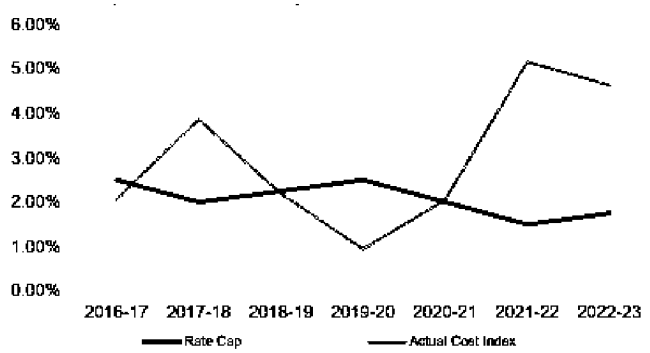
The table below outlines the rate cap for previous financial years. These increases are well below the CPI and cost increases incurred by Council for the delivery of services and capital works.

Financial Year	Rate Cap	CPI
2024/25	2.75%	2% - 3%*
2023/24	3.50%	4.10%
2022/23	1.75%	8.0%
2021/22	1.50%	4.7%

*The Reserve Bank of Australia are expecting inflation to be around 2% to 3% in 2024/25 despite inflation currently remaining higher than originally forecast.

Maintaining service delivery levels and investing in community assets remain key priorities for Council. Given the heavy dependence on rate revenue and the constraints of rate capping, which limits the ability to generate revenue beyond the cap, the Council faces the challenge of reducing reliance on property rates. This necessitates identifying alternative revenue streams and funding opportunities. However, these opportunities are limited by legislated statutory fees and charges. Additionally, non-statutory fees and charges must be set at levels that ensure accessibility for all community members, regardless of their wealth or disposable income.

The table below outlines the historical relationship between the rate cap and the actual cost index incurred by Victorian councils. Whilst the COVID period saw a reduction in costs, Council provided a substantial COVID relief package to the community of $14.5m. Furthermore, the cost increases incurred by Victorian Councils for the other years outlined below have been significantly higher than the rate cap.



Source: FinPro report. Need for a More Sustainable Future for Local Government

Impacts of Cost Shifting

Councils have frequently faced the challenge of delivering unfunded or underfunded services. The financial burden of providing specific services, benefits, assets, or regulatory functions is often shifted from one level of government to another without the requisite funding or revenue-raising capacity. This practice, predominantly by the Victorian State Government and to a lesser extent by the Federal Government, has posed a significant financial challenge for many years. It presents a substantial risk to the delivery of services and the financial stability of local governments.

In relation to cost shifting, the level of grant funding and the expansion of service delivery areas are continuing to have a negative impact on Council's financial sustainability. Cost shifting impacts Council's financial sustainability, increasing the financial burden on the community through higher fees for regularly used services (e.g., community facilities, childcare, aged care services, and access to subsidised council gym and aquatic facilities). If Council cannot absorb these additional costs, it may result in reduced service levels or the elimination of non-essential services.

Cost shifting pressures mean that the community could experience a decline in the quality and availability of services such as early years programs and aged care services. This could have a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of some members in our community, particularly our most vulnerable.

Grant funding

Some services that councils provide are partly funded by state or federal grants.

However, over time and especially post COVID, the proportion of funding from government grants compared to council's costs of delivering services and capital infrastructure has not kept pace with the real cost increases incurred by Council.

Examples of services that are subject to cost shifting include, but not limited to, maternal and child health, school crossing supervisors, library services and home and community care for elderly residents.

Expanding Areas of Cost Shifting

Traditionally, cost shifting has impacted areas like libraries and the school crossing supervision program. However, it is now encroaching into critical areas such as maternal and child health and building enforcement. Areas that were traditionally funded or at least partly funded by the state government have seen reduced funding in real terms over the years, or funding has ceased altogether. This expansion

underscores cost shifting as a major concern, posing a serious threat to future financial sustainability and forcing councils to absorb the full cost of maintaining and delivering essential services.

The following outlines some of the current cost shifting impacts faced by Council:

- Libraries
- School Crossing Supervision
- Maternal and Child Health
- Early Years Infrastructure
- Citizenship Ceremonies
- Building Reform
- Planning
- Electrical Line Clearance

The costs associated with delivering the services outlined above for the 2024/25 financial year amount to $17.9 million. These figures only reflect direct costs and do not include any applicable overheads.

In addition to the abovementioned services, the following areas have and will continue to place considerable strain on the financial sustainability of Council:

- Landfill Levy and Waste Services
- Ministerial Guidelines on the Waste Charge
- The future of waste and recycling
- Environment Protection
- Local Government Emergency Management and Recovery

Further details are outlined in Appendix 1 below.

Road maintenance

Lack of capacity on the arterial road network leads to additional demand on local roads, causing increased costs to Council. For example, congestion on Mickleham Road has resulted in large volumes of traffic using roads such as Oaklands Road and Craigieburn Road (West) as an alternative. Council has spent over $500,000 on patching these two roads in recent years and has committed several millions of dollars to renewals these roads in coming years. These roads would have lasted many more years without the increases in traffic they have experienced.

Roads that have been identified as 'future arterials' such as Aitken Boulevard, will perform the function of an arterial road for many years before being declared as arterials. Council will also face high costs to bring such roads to the standard required for declaration and is concerned that State Government requirements for this can be changed without notice.

For many years, Council undertook some roadside maintenance on arterial roads under the former Minor Maintenance Agreement. Council subsidised this work by several hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to provide a level of service in line with community expectations (eg. Vegetation management and litter collection on

medians). Since the discontinuance of the Minor Maintenane Agreement and the Department of Transport and Planning becoming responsible for this maintenance, our community has been very disappointed with the standard of maintenance, including:

- Long grass and weeds sometimes getting to 1 metre high and more.
- Lack of street sweeping and edging means kerbs are filled with silt and grass – drains become ineffective and gravel/silt is spread to nearby paths.
- Poor frequency of litter collection.

Compliance and other indirect costs
The Fire Services Property Levy is set to increase significantly from 1 July 2024. This will likely lead to negative perceptions of councils when the community receives their rates notices, as they will see the increase imposed by the state government. Unfortunately, councils will bear the brunt of the community's backlash.

Interface growth council challenges

The City of Hume has and continues to undergo a significant increase in population and households particularly through the northern corridor of the municipality. However, whilst the growth generates additional rates and contributed assets from developers, it also comes with a number of challenges in the form of increased service provision and the need to deliver, maintain and renew infrastructure assets (e.g. roads, open space and footpaths) and community facilities. Interface growth councils have a much higher infrastructure bill than that of established area councils.

While contributions from developers are an appropriate and necessary part of the funding story, they are only a contribution. Contributions systems enable the payment of levies from developers towards the cost of providing infrastructure. The systems are limited to contributing towards specific types of infrastructure to a 'basic and essential' standard. Council is responsible for delivering a wide range of infrastructure beyond what can be included in a contributions plan.

To date, Hume has been relatively successful in the implementation of Development Contributions Plans (DCPs) and Infrastructure Contributions Plans (ICPs). This has only been possible through extensive use of Works in Kind (WIK) agreements with developers. However, there are systemic issues in the system that are placing increasing pressure on Council's ability to meet the demand for infrastructure.

Councils have an obligation to complete all projects included in DCPs and ICPs, irrespective of escalating costs or changing needs, exposing them to significant financial risks. For instance, when the Sunbury South and Lancefield ICP was initially gazetted there was a theoretical funding gap of $32.5 million due to the cap on the levy rate for community and recreation infrastructure. Council modelling for the lifetime of the ICP now indicates that this funding gap exceeds $80 million (for both transport and community and recreation infrastructure). In less than 5 years the funding gap has almost tripled.

There are a number of factors that contribute to the increase in the funding gap that are systemic to the contributions system (both DCPs and ICPs):

- The timing gap between receiving levies and delivering infrastructure creates a built-in funding gap over time. This occurs as levies collected early in the development of the precinct are collected at lower rates that are not indexed. As the cost of delivering infrastructure increases over time, the gap between what has been collected versus what is needed to fund infrastructure delivery increases.

- The index used to annually adjust levies for ICPs is the most appropriate method that is publicly available. However, indexes look at what has happened and do not predict future trends. This means that when levies are adjusted in July they are adjusted to information that is already out of date when Council is seeking tenders to construct infrastructure. For example, an infrastructure project that has a tender put to market in May is collecting levies that are based on costs that applied 1 to 2 years ago. The rapid cost escalation experienced across the construction industry in recent years has exacerbated this issue.
- In addition to this, the information used to prepare initial costs estimates included in the gazetted documents are not always complete or subject to changing standards. Recent examples of this include VicTrack requiring air rights for a bridge over a rail line and increased cultural heritage management costs.

The above commentary primarily relates to the construction of infrastructure, however another factor councils must take into account is acquiring the land for the infrastructure. One of the biggest risks to Council's financial management of DCPs is the additional compensation landowners can seek through the *Land Acquisition and Compensation Act* 1986. These additional costs are rarely included in the estimated value included in the DCP and can quickly increase Council's costs by tens of millions of dollars. The ICP system recognised this issue and has introduced a system of land acquisition that appears to reduce the risk, however it is too early to determine the extent this has been reduced and in the meantime there are multiple existing DCPs where the risk remains.

Cost escalations

Landfill levy

Over the past 15 years, there has been a substantial rise in the EPA landfill levy, significantly impacting the Municipal Industrial Waste Levy (MIWL). The MIWL has increased from $2 million in 2017/18 to an estimated $12 million in 2025/26. For further details, please refer to Appendix 1 of this report.

Impact on Capital Works Programs

Council's ability to deliver the extensive capital works program for the community to address renewal and upgrade requirements and deliver new infrastructure under Developer / Infrastructure Contribution Plans (DCP / ICP), has been significantly impacted by cost escalations.

Hume City Council has faced cost escalations necessitating additional expenditure budgets for several reasons, including:

- Indexed DCP/ICP projects' value;
- Cost escalations or revisions based on better project information;
- Indexed project values to better estimate delivery costs; and
- Increases due to inflation have impacted construction and labor costs more significantly than anticipated in the capital program.

The estimated cost escalations of Council's 10-year capital works program since 2022/23 amount to $280 million. This significant increase has adversely impacted Council's financial sustainability, depleted cash reserves, and affected the timing of project deliveries.

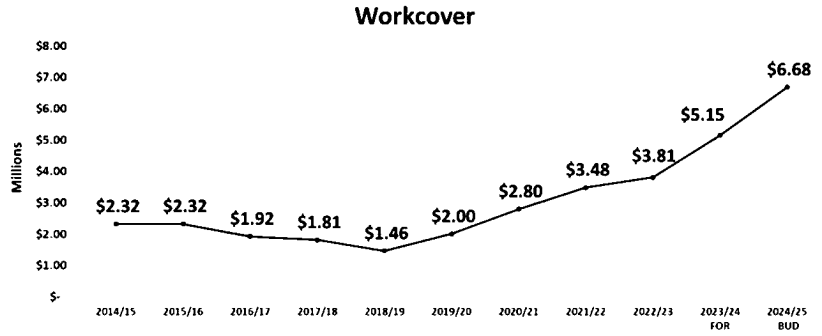
Impact on Operational budget

Additionally, increases in operational expenditure can disrupt financial planning and force Council to re-evaluate and potentially cut back on planned investments in community programs and infrastructure. The cumulative effect of these changes can

challenge Council's ability to maintain financial sustainability while continuing to meet the needs of the community. These rising costs require the Council to allocate more funds to cover operational expenditure, which reduces the amount available for other essential services and projects. Workcover and utility costs are just some examples of this.

Workcover changes

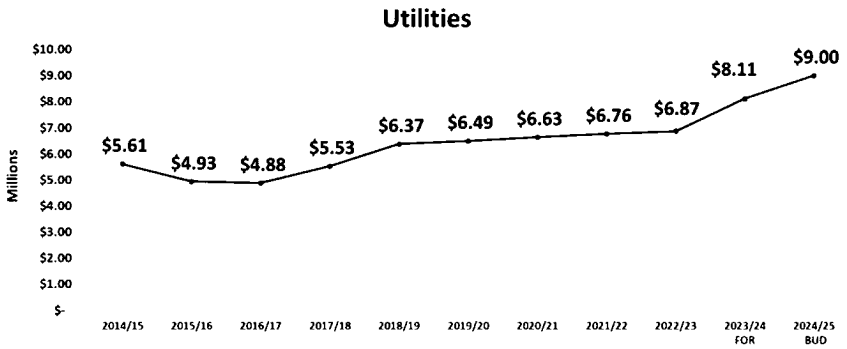
Over the years, changes to the WorkCover legislation and cost model have significantly impacted Council, due to the size, scale and risk complexity of the work we do. This has led to higher operating costs and significant uplift in our premium costs which are not wholly due to operational return to work / performance. While it is acknowledged that these changes are driven in part by claims history, industry risks, the result is an added strain on Council's budget. The graph below shows the magnitude of the increase in these costs over the years.



Utility costs

Over the years, we have seen substantial increases in the costs of utilities, specifically gas and electricity. Furthermore, the higher utility costs affect not only the Council's facilities and operations but also the broader community. Increased energy costs can lead to higher service fees for community members and businesses, exacerbating financial strain, especially for those already struggling with economic challenges. Council must find ways to manage these rising costs while continuing to provide essential services and support to the community, ensuring financial sustainability and maintaining the quality of life for residents.

The graph below shows the magnitude of the increase in these costs over the years.



Suggested Solutions to Help Council Achieve Financial Sustainability:

(a) **Revising the Rate Cap Methodology:** To help Council achieve financial sustainability, the current method for setting the rate cap needs to reflect the specific cost factors of local government. Currently, the rate cap is based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which the Essential Services Commission (ESC) has acknowledged does not accurately represent local government costs. Cost factors should include employee costs, operating costs, capital works costs, and Development Contributions Plan (DCP)/Infrastructure Contributions Plan (ICP) costs, particularly relevant to interface growth councils. Interface growth Councils face unique challenges in increased service provision and the need to maintain and renew infrastructure and community facilities, which are not adequately funded by the current rate cap.

(b) **Reviewing the Ministerial guidelines on the service rates and charges (guidelines):** The current guidelines affect Council's ability to recover the costs associated with providing waste services to the community. If these guidelines become mandated, they will significantly and negatively impact Council's financial sustainability. Therefore, a review of the guidelines is necessary to ensure that Council is not forced to absorb the increased costs of maintaining a clean and debris-free municipality.

(c) **Reflecting Service Delivery Costs in Operating Grants:** Operating grants from state and federal governments need to reflect the costs of service delivery more accurately. In real terms, grant funding has been decreasing over the years, forcing Council to cover significant portions of program costs. Additionally, some grants, such as those for Maternal and Child Health, have a finite lifespan. Once these grants expire, councils are expected to continue providing these services without any government funding.

(d) **Increasing Capital Grants:** Capital grants are generally competitive and non-recurrent, often excluding additional operational costs. A larger pool of funds is necessary to ensure that funding for capital projects does not place an unfair financial burden on Council.

(e) **Adjusting Statutory Fees and Fines:** Statutory fees and fines, set by the state government, do not account for the true costs associated with service delivery. These fees need to be flexible enough to allow councils to recover a higher proportion of the costs involved in delivering these services.

(f) **Overhauling the DCP/ICP Funding Mechanism:** Council understands the State Government is currently considering the recommendations from the Infrastructure Contributions Ministerial Advisory Committee. We support the State Government continuing this work, including looking at the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution (GAIC) system as well as developer contributions that go to Councils. We urge the State Government to add the matters raised in this submission to their considerations and look forward to hearing the outcome.

We also suggest the Work in Kind (WIK) system be looked at for streamlining and process improvements as this enables the earlier delivery of infrastructure and can assist with reducing costs for state and local government in the long term. We would be very open to being part of discussions and/or a project looking at how GAIC, the ICP/DCP and WIKs could be improved for all governments and ultimately deliver more cost effect infrastructure for future communities.

(g) **Advocacy and collaboration with State Government on Road Funding:** Several initiatives would help alleviate the cost pressures on road funding for Council:

Prioritising Funding for Road Upgrades and Maintenance: We urge the State Government to prioritise funding for arterial road upgrades and maintenance, especially for local roads impacted by increased traffic volumes due to inadequate capacity on arterial roads.

Expediting Future Arterial Road Declarations: We aim to work with the State Government to expedite the declaration of future arterial roads, such as Aitken Boulevard, and to secure agreements on funding and maintenance responsibilities during the transition phase.

Roadside Maintenance: We request that the Department of Transport and Planning maintain a higher standard of service for roadside reserve maintenance. Although Council no longer handles the maintenance of reserves on arterial roads, the community has expressed their discontent with the current level of service being provided, citing issues such as overgrown vegetation, silt-filled kerbs,and inadequate litter collection.

(h) **Providing Council Access to the Sustainability Fund:** Since 1992, Victorians have been paying the Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy (MILL) when disposing of waste in landfills. Since the introduction of the MILL in 2009/10, Hume has contributed over $40 million. As of 30 June 2023, the cash balance of the fund was $201.1 million, projected to reach $1.4 billion by 2026/27. Despite this, Hume has received only a small amount of approximately $650,000 from the fund, which was insufficient to cover the full costs incurred by the Council to implement the kerbside reform. Additionally, Council will incur an extra $14.4 million to purchase new glass bins and standardize bin lids to comply with Recycling Victoria's requirements.

Conclusion

Financial sustainability remains a concern for Council as it is impacted by rate capping, cost escalations, cost shifting and interface growth council challenges. Councils are challenged with maintaining or increasing services and delivering community infrastructure within a rate-capped environment. Rates revenue, the largest source of council funding, has been capped, while the costs of delivering services and infrastructure have increased significantly. Additionally, although many services are partly funded by state or federal grants, the proportion of funding from these grants relative to the total costs incurred by Council in delivering services and capital infrastructure has been declining over time.

Appendix 1 – Areas of Service Delivery Impacted by Cost Shifting



The following areas of service delivery are relevant when considering the cost shifting implications of Council. Whilst Council may receive some government funding for the delivery of some of these services, the funding is often not sufficient, leaving Council to fund the difference.

The costs associated with delivering the services outlined below for the 2024/25 financial year amount to $17.9 million. These figures only reflect direct costs and do not include any applicable overheads.

Libraries

Currently, local councils contribute approximately 80% of the operational funding needed to support libraries, covering expenses such as staffing, book purchases, internet access, and computer services. In the past, funding for libraries was 50:50 split between the State and local governments. However, successive Victorian governments have not increased funding adequately to keep up with the growth and enhancement of library services. This places an unsustainable financial strain on ratepayers *(source: https://www.mav.asn.au/news-resources/campaigns/previous-campaigns/library)*.

SERVICE DESCRIPTION	2024/2025 PROPOSED BUDGET				
	GRANT INCOME $	OTHER INCOME $	TOTAL INCOME $	TOTAL EXPENDITURE $	COST TO COUNCIL $
Library Services	1,465,797	106,337	1,572,134	6,705,663	5,133,529

Council also funds significant capital investments annually of approximately $1 million, for the purchase of books. Despite our eight libraries being integral parts of our community, the funding has not kept pace with inflation, rising costs, and increasing demand for library services. Additionally, there is a lack of grant funding opportunities for upgrading existing ageing libraries and constructing new libraries in growth areas (which are only partially funded by DCP/ICP income). This shortfall requires Council to invest significant ratepayer funds to upgrade, expand, or build new facilities to meet the community's needs.

School Crossing Supervision

The School Crossing Supervision program was introduced in 1975 under a joint (50:50 split) funding arrangement between the State (Department of Transport formally VicRoads) and Councils. Although at the outset of the program the funding contribution of the State Government was higher, the funding has diminished over a number of years and has dropped to approximately 30% in recent years.

In the 2022/23 year, the State Government funded 35% of the school crossing program with Council funding the remaining 65%. Council is now incurring a cost of $2.05 million to run this program.

The table below shows the cost of delivering the school crossing program.

SERVICE DESCRIPTION	2024/2025 PROPOSED BUDGET				
	GRANT INCOME $	OTHER INCOME $	TOTAL INCOME $	TOTAL EXPENDITURE $	COST TO COUNCIL $
Victorian school crossing supervisor program	740,000	-	740,000	2,048,889	1,308,889

The number of approved school crossing sites has increased to 93 over the years due to growth and changes in road conditions e.g. higher volumes of vehicles on roads, resulting in additional costs to Council. Local Governments are not obligated to provide any school crossings under the Local Government Act, however if this service was not provided it would have a significant impact on the community.

It is understood that funding will continue to be allocated under the provisions of the School Crossings Subsidy Scheme into the future although the level of funding is uncertain.

Recruiting and retaining school crossing supervisors has, for many years been a considerable challenge for the Local Government sector and this continues to be the case.

A number of Councils are questioning whether they continue to provide the school crossing supervisor service given the increasing cost of delivering the service and insufficient State Government funding.

There are strong views in the local government sector, that the funding and service delivery model is unsustainable, although a commitment to withdraw from the service as indicated by some Councils is not considered necessary or appropriate at this stage.

Maternal and Child Health

The Victorian Government has gradually increased the responsibilities of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) nurses over the past decade. However, the necessary funding to support these changes has not always been provided, making it challenging to sustain the expanded services. Many Local Governments have reached a tipping point where the MCH service is no longer sustainable. This has become a key advocacy issue for Local Government in recent times through the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV).

Local government undertakes its responsibilities for the Maternal and Child Health Service within the context of an effective partnership with the State Government.

The Universal MCH Service is primarily delivered through 10 Key Age & Stage (KAS) consultations as outlined in the KAS framework, with 6.75 hours of funding allocated per child. This framework was developed in 2004 and implemented in 2009 however has not been reviewed in the intervening 18 years.

Since 2004, multiple mandatory assessment initiatives have been added to KAS consultations in addition to the additional workload created with the introduction of the Child Information Sharing Scheme [CISS] and the Family Violence Information Sharing Scheme [FVIS] responsibilities. Each initiative requires additional consultation time for screening, record keeping and reporting, however no further funding has been provided to adjust KAS appointment times to incorporate the additional workload.

Families are presenting with increased complexities including increased mental health concerns, family violence, early discharge from hospital and limited community supports and services, requiring longer and more frequent MCH assessments and consultations. The 2023-24 State Budget included new funding over four years to boost the capacity of MCH services to better respond to the health and wellbeing needs of women, children and families by funding increased to KAS consultation times. Critically, this funding commitment is not ongoing funding, which will result in the extra 1.25 hours committed until 2026-27 being shifted to Local Government to maintain the cost of the increase in consultation times, which by such time the community and sector workforce will continue to expect.

MCH services do not receive funding to support the Leadership, administration and on-costs for supporting MCH services. Costs for MCH Leadership, administration and on-costs are supported by Council and not sustainable in an interface Council experiencing significant growth. Universal MCH - Interface Councils funding is provided in 2023/24, however this funding will not be provided in future financial years.

Therefore, despite the state government funding, the cost to deliver the service has increased significantly. In the 2024/25 financial year, the Universal MCH service will be 58% funded by the Council compared to 50% Council funding contribution based on agreement.

The table below illustrates the net cost of delivering the Universal MCH service. Therefore, despite the state government funding, the cost to deliver the service has increased significantly. Over the last 10 years, the net cost to Council has increased by 77% from $2.2 million to $3.9 million.

SERVICE DESCRIPTION	2024/2025 PROPOSED BUDGET				
	GRANT INCOME $	OTHER INCOME $	TOTAL INCOME $	TOTAL EXPENDITURE $	COST TO COUNCIL $
Maternal Child Health	6,051,701	-	6,051,701	9,963,131	3,911,430

Early Years Infrastructure

The Victorian Government's Kindergarten Reform will have a significant impact on Council owned early childhood education and care facilities. To successfully implement the reform, Council must play a crucial role in ensuring sufficient early years infrastructure to meet the increased demand.

The Reforms will see significant changes to the delivery of kinder services largely through the increasing of kinder hours for 3-year-old and 4-year-old kinder. This will see the doubling of kinder hours for threes to 15 hours and for fours to 30 hours – both having weighty impacts on the need for more kinder infrastructure. This also includes upgrades to existing aging facilities, expansion as well as new sites.

In addition, as part of the Reforms there is also a need to address vulnerable and disadvantaged children in 4-year-old kinder with additional hours, progressing from the existing 15 hours to 30 hours by 2026, placing increased pressure on existing infrastructure to accommodate such additional capacity.

From 2023/24 to 2025/26, Hume City Council has received $7.4 million for expansion works at five early childhood education and care facilities across the municipality. This has required a co-investment of $2 million (initial projections had this forecast at $6 million). This investment aims to expand current community facilities to support the free three-year-old kindergarten program as part of the Building Blocks – Best Start, Best Life reforms.

Despite Council's success in securing partial funding for its kindergarten expansion projects, the Building Block funding criteria present challenges for rapidly growing communities in Hume City.

Despite working closely with the Education Department and the Victorian Building Authority to recommend expansion projects based on enrolment data, community need and specific localities , the Government bases its final approval on broad, aggregated statistical areas- and in many cases this is formed from desktop analysis of Departmental data which differs significantly to councils use of Id Forecasting, actual enrolment which considers ease of access for families and local contextual data on family preferences.

The Jacksons Creek Community Centre (JCCC) will be delivered on a 0.75ha site within the Everly Estate, co-located with open space/playing fields and a future government primary school and a local activity centre. The JCCC will be the first community centre in the Sunbury South and Lancefield Road PSP and will be instrumental in servicing the multiple development fronts until such time as additional neighbourhood facilities outlined in PSP are developed in the future.

This is further impacted by additional State Government policy that requires all new kindergartens to be built on or adjacent to Primary or Secondary School settings.

As a result a recent submission in April 2024 to seek funding to include kindergarten within the Jacksons Creek Community facility has been denied at this stage as the Government has re-assessed that the demand for this inclusion will not be required until 2032.

As part of the Hume City Council Community Infrastructure Plan (CIP) review, the unmet demand for early years infrastructure will be identified in accordance with the current Kindergarten Reform requirements. This exemplifies a cost shift from the State government to the local Council, which could have significant financial impacts on Council in fulfilling the proposed reform or changes mandated by the State government.

Citizenship Ceremonies

The federal government delegates the responsibility of conducting citizenship ceremonies to local councils as part of its partnership with local governments. Citizenship ceremonies conducted by Hume City Council are official events where individuals are granted Australian citizenship. These ceremonies are an important and celebratory occasion for new citizens, marking the final step in the process of becoming an Australian citizen. These ceremonies are a keyway for Hume City Council to welcome new citizens and celebrate their commitment to the Australian community. Councils conduct citizenship ceremonies to provide a more accessible, community-oriented, and efficient way to welcome new citizens, fostering local engagement and integration.

The table below illustrates the net cost of delivering the citizenship ceremonies.

SERVICE DESCRIPTION	2024/2025 PROPOSED BUDGET				
	GRANT INCOME $	OTHER INCOME $	TOTAL INCOME $	TOTAL EXPENDITURE $	COST TO COUNCIL $
Citizenship Ceremony	-	-	-	145,703	145,703

Building Reform

Since the initial deregulation of the building industry in the early 1990's there has been an incremental shift in responsibility to Councils as part of the building system. This has come about primarily from legislative change which has resulted in greater inspection and oversight for Municipal Building Surveyors (MBS) including in relation to Essential Services Inspections, Swimming Pool and Barrier Compliance and combustible cladding reviews.

The net cost of delivering the building service is outlined below.

SERVICE DESCRIPTION	2024/2025 PROPOSED BUDGET				
	GRANT INCOME $	OTHER INCOME $	TOTAL INCOME $	TOTAL EXPENDITURE $	COST TO COUNCIL $
Building Services	-	1,512,500	1,512,500	2,935,903	1,423,403

Planning

The fees and charges available to councils raised from planning applications only cover a proportion of the cost to deliver the full suite of planning services for a growing municipality like Hume.

The current Victorian planning system is likely to undergo significant reform arising from the recommendations of the Operation Sandon IBAC report, Victorian Housing Statement and the forthcoming Plan for Victoria. It is unknown whether this will lead to new or changed responsibilities and whether there will be a financial impact. It should be noted that where the Minister exercises call-in powers for permit applications or amendments there is still significant work undertaken by council to provide a technical response and/or act as the responsible authority for the issuing of permits and compliance.

To provide another example of work council undertakes without any cost recovery - the Development Facilitation Program (DFP) pathway is used by developers to gain a fast track decision through the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP). The application is referred to council and although we receive no fee revenue we are expected to undertake a full assessment, develop a full set of draft conditions, and are also relied upon for all engineering and other technical advice.

The table below illustrates the gap between the statutory fees that Council is able to charge and the actual cost of providing the service. This highlights that the statutory fees, set by the state government, are insufficient to cover the cost of delivering the service.

The net cost of delivering the planning service is outlined below.

SERVICE DESCRIPTION	2024/2025 PROPOSED BUDGET				
	GRANT INCOME $	OTHER INCOME $	TOTAL INCOME $	TOTAL EXPENDITURE $	COST TO COUNCIL $
Planning and Development	-	4,042,000	4,042,000	9,364,739	5,322,739

Electrical Line Clearance

Tree pruning around powerlines is required by Councils in accordance with the Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2020 which were introduced by the State Government in response to bushfire concerns. The extent of pruning depends on the voltage and the type of lines regardless of whether they are within HBRA (High Bushfire Risk Areas) or LBRA (Low Bushfire Risk Areas).

The increasing costs in delivering electric line clearance are as a result of incremental regulatory change, climate and nationwide skills shortage.

The biggest change occurred in the 2010 regulation post Black Saturday which mandated no regrowth into the clearance space.

Costs have increased well over CPI mainly due to:

- tighter regulatory environment (Energysafe are better resourced to audit and enforce the regulations)
- climatic influence such as higher rainfall and milder weather conditions which are favourable to tree growth.
- industry wide skilled labour shortages resulting in issues around getting specialist workers for general electric line clearance and specifically live line works which can only be provided by the Distribution Businesses this has and will add considerable costs and delays over and above CPI.

There is room for a discussion on how electric line clearance (ELC) is funded and possibly delivered into the future. ELC obligation on the Distribution Companies is passed onto the consumer, whereas Council's Electric line clearance for the Distribution Companies assets in our road reserve is covered by Council.

The table below outlines the costs for 2024/25.

SERVICE DESCRIPTION	2024/2025 PROPOSED BUDGET				
	GRANT INCOME $	OTHER INCOME $	TOTAL INCOME $	TOTAL EXPENDITURE $	COST TO COUNCIL $
Powerline Management	-	-	-	626,239	626,239

Other considerations

In addition to the above services, the following areas have and will continue to place considerable strain on the financial sustainability of Council: the EPA landfill levy, ministerial guidelines on waste, new Recycling Victoria initiatives, and shared responsibilities with the EPA.

These areas are outlined below:

Landfill Levy and Waste Services

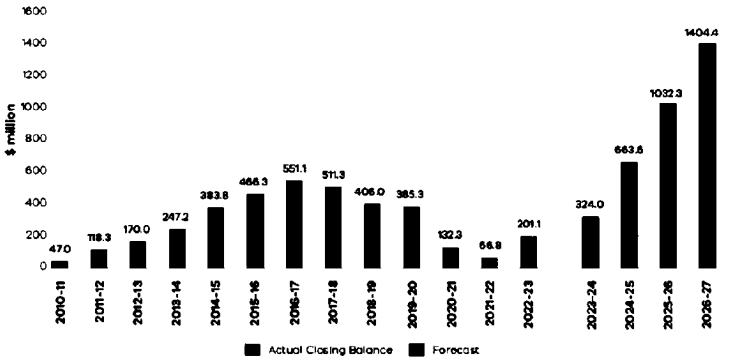
In 1992, the Victorian Government established the Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy (MILL), now known as the Municipal and Industrial Waste Levy (MIWL), to encourage recycling by putting a price (levy) on every tonne of waste that goes to landfill. The table below displays the annual MILL and MIWL levy per tonne over the years.

The MIWL is used by the Victorian Government to fund a variety of sustainability grants and initiatives and several related government agencies, including the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), Sustainability Victoria, the Waste and Resource Recovery Groups (now Recycling Victoria) and Parks Victoria. Any remaining MIWL funds are transferred to the State Government's Sustainability Fund. The projected balance of the Sustainability Fund for 2023/24 is $324 million, growing to $1.4 billion in 2026/27.

Projected cash balance

After drawing down the cash balance to $88.8 million in 2021–22, the closing balance of the Fund increased to $201.1 million at 30 June 2023 as cash revenue increased and a number of large programs concluded.

Figure 12. Cash balance of the Fund



Source: https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/sustainability/sustainability-fund#toc__id_4_2022-23

In 2020, the Victorian Government released Recycling Victoria, a 10-year plan to transition Victoria to a circular economy. This includes state-wide kerbside reform, resource recovery infrastructure investment and the recognition of waste as an essential service.

As part of this reform, the Victorian Government announced significant increases in the MIWL, is rising from $65.90 in 2019/20 to an estimated $167.90 in 2025/26; an increase of over 250%. As a result, Hume City Council's MIWL payments to the Victorian Government have increased from $2 million in 2017/18 to an estimated $12 million in 2025/26.

Year	MILL/MIWL Value (per tonne)	% Increase
1 July 2025*	$167.90	26%
2024/25	$132.76	3%
2023/24	$129.27	3%
2022/23	$125.90	19%
2021/22	$105.90	61%
2020/21	$65.90	0%
2019/20	$65.90	2%
2018/19	$64.30	2%
2017/18	$63.28	2%
2016/17	$62.03	2%
2015/16	$60.70	4%
2014/15	$58.50	10%
2013/14	$53.20	10%
2012/13	$48.40	10%
2011/12	$44.00	47%
2010/11	$30.00	233%
2009/10	$9.00	

*expected increase

Council introduced a waste charge in 2023/24 separating waste costs from general rates as Council was facing limited revenue raising capacity through the rate cap and the rising costs of waste and recycling created a gap between the revenue collected and the expenditure on

waste. Prior to the introduction of the waste charge, the cumulative gap between the waste and recycling costs and the rate cap for the period 2015/16 to 2022/23 was in excess of $20 million.

Ministerial Guidelines on the Waste Charge

In 2016, the Victorian Government introduced a Rate Cap on local government in accordance with the Fair Go Rates system which imposes a cap on the amount that councils can increase its general rates by.

The Local Government Act 1989 (s162) together with the Local Government Legislation Amendment (Rating and Other Matters) Act 2022 enables councils to implement a service charge for waste, recycling or resource recovery services.

The Rate Cap established under the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates system does not apply to service charges, including waste services charges.

The Minister for Local Government issued the Local Government Service Rates and Charges good practice guidelines in December 2023, which were set to take effect from 1 March 2024, but later deferred.

According to these guidelines, it is considered unsound for a council to impose a Service Rate or Charge to fund services that do not directly benefit the occupancy subject to the charge.

If the guidelines become mandated, Council will not be able to charge a public waste charge, despite covering services like street sweeping, waste collection from public places, disposal of dumped rubbish, and clearing drains. However, there is an argument that the funds collected through this public waste charge support community health, sanitation, and appearance, providing a rationale for their collection through a waste charge.

If the costs associated with removing public waste costs are not able to be recovered through the waste charge, there are two likely outcomes:

(a) Costs can be put back into the rates base - the estimated 10 year impact on Council is approximately $18 million.

(b) Costs cannot be put back into the rates base - the estimated 10 year impact on Council is approximately $123 million.

In addition, being one of the few councils with its own landfill sites, there are significant costs associated with the operation of the sites including rehabilitation and aftercare costs. Under these guidelines, these costs are not able to be recouped through a waste charge.

The future of waste and recycling

A number of the kerbside reform items introduced in the Victorian Government's Recycling Victoria plan have since been legislated through the Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021. In addition to the increases in the MIWL, some of these changes will result in further increased costs for Council.

As part of this kerbside reform, Council must introduce a four-bin kerbside collection system.

This includes:

- A red lidded bin for general waste (landfill)
- A yellow lidded bin for commingled recycling
- A green lidded bin for food and garden organics (FOGO)
- A purple lidded bin for glass

Council will need to fund the new FOGO and glass collection services. The costs of delivering these services, including delivery of new bins and the associated collection and disposal costs will be substantial.

The Victorian Government is also standardising what can be placed into each of these bins state-wide. Whilst these standards have not yet been released, early indications are there will be some significant changes in what can be placed in kerbside bins. In addition, the Victorian Government have set some ambitious targets for waste diversion from landfill and overall reductions in waste generation per capita.

Extensive community education will need to be funded to ensure Hume City meets its obligations to provide these new, standardised services whilst minimising material disposed of in landfill.

Environment Protection

The Environment Protection Authority is the State Government agency primarily responsible for leading the response to environmental, waste and pollution issues to reduce their harm on the community. The EPA was established in 1971 under the Environment Protection Act 1970. However, a series of legislative changes to the Act over a number of years has gradually shifted the burden of responsibility for environmental issues towards Councils. The EPA considers Council as partners, joint-regulators and duty holders in the environment protection framework. Potential contamination of land is a key issue where the EPA historically took full responsibility when it comes to land use planning and development. However, not only changes to the EPA Act but also the Planning and Environment Act 1987 means that Councils need to take responsibility for assessing and understanding environmental impacts, often without the relevant expertise.

The areas where the EPA says that they share responsibility with Council are:

- Litter;
- illegal dumping;
- noise; and
- on-site wastewater management systems with a capacity of up to 5000 litres on any day.

However, the weight of responsibility on these issues sits with Council as a customer responsive and community focused level of government which is closest to the community.

Local Government Emergency Management and Recovery

Under Victorian law, local governments shoulder critical emergency management responsibilities, encompassing planning, prevention, response and recovery, while also fostering community resilience. This includes but is not limited to:

- Developing emergency management plans for the municipality, in partnership with other emergency services agencies;
- Performing fire prevention activities, including inspecting, and issuing fire prevention notices to vacant properties containing fire hazards;
- Operating relief and recovery centres during/after an emergency; and
- Coordinating emergency shelter for displaced people and animals.

Hume City Council receives an annual contribution of $60,000 through the Victorian government Municipal Emergency Resourcing Program (MERP). This funding is earmarked to support Council's emergency management responsibilities, including initiatives aimed at building community resilience and preparedness. Despite the indispensable nature of these activities, the grant funding provided through the MERP has remained unchanged since its

inception in 2012. Recent confirmation indicates that this financial contribution from the Victorian government will persist at its current level until 2028.

In the face of this stagnation in Victorian government grant funding, Council has and continues to shoulder the increasing costs associated with its delivering it emergency planning, preparedness, resilience and recovery activities.

Our File: Broadmeadows Suburban Revitalisation Board
Enquiries: Jordan Cacoyiannis
Telephone: 9205 2200

HUME CITY COUNCIL
1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone:03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

Thursday, 11 July 2024

The Hon. Sonya Kilkenny MP
Minister for the Suburbs
Level 20, 1 Spring Street
Melbourne, Victoria 3000 Australia
reception.kilkenny@transport.vic.gov.au
CC: suburban.revitalisation@ecodev.vic.gov.au

Dear Minister Kilkenny,

RE: BROADMEADOWS SUBURBAN REVITALISATION BOARD – MID-TRANSITION ANNUAL REPORT

We write to share with you the achievements, priorities, and outcomes of the Broadmeadows Suburban Revitalisation Board (Broadmeadows SRB). This letter is intended to meet the expectations of the mid-transition annual report for the Broadmeadows Suburban Revitalisation grant agreement.

With the support of the Victorian Government, yourself as Minister for the Suburbs and your predecessors in the Suburban Development portfolio, the Broadmeadows SRB has recommended the investment of $17.82 million towards 30 locally led projects, with a total project value of $62.67 million since the board's inception in 2017. These projects have delivered improved liveability and opportunity for the Broadmeadow's community.

The Broadmeadows SRB has brought together senior executives and elected representatives from the Victorian Government, Hume City Council, Banksia Gardens Community Services, DPV Health, Kangan Institute, the Hume Jobs and Skills Taskforce, Brite Industries, Vicinity Centres, Hume Whittlesea LLEN, Spectrum Victoria and the Northern Community Legal Centre.

Together, board members developed a shared vision for Broadmeadows and have worked collaboratively to identify and lead local infrastructure and amenity projects, placemaking initiatives, economic and community development initiatives to revitalise Broadmeadows.

We are proud to report the Broadmeadows SRB has contributed funding to the following outcomes since 2023 for the Broadmeadows community:

Infrastructure and Amenity Enhancements

- Passive recreation areas and children's play facilities were developed in Seabrook Reserve, including amenities, a basketball half court, and pathways.

Landscape and Place Making

- Redeveloped Seabrook Reserve with significant tree planting, perimeter pathways, and seating installations.

Community Engagement and Development

- Implemented the Melbourne Storm Pasifika Outreach Program to engage youth in social skills development through sports.
- Established the Common Bean Café as a stand-alone building to provide employment and training to young people.

Social Inclusion and Community Support

- Connected Banksia Gardens residents to local services, skills development, and civic participation opportunities.
- Deployed community development officers to support residents, reduce crime, improve wellbeing, and enhance safety at Banksia Gardens Estate.
- Refurbished the Banksia Gardens recreation space to facilitate positive engagement among residents and local youth.

Cultural and Social Events

- An outdoor winter festival featuring building projections, live music, multicultural performances, and art installations to promote community pride and creative expression.

We also attach a document detailing the achievements and outcomes for Broadmeadows Revitalisation. Despite our successes, challenges remain, and we believe there is strength in the collaborative model that the Broadmeadows Suburban Revitalisation Board provides in finding solutions to the specific needs of the Broadmeadows community. Our board has highlighted a number of key priorities that need ongoing focus, including: Housing, Transport, Urban Renewal, Skills & Employment, Health, and Youth.

The Broadmeadows SRB has successfully engaged a Secretariat, which has held three SRB meetings, one board sub-committee meeting, and several informal stakeholder meetings to continue leading suburban revitalisation priorities.

In recognition of these successes and to continue our momentum, we respectfully request special consideration for the continued funding of the Broadmeadows SRB post-2025 under the Suburban Portfolio, that acknowledges the need for sustained and continued co-ordination from a Board level in addressing the unique issues of the Broadmeadows MAC.

Yours sincerely,





Cr. Naim Kurt
Co-Chair
Mayor of Hume City

Ms. Kathleen Matthews-Ward MP
Co-Chair
Member for Broadmeadows

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

Mr Adem Somyurek MP
Member for Northern Metropolitan Region
Unit 1/747 Sydney Road
BRUNSWICK VIC 3056

Via email: adem.somyurek@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr ~~Somyurek~~ Adem,

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

Mr David Ettershank MP
Member for Western Metropolitan Region
Suite 101/19 Lacy Street
BRAYBROOK VIC 3019

Via email: david.ettershank@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr ~~Ettershank~~ David,

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

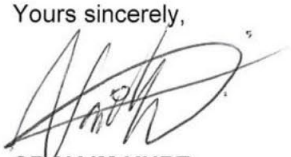
Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

The Hon. Enver Erdogan MP
Member for Northern Metropolitan Region
281 Centre Road
BENTLEIGH VIC 3204

Via email: enver.erdogan@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear The Hon. ~~Erdogan~~ Enver,

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

The Hon. Ingrid Stitt MP
Member for Western Metropolitan Region
Tenancy 2, 80 Carmody Drive
CAIRNLEA VIC 3023

Via email: Ingrid.Stitt@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear The ~~Hon. Stitt,~~ Ingrid

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

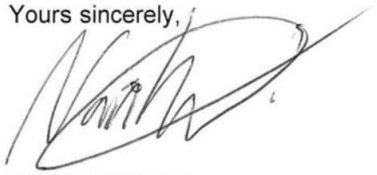
Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

The Hon. Lizzie Blandthorn MP
Member for Western Metropolitan Region
14-15, 180 Gaffney Street
COBURG NORTH VIC 3058

Via email: Lizzie.Blandthorn@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear The Hon. ~~Blandthorn~~ Lizzie,

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

The Hon. Ros Spence MP
State Member for Kalkallo
PO Box 132
CRAIGIEBURN VIC 3064

Via post and email: ros.spence@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear The Hon. ~~Spence~~ Ros,

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

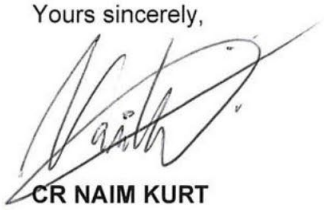
Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

Mr Iwan Walters MP
State Member for Greenvale
Suite C308, 1510 Pascoe Vale Road
COOLAROO VIC 3048

Via post and email: iwan.walters@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr Walters, Iwan

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

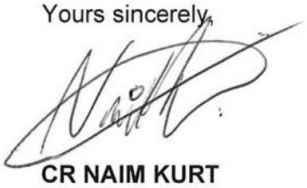
Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

Mr Josh Bull MP
State Member for Sunbury
PO Box 635
SUNBURY VIC 3429

Via post and email: josh.bull@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear ~~Mr Bull,~~ Josh

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

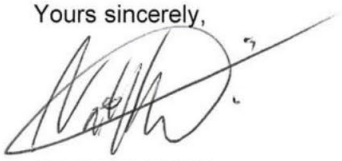
Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

Ms Kathleen Matthews-Ward MP
State Member for Broadmeadows
Shop 42, 1099-1169 Pascoe Vale Road
BROADMEADOWS VIC 3047

Via post and email: Kathleen.Matthews-Ward@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms ~~Matthews-Ward~~ Kathleen,

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

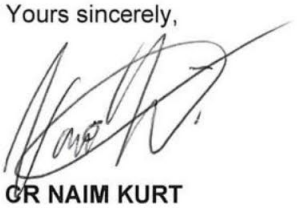
Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

Ms Moira Deeming MP
Member for Western Metropolitan Region
Suite 1 & 2, Level 2. 13-15 Lake Street
CAROLINE SPRINGS VIC 3023

Via email: moira.deeming@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms ~~Deeming~~ Moira,

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

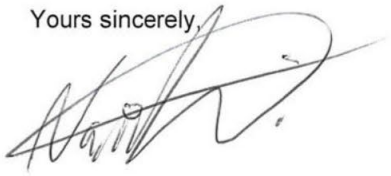
Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

Dr Samantha Ratnam MP
Member for Northern Metropolitan Region
Suite G-01, 60 Leicester Street
CARLTON VIC 3053

Via email: Samantha.Ratnam@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Dr ~~Ratnam~~ Samantha,

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile: 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

Ms Sheena Watt MP
Member for Northern Metropolitan Region
G04/23 Black Street
BRUNSWICK VIC 3056

Via email: sheena.watt@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms ~~Watt~~ Sheena,

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

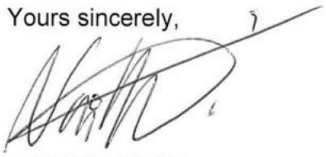
Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR

– OFFICE OF THE MAYOR –

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Our File: HCC12/403
Enquiries: Carmen Frawley
Telephone:

1079 PASCOE VALE ROAD
BROADMEADOWS
VICTORIA 3047

Postal Address:
PO BOX 119
DALLAS 3047

Telephone: 03 9205 2200
Facsimile 03 9309 0109
www.hume.vic.gov.au

18 July 2024

Mr Trung Luu MP
Member for Western Metropolitan Region
Tenancy 3 1-13 Watton Street
WERRIBEE VIC 3030

Via email: trung.luu@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear ~~Mr Luu,~~ Trung

RE: 2024/25 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR HUME

Hume City Council would like to thank you for your ongoing representation, support, and advocacy for the funding of key essential infrastructure projects for our residents.

On behalf of the Hume community, we are presenting our 24/25 infrastructure priorities to our parliamentary representatives and seek your support in progressing these matters.

As one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, Hume City Council is committed to addressing the national housing crisis by improving housing affordability and supply. However, we cannot meet this challenge alone without support for essential infrastructure upgrades to bring jobs and services closer to our communities.

As part of our asks, we are seeking support for the revitalisation of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury and are looking for co-ordinated assistance in the development of a new town centre in Cloverton to ensure its liveability and sustainability as a future capital of Melbourne's north.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

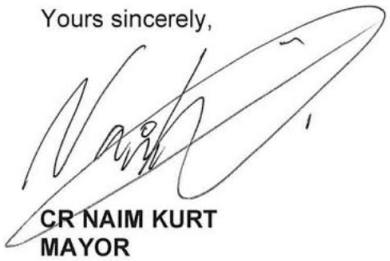
Hume City Council's advocacy priorities booklet has recently been updated and attached.

Hume City Council acknowledges that collaboration between all levels of government will be required to deliver these important projects and we thank you for your assistance in helping our Hume community.

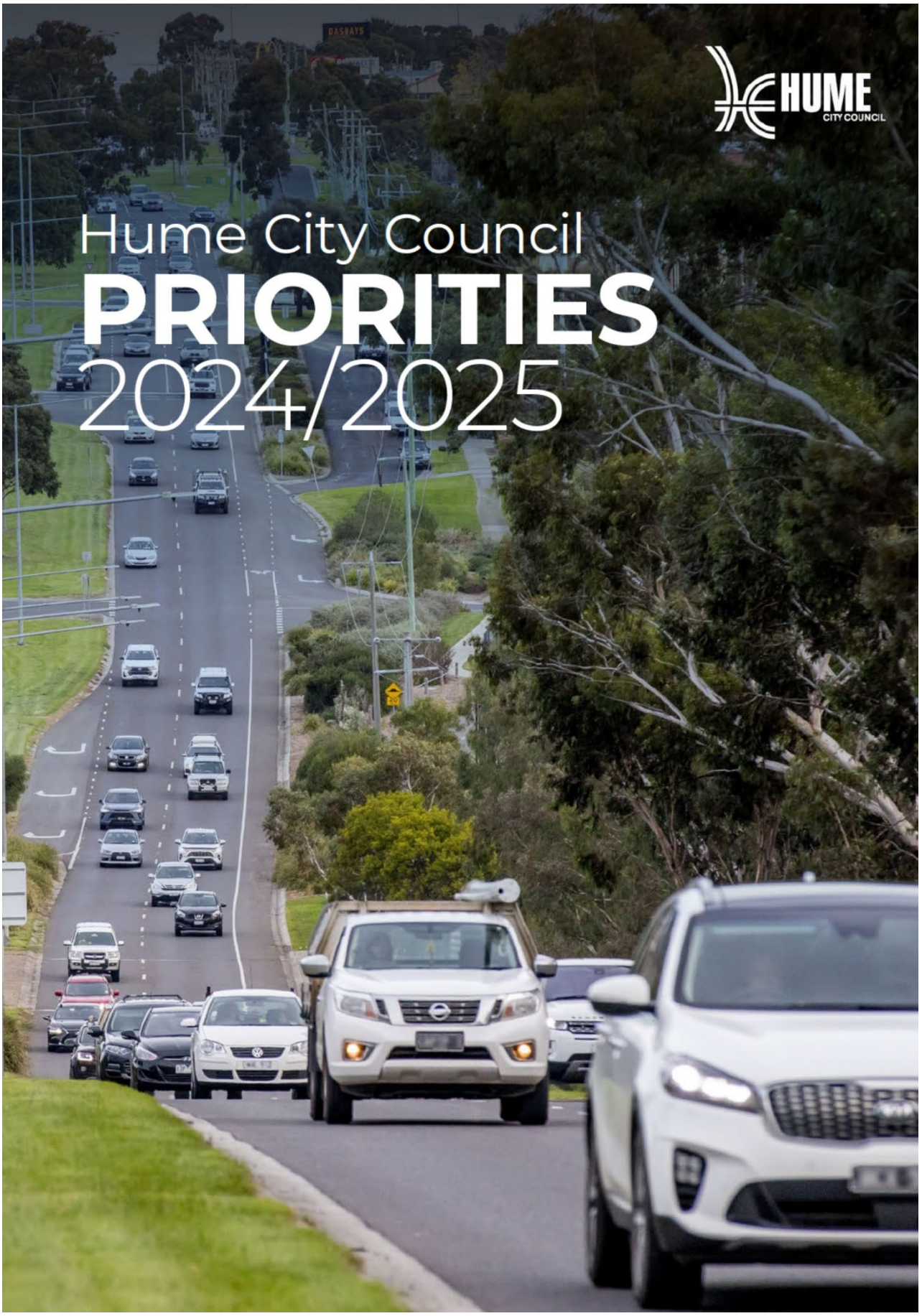
If you have any queries or would like to discuss how we can progress these projects, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



CR NAIM KURT
MAYOR


HUME
CITY COUNCIL
Hume City Council
PRIORITIES
2024/2025

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

Hume City Council recognises the rich Aboriginal heritage within the municipality and acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, which includes the existing family members of the Gunung-Willam-Balluk clan, as the Traditional Custodians of this land.

Council embraces Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander living cultures as a vital part of Australia's identity and recognises, celebrates and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

Contents

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners i

City Snapshot 2

Message from the Mayor 3

Priority projects and themes 4

Places for people 5

Connecting our communities 10

Equity for all 16

City Snapshot

HUME CITY 2021 CENSUS



252,723
CURRENT POPULATION

388,891*
POPULATION GROWTH BY 2041

3rd most disadvantaged
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA IN METRO MELBOURNE





40% born overseas
RESIDENTS COME FROM 170 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES WITH 40% OF ALL RESIDENTS BORN OVERSEAS

Residents speak over 155 languages
WITH 49% SPEAKING A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME



Message from the Mayor

Hume City Council is proud to present it's key investment projects and priorities for the 24/25 year on behalf of the Hume community.

Located just 15 km north of Melbourne's CBD, Hume is a rapidly growing and culturally diverse municipality. Its uniqueness is found in its contrasts; featuring vast greenfield developments, industrial precincts of state significance and urban renewal opportunities – positioned between key arterial roads, including the Hume and Calder Freeways and Melbourne Airport.

Hume is well positioned to deliver additional employment and housing to help meet Australia's housing supply needs. However, congestion remains a barrier and Hume rates highly as one of Melbourne's most socially disadvantaged municipalities.

Hume City Council seeks support for the renewal of key local precincts in Broadmeadows and Sunbury, and the development of a new town centre in Cloverton – to bring jobs and services closer to our existing and future communities.

Initiatives include congestion-busting upgrades to roads like Mickleham and Somerton Roads, the development of the Bulla Bypass, a crossing of the Merlynston Creek to open new land in the heart of Broadmeadows for housing and jobs; as well as funding for an upgrade of the Broadmeadows train station. We also seek investment that commits to increasing social housing and a future university campus, recognising the role secure housing and higher education plays in breaking cycles of disadvantage.

With a proven track record and committed funding, our Council is keen to partner with government to create economic partnerships and housing opportunities, promote urban renewal and ease congestion, so that we can continue to deliver a better quality of life for everyone that proudly calls the City of Hume home.



Sincerely,

Councillor Naim Kurt
Mayor of Hume City Council

Priority Projects and Themes

Hume City Council is seeking Government support to deliver city building initiatives that will address housing stress, promote economic growth and provide improved connections to jobs and education.

PLACES FOR PEOPLE

Hume Central: Invest in one of the State's priority activity centres in Broadmeadows to create a vibrant and active town centre on Council-owned land that addresses job creation, learning and community connections. 6

Sunbury Community, Arts and Cultural Precinct: Invest in a much-valued heritage site in Sunbury to create a thriving arts and cultural precinct. 8

Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre: Support a three three-tiered approach to the development of a new city centre in Melbourne's north in partnership with the councils of Hume, Whittlesea and Mitchell Shire. 9

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Mickleham Road: Invest in the completion of duplication to ease congestion and boost road capacity for a growing community. 11

Somerton Road: Lift investment in upgrading a critical rural road to urban standards to improve movement east to west and access to jobs and industry. 12

Merlynston Creek Crossing: Co-Fund the construction of the Merlynston Creek Crossing to open land in eastern Broadmeadows for affordable housing and local job creation. 13

Bulla Bypass: Develop a bypass for the existing 165-year-old bridge to improve safety, drive economic growth and better service a growing community. 14

Broadmeadows Train Station: Support the upgrade of the station to enhance safety, accessibility, and amenity, reinforcing its role as one of Melbourne's key transport hubs in the North. 15

EQUITY FOR ALL

Social and affordable housing: Address inequitable housing access in Hume through funding social and community housing providers. 17

A university in Hume: Federal and State Government support to deliver a tertiary education campus in Hume. 18

Hume Central

The Opportunity: Invest in one of the State's priority activity centres in Broadmeadows to create a vibrant and active town centre on Council-owned land that addresses job creation, learning and community connections.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Broadmeadows

This is a Council-led initiative to transform Broadmeadows utilising Hume City Council's land around the Broadmeadows Town Hall, Global Learning Centre and Council offices. Hume City Council's vision aligns with Broadmeadow's designation as one of the Victorian State Government's Metropolitan Activity Centres and activity centre of focus for increased housing supply.

Two significant investment opportunities exist for the State and Federal Government to partner with Hume City Council on the transformative project that is Hume Central.







Artist's impressions only

Hume Central
Broadmeadows Town Square

Hume Central's town square aligns with the State and Federal Government's focus on supporting the delivery of best-practice investment in urban infrastructure, connecting people and communities to services and opportunities that improve liveability and inclusion.

The Square aligns with the State and Federal Government's focus on enhancing affordable housing in designated activity areas, promising a synergy of residential growth and vibrant community life. Council has allocated over $6 million to its four-year capital program. It is seeking a similar contribution from the State and Federal Government to deliver this project. This town square will be a cornerstone for social cohesion in an economically challenged area, offering place-making activations and substantial employment opportunities. Its development is not just an investment in infrastructure but also in the community's spirit, supporting social interaction and cultural celebration in a safe, accessible, and lively environment.

Project outcome: Construction of Hume Central's town square, a key element in transforming Broadmeadows into a bustling, multicultural activity centre. The project promises significant job creation during construction and ongoing community events.

Ask: $7–12 million

Other contributions: Hume City Council has allocated $6 million.

Lead organisation: Hume City Council

Hume Central
Broadmeadows Car park

The proposed phased development of a new Broadmeadows Car Park addresses the growing need for accessible infrastructure to support the revitalised town square and community spaces. The initial phase involves constructing a ground-level car park, with plans to expand vertically as demand increases. This pragmatic approach balances immediate needs with future scalability. Situated near the Broadmeadows train station, a major transport hub, the car park's design will adhere to sustainable principles, ensuring an eco-friendly and efficient solution for increased vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Development of this car park is key to ensuring Hume Central's accessibility, functionality, and overall success.

Project outcome: Delivery of this car park is essential to the accessibility and functionality of the surrounding community spaces, contributing significantly to the overall success of the Hume Central precinct.

Ask: $10 million

Other contributions: Hume City Council has allocated $9 million in its four-year capital program.

Lead organisation: Hume City Council





Artist's impressions only

PLACES FOR PEOPLE

Sunbury Community, Arts and Cultural Precinct

The Opportunity: Invest in a much-valued heritage site in Sunbury to create a thriving arts and cultural precinct.

Federal Electorate: Hawke
State Electorate: Sunbury

The Sunbury Community, Arts and Cultural Precinct is a visionary project designed to celebrate and preserve Sunbury's rich cultural heritage, while fostering a thriving hub for arts, community, and social engagement. This site is located on the former Sunbury asylum site built in 1879, and has a long-standing connection to the Sunbury arts community. Developed through extensive community consultation, the precinct will evolve into a dynamic destination, accommodating a range of activities including dance, performing arts, and incubator spaces for small businesses and artists.

Additionally, the precinct will feature food and beverage options to complement its role as a tourism and commercial hub. This development is not just about physical infrastructure, but about creating a space that embodies Sunbury's unique cultural identity, supports local talent, and provides a vibrant, welcoming environment for Sunbury's growing community.

Project outcome: State-of-the-art facilities for dance and performing arts, innovative incubator spaces for entrepreneurs and artists, and diverse culinary offerings, enriching the tourism and commercial appeal of the area.

Ask: $3 million and further investment and commitment to the full development of the full site

Other contributions:

- Hume City Council has allocated $5 million
- Victorian State Government has allocated $3 million

Lead organisation: Hume City Council









Artist's impressions only

PLACES FOR PEOPLE

Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC)

The Opportunity: Support a three-tiered approach to the development of a new city centre in Melbourne's north in partnership with the councils of Hume, Whittlesea and Mitchell Shire.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Kalkallo

Cloverton is an opportunity to create a city centre that services a population of 380,000 and achieve outcomes for the current and future community not seen in a greenfield context before.

The MAC is in single land ownership of a mature developer who is committed to creating an exemplary precinct.

Together, the three Councils have a shared vision. To elevate this collaboration, the leadership of the Federal and Victorian Government's is crucial to initiate a trial that illustrates a deep partnership across three tiers of government.

To take this goodwill to the next level, it needs the leadership of the Federal and Victorian Governments to usher in a trial that illustrates a deep three levels of government partnership.

The partnership could provide a platform to explore innovative models, including co-location and integration of housing, regional infrastructure and environmental outcomes that deliver a safe, walkable, climate resilient city in the north.

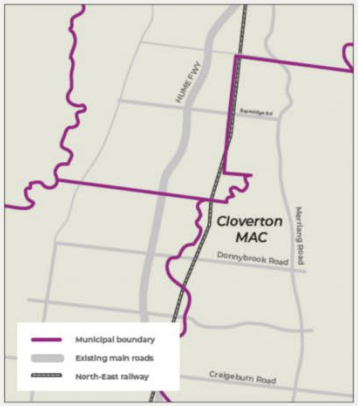
Project outcome:

- Early delivery of a new train station in the MAC to facilitate development of employment services that will support the operation of the Beveridge Intermodal Freight Terminal (BIFT) and surrounding state significant industrial areas
- The planning and delivery of regional scale social infrastructure, such as a performing arts centre and indoor courts early delivery will help to activate the centre and support economic activity
- The planning and delivery of a new hospital

Ask: Funding for governance model to deliver infrastructure and planning co-ordination between local, state, federal government, and the private sector.

Other contributions: Mitchell Shire Council, City of Whittlesea and working in partnership with Stockland, primary landowner.

Lead organisation: Hume City Council





Mickleham Road

The Opportunity: Invest in the completion of duplication to ease congestion and boost road capacity for a growing community.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Greenvale, Kalkallo

Project outcome: Duplication of Mickleham Road from Dellamore Boulevard to Craigieburn Road, and Craigieburn Road to Donnybrook Road.

Ask: Funding for the completion of this project based on the completed Business Case.

Lead organisation: Victorian State Government

The growth in Greenvale (population predicted to double by 2036) and Craigieburn (population predicted to increase by 50 per cent by 2036) is placing pressure on several key road links in Hume City's Northern Growth Corridor.

Almost 64% of our population rely on cars to get them to and from their job. Compounding this, inadequate public transport provision in this region has led to an over-reliance on cars. Without duplication of Mickleham Road between Somerton Road and Craigieburn Road, congestion will continue to worsen.

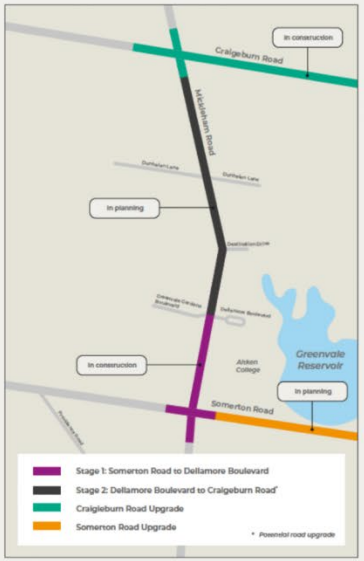
The first stage of the duplication of Mickleham Road between Somerton Road and Dellamore Boulevard is currently underway. This is an important start to this major transport route in our city, but funding to take the duplication all the way to Craigieburn is critical for our rapidly growing community.

This improvement will:

- better connect the growing suburbs of Greenvale, Craigieburn and Mickleham to major freeway network and jobs, notably at Melbourne Airport
- improve connectivity for workers to the fast-growing State Significant Industrial areas in Mickleham
- reduce congestion on the Hume Freeway
- limit 'rat running' traffic on less safe rural roads (e.g., Oaklands Road) and impacting on rural businesses

It is essential that our community has access to congestion-free roads to get to their place of work, education and health services.

The State Government has completed a business case for this important project, funding is required for implementation.



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Somerton Road

The Opportunity: Lift investment in upgrading a critical rural road to urban standards to improve movement east to west and provide access to jobs and industry.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Greenvale

Somerton Road (linked to Cooper Street) is an important west-east road link in the Northern Growth Corridor. It connects fast growing residential areas, such as Greenvale, Craigieburn and Epping, with health services (including the Northern Hospital), train stations, shopping centres, the Hume Highway, Epping Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market and provides an important alternative route to Melbourne Airport.

Somerton Road is currently duplicated between the Hume Highway and Roxburgh Park Drive. Vehicles and cyclists travelling further west must negotiate a single carriageway to Mickleham Road.

Most of the roads have no footpaths or shared paths, and the bus stops for the three bus routes operating in this section are difficult to access, posing significant safety concerns.

Project outcome: Duplication of Somerton Road between Roxburgh Park Drive to Mickleham Road.

Ask: Funding for the completion of this project based on the completed Business Case.

Lead organisation: Victorian State Government

The further duplication of Somerton Road will alleviate current traffic congestion and mitigate the implications of future population growth in this important part of Melbourne's north.

The State Government has completed a business case for this important project, funding is required for implementation.



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Merlynston Creek Crossing

The Opportunity: Co-fund the construction of the Merlynston Creek Crossing to open land in eastern Broadmeadows for affordable housing and local job creation.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Broadmeadows

The Merlynston Creek Crossing is a critical infrastructure project to unlock land in the vicinity of the Broadmeadows Town Centre, just ten minutes from the train station, for affordable housing and jobs.

Currently, significant road congestion impedes the development of underutilised land in this strategically important area, stifling local job creation and economic growth. Utilising surplus Federal Government land from the Maygar Barracks, the crossing will alleviate traffic and serve as a catalyst for revitalising the Broadmeadows Metropolitan Activity Centre, improving accessibility and enhancing the quality of life for residents.

Project outcome: Delivery of Merlynston Creek Crossing, addressing a critical infrastructure need and stimulating local job opportunities and economic activity.

Ask: $5 million

Other contributors: Hume City Council is proposing each level of government – Federal, State and Local – contribute $5 million to a collective value of $15 million to deliver this project.

Lead organisation: Hume City Council



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Bulla Bypass

The Opportunity: Develop a bypass for the existing 165-year-old bridge to improve safety, drive economic growth and better service a growing community.

Federal Electorate: Hawke
State Electorate: Sunbury

The proposed Bulla Bypass is an arterial road that is critical to relieving pressure on the Sunbury-Bulla Road and improving connectivity between Sunbury and the existing and future employment nodes and service centres in the Northern Growth Corridor. Currently the Sunbury and Bulla communities are serviced by a single lane bluestone arched bridge built in 1859.

Sunbury's population is expected to grow from 42,494 to over 86,000 in the next 20 years.

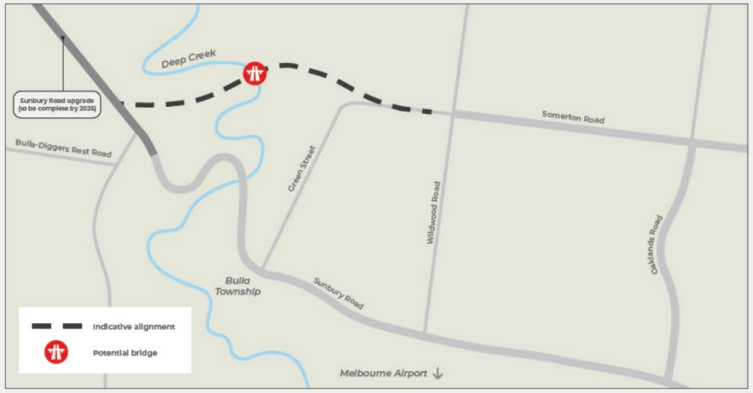
Project outcome: Delivery of Bulla Bypass

Ask: Work with the Victorian State Government to fund the construction of works, based on the specifications outlined in the completed Business Case.

Lead organisation: Victorian State Government

Development of over 19,000 new houses has begun along Lancefield Road and the Sunbury South precinct.

This new housing is adding more traffic directly on to Sunbury-Bulla Road, with volumes reaching 27,000 vehicles per day.



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Broadmeadows Train Station

The Opportunity: Support the upgrade of Broadmeadows Train Station to enhance safety, accessibility, and amenity, reinforcing its role as one of Melbourne's key transport hubs.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Broadmeadows

Our community cannot wait until the completion of the Suburban Rail Loop for an accessible and safe train station in Broadmeadows.

The Station provides a direct bus link to Melbourne Airport and is therefore a significant visitor gateway.

Key issues include non-compliant accessibility ramps, narrow walkways, inadequate lighting, and poor integration with surrounding commercial and residential areas. With our LGA having the highest number of residents (0-64 years) needing daily assistance in Metropolitan Melbourne, they deserve a Broadmeadows Train Station that is safe, accessible and disability compliant.

Project outcome: The upgraded Broadmeadows Train Station will support greater usage and benefit the diverse range of users accessing the town centre's crucial health, education, civic and employment services.

Ask: Work with Victorian State Government to commit funding and planning for the full train station redevelopment, to address safety, amenity, and accessibility.

Lead organisation: Hume City Council with asset owner State Government

Upgrading the station is crucial for improving access to the Broadmeadows Town Centre's health, civic, employment, and education precinct, which includes major employers such as Kangan Institute (TAFE), Northern Health, and DPV Health.

An improved station will significantly enhance the experience and safety of transport users, and the attractiveness of Broadmeadows as a place to invest for jobs.

Images (below): Current state of Broadmeadows Train Station





EQUITY FOR ALL

Social and Affordable Housing

The Opportunity: Address inequitable housing access in Hume through funding social and community housing providers.

Federal Electorate: Calwell, Hawke, Maribyrnong
State Electorate: Broadmeadows, Kalkallo, Sunbury, Greenvale

Project outcome: Increased access to social and affordable homes in Melbourne's north.
Ask: $10 million of the social housing accelerator fund and State Government funding for land purchase and development of social and affordable homes, and renewal of public housing.
Lead organisation: Hume City Council

Investment in social and affordable housing is needed in Hume. Cost of living pressures and our status as one of Greater Melbourne's most disadvantaged areas means housing that was once relatively affordable is now out of reach for much of our community.

The majority of Hume's social housing is over 30 years old and falls short of the liveability our residents deserve.

Affordable rental housing stock has fallen from over 75% in 2005 to less than 10% today.

Hume has one of the highest rates of people joining the housing register and there has been a decline in social housing stock from 4.6% of all housing in 1996 to 2.8% today.

EQUITY FOR ALL

A university in Hume

The Opportunity: Federal and State Government support to deliver a tertiary education campus in Hume.

Federal Electorate: Calwell
State Electorate: Kalkallo

Project outcome: Delivery of a University campus in Hume City's north.

Ask: Funding to support the establishment of a university campus, working in collaboration with the Victorian State Government.

Lead organisation: Federal Government

Just 20% of people in Hume have an undergraduate degree or higher, compared to almost 33% in Greater Melbourne. There is no university campus located in Hume; a physical campus that can be easily accessed by our community is needed to improve our higher education attainment.

The establishment of a tertiary provider in Hume's north will also provide much-needed local job opportunities, partnerships for workforce development and the next generation of industry leaders.

18


SUPER
EPIC !!
FREE WATER

Get in contact
Carmen Frawley, Coordinator Advocacy
carmenf@hume.vic.gov.au

hume.vic.gov.au

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

ACTIVITY CENTRE ROUNDTABLE COMMUNIQUE - JULY 2024

As councils designated under the Activity Centre program forming part of the Victorian Housing Statement, we stand committed to working together in a spirit of partnership to increase housing choice and affordability in key activity centres.

We agree that the provision of well-located housing, including social and affordable housing is of critical importance. Together all our Councils bring different perspective and experiences to facilitate the growth and change.

Our partnership and approach to the Activity Centre program will be underpinned by the following key objectives:

- We will pursue a Partnership model including information sharing of experiences and data
- We support a genuine commitment to community engagement
- We support a focus on place, placemaking and the need for high quality built form and good urban design
- Growth needs to be linked to local infrastructure capacity, needs and future provision
- The need for strategic state investment to leverage existing infrastructure and support growth, noting the limited capacity of councils to absorb additional costs
- State support to implement a value capture mechanism to enable councils to seek contributions to fund local infrastructure.
- Growth needs to be complemented by a commitment to sustainability including high quality design and support for active transport to enable more walkable, convenient and connected communities
- A transition from voluntary agreements on affordable housing to inclusionary zoning pilots and or contributions in appropriate locations

The Victorian Government has an ambitious target of delivering 80,000 homes per year over the next ten years. To realise this will require a commitment to local and state government partnership on a scale never seen before, supported by industry.

There are two elements of this partnership we would like to emphasise:

- A more structured and deeper commitment to better infrastructure coordination across all government departments and agencies that could be reflected in Plan for Victoria.
- Genuine engagement and collaboration with councils in the Activity Centre Program before the Activity Centre plans are made public. Preference is for plans to have an element of joint decision making and the capacity for advanced plans to be subject to further review.

We recognise the pivotal role of local government in enabling housing choice through delivering robust, efficient and facilitative planning services locally.

However there are also a range of other factors that influence the success of activity centres as places to support more affordable housing including:

- Support and clarity of state government policy, planning tools and pathways
- A narrative that builds public support for housing diversity, greater density and vibrancy

- Activity centres being seen as 'whole' places with a mix of uses, including jobs, services, high quality public spaces, recreation and housing
- Industry and private sector engagement on issues that are holding up construction such as economic viability, access to a trained workforce and an efficient supply chain
- Support and buy in from the Commonwealth government (including support for national approach to growth and settlement and possible funding through the National Housing Accord)

All tiers of government along with industry play a role in resolving the shared challenge of great housing diversity and affordability. We will only see genuine progress if we work together in a spirit of partnership.

ACTION:

This communique be sent to relevant state and local Ministers, Departments and the VPA calling for meaningful local-state-Federal collaboration to the shared challenge of providing more housing including social and affordable homes in our activity centres.

SIGNED BY THE FOLLOWING MAYOR's

Cr Susanne Newton, Mayor of Darebin Signed:

Cr Naim Kurt, Mayor of Hume Signed:

Cr Jenna Davey-Burns, Mayor of Kingston Signed: Jenna Davey-Burns Digitally signed by Jenna Davey-Burns Date: 2024.07.15 17:29:42 +10'00'

Cr Pierce Tyson, Mayor of Moonee Valley Signed:

Lydia Wilson, Chair of the Panel of Administrators Signed:

Ros Spence MP
STATE MEMBER FOR KALKALLO

Cr Naim Kurt
Mayor
Hume City Council
PO Box 119
DALLAS VIC 3047

Dear Mayor,

Building Blocks Inclusive Grant Program

I am writing to advise you that applications for the Building Blocks Inclusive Grants Program is now open.

The grant provides funding to make kindergartens inclusive for children of all abilities through upgrading early childhood education centres and purchasing of specialist equipment.

Local Governments can apply for grants of up to $200,000 to upgrade buildings and playgrounds to make them more inclusive. Grants of up to $10,000 are also available for specialist equipment such as mobility stools or sensory equipment.

Many local kindergartens have benefited from the Building Blocks Grants Program in the past and this is another opportunity to access funds to make more centres inclusive for all children.

Applications close Wednesday 4 September 2024. For more information please visit: https://www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/building-blocks-grants-inclusion.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with my office.

Kind regards,

The Hon. Ros Spence MP
State Member for Kalkallo
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Carers and Volunteers

26 / 07 / 2024



OFFICE: Shop D00-02B Craigieburn Central Shopping Centre
340 Craigieburn Road, Craigieburn VIC 3064
POSTAL: PO Box 132, Craigieburn VIC 3064
P: (03) 8377 4477 **E:** ros.spence@parliament.vic.gov.au

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

REPORT NO:	10.1
REPORT TITLE:	NOM24/37 - Cr Joseph Haweil - deferred from 12 August 2024
SOURCE:	James McNulty, Manager Planning and Development
DIVISION:	City Planning & Places
FILE NO:	HCC24/688

I hereby request that pursuant to Council's Governance Rules and Code of Conduct for Councillors that the following motion be included in the Agenda of the next Council Meeting.

1. RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. **Officers undertake a land use audit of the Somerton industrial precinct bound by Somerton Road to the south, Union Road to the east, William Street to the north and Cliffords Road to the west, and develop an action plan in partnership with other relevant enforcement agencies to action any non-compliant uses or works identified.**
2. **Officers clarify roles and responsibilities relating to the public land (road reserves) in the precinct and present the information to Council.**
3. **Officers explore options available to bring roads, related infrastructure and servicing into the precinct and present back to Council in this regard.**
4. **Officers investigate options available to enable the closure and clean up of road reserves in the south west corner of the precinct in the vicinity of the junction of George Street and Mils Avenue where industrial-scale illegal dumping has occurred and report the findings back to Council for decision on possible future action.**
5. **Officers provide periodic updates to Councillors on the progress of work related to points 1-4.**

2. OFFICER COMMENTS

This is a highly complex area with many historic and current compliance issues. Issues stem from when the area was originally subdivided many years ago there were no requirements to construct roads and provide services prior to lot creation. Therefore, the lots in this area largely do not have any services provided and roads and drainage infrastructure are unconstructed which limits what can occur in the area.

This has led to the many compliance issues we experience in the area now as these lots regularly change hands. Therefore, we achieve compliance with one set of owners, the land changes hands and the illegal uses commence again.

To this end work is currently being investigated to establish what would be the cost to provide roads and services into this precinct and the means of funding it. This would aid in resolving these ongoing compliance matters.

The Planning Investigations Unit will develop an area audit plan to assess planning breaches. A joint departmental and multi-agency approach will be required to address concerns in this area and a plan will be developed to action this.

The EPA will be included in these discussions with a view to joint-agency inspections and enforcement once a plan has been formalised.

REPORT NO: 10.1 (cont.)

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

REPORT NO:	11.1
REPORT TITLE:	PJL309 - Broadmeadows Park Petition
SOURCE:	Jane Mikaele, Governance Officer
DIVISION:	Finance & Governance
FILE NO:	HCC04/183

A petition containing at least 12 signatures has been received and is considered to be compliant under the Governance Rules. The petition is PJL309 – Broadmeadows Park Petition.

RECOMMENDATION:
That the petition be received, circulated to Councillors, and the first named signatory of the petition be advised that the matter has been referred to the Manager City Strategy.

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

REPORT NO:	11.2
REPORT TITLE:	PJL310 - Request for Action to Prevent Builders from Dumping Rubbish and Building Materials on Vacant Blocks in Maplestone Estate Sunbury
SOURCE:	Jane Mikaele, Governance Officer
DIVISION:	Finance & Governance
FILE NO:	HCC04/183

A petition containing at least 12 signatures has been received and is considered to be compliant under the Governance Rules. The petition is PJL30 – Request for Action to Prevent Builders from Dumping Rubbish and Building Materials on Vacant Blocks in Maplestone Estate Sunbury.

RECOMMENDATION:
That the petition be received, circulated to Councillors, and the first named signatory of the petition be advised that the matter has been referred to the Manager City Safety.

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK