



SUSTAINABILITY TASKFORCE MINUTES

Chair: Cr. Kate Hamley

Date: Tuesday 12 August 2025

Scheduled Time: 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Format: Online meeting was recorded

(Please view the recording for more in-depth meeting coverage)

	<p>Present: Cr. Kate Hamley, Cr. Steve Gagen, Harsimran Kaur, Sarah Flegg, Amy Sledziona, Cassy Ye, David Chandler, Frances Rebecca Evans, Eva Mazzei, Rachel Dapiran (<i>Director City Planning and Places</i>), Brooke Watson (<i>Manager Community Health & Wellbeing</i>), Shelley Franklyn (<i>Coordinator Sustainability Engagement</i>), Sheridan Blunt (<i>Open Space Strategy Lead</i>), Kaye Roberts-Palmer (<i>Sustainability Engagement Officer</i>)</p> <p>Guests: Lance Ingrams (<i>HiQ Group Chief Strategy Officer</i>), Jared Roberts (<i>HiQ Group Regional General Manager – VIC</i>), Amy Watson (<i>SenateSHJ Associate Partner</i>), Amal Jugdeo (<i>Kanadevia Inova Business Development Manager</i>), Jason Pugh (<i>Kanadevia Inova Senior Country Sales Director</i>), Professor Marco Amati (<i>RMIT University Centre for Urban Research</i>), Rick De Vos (<i>RMIT University</i>).</p> <p>Apologies: Nadia Montalto, Bruce Barbour, Joanne Russell, Analisa Malone, Ranjeet Verma, Jo Hannan</p>	<p>Meeting opened 6.30pm</p>
	<p>Acknowledgement of Country</p>	<p>Cr. Hamley</p>
	<p>Conflict of Interest Statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members’ attention was drawn to declare any conflicts of interest arising from agenda items No conflict of interest was declared 	<p>Cr. Hamley</p>
	<p>Confirmation of previous minutes 17 June, 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion moved by (Harsimran Kaur) seconded by (Cr. Steve Gagen) Motion carried 	<p>Floor</p>

	<p>Presentation: HiQ Waste to Energy Plant proposal in Sunbury</p> <p>View the Sustainability Taskforce meeting video to see this presentation and more detail on the discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Chandler asked what measures will be put in place to ensure groundwater contamination is minimised with the new plant? • Lance Ingrams described a network of existing monitoring bores where the data is provided to the EPA every three months for the current facility. • Jason Pugh indicated that the new waste to energy facility will be enclosed in a sealed bunker. • David Chandler asked with community pressure against what he views as a fossil fuel plant, will HiQ be able to get the proposal through. Lance Ingrams said its difficult, but Plants have been operating for 30 years worldwide and are better than landfill. He mentioned the Recycling Victoria's Framework recognises developing schemes and standards for waste-to-energy facilities as a strategic priority. • Cr. Steve Gagen asked about HiQ's waste to energy sites in the U.K. Jason Pugh said there are 63 plants there. Lance Ingram said he could organise for Cr. Steve Gagen to visit one. • Eva Mazzei thinks it's a great idea because waste generation will continue. • Cr. Kate Hamley asked about water consumption. Amal Jugdeo said around 150,000 kilolitres per annum or 400 cubic litres per day. Jason Pugh said it would use an air-cooled condenser in a closed system and Lance Ingrams said they have an on-site water treatment plant. • Shelley Franklyn asked what happens if the emissions threshold in the stack is triggered. Jason Pugh said HiQ would monitor emissions and reduce input as required. He also noted an automatic waste feed shut down was installed. • Shelley Franklyn asked where the waste would come from. Lance Ingram said mostly from Hume with 60,000 tonnes of red bin waste and 101,000 tonnes from commercial industrial waste streams and potentially Councils surrounding Hume including regional areas. • Eva Mazzei asked what the community benefits are. Lance Ingrams said electricity to the grid, waste residue for construction material, bio ash as a concrete substitute and job creation with \$2 billion in investment. 	<p>Presenter: Lance Ingram</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any further questions can be emailed to: sunbury@hiq.au 	
	<p>Presentation: Update on Jacksons Creek biik wurrdha Regional Parklands and the Merlynston Creek Parklands</p> <p>View the Sustainability Taskforce meeting video to see this presentation and more detail on the discussion.</p> <p>Jacksons Creek biik wurrdha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eva Mazzei asked whether the plan is to have the trail connected all along Jacksons Creek. Sheridan Blunt confirmed this including foot bridge construction where needed. Cr. Kate Hamley asked about trail access through Salesian College Sunbury. Sheridan Blunt said that they have been working with the College and talks continue. Sheridan Blunt mentioned that the cultural values studies show it's a song line that moves up through Wurundjeri country. Frances Rebecca Evans asked whether the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung park wide archaeological survey occurred with the same organisation that are advising on the Chain of Ponds projects. Sheridan Blunt said that the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation has a research unit and are in contact. Frances Rebecca Evans asked if within Hume libraries Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung language or dictionary resources were available for residents. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kaye Roberts-Palmer to reach out to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation to express interest in having Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung language or dictionary resources available at Hume libraries <p>Merlynston Creek Parklands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheridan Blunt invited the Taskforce to have their say on the new proposal for Merlynston Creek Parklands. David Chandler said there's demand in built up areas for outside areas people can enjoy. Sheridan Blunt mentioned that they are looking at walking loops within some parks with an all-ability trail. 	<p>Presenter: Sheridan Blunt</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Chandler mentioned his concerns with Deep Creek and Sheridan Blunt said it's in the Open Space Strategy. She mentioned that the next master plan is Bulla Parklands including the Bulla Recreation Reserve and Deep Creek. Shelley Franklyn said as part of the weed compliance program rural landowners are being contacted about serrated tussock removal with possible fines for noncompliance. 	
	<p>Presentation: Sustainability Engagement update</p> <p>View the Sustainability Taskforce meeting video to see this presentation and more detail on the discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eva Mazzei said she wasn't sure if low attendance was because workshops are free, poor weather conditions or limited transport options. Cr. Kate Hamley said that National Tree Day had a good turnout. She said low workshop numbers could reflect the cost-of-living crisis, people having second jobs and is a trend across all activities. David Chandler complimented Live Green eNews featuring native plant and animal stories. He suggested promoting other sustainable activities including awareness raising about roadside rubbish and having the rubbish removed quickly. Shelley Franklyn said the Hume Waste Team have launched a dumped rubbish and litter campaign. Cr. Kate Hamley said a lot of dumped rubbish happens on state roads. Harsimran Kaur suggested doing workshop promotions in local school newsletters and collaborating with local organisations through community centres tapping into word-of-mouth. 	<p>Presenter: Kaye Roberts-Palmer</p>
	<p>Presentation: Animals of Emotion Survey</p> <p>View the Sustainability Taskforce meeting video to see this presentation and more detail on the discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prof. Marco Amati invited the Taskforce to participate in the survey, to promote it through their networks and to recommend contacts that may be relevant to the survey. Frances Rebecca Evans mentioned the Woodlands Historic Park the Eastern Barred Bandicoot rehabilitation program and its conservation area. 	<p>Presenter: Prof. Marco Amati</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr. Kate Hamley said Hume does have connection to the rehabilitation program through Parks Victoria. • Prof. Marco Amati is willing to share information from the survey specifically on what Hume residents think. • Cr. Kate Hamley asked how to organise an ecological study for remaining earless dragons in Hume. Prof. Marco Amati recommended contacting Emi Arnold. • Eva Mazzei said it was an important topic, and many people would be interested in participating. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaye Roberts-Palmer to send the survey website to members https://circlesofemotion.org/collections/animals • Kaye Roberts-Palmer to send Prof. Marco Amati contacts for the Eastern Barred Bandicoot rehabilitation program. • Kaye Roberts-Palmer to enquire about a night tour of the Eastern Barred Bandicoot Woodlands Historic Park rehabilitation program for the Taskforce 	
	<p>Other business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frances Rebecca Evans mentioned how much she enjoyed the Moonee Ponds Creek Chain of Ponds Re-Commitment Ceremony and thanked the Taskforce for organising their invites. She wanted to know the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung word for welcome. • Eva Mazzei said it was: Wominjeka. 	Floor
	Meeting finishes	8.37pm
	Next Meeting: Tuesday 14 October (online) 6.30pm to 8.30pm	