

OFFICIAL



Mansfield Shire

Council Meeting

Tuesday 18 March 2025 5:00 pm
Mansfield Council Office

Notice and Agenda of meeting livestreamed via the

[Mansfield Shire Council website](#)

Commencing at 5pm

Our aspiration for our Shire and its community

We live, work and play in an inclusive, dynamic and prosperous place where community spirit is strong and people are empowered to engage in issues that affect their lives.

Councillors

Cr Steve Rabie (Mayor)
Cr James Tehan (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Mandy Treasure
Cr Bonnie Clark
Cr Tim Berenyi

Officers

Kirsten Alexander, Chief Executive Officer
Melissa Crane, General Manager Investment & Planning
Janique Snyder, Executive Manager People, Communications & Governance
Ari Croxford-Demasi, Executive Manager Capital Works & Operations
Nola Cleeland, Executive Manager Community Health & Wellbeing

Order of Business

1. Opening of the meeting

The Mayor, who chairs the meeting, will formally open the meeting and welcome all present.

2. Present

Where a meeting is held virtually, Councillors will confirm that they can see and hear each other.

3. Apologies

Where a Councillor is not present, their absence is noted in the Minutes of the meeting.

4. Statement of commitment

The Council affirms its commitment to ensuring its behaviour meets the standards set by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

5. Acknowledgement of Country

The Council affirms its recognition of the Taungurung people being traditional custodians of this area and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

6. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, a Councillor must declare any Conflicts of Interest pursuant to sections 126 and 127 Act in any items on this Agenda.

Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to any items listed on this Agenda must declare a Conflict of Interest regarding the specific item.

7. Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting are placed before Council to confirm the accuracy and completeness of the record.

8. Representations

Council receives or presents acknowledgements to the general public. Deputations may also be heard by members of the general public who have made submission on any matter or requested to address the Council. Council may also receive petitions from residents and ratepayers on various issues. Any petitions received since the previous Council meeting are tabled at the meeting and the matter referred to the appropriate Council officer for consideration.

9. Notices of Motion

A Motion is a request (Notice of Motion) that may be made by a Councillor for an issue not listed on the Agenda to be discussed at a Council meeting and for a decision to be made.

10. Mayor's report

The Mayor provides a report on their activities.

11. Reports from council appointed representatives

Councillors appointed by Council to external committees will provide an update where relevant.

12. Public question time

Councillors will respond to questions from the community that have been received in writing, by midday on the Monday prior to the Council meeting. A form is provided on Council's website.

13. Officer reports

13.1 Council considers a report from the Chief Executive Officer on the current operations, activities and projects undertaken with each department over the past month

13.2-13.5 Officer reports are presented to the Council, where required.

14. Council resolutions report

Council reviews the outstanding actions arising from resolutions from previous Council meetings.

15. Advisory and Special Committee reports

Council considers reports from Advisory Committees that Councillors represent Council on.

16. Authorisation of sealing of documents

Any documents that are required to be endorsed by the Chief Executive Officer under delegated authority and sealed by the Council are presented to the Council.

17. Closure of meeting to members of the public

Whilst all Council meetings are open to members of the public, Council has the power under the Local Government Act 2020 to close its meeting to the general public in certain circumstances which are noted where appropriate on the Council Agenda. Where this occurs, members of the public are excluded from the meeting while the matter is being discussed.

18. Presentation of confidential reports

19. Reopen meeting to members of the public

The Mayor will reopen the meeting to members of the public.

20. Close of meeting

The Mayor will formally close the meeting and thank all present for attending.

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Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting

2. Present

The Chair will call on any Councillors attending virtually and ask them to confirm verbally that they can see all Councillors and hear the proceedings.

Councillor/s will respond to their name with: “I can hear the proceedings and see all Councillors and Council officers”.

The Chair will ask each Councillor to confirm by raising their hand that they could all hear each statement of the councillors.

Councilors will raise their hand to acknowledge they can hear each other.

3. Apologies

The Chair will call on the CEO for any apologies.

4. Statement of commitment

The Chair will read the statement and call on each Councillor to confirm their commitment:

“As Councillors of Mansfield Shire we are committed to ensuring our behaviour meets the standards set by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct. We will, at all times, faithfully represent and uphold the trust placed in us by the community.”

5. Acknowledgement of Country

The Deputy Mayor will recite Council’s Acknowledgement of Country:

“Our meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Taungurung people. We wish to acknowledge them as the traditional custodians and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We extend that respect to all members of our community.”

6. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

The Chair will call on each Councillor in turn and ask them to declare whether they have any conflicts of interest in relation to any agenda items:

- Councillor Tehan
- Councillor Treasure
- Councillor Clark
- Councillor Berenyi

7. Confirmation of minutes

Recommendation

THAT the Minutes of the Mansfield Shire Council meeting held on 12 February 2025 be confirmed as an accurate record.

8. Representations

9. Notices of motion

10. Mayor's report

Mayor Steve Rabie will present the monthly Mayor's report to the Council as follows:

February has been a month of celebrations and also some concerning reasons to come together to advocate for our community.

Council was alarmed to hear that a new tax will be introduced by the state government. The new tax is called the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund and replaces the existing Fire Services Property Levy. The issue is that this tax unfairly hits rural communities. This ESVF is a significant increase over the existing levy (FSPL), particularly in the primary production (farming) areas, which could see an increase of around 3 times the existing levy. All ratepayers will incur this tax and in Mansfield Shire alone this could mean an additional \$2 million in property taxes.

Regional communities, such as ours, have a high proportion of primary producers. This tax transfers the burden of this cost to our community members. All of them, but especially to the primary producers. This increased tax is an excessive burden during the cost of living crisis, with implications for the economic health of the Mansfield Shire community.

On top of this, Council are being asked to collect it – this is unfair. We are very careful with how we spend ratepayers money. We have deliver exceptional value for money in every decision we make, while trying to keep the cost of governing low for our ratepayers. To now have to ask our community members to cough up this massive spike on top of rates is unreasonable.

It's not fair to tax our primary producers who will be asked to carry the brunt of this tax. It's not fair on our communities – these are hard times and raising a tax now, directly to households but also to those who put food on the table of those households – both of these factors will take a hit on family budgets. And it's not fair on us, either, to be put in the position where we are the ones who have to collect the tax on behalf of the state government when we don't agree with it in the first place.

In addition to this new tax, in February Council also saw that the state government had released information about new planning reforms. The plan diminishes the power of local government and makes it harder for councils to work toward the vision of communities. It forces local governments to unlock more housing zones rather than working towards getting those existing zones developed. We don't need land unlocked in Mansfield Shire. What we need is for the state to consider addressing the real issues at the core of the housing supply shortage – the taxes that keep the developers from being able to develop their land.

Council is happy to see that there is work being done to address the housing shortage. However, we are always going to advocate for planning powers to remain local. The state government is not the best placed level of government to understand the unique needs a community. Only local government can listen and act on behalf of our community.

We take our advocacy seriously and will continue to listen and act on behalf of our community.

In better news, we had some great opportunities to come together and celebrate as a community this month.

We were grateful to the Merton Recreation and Memorial Hall Reserves Committee for their certificate of recognition, which they sent to thank us for our support in establishing the Mansfield Skate Park. The Merton Skate Jam Grand Opening was held on Saturday 22

February and was a great day. The Outlying Communities Infrastructure Fund, which supports community projects, helped to fund the project and it was great to celebrate with the community members who led the initiative. This is one of the ways Council supports and encourages a healthy, active and connected community.

I was also grateful to visit The Farmhouse childcare centre. It's great to understand how families within our community can access the services they need. Thank you to Kim Stoney for inviting Council and for showing me around.

Council also began its work on the Council Plan. The Council Plan sets out exactly what Council will work to achieve over its four year term. It guides our decision making and sets our strategic goals. Look out for opportunities to have your say on the work we do for the next four years at Council by visiting engage.mansfield.vic.gov.au.

*Cr Steve Rabie
Mayor*

Recommendation

THAT COUNCIL receive the Mayor's report for the period 13 February 2025 to 12 March 2025.

11. Reports from council appointed representatives

Councillors appointed by Council to internal and external committees will provide a verbal update where relevant.

Committee	Responsible Councillor(s)
Australia Day Awards Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor Cr Steve Rabie Cr James Tehan Cr Mandy Treasure
Goulburn Murray Climate Alliance (GMCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cr Tim Berenyi
Hume Regional Local Government Network (HRLGN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor Cr Steve Rabie
Mansfield Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor Cr Steve Rabie Cr Mandy Treasure
Mansfield Shire CEO Employment Matters Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor Cr Steve Rabie Cr James Tehan Cr Bonnie Clark
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor Cr Steve Rabie Substitute - Deputy Mayor Cr James Tehan
North East Local Government Waste and Recovery Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cr Tim Berenyi
Rural Councils Victoria (RCV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cr James Tehan
Station Precinct Museum Community Asset Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor Cr Steve Rabie
Taungurung-Local Government Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor Cr Steve Rabie

Recommendation

THAT COUNCIL note the verbal reports provided by Councillors in relation to their representation on internal and external Committees.

12. Public question time

Council welcomes questions from the community. A question must be submitted by midday on the Monday prior to the Council meeting. The [‘ask a question’ form](#) is available from Council's website.

The Mayor will read out the question and answer at the meeting.

13. Officer reports

13.1. Chief Executive Officer's report

File Number: E103

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer, Kirsten Alexander

Introduction

The Chief Executive Officer’s report allows a short briefing to be provided to the Council on the current operations, tasks and projects undertaken within each department over the past month.

The February 2025 Chief Executive Officer report will provide information relation to:

- Customer Service
- Capital Works
- Statutory & Strategic Planning
- Building Services
- Regulatory Services
- Waste Services
- Field Services
- Library
- Youth & Events
- Communications
- Digital Transformation Project

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's report for the period 1 February 2025 to 28 February 2025.
Support Attachments
1. CEO Monthly Report – February 2025 [13.1.1.1 - 28 pages]

13.2. Investment and Planning

13.2.1. Asset Management Policy

File Number	E1533	Responsible Officer	Coordinator Asset Management, Sujita Sharma
Purpose			

To seek Council endorsement of the revised Asset Management Policy.

Executive Summary

The Asset Management Policy, first implemented in 2010, provides the framework for sustainable service driven Asset Management by Council. It provides clear objectives, key principles and lists responsibilities that underpin asset management.

The Policy ensures that assets used to support the services delivered by Council are sustainable and continue to function at a level of service determined by Council and supported by the broader community.

Key Issues

The review of the Policy confirmed that it continues to address legislative requirements, and only minor administrative changes were made. As a result, no community engagement was required this time as the policy remains essentially unchanged from when it was last endorsed by Council in June 2022 following an extensive community engagement.

The Policy was exhibited along with the Asset Plan and Asset Management Strategy over the Engage platform from April to May 2022 to seek community feedback. Around 45 people visited the Engage website, and three participated in the online survey and provided submissions. These submissions identified opportunities to strengthen the Asset Plan, and further refinements were made to the Plan prior to its adoption. No issues were identified that required changes to the Policy.

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL endorses the Asset Management Policy 2025.
Support Attachments
1. DRAFT Asset Management Policy 2025 [13.2.1.1 - 8 pages]
2. Tracked Changes - Asset Management Policy 2025 [13.2.1.2 - 8 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

The Policy, together with Council’s Asset Plan and Asset Management Strategy, provides a robust framework for management of Council’s assets to ensure they are fit for purpose, safe, reliable and sustainable and remain available for the benefit of current and future generations.

Community Engagement

Community engagement was not undertaken prior to presentation of the revised policy for endorsement as it remains essentially unchanged from when it was last endorsed by Council in June 2022 following an extensive community engagement process. The updated policy will be published on Council's website and the community will be notified of the revised document through Mansfield Matters and it will be published on Council's website.

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

The review of the policy has been undertaken internally within existing staff resources.

Legal and Risk Implications

The *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council to develop, adopt and keep in force an Asset Plan. The Asset Plan must include information about maintenance, renewal, acquisition, expansion, upgrade, disposal and decommissioning in relation to each class of infrastructure asset under the control of the Council. To facilitate the management of asset maintenance and renewal, an Asset Management Policy should be developed and adopted by Council.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

The Policy supports Council's Asset Plan which is a requirement under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 6: Council possesses in-house and outsourced capability to meet community expectations

Strategy 6.2 Building organisational capacity through its people

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council

Strategic Objective 7 Financial sustainability and value for money

Strategy 7.1 Increase Council's financial resilience by utilising opportunities to derive own-source of funding income and optimising costs of delivering services

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

13.2.2. Special Rates and Charges Policy

File Number	E1533	Responsible Officer	General Manager Investment & Planning, Melissa Crane
Purpose			

To seek Council endorsement of the revised Special Rates and Charges Policy.

Executive Summary

The Special Rates and Charges Policy was first implemented in 2018. The purpose of the policy is to establish a fair, equitable, consultative and consistent framework for the raising of financial contributions from property owners who receive a unique benefit from the bringing forward of, or development of, infrastructure improvements.

A special rate or special charge scheme will only be implemented by Council after consultation with the community and the scheme achieving significant support of property owners.

Key Issues

A comprehensive review of the Special Rates and Charges Policy has been completed, and a revised and updated Policy has been developed.

When considering infrastructure related projects, a Special Rate or Charge Scheme will be considered by Council in circumstances where there is an upgrade or an expansion to infrastructure and a demonstrated willingness from property owners to make a financial contribution. If objections are received, Council would not proceed with the Scheme.

This policy details the circumstances and manner in which new or improved infrastructure works will be considered for inclusion in Council’s capital works program, based on an agreed financial contribution from property owners through the Scheme. The size of the financial contribution will be determined having regard to the level of special benefit received by those properties and the level of benefit received by the wider community.

Community engagement on the revised policy was open from 14 February 2025 – 28 February 2025 through Council’s Engage page and was advertised through Mansfield Matters in the Courier. One submission was received that requested shade over parking areas in Mansfield, additional shaded areas at the Mansfield Skate Park and a clean-up and update of the Goughs Bay playground. This submission was considered by Council officers and will be addressed through review of Council’s 10 Year Capital Works Plan as part of the Budget process.

A tracked changes copy of the revised Policy is attached for reference.

Key changes to the Policy include:

- Defining “Majority Support” as being more than 80% of property owners.
- Definition included for Community Benefit, Scheme, and Scheme Benefit.
- Council Contributions table added outlining the % of total cost contributed by Council according to the associated community benefit.

- Inclusion of scheme length, right to appeal Council’s decision, and completion of scheme financial consideration.
- Reference to Council’s Community Engagement Policy.
- Consultation procedure removed from the Policy (this will now be included in the associated procedure document).
- Inclusion of a Gender Impact Assessment.

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL endorses the Special Rates and Charges Policy 2025.
Support Attachments
1. DRAFT Special Rates and Charges Policy 2025 [13.2.2.1 - 6 pages]
2. Tracked Changes - Special Rates and Charges Policy 2025 [13.2.2.2 - 6 pages]
3. Engage Mansfield - Community Engagement Report [13.2.2.3 - 4 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Community Engagement has been undertaken in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Policy through Engage Mansfield from 14 February 2025 – 28 February 2025 seeking feedback on the draft policy.

One comment was received regarding the installation of infrastructure across different areas of Mansfield Shire (refer attached). This feedback was reviewed by Council officers and has been provided to the Asset Management team for consideration in the 10-Year Capital Works Program.

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

The Policy outlines that Council may contribute a maximum of 60% of the total cost related to the implementation of a Scheme, with consideration of the level of special benefit received by the contributing properties and the level of benefit received by the wider community.

The review of the policy has been undertaken internally by Council Officers within existing staff resources.

Legal and Risk Implications

Not Applicable

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not Applicable

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 8 A consultative Council that represents and empowers its community

Strategy 8.1 Increase community trust in Council to make informed decisions with “no surprises”

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.2.3. Licence Agreement Mansfield Mechanics Institute

File Number	AG1530	Responsible Officer	Manager Planning & Environment. Maya Balvonova
Purpose			

To seek Council endorsement to enter into a 15-year licence agreement, with no further terms, with Mansfield Kindergarten for their use of the Meeting Room 1 of Mansfield Mechanic’s Institute.

Executive Summary

Mansfield Kindergarten is located at 64 – 66 Ailsa Street. The recently renovated Mechanics Institute building is situated at the front of lot 66. As part of the Redevelopment project scope, the Mansfield Kindergarten administration area was relocated to Meeting Room 1 of the refurbished Mechanics Institute building.

A licence agreement is proposed to cover the Mansfield Kindergarten’s use of Meeting Room 1 within this facility. Meeting Room 2 will be available for hire by other users through Council’s booking system once the existing facility has been supplemented with toilet amenities.

Key Issues

Following productive discussions with the Kindergarten Committee, they acknowledge the requirement to pay for their ongoing use of Meeting Room 1 in accordance with the Council’s Property Leasing and Licencing Policy 2024. To ensure consistency and continuity with their existing Kindergarten lease agreement, a 15-year licence agreement is proposed with no further terms.

Rent Calculation and Fee Structure

The fee structure is based on the standard evaluation process applied to other licenced properties. The initial annual rental fee is \$5,500.00 (ex GST), before any applicable discounts.

Under Council’s Property Leasing and Licencing Policy 2024, the Mansfield Kindergarten qualifies as a Category 3 community group (volunteer-run), which would reduce their charges to being 5% of the total, resulting in a recommendation for an annual licence fee of \$275.00 (ex GST).

Mechanics Institute – Rent Calculation Method

- ▶ Land Value Approach (Applicable to the entire Mansfield Mechanics Institute building)
Property Details:
64 Ailsa Street – Lot 2A PP5500 (Mansfield Kindergarten)
66 Ailsa Street – Lot 1 TP762866 (Mansfield Mechanics Institute; Note: 64 Ailsa Street is amalgamated with 66 Ailsa Street Mansfield)
Capital Improved Value (CIV): \$920,000
Proportion of site used for calculation (¼): \$230,000
Total Rent: \$9,200.00

Equivalent weekly rent: \$176.92
Discounted annual licence fee (5% of total): \$460.00 (ex GST)

However, since the entire building has not been licenced, only the equivalent portion of Meeting Room 1 is being used, the detailed square metre rate approach outlined below has been used as this provides a more accurate and appropriate calculation method in this instance.

► Square Metre Rate Approach

Relevant Property Details
Each meeting room measures 25 m²
Market rental rate: \$150–200 per m²
Applied rate: \$220 per m²
Total rent: 25 m² × \$220/m² = \$5,500 per year
Equivalent weekly rent: \$105.76
Discounted annual licence fee (5% of total): \$275.00 (ex GST)

Additional Considerations

An annual CPI increase will apply, effective from the proposed Commencement Date of 1 February 2025. As the Mansfield Kindergarten administration area is already occupying Meeting Room 1, the commencement date has been set based on when they commenced operation this year.

Public notification of the intention to enter the licence agreement will be undertaken prior to the Chief Executive Officer executing the agreement.

Recommendation
<p>THAT COUNCIL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Endorses the proposal to enter into a licence agreement for the use of the Mansfield Mechanics Institute Meeting Room 1 with the Mansfield Kindergarten for the period of 15 years with no further terms, with a commencement date of 1 February 2025.Receives annual licence fees from the Mansfield Kindergarten of \$275.00 (ex GST), with an annual CPI adjustment.Provides public notification of the intention to enter a licence agreement with the Mansfield Kindergarten.Endorses the Chief Executive Officer executing the licence agreement on completion of the public notification process.
Support Attachments
<ol style="list-style-type: none">Final - Licence Agreement - Mansfield Shire Council - Mansfield Kindergarten [13.2.3.1 – 19 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Community Engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy by placing a notice of intention to enter into a licence agreement with the Mansfield Kindergarten in the Mansfield Courier and on Council's website.

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

The new licence agreement will not adversely impact Council's current resourcing or operational budget. The revenue has been considered when reviewing existing and future budget allocations and negotiation of the agreement is supported by existing staff resources.

Legal and Risk Implications

The licence agreement has been drafted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020. The intention to enter into a licence agreement with the Mansfield Kindergarten will be advertised in the Mansfield Courier and on Council's website, in accordance with Section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not Applicable

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

The following strategies are relevant to this report:

Theme 1: Connected and Healthy Community

- ▶ Strategic Objective 2: Activities that promote connection and fitness of our people and visitors.
- ▶ Strategy 2.2: Create an environment where community and clubs can recreate, socialise, and contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community.

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council

- ▶ Strategic Objective 8: A consultative Council that represents and empowers its community.
- ▶ Strategy 8.1: Increase community trust in Council to make informed decisions with "no surprises."

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.2.4. **Fee Waiver Request - Junction Support Services**

File Number	E12010	Responsible Officer	Manager Development Services, Maya Balvonova
Purpose			

To seek Council consideration of a fee waiver request from Junction Support Services (RISE program) for consulting room hire fees at the Mansfield Family & Children’s Centre, which are applicable under Council’s adopted Fees and Charges Schedule. The waiver request is for 50 hours of room hire annually, for a period of three years.

Executive Summary

Junction Support Services has requested a fee waiver for Consulting Room hire fees at the Mansfield Family & Children’s Centre at an hourly rate of \$9.55 (ex GST). It is requested that a fee waiver is granted for 50 hours of room hire annually, for a three-year period, valued at \$477.50 (ex GST) per annum. The granting of a fee waiver is requested to enable the RISE program to provide valuable community support services to the Mansfield Shire community.

Key Issues

RISE is a specialist, trauma-informed counselling service dedicated to supporting victim-survivors of family violence in Mansfield and surrounding areas. RISE counselling goes beyond general support, as the service provides targeted, evidence-based therapeutic interventions that help individuals rebuild their sense of self, process trauma, and regain control over their lives. There is no service such as the one RISE provides any closer to Mansfield than Wodonga, which is where their counsellors travel from. They offer expert, qualified, and trained post family violence recovery counselling services which are free and expect to service 2-3 clients a week. No other such service exists locally.

Junction Support Services are a partner of Mansfield Shire Council’s Integrated Family Services through the Ovens Murray Child and Family Services Alliance. The partnership is to provide a consistent, capable and connected Ovens Murray Community Service system that responds to children, young people and their family’s wellbeing, health and safety needs.

According to the Victorian Government Crime Statistics Agency, the Mansfield Local Government Area had a 38.7% increase in Total Family Incidents in 2024 over the preceding year. The number of incidents reported has risen from 93 in 2023 to 129 in 2024. Having a service that can provide support locally will benefit our community members in recovery from family violence and is an essential community health and wellbeing service.

This request is consistent with the fee waiver previously approved by Council for the Upper Murray Family Care and Centre Against Violence at the 19 September 2023 Council meeting, which was also for 50 hours annually. It is also consistent with the reduced licence fee granted to Mansfield District Hospital, to support local service provision and reduce the need for Mansfield Shire residents to travel long distances to seek support from health services.

Council officers are recommending that the waiver be approved, but for a three-year period in the first instance, with an annual review by Council officers to see how the program is tracking.

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL approves a fee waiver for the hire of consulting rooms at the Mansfield Family & Children's Centre, allowing up to 50 hours annually, for three years, for Junction Support Services.
Support Attachments
NIL

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Community consultation over Council’s Fees and Charges Schedule is undertaken annually as part of the Annual Budget process.

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

The proposed agreement for a fee waiver will not negatively impact on Council’s operational budget and is supported by existing staff resources.

Legal and Risk Implications

Not Applicable

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not Applicable

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council;
Strategic Objective 7.1 Increase Council’s financial resilience by utilising opportunities to derive own source of funding income and optimising costs of delivering services.
Strategy Objective 8.1 Increase community trust in Council to make informed decisions with “no surprises.”

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.2.5.

Advocacy Position on Clause 53.24 Future Homes - Request from Banyule City Council

File Number	E370	Responsible Officer	General Manager Investment & Planning, Melissa Crane
Purpose			

To seek a resolution of Council regarding the request for support from Banyule City Council in their advocacy in relation to the new Clause 53.24 *Future Homes*, introduced to all Victorian Planning Schemes.

Executive Summary

Clause 53.24 *Future Homes* was introduced by the State Government into all Victorian Planning Schemes to provide a streamlined pathway for three storey developments in identified locations such as activity centres, which comply with criteria as outlined in this paper.

The Clause was implemented into the schemes without any community notification or input. Banyule City Council requested that all Councils in Victoria write to the Minister for Planning to request that this clause be removed until such time as community engagement had been undertaken.

Key Issues

Future Homes is a Victorian government program that provides a streamlined planning pathway for three storey apartment developments in already identified locations.

The application process requires Developers to pre-purchase the adaptable Future Homes exemplar designs, of which there are four to choose from, and any required referral authority consideration for a development is required prior to the lodgement of a planning permit application. Once submitted to Council the application is assessed under Clause 53.24 Future Homes (attached) and is notified to the relevant neighbours/community similar to standard planning permit applications.

How these developments differ to a standard residential planning permit application is the ‘deemed to comply’ residential standards that apply rather than the typical ‘ResCode’ assessment, and that review rights of appeal of any Council decision have been removed. An application must be considered in relation to any submissions received, but those submitters have no right of appeal.

The design plans cost \$150 for Developers to lodge with their applications, plus any costs for a design to adapt the plans for a specific site. These developments are not exempt from typical development fees including development contributions, private open space contributions or subdivision fees.

An example of the Future Homes three storey exemplar design is provided on the next page in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Exemplar Design

To be eligible for a Future Homes application process developments must comply with all the following criteria:

- Land is in a General Residential Zone
- Land is within 800 metres of:
 - A passenger train station, or
 - An identified activity centre in Metropolitan Melbourne, or
 - A designated centre outside Metropolitan Melbourne
- Land is not in a Heritage Overlay or Neighbourhood Character Overlay
- Land does not have any prior restriction preventing an apartment development

The Department of Transport and Planning have a webpage dedicated to the Future Homes project which includes an interactive map indicating eligible lots, an example is provided in Figure 2 showing eligible properties in Euroa township.

As there is no passenger train or designated centre in Mansfield Shire Council this policy is not currently specifically relevant to the Mansfield Planning Scheme. However, as indicated in Figure 2 there are eligible properties in very small towns such as Euroa, Violet Town, and Broadford which are along the Melbourne to Sydney Railway Line.

Theoretically, all that would be required for this to be applied to Mansfield Shire would be for the State Government to decide that Mansfield was a designated centre.

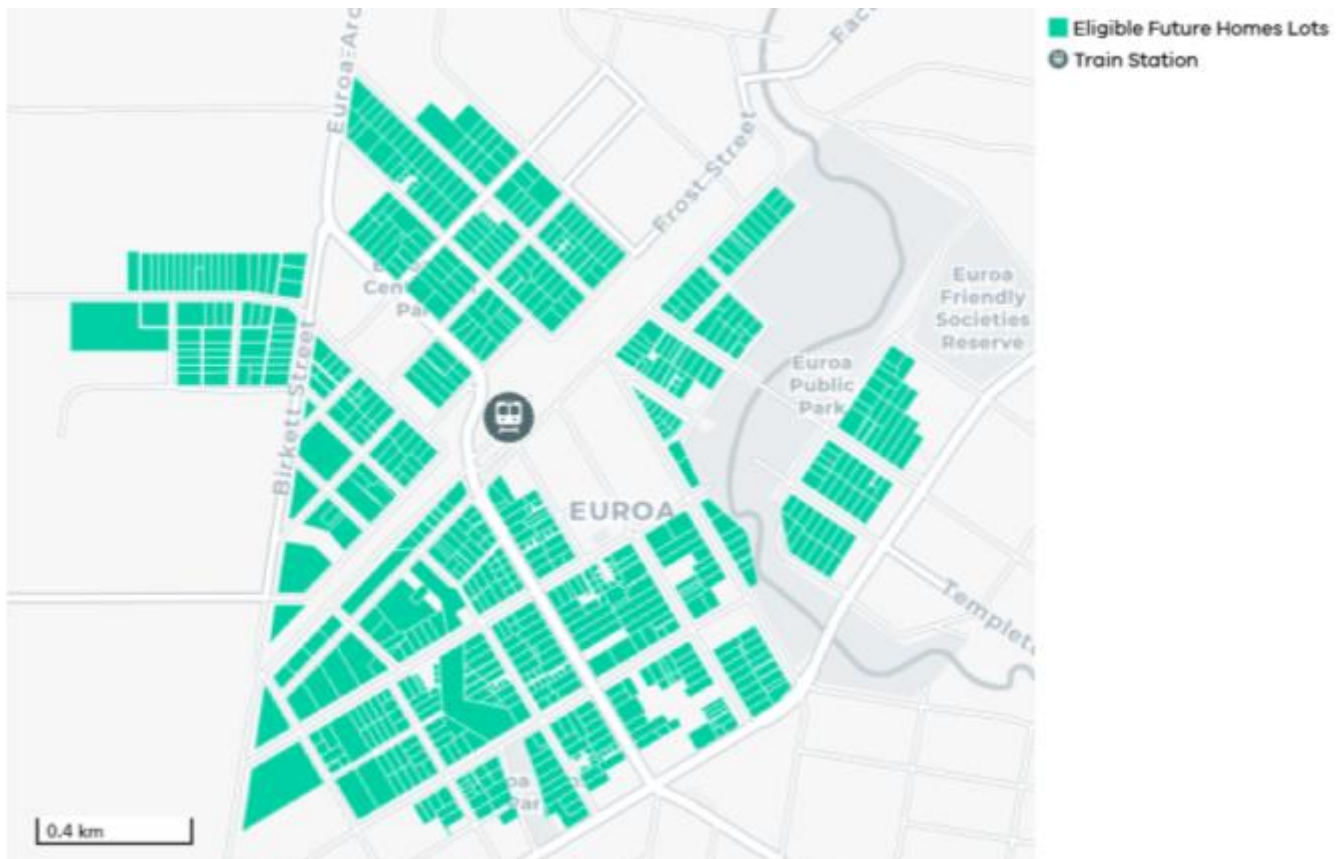


Figure 2: Future Homes Interactive Map

Banyule City Council have written to all 79 Councils requesting support to advocate to the Minister for Planning and the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) to have Clause 53.24 Future Homes deleted from Planning Schemes. Their concerns with the policy relate to the lack of community consultation to understand the Future Homes project and how it should be implemented into Planning Schemes. Council officers share their concern about lack of community consultation being undertaken in these types of amendments.

The Future Homes project was implemented in response to the Victoria Housing Statement in September 2023 as part of the reform of the planning system by the Victorian Government to boost housing supply across the state, with very little communication to local government or the wider community. The project was implemented into Planning Schemes through Amendment VC243 which made changes to all planning schemes to:

- Codify residential development standards
- Implement the Future Homes project
- Remove permit requirements for single dwellings on lots of 300 square metres or more
- Introduce VicSmart permits for single dwellings on lots less than 300 square metres

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL authorises the Mayor to write to the Minister for Planning, The Hon. Sonya Kilkenny to request urgent removal of Clause 53.24 Future Homes provisions from Victorian planning schemes, until such time that a consultation process is undertaken with our community by the State Government about the appropriateness of Clause 53.24 Future Homes in Victorian planning schemes; and
Support Attachments
1. mans 53 24 [13.2.5.1 - 9 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Community Engagement is impacted by the removal of the right of appeal to VCAT under this new provision in all Victorian Planning Schemes.

Collaboration

This has been a collaboration with Banyule City Council as the requesting council.

Financial Impact

All work to review the impact of the new Victorian Government planning amendments has been undertaken internally by Council Officers within existing staff resources.

Legal and Risk Implications

The changes to the Planning Scheme have implications on how all Councils can engage and take consideration of community views in identified planning matters, such as the introduction of three storey developments in residential zones, which meet the criteria in the Scheme.

The reputation risk that arises from the associated changes to appeal rights, without broader community engagement, is that the community is likely to perceive that Council itself is not considering community views and advocating on behalf of the Mansfield Shire community; not that the State Government has changed those controls without notification.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

The Victorian Government has introduced Clause 53.24 *Future Homes* to all Victorian Planning Schemes in support of the *Victoria Housing Statement*, with the intent to boost housing supply across the state. The change was implemented into all Victorian Planning Schemes through Amendment VC243, without community engagement.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 2: Vibrant Liveability Strategic Objective 3 Future focused: Intelligent land use and infrastructure
Strategy 3.2 Enhance township character

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 6: Council possesses in-house and outsourced capability to meet community expectations

Strategy 6.1 Use and gain knowledge of our community to make good decisions

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 8 A consultative Council that represents and empowers its community

Strategy 8.1 Increase community trust in Council to make informed decisions with “no surprises”

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.3. People, Communications and Governance

13.3.1. Instruments of Delegation and Appointment & Authorisation

File Number	E2478	Responsible Officer	Governance and Risk Officer, Chelsea Young
Purpose			

To seek Council endorsement of the following Instruments:

- S5 Instrument of Delegation – Council to Chief Executive Officer
- S6 Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Staff
- S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)
- S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation Under the Environment Protection Act 2017

Executive Summary

Delegations to undertake a specific duty or power in accordance with a specific section of an Act of Parliament are essential to enable Council staff to carry out professional duties, particularly in areas which involve enforcement such as Planning, Local Laws, Environmental Health, Animal Management, Parking Control and Road Management.

Council subscribes to a delegations and authorisations service produced by the legal firm Maddocks. The firm reviews all legislation that impacts local government in Victoria and distributes an updated schedule of delegations that reflects any legislative changes bi-annually. This template is used by many Victorian councils and reflects common practice within the industry.

Drawing on these updates, the Instruments of Delegation are updated periodically as legislation is amended, or new legislation is introduced which impacts upon the operations of Council.

Key Issues

It is a requirement under Section 11(7) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) that Council review all delegations made under Section 11 of the Act and are still in force within the 12-month period following a general election.

The following Instruments are still in force and attached for Council endorsement.

S5 Instrument of Delegation – Council to Chief Executive Officer

This instrument delegates all of Council's powers, duties and functions which are capable of delegation to the CEO, subject to some exceptions and limitations.

S6 Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Staff

This instrument delegates Council powers, duties and functions within various Acts and Regulations which contain a specific power of delegation. This delegates certain powers directly from Council to Council staff due to the legislation referred to containing specific powers of delegation.

S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (*Planning and Environment Act 1987*)

This instrument is used to authorise officers to enforce the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and institute proceedings on behalf of Council or represent Council.

S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation Under the *Environment Protection Act 2017*

This instrument delegates powers to Council staff that are contained in the Instrument of Delegation of the Environment Protection Authority under the *Environment Protection Act 2017*.

Recommendation
<p>THAT COUNCIL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Revoke the existing:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Schedule 5 - Instrument of Delegation from Council to Chief Executive Officer previously endorsed by Council on 27 June 2023,b. Schedule 6 - Instrument of Delegation from Council to Members of Council Staff previously endorsed by Council on 17 September 2024,c. Schedule 11A - Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (<i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>) previously endorsed by Council on 20 August 2024, andd. S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation Under the <i>Environment Protection Act 2017</i> previously endorsed by Council on 21 May 2024.2. Endorse the following dated 18 March 2025:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Schedule 5 - Instrument of Delegation from Council to Chief Executive Officer,b. Schedule 6 - Instrument of Delegation from Council to Members of Council Staff,c. Schedule 11A - Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (<i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>), andd. Schedule 18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation Under the <i>Environment Protection Act 2017</i>.3. Approves Mayor Cr Steve Rabie to sign the endorsed instruments as listed in point 2 and Deputy Mayor Cr James Tehan to witness the signing.
Support Attachments
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. S5. Instrument of Delegation – Council to Chief Executive Officer (March 2025) [13.3.1.1 - 3 pages]2. S6. Instrument of Delegation – Council to Members of Staff (March 2025) [13.3.1.2 - 69 pages]3. S11 A. Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation - Planning and Environment Act 1987 (March 2025) [13.3.1.3 - 2 pages]4. S18. Instrument of Sub- Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017 (March 2025) [13.3.1.4 - 5 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Not Applicable

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

Council's subscription to Maddocks delegations and authorisations service is invoiced bi-annually for \$2,200 (including GST), this is accounted for in the operational budget. All work to update Mansfield Shire Council's delegations and authorisations is undertaken internally by Council Officers within existing staff resources.

Legal and Risk Implications

Regular reviews of delegations and authorisations ensures compliance with the relevant Acts and Regulations.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Is in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 6: Council possesses in-house and outsourced capability to meet community expectations
Strategy 6.2 Building organisational capacity through its people

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.3.2. Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy

File Number	E1533	Responsible Officer	Coordinator Communications, Governance & Risk, Tanya Tabone
Purpose			

To seek Council endorsement of the revised Gift, Benefits and Hospitality Policy.

Executive Summary

The Gift, Benefits and Hospitality Policy, first implemented in 2015, outlines Council's position on Councillors, members of Delegated Committees and Council Officers responding to offers of gifts, benefits and hospitality from a person or organisation.

The Policy is a requirement under the *Local Government Act 2020* and must include procedures for the maintenance of a gift register and any matters prescribed in the *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020*.

Key Issues

A review of the Policy has been completed, and a revised and updated Policy has been developed. A copy of the tracked changes Policy is attached for reference.

Key changes include:

- Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Forms submitted by the CEO are to be signed by the Mayor
- Inclusion of a Gender Impact Assessment

Following consideration by Council the community will be notified of the updated policy through Mansfield Matters and it will be published on Council's website.

Recommendation

THAT COUNCIL endorses the Gift, Benefits and Hospitality Policy 2025.

Support Attachments

1. DRAFT Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy 2025 [13.3.2.1 - 10 pages]
2. Tracked Changes - Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy 2025 [13.3.2.2 - 10 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

The updated policy will be published on Council's website and the community will be notified of the revised document through Mansfield Matters and it will be published on Council's website.

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

The review of the policy has been undertaken internally within existing staff resources.

Legal and Risk Implications

This Policy ensures that Councillors and staff adhere to sound and transparent business practices regarding the acceptance of gifts, benefits, and hospitality. It also ensures the transparent recording and reporting of any gifts, hospitality and benefits received.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

The Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy addresses s138 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and matters prescribed in the *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020*.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 8 A consultative Council that represents and empowers its community

Strategy 8.1 Increase community trust in Council to make informed decisions with “no surprises”

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.3.3. CEO Employment Matters Committee - Terms of Reference

File Number	E1533	Responsible Officer	Governance and Risk Officer, Chelsea Young
Purpose			

To seek Council endorsement of the revised CEO Employment Matters Committee Terms of Reference.

Executive Summary

The CEO Employment Matters Committee (the Committee) was established to assist Council to fulfil its responsibilities in relation to employment matters of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), as outlined in Council’s CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy.

Chaired by the Mayor, the Committee oversees matters relating to CEO employment and remuneration in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* including:

- Recruitment and Appointment of CEO
- Contractual Arrangements
- Remuneration and Expenses
- CEO Performance Objectives and Review

The Committee meets with the CEO regarding employment matters and makes recommendations to Council on these issues, including the development and review of the Annual Performance Plan, which is developed collaboratively by the CEO and the Committee.

The Committee’s Terms of Reference are subject to Council approval.

Key Issues

The Committee has reviewed the Terms of Reference (ToR) previously adopted by Council on 16 November 2021 to ensure that they are consistent with the requirements of the CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy 2024 and relevant legislation.

The review of the ToR has been undertaken in consultation with the Committee and a revised and updated ToR has been developed. A copy of the tracked changes ToR is attached for reference.

Key changes include:

- Clarification that an independent member may be appointed, at the Committee’s request, to provide additional support, with desired experience criteria outlined.
- Removal of the requirement for an independent HR-qualified person to assist the Chair in facilitating performance reviews.
- Reassignment of secretariat support responsibilities from the People and Culture Advisor to the Governance and Risk team.

At its meeting on 12 February 2025, Council resolved that the revised ToR be presented to Council for consideration at the Council Meeting on 18 March 2025.

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL endorses the CEO Employment Matters Committee Terms of Reference 2025.
Support Attachments
1. CEO Employment Matters Committee - Terms of Reference 2025 [13.3.3.1 - 4 pages]
2. Tracked Changes - CEO Employment Matters Committee - Terms of Reference 2025 [13.3.3.2 - 4 pages]
3. CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy 2024 [13.3.3.3 - 7 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Not Applicable

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

Not Applicable

Legal and Risk Implications

Not Applicable

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Council’s CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy, required under the *Local Government Act 2020*, outlines that Council will establish a CEO Employment Matters Committee and that Council will agree on the Terms of Reference for the Committee.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 6: Council possesses in-house and outsourced capability to meet community expectations
Strategy 6.2 Building organisational capacity through its people

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.3.4. Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) 2024-25 Mid-Year Report

File Number	E11763	Responsible Officer	Executive Manager People, Communications & Governance, Janique Snyder
Purpose			

To report to Council on mid-year results against the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework 2024-25 measures.

Executive Summary

The Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) is a mandatory system of performance reporting for all Victorian councils coordinated by Local Government Victoria (LGV). It ensures that councils are measuring and reporting on their performance in a consistent way to promote transparency and accountability in the local government sector.

The framework is made up of 58 measures from a range of service areas, including roads, planning, animal management and waste. It is complemented by a Governance and Management checklist of 24 items, which shows the policies, plans and procedures in place at each council. Together, they build a comprehensive picture of Council performance.

Key Issues

Performance reporting is completed and submitted annually to LGV no later than 31 October each year. However, it is best practice to conduct a mid-year review to calculate and report the performance measures throughout the year for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

Care should be taken when interpreting the mid-year results, as the data has not been annualised. It is important to note that some uneven reporting may occur due to seasonal variations and the availability of some data elements. Several of the indicator results are cumulative results and will therefore change as the year progresses, with the final results reported at the end of the financial year.

A detailed progress report for the period 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2024 is attached to this report. The data captured in the report shows Council's performance for the first six months of the 2024-25 year against the LGPRF indicators. It also includes the year-end results for the three previous financial years for comparison.

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL note the mid-year report on the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework indicators for the period 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2024.
Support Attachments
1. Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPR F) Mid- Year Report [13.3.4.1 - 7 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Not Applicable

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

Activities reported are included within the adopted Council Budget 2024-25.

Legal and Risk Implications

Reporting on the LGPRF indicators ensures compliance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Local Government Act 2020

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council

Strategic Objective 7 Financial sustainability and value for money

Strategy 7.1 Increase Council’s financial resilience by utilising opportunities to derive own-source of funding income and optimising costs of delivering services

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 8 A consultative Council that represents and empowers its community

Strategy 8.1 Increase community trust in Council to make informed decisions with “no surprises”

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

13.4. Community Health and Wellbeing

13.4.1. Outlying Communities Infrastructure Fund

File Number	E11951	Responsible Officer	Community Networks and Wellbeing Officer, Alex Ninnnes
Purpose			

To provide Council with further information on requests for funding from the Outlying Communities Infrastructure Fund and to seek Council endorsement of recommendations for funding.

Executive Summary

At the Council meeting on 10 December 2024, Council endorsed the award of funding to three outlying community projects in Merton, Ancona and Bonnie Doon, for a total funded amount of \$37,920. Council also approved the award of up to \$16,440 to fund a generator in Woods Point, if their grant application was not successful.

Further information was sought by Council on the application from the Delatite Valley Association Inc. (DVA) on a feasibility study for a Delatite River crossing and public park at Merrijig. DVA representatives attended the February Councillor Briefing to present further information on their project proposal and provide Councillors with the opportunity to ask further questions.

Since the December Council meeting, two additional requests have been received from outlying community groups seeking support for their projects. These include a community noticeboard and shade sail in Macs Cove, and a new post and rail fence near the entrance to the Jamieson township.

Council has also received advice that the submission made for the Woods Point emergency generator has been awarded funding from Ausnet. This leaves a total remaining amount of \$37,080 available from the OCIF Budget allocation of \$75,000.

Key Issues

Delatite Valley Association – Further Information on Merrijig Public Park Proposal

The Delatite Valley Association Inc (DVA) applied to the Outlying Communities Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) for funding to complete a feasibility study for a river crossing and public park at Merrijig. The project is proposed to be the first stage of a multi-staged community project, which would ultimately include construction of a pedestrian/cycle bridge across the Delatite River and development of a public reserve and associated amenities.

Their application highlighted that there are currently no public reserves between Mansfield and Mirimbah. A reserve at Merrijig could provide an important meeting place for both community members and visitors. The DVA feel this would be an opportunity to showcase the Delatite River surrounds and to share local history of the area including the original inhabitants, the Taungurung people, plus the logging and high-country cattlemen influences.

Community consultation undertaken by the DVA and through Council's Delatite Valley Plan engagement, has identified this project as a high priority for the community and will provide open and safe access to the Delatite River for local recreation and tourism activity.

Following presentation of the recommendation for funding of the feasibility study to Council at the 10 December 2024 Council Meeting, Council requested further information as follows:

- Additional information on the plans for the Delatite River crossing and public park, given the likely cost of these infrastructure projects.
- Clarification that the application meets the OCIF eligibility criteria, particularly the request for funding consultant's costs.

The information requested was provided to Council and representatives from the DVA were invited to attend the Councillor Briefing on 4 February 2025 to discuss their application. A copy of the OCIF funding guidelines and eligibility criteria is attached for Council information in Attachment 5.

At the February Briefing, an opportunity was identified for the pedestrian and cycle bridge at Merrijig to be incorporated into a Request for Tender proposal for a similar bridge at Jamieson, for which Council officers are seeking budget pricing for future grant funding opportunities. This has reduced the DVA request for OCIF funding, with the preparation of a site survey and concept plans for the public park and associated toilet amenities now proposed.

A new quote has been obtained for this concept study as a standalone project which indicates that the concept plans and survey could be completed for an amount not exceeding \$10,000 (ex. GST). This amount will allow the preparation of a site survey and concept plans, with the DVA indicating that they will be seeking community volunteer support for the cleanup and planting to help establish the park, starting with an area close to the old river crossing. It proposed that Council also allocate a Project Officer to work with the DVA as they develop the plans and to seek input and feedback from the broader community, as for the OCIF projects completed at Goughs Bay and Howqua Inlet.

Howqua Inlet & Macs Cove Community Group – New Project Proposal

On 4 January 2025, the Howqua Inlet & Macs Cove Community Group held a community meeting primarily focussing on the Macs Cove community and their needs. Over 50 people from the area attended and this high level of engagement resulted in a discussion of two key projects the Macs Cove community would like to progress, as outlined below:

- Community Noticeboard enhancement
- Construction of a Shade Structure/Sail for the community playground

Members of the Macs Cove community have volunteered to construct the enhanced Community Noticeboard as an in-kind contribution and have met with Council officers on site to obtain guidance and review the estimated costs for both projects.

The requested total funding amount for the above projects is \$17,100, with component costs as follows:

- Community Noticeboard - \$1,500 (supply of materials)
- Shade Structure/Sail for playground - \$15,600 (supply and installation of shade sail)

The Howqua Inlet and Macs Cove Community Group have shown significant community volunteer effort and commitment to past projects, including the successful completion of the first stage of the Howqua Inlet walking trail (refer attached photos of community volunteers at work on the path in Attachments 2-4).

The Howqua Trail project was awarded OCIF funding of \$10,000 in 2023-24 for completion of the trail design plans by an engineering consultant to get the project to a shovel ready stage, enabling the work to construct the path to be successfully completed by community volunteers.

Jamieson Community Group - New Project Proposal

The Jamieson Community Group (JCG) have been actively working with Council’s Parks and Gardens team over the last 12 months to improve the area locally known as the “Triangle” at the west end of Perkins St, Jamieson. The improvement project is part of an overall plan by the group to enhance the entrance to Jamieson. The broad plan is to use tree planting zones, signage upgrades, fencing, weed control and regular maintenance to reinforce the character of the township and reflect the pride that the Jamieson community has in that character. This project proposal is for the JCG to construct approximately 50 metres of post and rail fencing to the outside of the road as it curves into Perkins Street from the Mansfield-Woods Point Road. Refer to the proposal attached in Attachment 1 for more information.

- Total funds requested - \$6,000

Council officers are recommending award of OCIF funding to the above projects, as per the recommendation contained below, for a total funding amount of \$33,100.

Recommendation
<p>THAT COUNCIL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Notes the further information provided and the project proposals from the Delatite Valley Association, Howqua Inlet & Macs Cove Community Group and Jamieson Community Group, as outlined in this report.2. Endorses the award of funding from the Outlying Communities Infrastructure Fund to the Delatite Valley Association Inc for a maximum amount of \$10,000 to complete a site survey and concept plan for the Merrijig Public Park.3. Endorses the award of funding from the Outlying Communities Infrastructure Fund to the Howqua and Macs Cove Community Group for \$17,100 for the Macs Cove community noticeboard and playground shade sail.4. Endorses the award of funding from the Outlying Communities Infrastructure Fund to the Jamieson Community Group for \$6,000 for the post and rail fence at Jamieson.
Support Attachments
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Jamieson Post and Rail Fence Proposal [13.4.1.1 - 4 pages]2. Howqua Inlet walking trail 1 [13.4.1.2 - 1 page]3. Howqua Inlet walking trail 2 [13.4.1.3 - 1 page]4. Howqua Inlet walking trail 3 [13.4.1.4 - 1 page]5. Outlying Communities Infrastructure Fund - Guidelines 2024 - 25 [13.4.1.5 - 8 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Community Engagement has been undertaken in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Policy to seek grant submissions to the OCIF.

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

All work to assess the applications has been undertaken internally by Council Officers within existing staff resources. The grant funding of \$75,000 is accounted for in the FY2024-25 Budget.

Remaining 2024-25 OCIF Budget

Remaining funds following award of grants at the 10 December Council meeting: \$37,080

Funds recommended for approval in this report: \$33,100

Remaining OCIF budget if the recommended projects are approved: \$3,980

Legal and Risk Implications

Not Applicable.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not Applicable

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

The guidelines for this funding are reviewed against community feedback each year to ensure continuous improvement.

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 1: Connected and Healthy Community Strategic Objective 2: Activities that promote connection and fitness of our people and visitors

Strategy 2.2 Create an environment where community and clubs can recreate, socialise and contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community

Theme 2: Vibrant Liveability Strategic Objective 3 Future focused: Intelligent land use and infrastructure

Strategy 3.2 Enhance township character

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.4.2. Sport & Recreation Reference Group and Aquatic Facilities Working Group Membership

File Number	E11960	Responsible Officer	Community Networks and Wellbeing Officer, Alex Ninnnes
Purpose			

This report is to provide Council with information on the nominations received for the Sport and Recreation Reference Group and Aquatic Facilities Working Group and to seek Council endorsement of the group members.

Executive Summary

At the Council Meeting on 17 September 2024, Council resolved to establish a Sport and Recreation Reference Group and Aquatic Facilities Working Group to provide an opportunity for regular interaction and collaboration over sports and recreation facility needs and to help guide the implementation of the adopted Mansfield Shire Sports Facility Strategy - 2024 Strategy Update recommendations.

Expressions of interest from local user groups and community members have been obtained, and the proposed membership of each group is presented for Council’s consideration. It is proposed that the membership of each group will be reviewed annually.

Key Issues

The Mansfield Shire Sports Facility Strategy review in 2024 identified a need to establish an ongoing reference group with facility user group representatives.

Following adoption of the updated Strategy, expressions of interest were sought from sport and recreation clubs, allied health professionals, schools and community members who may have an interest in participating.

Expressions of interest opened on 11 December 2024 and closed on 31 January 2025. The Community Networks and Wellbeing Officer has contacted all potential participants to discuss their expression of interest, including:

- Seeking primary and secondary contacts for sporting clubs who registered multiple expressions of interest for the Sport and Recreation Reference Group to keep the group fair, equitable and balanced.
- Asking participants who registered for both the Sport and Recreation Reference Group and the Aquatic Facilities Working Group to nominate a preferred choice if they are only able to be a member of one group.
- Inviting them to take part in one of two scheduled information sessions.

There were 11 participants who originally nominated to be involved in both groups, however, then identified their preferred group as outlined below.

Sport and Recreation Reference Group

The primary members who have nominated for this group and the sporting club they are involved with are outlined below, with each group also asked to nominate a secondary member if they cannot attend a meeting.

- David Foster, Delatite Cricket Club
- Haley Tudor-Harrop, Mansfield and District Basketball Association
- Bob Carpenter, Mansfield Tennis Association and Social Table Tennis
- Bryn Jones, Mansfield District Soccer Club
- Bo Christopher, Mansfield Football and Netball Club
- Rachelle Kinsmore, Bonnie Doon Tennis Club
- Michael Bretherton, Mansfield Junior Football Club
- David Roff, Mansfield Racing Club and Mansfield Golf Club
- Justin Berry, Netball Club parent
- Zoe Kettlewell, Elevate Health and Wellbeing
- Suzanne Van Wyk, Mansfield Gymnastics Club

Aquatic Facilities Working Group

The nominations received for this group includes members that had also nominated for the Sports and Recreation group due to their membership or interest in other sporting clubs, however when contacted decided that their preferred group was the Aquatic Facilities group.

- Guy Evans, Mansfield Swimming Club
- Kate McCoombe, Mansfield Swimming Club
- Lucinda Hutchins, Mansfield Swimming Club and YAFM
- Tony Ruddick, North East Triathlon Club and Mansfield & District Pool and Open Water Swimmers
- Brigitte Brocklesby, swimming group member
- Barbara Jones, YAFM
- Allison Walker, Mansfield Swimming Club
- Jon Hutchins, YAFM
- Louise Hopwood, Mansfield Swimming Club and LouFit business owner and Aqua Aerobics instructor
- Colleen Reynolds, YAFM and Carers support
- Jane Morrissey, community member
- Megan Dunn, Health Promotion Officer - Mansfield District Hospital
- Lucinda McTrusty, regular swimmer with extensive volunteer experience in Sports & Facilities administration

Two information sessions were organised for 6 and 12 March 2025 for participants to discuss the purpose of the groups, the draft Terms of Reference, gain an understanding of potential agenda topics and to build rapport with one another. It is considered that the number of nominations received for each group will provide a good size and representation from the Mansfield Shire community.

Recommendation
<p>THAT COUNCIL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Endorses the members of the Sport and Recreation Reference Group as follows:<ol style="list-style-type: none">David FosterHaley Tudor-HarropBob CarpenterBryn JonesBo ChristopherRachelle KinsmoreMichael BrethertonDavid RoffJustin BerryZoe KettlewellSuzanne Van WykEndorses the members of the Aquatic Facilities Working Group as follows:<ol style="list-style-type: none">Guy EvansKate McCoombeLucinda HutchinsTony RuddickBrigitte BrocklesbyBarbara JonesAllison WalkerJon HutchinsLouise HopwoodColleen ReynoldsJane MorrisseyMegan DunnLucinda McTrustyNotes that the group membership will be reviewed annually. <p><i>{recommendation-end-do-not-remove}</i></p>
Support Attachments
Nil

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Community Engagement has been undertaken in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Policy to seek expressions of interest for the groups.

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

All work to create the reference groups has been undertaken internally by Council Officers within existing staff resources.

Legal and Risk Implications

Not Applicable.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not Applicable

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

The groups' Terms of Reference and membership will be reviewed annually, including seeking member feedback to ensure continuous improvement.

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 1: Connected and Healthy Community Strategic Objective 2: Activities that promote connection and fitness of our people and visitors

Strategy 2.2 Create an environment where community and clubs can recreate, socialise and contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 8 A consultative Council that represents and empowers its community

Strategy 8.2 Develop capacity and capability to advocate powerfully for the most important interests of the Mansfield community

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.4.3. Council Plan Actions 2024-25: Half Year Report

File Number	E11960	Responsible Officer	Executive Manager Community Health & Wellbeing, Nola Cleeland
Purpose			

To report to Council on progress made against the Council Plan 2021-2025 Actions for the first half of the 2024-25 financial year.

Executive Summary

The Mansfield Shire Council Plan 2021–2025 is the key strategic document to guide Council’s decision making over the four-year term and articulates the role Council will play in leading, supporting and advocating for the best possible outcomes for the Mansfield Shire community.

The Council Plan is split into three key supporting themes:

- Theme 1: Connected and Healthy Community
- Theme 2: Vibrant Liveability
- Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council

Within each of these themes, there are:

- Strategic objectives - what Council will focus on to achieve its vision.
- Initiatives - what steps Council will take to achieve the strategic objectives.

Progress against these objectives and initiatives has been included in the attached report with outcomes reported against major budget initiatives, other budget initiatives, and additional activities undertaken during the 2024-25 financial year.

Key Issues

The report for the first half of this financial year shows that progress has been made against the Council Plan 2021-2025 initiatives. Some key highlights are summarised below for each Theme.

Theme 1: Connected and Healthy Community

- Expanded Volunteer Program; Volunteer Program Officer has been recruited and commenced on expansion project. Volunteer opportunities and recruitment process have been developed website and software will be progressed for rollout in early 2025.
- Early Years Advocacy; Early Years Workforce Plan has been submitted, and implementation of recommendations is in progress. MACE have been successful in receiving a planning and design grant and are working with Council to prepare planning options for expansion of places at the Mansfield Family and Children's Centre. A Building Blocks Minor Infrastructure Grant for the amenities block at the Mechanics Institute was submitted on 3 October 2024.
- Advocate for improved and equitable health services for Mansfield Shire, working with the Mansfield Health and Wellbeing network and Mansfield District Hospital (MDH); Regular meetings between Council and MDH Executive staff and the Support@Home

Coordinator for MDH have been introduced, and Council advocated to Helen Haines MP for improved local aged care assessment services. The final tender for assessment services was announced, with APM and Aspire being the successful organisations and currently recruiting locally. Council officers have also been working with the RESTART committee to support their program and expansion. MDH and Council's Community Health and Wellbeing team are partnering to deliver a Health and Community Expo in early 2025.

- Outlying Communities Infrastructure Fund; Grants program commenced with a project workshop held on 30 September to connect applicants with Council officers for support and guidance on their grant ideas. The successful applicants for 2024-25 included the Ancona Hall Committee, Bonnie Doon Community Group, and Merton Campdraft Club Inc. These projects were endorsed at the December 2024 Council meeting. A fourth application from the Delatite Valley Association is still under consideration, with a briefing to Councillors in February 2025.

Theme 2: Vibrant Liveability

- Work collaboratively and actively with local community members and neighbouring shires to target and reduce European Wasp populations; European Wasp program commenced in late September 2024, providing approximately 125 traps to the community. Council also set up a total of 30 traps around the Mansfield area. At the completion of the project in December, it is estimated that queen wasp numbers were reduced by approximately 285, which equates to a potential reduction of 800,000 wasps for this summer. The peak catch period was from late October to early November. The project has been well-supported by community and is proposed to run again in 2025-26.
- Green Waste Initiative (Tip Vouchers); Promoted in the annual rate notice flyer sent to all rate payers in August. Vouchers were created and the Customer Service team are distributing these to residents. The vouchers are valid until 30 June 2025. As at the end of December 2024, a total of 35 vouchers had been presented to MRRC.
- "Spring Clean Up" event for green waste in advance of the declared Fire Danger Period; The acceptance of green waste at the Resource Recovery Centre, free of charge is now complete. For the month of November, a total of 275 cubic metres of green waste (275 loads) was received. The event was extended from 11-31 December due to an increased fire risk for North East Victoria this summer. Over the extension period, a further 277 cubic metres of green waste (277 loads) was received, showing this initiative was well-supported by the community. Due to the success of the program, this project is proposed to be conducted again in 2025-26.
- Expand the festive season waste management; Provision of additional bins and servicing of high traffic areas and continued work with outlying community groups including the Goughs Bay Area Progress Association was undertaken to reduce camper waste deposited in public areas and illegal dumping. The 2024-25 Festive Season Waste Management Plan was finalised and implemented. The plan included increased hours and days for the MRRC from 20 December until 2 January, and free acceptance of camping waste from 20 December to 31 January to cover the summer holidays and Australia Day long weekend. Extra public space bins were placed in high traffic areas of Mansfield, Bonnie Doon, Jamieson and Goughs Bay with extra collections also scheduled.

- Housing Forums and Workshops; These continued to attract local community members, businesses and developers. Council officers continued to work with other government bodies to help facilitate opportunities. A workshop was held on 18 November to enable community members or developers to discuss concepts with council planners and other officers to assist/progress housing development.

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council

- Collaborative Digital Transformation Project; Mansfield has gone live with the Planning and Building Modules, as well as the Information Management module. Regulatory Services is going live in the first half of 2025, with Property and Rates, Finance and Customer Management to be implemented in late 2025.
- The Community Engagement framework and Engage platform has been used to provide timely and accurate information and seek community feedback on a wide range of projects and policy initiatives including:
 - Social Inclusion Action Group
 - Volunteers Policy
 - Special Rates and Charges Policy
 - Kidston Parade Shared Path
 - Station Precinct Museum Complex Community Asset Committee
 - Botanic Park Stage
 - Budget Engagement 2025-26
 - Planning scheme amendments
 - Footpath and shared path projects
 - Local Emergency Action Plan
- Council continued to identify opportunities to grow revenue through grant applications; Grants applied for in 2024-25 include:
 - Enabling Access Safely for Everyone - Highton Lane/Mt Buller Road Mansfield Roundabout or EASE package \$2.9m - Unsuccessful
 - Community Garden Project - VicHealth \$50,000 - Unsuccessful
 - Goods Shed Refurbishment - Regional Tourism Investment Fund \$679,511 - Awaiting outcome
 - Connecting Local Access Safe Shared Path (CLASSP) - TAC \$100,000 - Awaiting outcome
 - Woods Point Community Energy Resilience Project - Ausnet \$78,647 - Successful
 - Lighting Up Lords Reserve - Sport and Recreation Victoria \$250,000 – Unsuccessful
 - Citizenship Ceremony & Horsepower In The High Country - Mansfield Botanic Park - Australia Day \$10,000 - Successful
 - Hearn's Bridge and Graves Rd culvert replacement, Lonergan's Bridge renewal replacement - Commonwealth DITRDCA \$5.3m - Awaiting outcome
 - Engage Program - Department of Families, Fairness and Housing \$180,000 - Successful
 - Mansfield Female Inclusive Rooms project - Department of Health \$1.2m - Successful

- Mansfield Kindergarten - Amenities Block Mechanics Institute - VSBA Building Blocks Grant Improvement \$150,000 - Awaiting outcome
- Station Precinct New Dog Park - DEECA New and Upgraded Dog Parks \$250,000 - Awaiting outcome
- Elvins Street and Ultimo Street footpath construction - Commonwealth DITRDC
- Active Transport Fund \$185,000 - Unsuccessful
- Successful grant funding announced between 1 July 2024 and 31 December 2024:
 - Motorcycle Levy Safety Program - \$135,000
 - Grow Together Childrens Week - \$700
 - Station Precinct Activation Package - Stage One Activities - Regional Development Victoria - RPPP Stream 2: Precinct delivery - \$7.7M
 - Citizenship Ceremony & Horsepower In The High Country - Mansfield Botanic Park -Australia Day - \$10,000
 - Woods Point Community Energy Resilience Project - Ausnet \$78,647
 - Engage Program - Department of Families, Fairness and Housing - \$165,000
 - Mansfield Female Inclusive Rooms project - Department of Health - \$1.2m

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL receives the Council Plan 2021-2025 half year report for 2024-25 actions.
Support Attachments
1. Mid-Year 2024-25 Council Plan Actions Dashboard [13.4.3.1 - 10 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

Not Applicable

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

All activities undertaken to fulfil the Council Plan 2021–2025 actions have been completed within the approved 2024-25 Budget, or within the grant funding awarded for specific projects and initiatives.

Legal and Risk Implications

Not Applicable.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

It is a legislative requirement of the Local Government Act 2020 that each Council adopt a Council Plan. This half year report is presented in accordance with Section 98 of the Local Government Act 2020 and Schedule 1 of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 1: Connected and Healthy Community Strategic Objective 1: The health and wellbeing of families and communities is maximised

Strategy 1.1 Embed health and wellbeing enablers and protections to reduce risks to our communities.

Strategy 1.2 Connect, develop and support children and young people.

Strategy 1.3 Contribute to efforts that ensure essential community services exist locally.

Theme 1: Connected and Healthy Community Strategic Objective 2: Activities that promote connection and fitness of our people and visitors

Strategy 2.1 Support our arts community and facilitate the delivery of festivals and events.

Strategy 2.2 Create an environment where community and clubs can recreate, socialise and contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community

Strategy 2.3 Enhance the social and economic value of tourism to Mansfield.

Theme 2: Vibrant Liveability Strategic Objective 3 Future focused: Intelligent land use and infrastructure

Strategy 3.1 Protect natural vistas and farmland

Strategy 3.2 Enhance township character

Strategy 3.3 Improve roads, drainage and footpaths

Strategy 3.4 Plan for and encourage appropriate housing

Theme 2: Vibrant Liveability

Strategic Objective 4 Clean and green: Waste and energy sustainability

Strategy 4.1 Minimise and re-use waste

Strategy 4.2 Adopt and promote energy options that are affordable, self sustaining & carbon positive

Theme 2: Vibrant Liveability Strategic Objective 5 Prosperous: Industries, businesses and workforces of the future

Strategy 5.1 Create conditions that enable local businesses

Strategy 5.2 Enable land use and base infrastructure that stimulates commercial activity

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 6: Council possesses in-house and outsourced capability to meet community expectations

Strategy 6.1 Use and gain knowledge of our community to make good decisions

Strategy 6.2 Building organisational capacity through its people

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council

Strategic Objective 7 Financial sustainability and value for money

Strategy 7.1 Increase Council's financial resilience by utilising opportunities to derive own-source of funding income and optimising costs of delivering services

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 8 A consultative Council that represents and empowers its community

Strategy 8.1 Increase community trust in Council to make informed decisions with "no surprises"

Strategy 8.2 Develop capacity and capability to advocate powerfully for the most important interests of the Mansfield community

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

13.5. Executive Services Directorate

13.5.1. Naming of Roads, Features or Localities Policy

File Number	E1533	Responsible Officer	Financial Controller, Michael McCormack
Purpose			

To seek Council endorsement of the revised Naming of Roads, Features or Localities Policy.

Executive Summary

The Naming of Roads, Features or Localities Policy, first implemented in 2018, sets out the guidelines and principles that need to be followed by Council officers when naming a road, feature or locality within Mansfield Shire’s boundaries.

The policy ensures alignment with the State government's *Naming Rules for places in Victoria (2022)*, which are statutory requirements under the *Geographic Place Names Act 1998*. Mansfield Shire Council, as a naming authority, is required to follow these rules when naming or renaming places within its jurisdiction.

Key Issues

A review of the Policy has been completed, and a revised and updated Policy has been developed. A copy of the tracked changes Policy is attached for reference.

Aside from the inclusion of a Gender Impact Assessment, changes to the policy are minimal.

Following consideration by Council the community will be notified of the updated policy through Mansfield Matters and it will be published on Council’s website.

Recommendation

THAT COUNCIL endorses the Naming of Roads, Features or Localities Policy 2025 and notes the updated Naming of Roads, Features or Localities Procedure.

Support Attachments

- 1. DRAFT Naming of Roads, Features or Localities Policy 2025 [13.5.1.1 - 3 pages]
- 2. Tracked Changes - Naming of Roads, Features or Localities Policy 2025 [13.5.1.2 - 3 pages]
- 3. Naming of Roads, Features or Localities Procedure 2025 [13.5.1.3 - 5 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

The updated policy will be published on Council’s website and the community will be notified of the revised document through Mansfield Matters and it will be published on Council’s website.

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

The review of the policy has been undertaken internally within existing staff resources.

Legal and Risk Implications

Not Applicable

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Mansfield Shire Council, as a naming authority, is required to follow the State Government's *Naming Rules for places in Victoria (2022)*, which are statutory requirements under the *Geographic Place Names Act 1998*, when naming or renaming places within its jurisdiction.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not Applicable

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council Strategic Objective 8 A consultative Council that represents and empowers its community
Strategy 8.1 Increase community trust in Council to make informed decisions with “no surprises”

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

14. Council Meeting Resolution Actions Status Register

This report presents to Council the Mansfield Shire Council Meeting Resolution Actions Status Register

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL receive and note the Mansfield Shire Council Meeting Resolution Actions Status Register as at 6 March 2025.
Support Attachments
1. Mansfield Shire Council Action Register as at 6 March 2025 [14.1.1 - 6 pages] 2. CONFIDENTIAL Mansfield Shire Council Action Register as at 6 March 2025 [14.1.2 - 3 pages]

15. Advisory and Special Committee reports

Nil

16. Authorisation of sealing of documents

Nil

17. Closure of meeting to members of the public

Council has the power to close its meeting to the public in certain circumstances pursuant to the provisions of Section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020. The circumstances where a meeting can be closed to the public are:

- a) the meeting is to consider confidential information; or
- b) security reasons; or
- c) it is necessary to do so to enable the meeting to proceed in an orderly manner.

The definition of confidential information is provided in Section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL close the meeting to members of the public under Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 to consider Confidential Reports in accordance with section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 for reasons set out in section 18 below.

18. Confidential Reports

18.1. IMPACT Route Variation Request: Highton Lane Seal Upgrade
Confidential

This report contains confidential information pursuant to the provisions of Section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 under Section 3(g) - private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that:(i) relates to trade secrets; or (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage

19. Reopen meeting to members of the public

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL reopen the meeting to members of the public.

20. Close of meeting